

# BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

# REGULAR MEETING AGENDA Tuesday, July 12, 2016 10:00 A.M.

LOS ANGELES CITY HALL, ROOM 1060 200 NORTH SPRING STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

> DAVID ZAFT President

LARRY GROSS Vice-President

OLIVIA E. GARCÍA ROGER WOLFSON ALANA YAÑEZ

Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. For information please call (213) 482-9558.

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de hacer pedido con 24 horas de anticipo al (213) 482-9558.

#### I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

1. Dangerous Animal Case: DA 161051 EV

Respondent: Eric Lynn Andrist

East Valley Animal Care and Control: Captain Karen Knipscheer-Cox

Complaining Witness: Dawn Easterling Johnson

#### II. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - (Comments from the public on items of public interest within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction that are not on the Agenda; two minutes per speaker).

Public Comments: The Brown Act prohibits the Board and staff from responding to the speakers' comments. Some of the matters raised in public comment may appear on a future agenda.

2. NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENTS - (Discussion with Neighborhood Council representatives on Neighborhood Council Resolutions or Community Impact Statements filed with the City Clerk which relate to any agenda item listed or being considered on this agenda for the Board of Animal Services Commissioners.)

#### 3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

- **A.** Approval of the Minutes for the Meeting of June 28, 2016 (Action item; public comment limited to one minute per speaker).
- 4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker).
- 5. COMMISSIONERS' ORAL REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker).

#### 6. BOARD REPORTS

- **A.** Oral Report on current canvassing practices and possibilities for issuing vouchers in the field (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker).
- **B.** Staff Report and Recommendation to Approve addition of ten additional zip codes to the list of zip codes authorized to participate in the SPAY4LA mobile spay/neuter program; and Authorize the Department to seek City Council approval to amend the terms of the current agreement with SPAY4LA to add these eligible areas (Action item; public comment limited to two minutes per speaker.)

# 7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., July 28, 2016, at South Los Angeles Shelter, Chesterfield Square, 1850 West 60<sup>th</sup> Street, Los Angeles, California 90047.

AGENDAS - The Board of Animal Services Commissioners (Board) meets regularly every second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Tuesday of each month at 10:00 A.M. Regular Meetings are held at City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Room 1060, in Los Angeles, CA 90012. Evening Meetings are held in various locations throughout the City, from 7:00 to approximately 9:30 P.M. The agendas for Board meetings contain a brief general description of those items to be considered at the meetings. Board Agendas are available at the Department of Animal Services (Department), Administrative Division, 221 North Figueroa Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Board Agendas may also be viewed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Public Bulletin Board in City Hall East, 200 North Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Internet users may also access copies of present and prior agenda items, copies of the Board Calendar, MP-3 audio files of meetings as well as electronic copies of approved minutes on the Department's World Wide Web Home Page site at http://www.laanimalservices.com/CommissionAgendas.htm

Board of Animal Services Commissioners Meeting Meeting Agenda for July 12, 2016 Page 3

Three (3) members of the Board constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Some items on the Agenda may be approved without any discussion.

The Board Secretary will announce the items to be considered by the Board. The Board will hear the presentation on the topic and gather additional information from Department Staff. Once presentations have finished, the Board President will ask if any Board Member or member of the public wishes to speak on one or more of these items. Each speaker called before the Commission will have one (1) minute to express their comments and concerns on matters placed on the agenda. (For certain agenda items, speakers will have two (2) minutes.)

<u>PUBLIC INPUT AT BOARD MEETINGS</u> – Public Participation on Agenda Items. Members of the public will have an opportunity to address the Board on agenda items after the item is called and before the Board takes action on the item, unless the opportunity for public participation on the item was previously provided to all interested members of the public at a public meeting of a Committee of the Board and the item has not substantially changed since the Committee heard the item. When speaking to an agenda item other than during Public Comment (see Public Comment below), the speaker shall limit his or her comments to the specific item under consideration (California Government Code, Section 54954.3).

**Public Comment.** The Board will provide an opportunity for public comment at every regular meeting of the Board. Members of the public may address the Board on any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board as part of Public Comment.

**Speaker Cards.** Members of the public wishing to speak are to fill out one speaker card for each agenda item on which they wish to speak and present it to the Board secretary **before** the item is called.

**Time Limit for Speakers.** Speakers addressing the Board will be limited to one (1) minute of speaking time for each agenda item except during general public comment period which is limited to two (2) minutes per speaker. (For certain agenda items, speakers will have two (2) minutes each.). The Chairperson, with the approval of a majority of the Board, may for good cause extend any speaker's time by increments of up to one (1) minute.

**Brown Act.** These rules shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with the Ralph M. Brown Act, California Government Code Section § 54950 et seq.

**STANDARDS OF CONDUCT.** Speakers are expected to behave in an orderly manner and to refrain from personal attacks or use of profanity or language that may incite violence.

All persons present at Board meetings are expected to behave in an orderly manner and to refrain from disrupting the meeting, interfering with the rights of others to address the Board and/or interfering with the conduct of business by the Board.

In the event that any speaker does not comply with the foregoing requirements, or if a speaker does not address the specific item under consideration, the speaker may be ruled out of order, their speaking time forfeited and the Chairperson may call upon the next speaker.

