

BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA Tuesday, May 23, 2017 10:00 A.M.

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

LARRY GROSS
President

OLIVIA E. GARCÍA Vice-President

ROGER WOLFSON ALISA FINSTEN VACANT

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 171112 SLA

Respondent: Ramy Hakim

South Los Angeles Animal Care and Control: Lieutenant Jose Gonzalez

Complaining Witness: Nicole Beriden

II. REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1. 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 Meeting of April 25, 2017. (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. Staff Report Requesting Approval of Policy to Allow Community Members to Care for Found Dogs and Cats Under Certain Guidelines. (Action Item; public comment limited to two minutes per speaker).
- B. Staff Report Requesting Approval to Use Animal Welfare Trust Fund Money for Fee Waived Adoptions (Action Item; public comment limited to two minutes).
- C. Staff Report Requesting Approval to Use Animal Welfare Trust Fund Money to Purchase Canine Influenza Vaccines for Shelter Dogs. (Action Item; public comment limited to two minutes per speaker).

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Leash Law Education and Enforcement. (Public comment limited to one minute per speaker).

8. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 7:00 P.M., June 13, 2017, at the Harbor Animal Shelter, 957 North Gaffey Street, San Pedro, CA 90731.

AGENDAS - The Board of Animal Services Commissioners (Board) meets regularly every second (2nd) and fourth (4th) 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, 6th Floor, Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Board Agendas may also be viewed on the 2nd floor Public Bulletin Board in City Hall East, 200 North Main Street, Los Angeles, CA

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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

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> – <u>Public Participation on Agenda Items</u>. 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

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Section 302 of the Penal Code or Section 18340 of the Elections Code, is guilty of a misdemeanor."

<u>VOTING AND DISPOSITION OF ITEMS</u> — 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.

LARRY GROSS PRESIDENT

OLIVIA E. GARCIA

COMMISSIONERS

ALISA FINSTEN ROGER WOLFSON VACANT

City of Los Angeles

CALIFORNIA



ERIC GARCETTI MAYOR DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES

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BRENDA F. BARNETTE GENERAL MANAGER

DANA H. BROWN ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

LOUIS P. DEDEAUX INTERIM ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

NOTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL HEARINGS To Be Held:

Tuesday, May 23, 2017, at 10:00 A.M.

City Hall 200 North Spring Street, 10th 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:

Dangerous Animal Case: DA 171112 SLA

Respondent: Ramy Hakim

South Los Angeles Animal Care and Control: Lieutenant Jose Gonzalez

Complaining Witness: Nicole Beridon

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: http://www.laanimalservices.com/. Written statements can 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: ani.commission@lacity.org.

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



BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS CITY OF LOS ANGELES

MINUTES TUESDAY, April 25, 2017 at 7:00 PM



EAST VALLEY ANIMAL SHELTER 14409 VANOWEN STREET VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA 91406

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

Larry Gross, President Olivia E. García, Vice President Alisa Finsten Roger Wolfson

Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m. Commissioners present were Gross, García, Finsten and Wolfson (NOTE: Commission Wolfson was not present at the time attendance was taken but arrived a short time later.) Also present from Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) Assistant General Manager (AGM) Dana Brown acting as Board Secretary and General Manager (GM) Brenda Barnette; and Assistant City Attorney (ACA) Dov Lesel.

Commissioner Gross opened the meeting, introduced staff and provided an overview of the meeting agenda.

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Andrew Brown: Discussed concerns with a number of newly hired Animal Care Technicians (ACT's) failing probation particularly at the East Valley shelter. Martha Chaffin: Discussed concerns about evidence and medical animals and proposed an idea to get those animals adopted outside of the state by forming more partnerships with No-Kill organizations. Phyllis Daugherty: Discussed concerns about a past item that should have been handled as an RFP process. Lisa Edmondson: Discussed concerns with rabbits being sold during the Easter season; also indicated that there are still publications in other City facilities that do not meet the criteria set forth for the Department with respect to the placement of publications in animal shelter lobbies. Debra Soukup: Advocated for Pet Press being allowed back into the shelters. Sherry Brewer: Made comments suggesting improvements to owner surrender process; introduced a form that could be used in the process. Lee Codorette: Advocated for the return of Pet Press in shelters. Silva Kelegian: Advocated for the return of Pet Press in shelters. Gail Raff: Discussed the work being done at East Valley with kittens. Josh Liddy: Advocated for the return of Pet Press back into the shelters. Lori Golden: Publisher of Pet Press advocated for the return of Pet Press back into the shelters.

