



AGENDA REPORT

TO: Edward D. Reiskin
City Administrator

FROM: Ann Dunn
Director, Animal Services

SUBJECT: Friends of Oakland Animal Services
Donation

DATE: May 4, 2021

City Administrator Approval 

Date: May 5, 2021

RECOMMENDATION

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator, Or Designee, To Accept And Appropriate Donated Funds In An Amount Not To Exceed Ninety-Six Thousand Dollars (\$96,000) From The Friends Of Oakland Animal Services To Fund A Temporary Contract Services Employee Veterinarian Position For A One-Year Period.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Adoption of the proposed resolution will allow Oakland Animal Services (“OAS”) to renew a one-year contract for a part-time Veterinarian. The position will sustain OAS’s recently increased capacity to provide in-house veterinary services, provide access to veterinary services for pet guardians with limited resources, and decrease reliance on external veterinary services currently provided under City-funded contracts. Accepting this donation from Friends of Oakland Animal Services (“FOAS”) will allow OAS to improve its services at no cost to the City.

BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

OAS has one budgeted full-time equivalent Veterinarian position, which is currently filled. On May 19, 2020, by Resolution No. 88128 CMS, the Oakland City Council approved the acceptance of \$96,000.00 from FOAS to fund a one-year contract for a Temporary Contract Service Employee (TCSE) Veterinarian, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. FOAS has agreed to fund the TCSE contract with \$96,000.00 for an additional year, from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

OAS largely serves people from Oakland who lack the financial resources to provide veterinary care for their animals and live in communities where there are no veterinary clinics or other supports for companion animals. It is a primary goal for OAS to expand access to veterinary care for pet guardians with limited resources. With additional in-house veterinary capacity, OAS could offer more support to people who want to keep their animals but lack the resources to

City Council
May 18, 2021

provide veterinary services, including Oakland residents who are experiencing homelessness and living with companion animals.

ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

Accepting the donation of \$96,000.00 from FOAS to fund a TCSE Veterinarian position will increase the capacity of OAS to provide necessary veterinary services.

OAS has external contracts for spay/neuter and emergency veterinary services. In fiscal year 2019-2020, OAS spent over \$10,000.00 per month on emergency veterinary services. Since hiring the full-time staff veterinarian in June 2020 and adding the FOAS-funded TCSE veterinarian in July 2020, OAS now spends less than \$2,000.00 per month on emergency services. The savings make it possible to increase the provision of community-serving veterinary care.

FOAS is a nonprofit created to support OAS by providing resources that are beyond what the City budget can accommodate. In addition to funding unusual medical expenses and staffing, FOAS is working to provide community-serving programs to support low-income Oakland residents in having and keeping companion animals.

If the donation is not accepted, OAS will have reduced capacity to provide veterinary services to the animals in its care, and little to no capacity to provide supportive services to help people in our community who love their animals but lack the resources to provide them with necessary veterinary care.

FISCAL IMPACT

Adoption of this resolution has no negative impact on the City as the donated funds from FOAS will fully fund the TCSE Veterinarian position for one year. The cost of funding the position is \$96,000.00, or 960 hours at \$100 per hour. Funding for this position will be appropriated in the Miscellaneous Grants Fund (2999), Oakland Animal Services Organization (02491), Project 1004272, Special Operations Program (PS13). The TCSE would be charged against this fund.

PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST

No public outreach was deemed necessary for this report and resolution other than posting on the City's website.

COORDINATION

Development of this report and resolution was coordinated with internal OAS staff, the Budget Bureau, the City Attorney's Office, and the City Administrator's Office.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: There are no economic, environmental, or social equity opportunities associated with adoption of this resolution.

Environmental: There are no economic, environmental, or social equity opportunities associated with the adoption of this resolution.

Race & Equity: The proposed TCSE Veterinarian position will serve people from Oakland who lack the financial resources to provide veterinary care for their animals and who live in communities where there are no veterinary clinics or other supports for companion animals.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff Recommends That The City Council Adopt A Resolution Authorizing The City Administrator, Or Designee, To Accept And Appropriate Donated Funds In An Amount Not To Exceed Ninety-Six Thousand Dollars (\$96,000) From The Friends Of Oakland Animal Services To Fund A Temporary Contract Services Employee Veterinarian Position For A One-Year Period.

For questions regarding this report, please contact ANN DUNN, DIRECTOR, at (510) 535-5604.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Dunn

ANN DUNN
Director, Oakland Animal Services

Reviewed by: Betsy Lake
Deputy City Administrator

Prepared by: Ann Dunn, Director