The Board, by majority vote, may order the removal from the meeting of any speaker or audience member continuing to behave in a disruptive manner after being warned by the Chairperson regarding their behavior. Section 403 of the California Penal Code states as follows: "Every person who, without authority of law, willfully disturbs or breaks up any assembly or meeting that is not unlawful in its character, other than an assembly or meeting referred to in Section 302 of the Penal Code or Section 18340 of the Elections Code, is guilty of a misdemeanor."

Board of Animal Services Commissioners Meeting Meeting Agenda for July 12, 2016 Page 4

VOTING AND DISPOSITION OF ITEMS – Most items require a majority vote of the entire membership of the Board (3 members). When debate on an item is completed, the Board President will instruct the Secretary to "call the roll". Every member present must vote for or against each item; abstentions are not permitted unless there is a Conflict of Interest for which the Board member is obliged to abstain from voting. The Secretary will announce the votes on each item. Any member of the Board may move to "reconsider" any vote on any item on the agenda, except to adjourn, suspend the Rules, or where an intervening event has deprived the Board of jurisdiction, providing that said member originally voted on the prevailing side of the item. The motion to "reconsider" shall only be in order once during the meeting, and once during the next regular meeting. The member requesting reconsideration shall identify for all members present the Agenda number and subject matter previously voted upon. A motion to reconsider is not debatable and shall require an affirmative vote of three members of the Board.

When the Board has failed by sufficient votes to approve or reject an item, and has not lost jurisdiction over the matter, or has not caused it to be continued beyond the next regular meeting, the issue is again placed on the next agenda for the following meeting for the purpose of allowing the Board to again vote on the matter.

#### BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS

DAVID ZAFT PRESIDENT

LARRY GROSS

COMMISSIONERS

OLIVIA E. GARCÍA ROGER WOLFSON ALANA YAÑEZ

# **City of Los Angeles**

**CALIFORNIA** 



ERIC GARCETTI MAYOR DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES

221 North Figueroa Street 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Suite 600 Los Angeles, CA 90012

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BRENDA F. BARNETTE

DANA H. BROWN ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

DEREK BROWN ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

# NOTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL HEARINGS To Be Held:

Tuesday, July 12, 2016, at 10:00 A.M.

City Hall 200 North Spring Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 1060 Los Angeles, CA 90012 (Entrance on Main Street)

This serves as formal notice pursuant to Section § 53.18(q) 4 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to the following parties and witnesses in the appeal(s) listed below:

1. Dangerous Animal Case: DA 161051 EV

Respondent: Eric Lynn Andrist

East Valley Animal Care and Control: Captain Karen Knipscheer-Cox

Complaining Witness: Dawn Easterling Johnson

These hearings will not be rescheduled, except for good cause.

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign Language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend.

For additional information, please refer to the Board's "Rules and Procedures for Appeals," or contact the Department of Animal Services at (213) 482-9558, or visit the Department's website: <a href="http://www.laanimalservices.com/">http://www.laanimalservices.com/</a>. Written statements are to be submitted to the Commission seven days prior and, if in excess of 50 pages, seven hard copies must be provided. You may submit your statement (50 pages or less) via email to: <a href="mailto:ani.commission@lacity.org">ani.commission@lacity.org</a>.

Para información en español, llame al (213) 482-9558.

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# BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

# MINUTES TUESDAY, June 28, 2016 at 10:00 AM



LOS ANGELES CITY HALL, ROOM 1060 200 NORTH SPRING STREET LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

Audio MP-3 Recording is available at www.laanimalservices.com

David Zaft, President Larry Gross, Vice-President Olivia E. García Roger Wolfson Alana Yañez

Meeting called to order at 10:07 a.m. Commissioners present were Zaft, Gross, García, Wolfson and Yañez. Also present from Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) General Manager (GM) Brenda Barnette, Assistant General Manager (AGM) Dana Brown; Assistant General Manager (AGM) Derek Brown and Assistant City Attorney (ACA) Laurie Rittenberg.

**Commissioner Zaft** opened the meeting and provided an overview of the meeting agenda. **Commissioner Gross** discussed the appeal hearing process prior to conducting the hearings.

#### I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

1. Barking Dog Revocation Case: BR 153071 EV

Respondent: Samuel Gallegos

East Valley Animal Care and Control: Captain Karen Knipscheer-Cox

Complaining Witness: Kenneth and Marianne Guran

Testimony was provided by the Respondent Samuel Gallegos. Mr. Gallegos indicated that there was no basis for issuing terms and conditions in this case. Mr. Gallegos alleged that all of the evidence was not considered by the Hearing Examiner. Mr. Gallegos also stated that he purchased a collar for his dog. Commissioner Gross asked Mr. Gallegos if the current terms and conditions imposed by DAS had been observed. Mr. Gallegos admitted that the terms and conditions had been violated. Commissioner Zaft stated the terms and conditions imposed in May 2015. The dog should be inside the home after 9pm and at any time the dogs could not be supervised by a competent person. He mentioned that barking had been a problem from 7am until about 10pm each night. The complaining Witnesses, Kenneth and Marianne Guran, insisted that the Respondent's dogs bark day and night and that he has not complied with the orders to confine his dogs. They complained that the dogs bark whether the Respondent is home or not. Mr. Guran lamented that the barking was a constant issue for two years until the dogs were removed from the residence. The Commissioners asked questions and discussed the merits of the appeal and the evidence provided to Hearing Examiner.