Angie Aramayo, a representative from Assemblymember Nazarian's Office took a few minutes to welcome the Commission to their District and indicated that the Assemblymember looks forward to partnering with LAAS to benefit the members of the district.

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 Commissioners).

Board of Animal Services Commissioners Minutes for the April 25, 2017 Commission Meeting Page 2

Lisa Petrus – Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council commented on past support of the East Valley Animal Shelter and thanked staff for their hard work. She further committed to a continued partnership with the Department.

3. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. Approval of Minutes for April 11, 2017.

Public Comment None

Commissioner García moved to approve the minutes for April 11, 2017 and **Commissioner Finsten** seconded. The motion passed 4 - 0.

4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

GM Barnette discussed the following:

- Mayor Garcetti's State of the City address indicated that Los Angeles would be one of the first large No-Kill City in the nation.
- Councilmember Ryu made a motion today to ban exotic animals permits Citywide for the use of exotic animals for entertainment and amusement.
- A fleet update included information on the retrofitting of our air-conditioned vans with vents for air flow. Also there will be 15 replacement animal collection vehicles coming.
- "Walk on the Wild Side" is a community meeting being held twice per month in our shelters to assist residents with information on how to co-exist with wildlife.
- So far there have been two meetings held with the animal liaisons from the various Neighborhood Councils. Looking forward to more.
- EIR approved by the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee and will be heard by full Council on April 26, 2017.
- On April 12th GM Barnette met with other agencies to discuss possible fraud with GoFundMe websites and the potential impact on animal welfare.
- The Western Regional Animal Welfare Summit was held on April 8th in Culver City and hosted by Best Friends. Both GM Barnette and AGM Brown attended. The conversation centered around reaching and maintaining No-Kill countrywide.
- A video for a humane education program was shot at the North Central Animal shelter centered around encouraging kids to get involved.
- The USPS released a report naming Los Angeles as the #1 city in the nation for dog bites to USPS workers. City population should have been considered in these rankings as Los Angeles would have been been almost last on the list per capita.

Public Comment

Phyllis Daugherty: Commented that the wildlife phone number doesn't go to the wildlife officer; commented that GM Barnette should have been at the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee meeting where the EIR was discussed and approved. Andrew Brown: Thanks GM Barnette about finding new ways to evaluate dangerous animals. Gail Raff: Concerned about the length of time the East Valley Shelter spay/neuter clinic has been empty. Martha Chaffin: Advocated for the return of the Pet Press in City shelters; also indicated her interest in being on a neighborhood

council. **Lori Golden:** Commented that information about the wildlife meetings should have been printed in the Pet Press. **Marla Tauscher:** Commented that dangerous dog hearings need re-vamping and re-working. **Paula Hsien:** Commented that evidence animals are sometimes declared dangerous unnecessarily; suggests that we do more networking to find homes for these animals.

4. COMMISSIONERS' ORAL REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Wolfson: Would like to get an update on the RFP for kiosks in the shelters; Would like to revisit the idea of having a pilot program for late hours at one of the City's shelters; Would like to have an update from the City Attorney on the Gift Policy.

Commissioner García: Would like to have an update on the Capacity for Care project at the South Los Angeles shelter.

Commissioner Finstein: Would like some information on the work towards a phone system upgrade.

Commissioner Gross: Special shout-out to the staff and volunteers of the East Valley Animal Shelter.

Public Comment None

5. BOARD REPORTS

A. Staff Report Requesting Approval of the Los Angeles Animal Services Strategic Plan 2017-2022

GM Barnette presented the report. She gave a brief overview of the process which included the assistance of Strategic Planning Consultant Francisca Baxa, a number of staff meetings, community meetings, and volunteer input. GM barnette further discussed how all of the information was broken up into four main priorities specifically 1) Welfare of Animals and People 2) Good Communication 3) Good Service 4) Financial Sustainability. Each priority was developed further in small committees headed by one of LAAS's leadership members. Thereafter action items and specific timelines were developed and presented in the document considered by the Commission. This information, if approved, will be put into a document that can be published, printed and available to the community.

Commissioner Gross feels that the Department did a fantastic job with the document. Two keys things to make it a reality would be the resources and well as the re-evaluation and accountability/checks and balances. Asked how the Department envisions the budget impacting moving forward with the strategic plan. GM Barnette expects that we are in for a challenging year from a fiscal perspective. Looking forward to moving forward particularly on the fund-raising aspects of the plan. Commissioner Gross suggested that we develop a calendar that is more visual so that we can check the progress of the goals of the plan.