**Commissioner Zaft** moved to uphold the General Manager's determination to require the terms and conditions. The motion was seconded by **Commissioner Gross** and was approved by a vote of 5-0.

Board of Animal Services Commissioners Minutes for the June 28, 2016 Commission Meeting Page 2

2. Dangerous Animal Case: DA 161059 EV

Respondent: Abraham Arakelian

East Valley Animal Care and Control: Captain Karen Knipscheer-Cox

Complaining Witness: Shake Keryanof

Testimony was provided by the Respondent, Abraham Arakelian who was accompanied by his father. Mr. Arakelian informed the Board that his dog is not a dangerous dog and hasn't had any problems except the incidents under discussion. Mr. Arakelian admitted that his dog got out when his gate was ajar. He stated that his dog his very compassionate and loving. He complained that the Complaining Witness, Shake Keryanof, called his dog over to her and that his dog merely scratched her face. Commissioner Zaft emphasized that the there were two incidents. The Complaining Witnesses, Shake Keryanof, recounted how the dog attacked her and her 19 year old son on different occasions. She stated that she lives in fear because she walks with her son to and from various activities using the common alley that is attached to Respondent's property. She claimed that the dog bit her in her face. She contested that the Respondent was given ample opportunity to ensure that the dog was secure after the first incident. She also complained that the property has another dog on the premise since the first dog, Gina, was removed. The Commissioners asked questions to clarify the details and the series of events concerning each attack. Commissioner Zaft was able to finally get the Respondent to acknowledge that his dog, Gina, got away twice and attacked two people in a public right of way on separate occasions.

**Commissioner Yañez** moved to uphold the General Manager's determination that the dog is deemed a dangerous animal. **Commissioner Garcia** seconded the motion and was approved by a vote of 5-0.

#### II. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

#### 1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Daniel Guss: Discussed his Citywatch article regarding the reappointment of Commissioner Wolfson; shared his personal opinion of Commissioner Wolfson's fitness for the position. Phyllis Daugherty: Expressed concern on the shortage of officers in the field. Marla Tauscher: Recounted alleged incident of abuse by ACT when kitten was left in car and later had to be euthanized; discussed the dog killed on a catch pull; expressed concern that Dr. Feldman as a mandatory reporter didn't report these incidents. Dawn Roznowski: Identified herself as a public school educator who fosters rabbits; discussed how street vendor selling rabbits avoid the ordinance by moving across the street; suggested that rabbit breeders need to be regulated and that rabbits deserve the same protection as dog and cats. Jane Stonnington: Retired Master Sergeant who reiterated that the City of Los Angeles and County of Los Angeles should align their regulations on the sale of animals; complained that vendors are selling animals that are un-weaned and under aged; stated that bunnies are companion animals not farm animals and should be registered as such. Jude Ferguson: Proprietor of an ecommerce business; asserted that breeders sell animals that are not neutered or spayed. Lejla Hadzimuratovic: President of Bunny World foundation; suggested that the City of Los Angeles should initiate the conversation with the County of Los Angeles regarding their respective regulations on the sale of animals by street vendors.

2. NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENTS - (Discussion with Neighborhood Council representatives on Neighborhood Council Resolutions or Community Impact Statements filed with the City Clerk which relate to any agenda item listed or being considered on this agenda for the Board of Animal Services Commissioners.)

Public Comment None

#### 3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

**A.** Approval of Minutes for the Meeting of June 14, 2016. **Commissioner Gross** made a motion to approve the minutes for both meetings. **Commissioner Garcia** seconded the motion. Approved 5-0.

Public Comment None

#### 4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

**GM Barnette** discussed the following:

- Mentioned that six new Animal Control Officer Trainees began their first day on June
   13, 2016. Department is looking forward to filling all 32 vacancies.
- Department was nominated for the Amgen Foundation Volunteers Staff giving program and after applying, was accepted to begin receiving donations. The nomination was specifically to help the West Valley Animal Shelter.
- Mentioned case of Corey Carnegie, a registered nurse who was convicted of one count of PC 597(b) animal cruelty and three counts of PC 597.1 (a) animal neglect. Initially removed 32 dogs, 5 cats, and 2 pot-bellied pigs from deplorable conditions in Carnegie's home; a subsequent visit was made and additional animals were seized; after hearing defendant Carnegie was found to be in violation of terms of her probation and was sentenced to 180 days in county jail; was immediately taken into custody.
- Mentioned that the Dodge ball Tournament was popular with several players visiting dogs from West Los Angeles Animal Shelter; a donation was made from the proceeds of the sales for the event although no animals were adopted.
- Chief Veterinarian Jeremy Prupas will be attending a Community based Parvo Treatment Apprenticeship Program in Philadelphia, PA. His application was selected from many applicants.
- On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, GM Barnette made a live appearance on the KTLA afternoon news; took an adoptable animal to the set and asked the community to foster or adopt to help reduce the number of animals in the shelter; animal was adopted by KTLA staff member.
- Will be presenting our report and recommendation for coyote management at the PAW Committee meeting at 9AM Wednesday morning.
- Discussed that the Director of Field Operations (Shelter) met with Bureau of Engineering and General Services Construction Forces (GSD-CF) regarding multiple areas of concern at the West Valley facility.
- Washer and dryer at Harbor facility is in need of repair; mentioned options for repair.

Board of Animal Services Commissioners Minutes for the June 28, 2016 Commission Meeting Page 4

- ACT staffing shortages caused the cancellation of one event in June and two events in July.
- The open orientation for volunteers held at the East Valley Shelter on June 22<sup>nd</sup> yielded a very large turnout.
- 96 kittens and 89 dogs were adopted at the KITTEN-PALOOZA even held June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Acknowledged reappointment of Commissioner Wolfson and his swearing in.
- Skunk in Jacuzzi call on May 16, 2016 mentioned.
- Mentioned various upcoming events.

#### **Public Comment:**

**Phyllis Daugherty:** Discussed and showed a picture of dog that was beaten and strangled and drowned after owner fees were paid for him in Santa Barbara on June 24, 2016.

## 5. COMMISSIONERS' ORAL REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Gross: Attended Found Animals forum.

**Commissioner Yanez:** Also mentioned attending Found Animals forum; mentioned that she has been invited to participate in the preparation of the dog exhibit at the California Science Center.

**Commissioner Garcia:** Was impressed by the Found Animals forum; particularly impressed by Canine Warrior group.

Commissioner Zaft: Congratulated Commissioner Wolfson on his reappointment.

**Commissioner Wolfson:** Thanked commission president for having the hold period topic placed on the agenda and also for the status update on the rabbit facilities.

Public Comment None

#### 6. BOARD REPORTS

A. Oral Report on Current Hold Periods for Shelter Animals (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker)

AGM Derek Brown gave a report regarding the hold periods for suspected personal property animals; detailed reasons for personal hold periods- (1) hospitalization (2) death of the owner (3) arrest of the owner; discussed why the department was not able to proceed with changing the current hold period; the hold period is pursuant to LA Municipal Code 53.12.1; read the code in its entirety; gave statistics for average length of stay for personal property animals for the 2014-2015 fiscal year. Commissioner Zaft: Questioned hold period for personal property animals. Commissioner Wolfson: Requested to see the language of the code; questioned the possibility of changing holds period by the City Council. GM Brenda Barnette: Mentioned that change in hold period must not violate municipal

or state code; suggested that the Commission determine the time periods they would like to have and ask the City Attorney's office to examine the suggested time periods to ensure they are in harmony with the state and municipal codes. Commissioner Zaft: Agreed with GM Barnette's suggestion; mentioned his desire to see statistics of the typical length of stay for owner pick up; mentioned that reduction in hold periods can be adjusted according to the length of the typical stay. Commissioner Gross: Questioned if such data could be extracted. AGM Derek Brown: Stated that more data could be retrieved; discussed that this is most applicable when the animal will not be reclaimed and we have to sit and wait for prescribed number of days to pass. Commissioner Yañez: Stated her experiences as an animal care technician. GM Brenda Barnette: Mentioned problem with contacting the family of the deceased. Commissioner Zaft: Reiterated that he wants to see a report before he can make a recommendation. Commissioner Wolfson: Expressed desire to reduce hold periods in each category. AGM Derek Brown: Mentioned each of the hold categories and the length of the each hold period. The Commissioners asked questions and discussed the various hold categories and the length of the hold period for each category. Commissioner Zaft: Reminded Commission that this is simply an oral report and not an action item.

#### Public Comment:

Marla Tauscher: Stated that they are many things to consider before changing hold periods for evidence hold animals; voiced various complaints about officers; insisted that pre-seizure hearings are a requirement. Phyllis Daugherty: Mentioned that state law is to hold animals for 30 days; suggested that redemption money be spent in caring for animals

B. Staff Report Regarding Status of Rabbit Facilities at Various Shelters and Recommendation to Use Money from Animal Welfare Trust Fund to Pay for Improvements (Action item; public comment limited to two minutes per speaker). (taken out of order before item 6.A.)

Commander Louis Dedeaux answered questions; thanked Michelle Kelly for evaluating rabbit habitats at each shelter and making evaluations; identified immediate improvements for the Harbor, North Central and West Valley shelters; expressed desire to block the sun at the Harbor by purchasing a canopy; rabbits at North Central will be moved inside and away from the dogs; need caging and portable air conditioning but have identified room for rabbits; West Valley Phase 1 issue is the heat; need portable air conditioning unit. Commissioner Zaft: Asked about phase two. Commander Louis Dedeaux: Listed the series of the processes necessary to initiate phase two. GM Barnette: Mentioned need the approval of the Board for the \$18,000 upgrade of the rabbit habitats.