Commissioner Finsten asked about developing a detailed work plan for each

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strategy. Looking to see what the next steps are for the document and where she could expect a more detailed timeline. **GM Barnette** replied that we will be developing details of the steps and coming up with attainable timelines.

Commissioner Gross asked that if the plan were approved tonight what the next would step be. GM Barnette indicated that if approved we would then have the document prepped for publication and begin working on the detailed timeline that looks more like a project management document with start dates and end dates. one for each priority.

Commissioner Finsten asked if timelines as well as actual measureable objectives with percent changes, etc. could be added. **GM Barnette** replied that some of the strategies are able to be estimated to that level of detail and some are not.

Commissioner García suggested that we have benchmarks so every so often we can measure our success.

Commissioner Finsten used as an example "Reducing Pet Births" and asked if it is possible to add something tangible to a statement like that to measure success. **GM Barnette** replied that it would depend on the strategy. **Commissioner Finsten** agreed and asked to have benchmarks included for those that are able to have benchmarks.

Commissioner Gross asked about a work plan. **GM Barnette** replied that there is a work plan but some things are going to change depending on the circumstances and results.

Commissioner Wolfson commented that the things included in the plan are not new to the Department such as hiring a Volunteer Coordinator. **GM Barnette** replied that we included all of the elements that the community suggested and expects to see in a printed document.

Commissioner Gross commented that the plan will allow the Department to refer back to keep track of our success and be accountable to the community we serve. He also brought up the training in the shelters for new adopters such as video loops. GM Barnette replied that we are looking at working with Robert Cabral to use his animal care videos in the shelter.

Public Comment

Phyllis Daugherty: Commented that this is an animal control agency that is supposed to enforce laws; feels we shouldn't be a humane society; feels the public wants everything so they asked for everything; feels we don't have a foundation. Andrew Brown: Commented that the process was long; mentioned transferring dogs to different shelters could be logistically difficult and not the best welfare decision. (Commissioner Gross reminded everyone that the plan is a living document that can be changed). Josh Liddy: Concerned about relying on ACE citation program to fund the department; could prey on low income communities that lack legal resources. Gail Raff: Feels that we should follow East Valley's model for fostering neo-natal kittens. Martha Chaffin: Understands the strategic planning process and commends the Department on its work; thinks the plan

Board of Animal Services Commissioners Minutes for the April 25, 2017 Commission Meeting Page 5

surrounding spay/neuter is important; suggested the Department look at changing the title of the Volunteer Coordinator job to something more higher level such as Volunteer Director.

Commissioner Wolfson moved to approve the Los Angeles Animal Services Strategic Plan 2017-2022; and **Commissioner García** seconded. The motion passed 4 - 0.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting ended at 9:10 p.m.

LARRY GROSS PRESIDENT

OLIVIA F. GARCIA

COMMISSIONERS

ALISA FINSTEN

ROGER WOLFSON

VACANT

City of Los Angeles

CALIFORNIA



ERIC GARCETTI MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES 221 North Figueroa Street Suite #600

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(888) 452-7381 FAX (213) 482-9511

BRENDA F. BARNETTE GENERAL MANAGER

DANA H. BROWN

LOUIS P. DEDEAUX INTERIM ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: May 23, 2017

PREPARED BY: Brenda Barnette

REPORT DATE: May 4, 2017

TITLE: General Manager

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO APPROVE POLICY TO ALLOW COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO

CARE FOR FOUND DOGS AND CATS UNDER CERTAIN GUIDELINES.

BOARD ACTIONS RECOMMENDED:

APPROVE policy to allow community members to provide home care for found dogs and cats under certain guidelines.

BACKGROUND:

Community members find dogs and cats in their neighborhoods. Sometimes they recognize them as pets of neighbors and return him/her home safely. Sometimes they do not know where the pet lives but would like to provide temporary home care until the owner can be found. Two or more neighborhoods have established their own informal rescue network for these companion animals.

When these individuals call the shelter for help, they are told to bring the pet in and to surrender it. They are told that they can have "first rights" to adopt the found pet if the owner does not retrieve his or her pet. Many individuals do not want to surrender the pet to the shelter and this sometime creates conflict between the staff and the public.

The Los Angeles City Municipal Code section 53.09 on this topic does not require the impounding of the animal.

LAMC Sec 53.09 states that after finding an animal on the loose, a person must, within four hours or within two hours thereafter if the animal is attached or hitched to a vehicle, give notice to the Department or to some police officer, that he has such animal in his possession, and provide a description of the animal, where he found and where he has confined the animal.