## **Public Comments:**

**Michelle Kelly:** Thanked commission for taking action; expressed a desire to quickly move to phase 2; mentioned that the habitat for rabbits is directly linked to the number of volunteers and how long they volunteer. **Lejla Hadzimuratovic:** Commented about the habitat of the rabbits; read a story that she wrote; expressed a desire to help; suggested that rabbits be socialized in a play pen area. **Phyllis Daugherty:** mentioned that Michelle Kelly has always helped rabbits and that she needs to be commended for that; stated that rabbits are a barn yard animal in our

code. **Elizabeth Rizzo**: Mentioned the disparity between treatment of animals; rabbits are treated differently than dogs. **Joann Smith**: Volunteer at North Central and a retired physician who lives in West LA; expressed appreciation for efforts in rabbits' behalf. **Commissioner Zaft**: Mentioned concern about future provision for rabbits in new North Central Shelter. **Commissioner Wolfson**: Thanked GM Barnette and all who worked on behalf of the improvement of the facilities for the bunnies; stated that if there were more people like the advocates for the bunnies the world would be a better place.

**Commissioner Zeft** moved to approve motion to spend \$18,000 from the Animal Welfare Trust Fund to pay for improvements to the rabbit facilities at various shelters and **Commissioner Gross** seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

- C. Woofstat Report for May 2016 (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker).
  - Citations are off over 14% from previous year
  - Vets spayed/neutered 36% more animals this year; rabbits included in that number
  - Euthanasia numbers continue to go down

**Commissioner Wolfson:** Impressed with increase in licenses issued, but expressed concern that the numbers were down last month. **GM Barnette:** Discussed shortage of field personnel; many employees on light duty and also on vacation.

#### **Public Comment:**

**Lejla Hadzimuratovic:** Would like rabbits added to euthanasia reports; suggested female rabbits should be spayed by specialty vets; wanted more specific reports about bunnies after being placed with rescue groups.

#### A. ADJOURNMENT

**Commissioner Yanez** made a motion to adjourn. **Commissioner Gross** seconded motion. Motion passed 4 - 0.

Meeting ended at 12:31 p.m.

BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS

DAVID ZAFT

LARRY GROSS VICE PRESIDENT

OLIVIA E. GARCÍA ROGER WOLFSON ALANA YAÑEZ

# City of Los Angeles

CALIFORNIA



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DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES 221 North Figueroa Street 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Suite 600 Los Angeles, CA 90012

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BRENDA F. BARNETTE General Manager

DANA H. BROWN

DEREK BROWN

# Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

MEETING DATE: July 12, 2016

PREPARED BY: John Forland

REPORT DATE: June 30, 2016

TITLE: Sr. Management Analyst II

SUBJECT:

AUTHORIZE TEN ADDITIONAL ZIP CODES AND MODIFY EXISTING

SPAY4LA MOBILE SPAY/NEUTER AGREEMENT

#### **BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:**

- 1. **APPROVE** addition of all eligible neighborhoods in ten zip codes to the list of zip codes authorized to participate in the mobile spay/neuter program;
- 2. **AUTHORIZE** the Department to seek Council approval to amend the terms of the current agreement with SPAY4LA to add these eligible areas.

# **SUMMARY**

Under the current agreement, SPAY4LA provides free spay/neuter surgeries of dogs and cats owned by residents living in Los Angeles within four Zip Codes: 90003, 90011, 90018, and 90037. (Contract number C-125233 was approved by the Board of Animal Services Commissioners and executed on January 28, 2015; Council File: 14-1459). This pilot program was established to determine the viability of using zip codes as the basis for delivering low-cost veterinary services and free spay/neuter surgeries to all residents in these high-need neighborhoods. The Department requests Commission approval to add eligible neighborhoods within ten additional zip codes to the list. They are: 90089, 90058, 90007, 90059, 90002, 90044, 90001, 90061, 90062, and 90047; and, authorize the Department to seek Council approval to amend the current SPAY4LA agreement to add these eligible areas and zip codes.

Targeting the entire animal population eligible neighborhoods reduces intake at our South LA shelter, and provides better long-term reductions in our operating costs. These target neighborhoods have some or all of the following characteristics: very high levels of unemployment, low average family incomes, low vehicle ownership rates, underutilization of spay/neuter coupons and free certificates, few private veterinary clinics within the general area, and are major sources of stray, free-roaming, unaltered, and unlicensed animals.

Attached are a list of the family poverty levels by zip code within the City, a map showing location of the existing and proposed service areas, and a map showing indicators of need. Only one

private veterinary clinic is located within two miles of our South LA shelter and only five are located within a four-mile radius of the shelter. Only neighborhoods in these zip codes that are in the City and meet the low-income threshold criteria are eligible. Areas outside the City limits, or neighborhoods above the poverty level are not eligible.

The original four zip codes were chosen to participate in the initial pilot because they were the closest to, or included, our South LA shelter at Jefferson Park located at 3612 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, LA 90018. For years that shelter had been a hub of activity. However, it was closed in 2013 when our new shelter at Chesterfield Square opened. The new shelter is located at 1850 West 60<sup>th</sup> Street, LA 90047 and is not within the original four zip codes. Much of the activity associated with use of the Jefferson Park shelter has shifted over to Chesterfield Square located in zip code 90047 which is not currently eligible, so adding this zip code allows SPAY4LA to refocus their resources to take better advantage of this new activity center.

The level of need in eligible neighborhoods of all ten zip codes that we propose adding is at the same high level as the original four zip codes chosen to participate in the pilot program and covers all of the high-impact neighborhoods served by our South LA shelter. (Note: Portions of four different Council Districts are included within this revised service area.)

The services provided by SPAY4LA have proven to be successful. Since their mobile van began in February 2015 through April 2016, SPAY4LA has performed a total of 2,989 surgeries (1,964 dogs, and 1,025 cats). Raising these numbers higher is possible. SPAY4LA requests approval of the expanded area so they can allocate additional resources to provide more surgeries and better utilize funds authorized in their current agreement. Their invoicing and accounting systems meet current Department and City requirements. Their quality of service is highly rated.

#### **BACKGROUND**

In 2000, the City Council approved an ordinance creating a pricing structure incentivizing spay/neuter by setting the licensing fee at \$10 a year for altered dogs and \$100 for unaltered dogs. Under the ordinance, a portion of each license payment is transferred to the Animal Sterilization Fund (ASF) to support targeted spay/neuter surgeries. Accompanying the original 2000 ordinance was an appropriation of funds to ASF and authorization for the creation of a mobile spay/neuter clinic that would make free or low-cost sterilization surgeries available in low-income communities throughout the City. In October 2009, the Council-created Spay/Neuter Advisory Committee's final report set forth a number of potentially useful strategies for enhancing the City's spay/neuter activities including "increasing emphasis on targeting subsidies to low-income pet owners."

On September 13, 2011, the Board of Animal Services Commissioners authorized the General Manager to amend the methodology for determining and verifying qualified very low income companion animal owners for the purpose of providing subsidized spay/neuter surgeries and to vigorously pursue this more-efficient and more-effective usage of available spay/neuter funding. The methodology simplified qualification procedures by basing eligibility on residence in zip code areas that meet income and unemployment criteria established by the City for its job training and placement programs based on US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) low income guidelines.

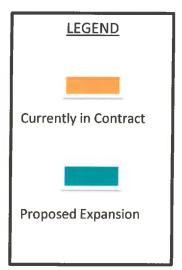
The Department released a Request for Proposals ("RFP") in 2014 for operating a mobile spay/neuter program based on zip codes. SPAY4LA's proposal met the requirements, and SPAY4LA was awarded the agreement for one year with five one-year renewal options for a total period of up to six years, and began operations on January 28, 2015.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

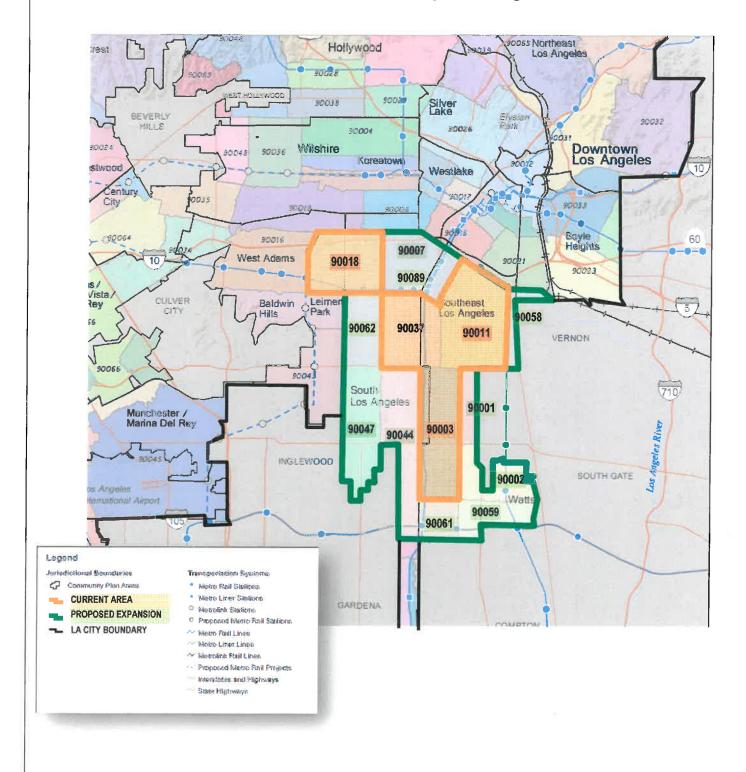
There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund because all spay neuter costs are paid through the Animal Sterilization Fund.

Approved:					
Brenda F. Barnette, General Manager					
BOARD AC	ΓΙΟΝ:				
	Passed	Disapproved			
	Passed with noted modifications	Continued	-		
	Tabled	New Date			