"Creating a Humane LA"

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Visit our website at www.LAAnimalServices.com

If requested to do so by the Department, the finder shall surrender such animal to the General Manager or their duly authorized representative upon demand.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CHANGE IN POLICY:

We propose to work with the City Attorney to insure compliance with the Los Angeles City Municipal Code to develop a policy that allows private citizens to provide home care for a dog or cat on the loose who is not wearing a license tag under certain guidelines. This home care shall be for up to 30 days unless the Department makes a demand for the animal in the event that the owner shows up for the animal and then the animal must be relinquished to the Department.

The individual wishing to provide temporary home care for dog or cat on the loose will be agreeing to these conditions:

- To advise the closest City Animal Shelter that they have the animal within 4 hours or as soon as the shelter opens if found at night to advise that the animal is being held and provide the name and address of the person providing home care, provide a description of the animal and the exact location where the animal was found;
- 2. To provide a picture of the animal to the shelter for posting within 24 hours;
- 3. To go to a veterinarian or one of our six shelters and have the animal scanned for a microchip within 2 days;
- 4. To be willing to be a Good Samaritan and make sure that any medical needs are taken care of at their own expense;
- 5. To make and distribute posters with the pet's picture in the area where the dog was found:
- 6. After 30 days, the person providing home care must either decide to keep the animal and get him/her vaccinated, altered and licensed (dog) OR they must surrender the animal to one of our six LA City animal shelters.

The purpose of this change is simple:

- 1. Gives lost pet home care, and medical care, if appropriate.
- 2. To keep pets out of stress and possible exposure to sick animals in shelters,
- 3. To work with our community and allow them to be part of the solution rather than creating conflict with citizens who refuse to turn an animal in to the shelter for fear s/he will not be claimed or placed.
- 4. To increase community involvement to help find the animal's owner.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners SUBJECT: REQUEST TO APPROVE POLICY TO ALLOW COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO CARE FOR FOUND DOGS AND CATS UNDER CERTAIN GUIDELINES

Approved:	
Brenda Barnette, General Manager	
Attachment	
BOARD ACTION:	
Passed	Disapproved
Passed with noted modifications	Continued
Tabled	New Date

(a) (Amended by Ord. No. 133,983, Eff. 4/10/67.) Any person finding at any time any stray domestic animal or any such animal found running at large contrary to the provisions of this article may take up such animal; provided, however, that persons taking up such animal shall, within four hours thereafter, or within two hours thereafter if such animal is attached or hitched to a vehicle, give notice to the Department or to some police officer, of the fact that he has such animal in his possession, and shall furnish thereto a description of such animal and a statement of the place where he found and where he has confined the animal.

In case such notice is given to any police officer, such officer shall immediately notify the Department and shall furnish all the information which has been obtained regarding such animal.

If the taking up of such animal occurs at a time when the Public Pound is not open for the transaction of business, the notice required herein shall be made to the Department within the time herein required after such pound is again open for business.

- (b) Any person taking up any such stray animal found running at large or contrary to the provisions of this article shall surrender such animal to the General Manager of the Department or his duly authorized representative upon demand thereof.
- (c) No person taking up any animal shall fail or neglect to give notice thereof as required by this section or fail or refuse to surrender such animal to the General Manager or his duly authorized representative upon demand therefor.

SEC. 53.09. STRAY ANIMALS. NOTICE REQUIRED.

POLICY ALLOWING COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO CARE FOR FOUND DOGS AND CATS UNDER CERTAIN POLICY GUIDELINES

Purpose of this Policy:

- Gives lost dogs and cats home care, and medical care if appropriate.
- Keeps dogs and cats out of municipal shelter system.
- Alleviate concerns of citizens about turning dog in to the shelter out of fear s/he will not be claimed or placed.
- Expands our foster program and gets community involved helping find the dog's owner, or with walks, and other care.