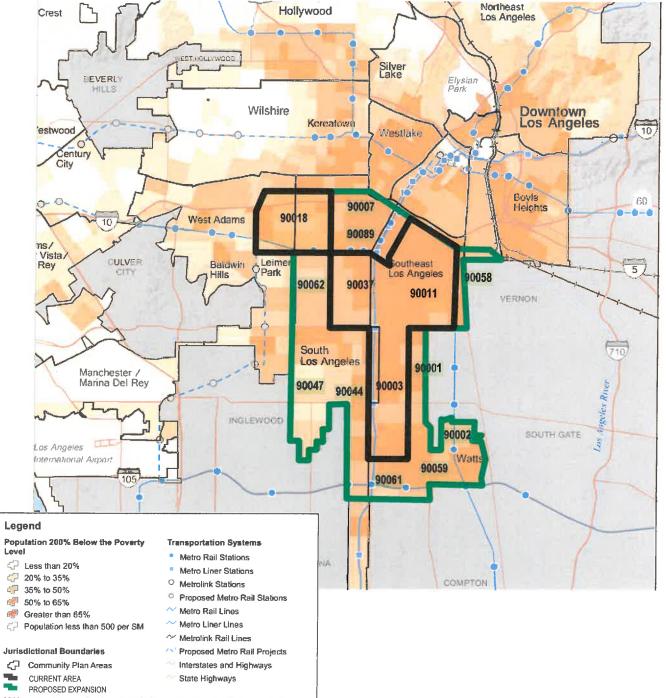
Percent Below Poverty Level					
	RESULT #1 (07- RESULT #2				
ZIP CODE	11)	(10-14)			
ZCTA5 90089	100.00%	100.00%			
ZCTA5 90073	68.90%	64.10%			
ZCTA5 90058	58.1%	59.50%			
ZCTA5 90017	47.90%	51.60%			
ZCTA5 90007	42.90%	47.00%			
ZCTA5 90021	43.70%	46.90%			
ZCTA5 90013	51.80%	46.40%			
ZCTA5 90011	41.40%	44.20%			
ZCTA5 90014	47.90%	43.40%			
ZCTA5 90037	37.10%	41.20%			
ZCTA5 90057	35.50%	39.50%			
ZCTA5 90003	37.90%	38.60%			
ZCTA5 90059	34.10%	37.60%			
ZCTA5 90033	32.50%	36.60%			
ZCTA5 90002	32.60%	36.30%			
ZCTA5 90044	31.90%	35.40%			
ZCTA5 90012	36.30%	34.60%			
ZCTA5 90015	36.10%	34.60%			
ZCTA5 90001	28.10%	33.60%			
ZCTA5 90024	30.90%	32.60%			
ZCTA5 90061	28.80%	32.00%			
ZCTA5 90023	33.00%	31.40%			
ZCTA5 90006	31.60%	30.90%			
ZCTA5 90031	29.30%	30.80%			
ZCTA5 90038	24.00%	29.90%			
ZCTA5 90062	26.70%	29.50%			
ZCTA5 90018	27.10%	29.10%			
ZCTA5 90744	25.60%	28.80%			
ZCTA5 90028	25.50%	28.50%			
ZCTA5 90005	24.80%	28.40%			
ZCTA5 91402	24.40%	28.10%			
ZCTA5 90029		28.00%			
ZCTA5 90063	24.40%_	26.90%			
ZCTA5 90008	<del></del>	26.40%			
ZCTA5 90022		25.80%			
ZCTA5 91405		25.40%			
ZCTA5 90004		25.20%			
ZCTA5 91605		24.00%			
ZCTA5 90016		23.60%			
ZCTA5 90019	<del></del>	23.40%			
ZCTA5 90026		23.20%			
ZCTA5 91401		23.20%			
		22.50%			
ZCTA5 91343		22.50%			
ZCTA5 90020		21.90%			
ZCTA5 91411		21.80%			
		21.60%			
		21.20%			
	X	21.10%			
		21.10%			
		21.00%			
		20.90%			
ZCTA5 91606	18.40%	20.70%			



# **Zip Codes Within the City of Los Angeles**



# Percentage of Population 200% Below the Federal Poverty Level (2010)



2010 poverty data compiled from the U.S. Census American FactFinder website. For a family of four, the Federal Poverty Level was \$22,113, 200% of the Federal Poverty Level is \$44,226. The map shows Census tracts with a population density greater than 500 persons per square mile.

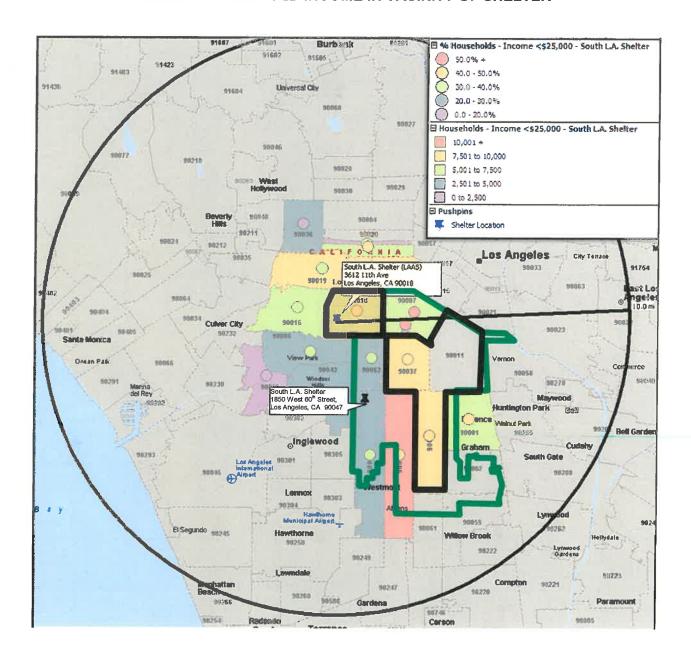
Data Sources: Poverty Data, 2010 U.S. Census; Community Plan Areas, 2012 City of Los Angeles Department of City Planning; Metro Rail and Liner Routes and Stations. 2012 Metro; Metrolink Lines, 2006 Los Angeles County Urban Research; Metrolink Stations, 2012 Raimi + Associates; Proposed Metro Rail Routes and Stations, 2012 Raimi + Associates; Proposed Metro Rail Routes and Stations, 2012 Raimi + Associates; Interstates and Highways, 2008 Tele Atlas North America, Inc.; World Terrain Base, 2009 ESRI.