This Policy is permitted under LAMC Sec. 53.09 with specific guidelines.¹

In the City of Los Angeles, if a citizen finds a stray dog who is not wearing a dog tag, the finder can keep the dog for up to 30 days in foster care if:

- 1. The finder advises the closest Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) City shelter that they have the dog or cat, within four hours or within two hours thereafter if the animal is attached or hitched to a vehicle:
- 2. Finder must agree to keep the animal at the location provided for the full 30 days and any changes must be filed with LAAS City shelter;
- 3. If the animal is lost or stolen, it must be reported to the LAAS immediately;
- 4. Takes a picture of the dog or cat, provides a description of the animal, where s/he was found and where the animal is being confined, and sends it to the closest LAAS City shelter for posting;
- 5. If requested to do so by the Department, the finder shall surrender such animal to the General Manager or their duly authorized representative upon demand;
- 6. The finder must go to a vet or one of our six shelters and have the dog scanned for a microchip within 24 hours and notify the closes City animal shelter;
- 7. If the found animal has any medical needs, the finder **MUST** obtain veterinary care at their own expense, and a record verifying that an injured animal received treatment <u>immediately by a licensed veterinarian</u> must be submitted to the LAAS Chief Veterinarian within 24 hours at the shelter, along with the diagnosis, type of treatment, and prognosis by the vet. If the owner is located, the owner can be expected to reimburse the finder for any medical expenses incurred on behalf of the animal.

- 8. The finder must make and distribute posters with the dog or cat's picture in the area where the animal was found:
- 9. After 30 days but before 35 days, they either decide to keep the dog and get him/her vaccinated, altered and licensed OR they surrender the dog to one of our six LA City animal shelters; and
- 10. If finder returns animal to owner in their neighborhood, they must immediately notify LAAS and provide the name and address of the owner.

Additional Information:

- Failure to release the animal to the shelter if owner is identified could result in an
 officer going to the location and attempting to seize the animal and possible
 charges for theft against the finder.
- 2. If an owner identifies the animal by photo, arrangements will be made for the finder to bring the animal to the shelter so the shelter staff can show the animal to the possible owner to see if it is his or her animal.
- 3. If there have been mandatory veterinary care expenses incurred by the finder, the owner will be advised that those must be paid and that his or her name and address will be provided to the finder for collection.
- 4. If the animal is attacked by another animal or in any way injured or contracts a disease while in the care of the finder, the finder will be liable to the owner of the animal.
- 5. If the animal bites, attacks, or otherwise inflicts harm on a person or animal while the found animal is in their custody, the finder will be liable for the actions of his/her animal while it is in the custody of the finder.
- 6. If the animal escapes and causes an automobile accident in which someone is injured, the finder will be liable.
- 7. The Department may demand that the keeper of the animal show proof of insurance, has no history of animal abuse, and lives where the animal will be allowed.
- 8. If the animal is pregnant (whether or not it is obvious), the finder will be required to notify the shelter and to determine whether the finder is prepared to foster and bear the expenses through whelping and until the young ones are weaned and when all young ones and mom will be returned to the shelter to be altered. The puppies will be the property of the Department and will carry all of the rights for the finder that any foster volunteer has.

(a) (Amended by Ord. No. 133,983, Eff. 4/10/67.) Any person finding at any time any stray domestic animal or any such animal found running at large contrary to the provisions of this article may take up such animal; provided, however, that persons taking up such animal shall, within four hours thereafter, or within two hours thereafter if such animal is attached or hitched to a vehicle, give notice to the Department or to some police officer, of the fact that he has such animal in his possession, and shall furnish thereto a description of such animal and a statement of the place where he found and where he has confined the animal.

In case such notice is given to any police officer, such officer shall immediately notify the Department and shall furnish all the information which has been obtained regarding such animal.

If the taking up of such animal occurs at a time when the Public Pound is not open for the transaction of business, the notice required herein shall be made to the Department within the time herein required after such pound is again open for business.

- (b) Any person taking up any such stray animal found running at large or contrary to the provisions of this article shall surrender such animal to the General Manager of the Department or his duly authorized representative upon demand thereof.
- (c) No person taking up any animal shall fail or neglect to give notice thereof as required by this section or fail or refuse to surrender such animal to the General Manager or his duly authorized representative upon demand therefor.

¹ LAMC SEC. 53.09. STRAY ANIMALS. NOTICE REQUIRED.

LARRY GROSS

OLIVIA E. GARCIA

COMMISSIONERS

ALISA FINSTEN

ROGER WOLFSON

VACANT

City of Los Angeles

CALIFORNIA



ERIC GARCETTI MAYOR DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES 221 North Figueroa Street Suite #600 Los Angeles, CA 90012

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BRENDA F. BARNETTE

DANA H. BROWN ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

LOUIS P. DEDEAUX INTERIM ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: May 23, 2017 PREPARED BY: John Forland

REPORT DATE: May 17, 2017 TITLE: Sr. Management Analyst II

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO USE THE ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST FUND FOR FEE-WAIVED

ADOPTIONS

BOARD ACTIONS RECOMMENDED:

 AUTHORIZE the expenditure of up to \$25,000 from the Animal Welfare Trust Fund to be used to underwrite or partially underwrite adoption fees for dogs and cats in LA City Shelters.

BACKGROUND:

It is the Department's goal to release all companion animals in its care to good homes. Adoptions are important to achieve that goal and promotional events and special offers have proved highly effective in increasing adoptions.

During certain periods of the year such as puppy and kitten season, wonderful mature dogs and cats are overlooked in our shelters. We believe we can increase the adoption of adult animals by reducing their adoption fees during those periods. Likewise we could employ other creative marketing strategies such as special discounted rates when there is an abundance of black cats. We could offer a black cat special that includes cats with black on them such as tuxedos as a means of attracting more attention to these wonderful companion animals.

Some sponsors provide reduced fee adoptions in one shelter but not all. We would like to expand these promotions Citywide. Some sponsors request that we reduce the adoption fees for an event in recognition or their marketing investment to drive adopters to the shelters to adopt during the event.

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Staff has not been empowered to make decisions to waive fees during these events or to hold special events of our own based on overcrowding in our shelters or trying to reduce the shelter population during a time we can anticipate a large influx of animals such as kitten season or the fourth of July.

FISCAL IMPACT:	
No impact on the General Fund.	
Approved:	
Brend Barnette	
Brenda Barnette, General Manager	
BOARD ACTION:	
Passed	Disapproved
Passed with noted modifications	Continued
Tabled	New Date

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LOUIS P. DEDEAUX

Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: May 23, 2017 PREPARED BY: Dr. Jeremy Prupus, DVM

REPORT DATE: May 17, 2017 TITLE: Chief Veterinarian

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO USE ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST FUND MONEY TO PURCHASE

CANINE INFLUENZA VACCINES FOR SHELTER DOGS

BOARD ACTIONS RECOMMENDED:

 APPROVE the use of Animal Welfare Trust Fund money to purchase canine influenza vaccines for LAAS shelter dogs.

BACKGROUND:

In March of this year Los Angeles County Veterinary Public Health reported the presence of multiple dogs from a rescue group infected with Canine Influenza (H3N2). All of the identified dogs were quarantine and, fortunately, no further infections have been reported at this time.

Canine Influenza (H3N2) is a highly contagious upper respiratory viral disease in dogs. First reported in Asia in 2006, the virus has now been found sporadically in the majority of the United States. The Chicago area went through a well-documented outbreak starting in March, 2015. Despite their best efforts to combat it, the virus has now become endemic and Chicago has experienced multiple, smaller outbreaks during the past 2 years. The majority of infected dogs exhibit a cough that persists for 10 to 30 days despite treatment with antibiotics and cough suppressants. Affected dogs may have a soft, moist cough or a dry cough similar to that induced by kennel cough. Nasal and/or ocular discharge, sneezing, lethargy and anorexia may also be observed. Many dogs develop a purulent nasal discharge and fever (104-105°F). A small percentage of infected dogs may develop a severe pneumonia and require extensive hospitalization.

The virus is spread via coughing, barking and sneezing, as well as contaminated objects (kennel surfaces, food and water bowls, collars and leashes). The virus can remain alive and

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CANINE INFLUENZA VACCINES FOR SHELTER DOGS

able to infect other animals on surfaces for up to 48 hours, on clothing for 24 hours, and on hands for 12 hours.

The keys to preventing the spread of the Canine Influenza virus include:

- Vaccination (requires 2 vaccinations 2-4 weeks apart)
- Timely identification and isolation of sick animals for at least 30 days
- Proper sanitizing and infection control protocols being followed within the Shelter
- Frequent hand washing by Staff, Volunteers and the Public

The Department is proposing a plan to implement vaccinating all dogs for Canine Influenza as part of our impounding protocol. It is important to note here that vaccination does not guarantee that a shelter will not have Influenza cases. The expectation is that there would hopefully be a decrease in both the number of animals infected, as well as the severity of the infections.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Given the number of dogs that are impounded annually (approximately 25,000), as well as boostering those dogs that stay in the shelter over two weeks (at least 50%), we estimate that we would require approximately \$200,000, (approximately \$5 per vaccine) a year to vaccinate all of the dogs for Canine Influenza.

Approved:

Brench Barnette
Brenda Barnette, General Manager

BOARD ACTION:

Passed Disapproved _____
Passed with noted modifications Continued _____
Tabled New Date