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Produced by Raimi + Associates for the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County.

Made possible with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through
the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and The California Endowment
May 2013

## MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN VACINITY OF SHELTER



# AMENDMENT NO.2 TO CONTRACT NUMBER C-125233 BETWEEN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES AND SPAY4LA, INC FOR THE OPERATION OF A MOBILE SPAY AND NEUTER CLINIC

THIS SECOND SUPPLEMENT to Agreement Number C-125233 is made and entered into as of July 1, 2016, by and between the City of Los Angeles ("City"), a municipal corporation, acting through the Department of Animal Services ("Department"); and SPAY4LA, INC ("Contractor") to add ten Zip codes to the four Zip codes already designated to the eligible area covered by this agreement. The four existing zip codes are 90003, 90011, 90018, and 90037. The ten additional Zip codes are 90001, 90002, 90007, 90044, 90047, 90058, 90059, 90061, 90062, and 90089.

WHEREAS, under Contract Number C-125233, Contractor provides free spay/neuter surgeries at its mobile veterinary clinic facilities to sterilize dogs and cats owned by low-income residents in specific Los Angeles Zip Codes; and

WHEREAS, the agreement has demonstrated the effectiveness of using targeted spay/neuter services by Zip code to reduce shelter intake, and

WHEREAS, the Department seeks to further reduce intake by expanding the eligible area for delivery of these targeted spay/neuter services; and

WHEREAS, the thirteen additional Zip codes are eligible based on high unemployment rates, low average income, lack of available private veterinary clinics in the area, and other indicators of need.

NOW THEREFORE, both parties intend the Agreement to be amended as follows:

#### AMENDMENT

These sections in Contract C-125233 will be replaced as follows:

## 1. Section V. Scope of Services

The Contractor shall obtain, operate, and maintain a Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic from which the Contractor will provide free spay/neuter services for animals owned by Los Angeles residents residing in eligible neighborhoods within Zip Codes 90001, 90002, 90003, 90007, 90011, 90018, 90037, 90044, 90047, 90058, 90059, 90061, 90062, and 90089. Contractor will provide all staffing, equipment, and supplies and will obtain all permits, licenses, and registrations required to operate the Mobile Clinic. In particular, the veterinary services to be provided in eligible neighborhoods within Zip Codes 90001, 90002, 90003, 90007, 90011, 90018, 90037, 90044, 90047, 90058, 90059, 90061, 90062, and 90089 are as follows:

## 2. F. 2. Service Locations of Mobile Clinic Operations

Services shall be provided in eligible neighborhoods within Zip Codes 90001, 90002, 90003, 90007, 90011, 90018, 90037, 90044, 90047, 90058, 90059, 90061, 90062, and 90089 within the City of Los Angeles.

#### 3. F. 3. Days and Hours of Operation

Contractor shall operate the Mobile Clinic an average of five (5) days per week, to be scheduled at the Contractor's discretion, and subject to disapproval of Department. Contractor's hours of operation shall be such that members of the public bringing their animals to the Mobile Clinic are reasonably accommodated for their time. Contractor shall advertise the days of operation at least one month prior, and publish its scheduled days of operation online and by other appropriate media to effectively reach the intended population in eligible neighborhoods within Zip Codes 90001, 90002, 90003, 90007, 90011, 90018, 90037, 90044, 90047, 90058, 90059, 90061, 90062, and 90089.

# 4. F. 11 Verification of Clients' Residency

To verify that the services provided under this agreement are provided to residents of Los Angeles in eligible neighborhoods within Zip Codes 90001, 90002, 90003, 90007, 90011, 90018, 90037, 90044, 90047, 90058, 90059, 90061, 90062, and 90089, the Contractor shall establish a protocol to verify clients' residency. Specifically, Contractor shall request each client to provide appropriate proof of residency in the targeted Zip Codes. Acceptable proofs of zip code residency shall be determined by the Department.

Except as herein amended, all other terms and conditions shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed by their respective duly authorized representatives.

The City of Los Angeles, Department of Animal Services	CONTRACTOR - SPAY4LA,INC
ByBrenda Barnette, General Manager  Date:	ByAimee Gilbreath, Treasurer  Date:
APPROVED AS TO FORM: MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney	(second signature required of corporations)
By	By Jonathan Chavez, Secretary  Date:
ATTEST: HOLLY WOLCOTT, City Clerk	
By Deputy City Clerk  Date:	

Los Angeles City Business Tax License Number: 002722603-000-1-6

Taxpayer Identification Number: 45-2996980

City Agreement Number: C-125233

<sup>2&</sup>lt;sup>nd</sup> Supplemental Agreement to C-125233 – Mobile Spay/Neuter Clinic