



BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday, February 26, 2019
7:00 P.M.

WEST VALLEY ANIMAL SHELTER
20655 PLUMMER STREET
CHATSWORTH, CALIFORNIA 91311

LARRY GROSS
President

OLIVIA E. GARCÍA
Vice-President

ALISA FINSTEN
JOSE SANDOVAL
ROGER WOLFSON

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.

FACILITY TOUR OF WEST VALLEY ANIMAL SHELTER

Commission Tour of West Valley Animal Shelter (starts at 6:15 p.m.). Public is welcome. The Commission meeting will begin promptly at 7:00 p.m.

I. 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)

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 January 22, 2019. (Action Item)

4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

5. COMMISSIONERS' ORAL REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

6. BOARD REPORTS

A. Approval to Release Marketing, Fundraising, Public Relations and Website Development/Management Services Request for Proposals (RFP). (Action Item)

B. Authorize the Use of Animal Welfare Trust Funds to Purchase Annual Subscriptions for Public Relations and Media Monitoring Services from Trendkite, Inc. (Action item)

C. Authorize the Use of Animal Welfare Trust Funds for Loehr Animal Behavior Enrichment Training Program. (Action Item)

D. Request to Expand the Location and Hours of the Volunteer Program for 12-15 Year Olds with Adult Sponsor. (Action Item)

E. Bequest from the Walter R. Wormell Intervivos Trust. (Action Item)

F. Discussion on Dog Limits in the City of Los Angeles; Reference Council File No. 17-1237-S1. (Information Item)

7. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting is scheduled for 9:00 A.M., March 12, 2019, at City Hall 200 North Spring Street, Room 1060, Los Angeles, CA 90012. (Enter on Main Street).

AGENDAS - The Board of Animal Services Commissioners (Board) meets regularly every second (2nd) and fourth (4th) Tuesday of each month at 9:00 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 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.

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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.)

PUBLIC INPUT AT BOARD MEETINGS – **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."

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
CITY OF LOS ANGELES



MINUTES

TUESDAY, January 22, 2019 at 9:00 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

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

Meeting called to order at 9:13 a.m. Commissioners present were García, Gross, Sandoval and Wolfson. Also present from Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) was General Manager (GM) Brenda Barnette, Assistant General Manager (AGM) Tammy Watson, AGM McLissa Webber, Commission Executive Assistant, LaTonya Dean and Assistant City Attorney (ACA) Dov Lesel.

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

I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS

1. Dangerous Animal Case: DA 181559 WV (Taken Out of Order – After Item I.2)

Appellant(s): Ma Christina Agbulos
West Valley Animal Services Center: Captain Lorna Esparza
Complaining Witness: Viktoria Mogyoro

The Board discussed the merits of the appeal, the evidence provided to the Hearing Examiner, and the grounds supporting the General Manager's determination.

Commissioner Gross made a motion to uphold the General Manager's decision with a modification to the Terms, Conditions and Restrictions, under Item No. 6 regarding required training. It should be substituted with a provision that requires a leash to ensure, given the dog, it would not result in him slipping out of that leash.

Commissioner Sandoval seconded and the motion was approved by a vote of 4-0.

Ayes: García, Gross, Sandoval and Wolfson

Noes: None.

Absent: Finsten

Public Comment:
None.

2. Barking Dog Animal Case: DA 182427 NC

Appellant(s): Alexander McDonald and Crystal Stengstaken
North Central Animal Services Center: Lieutenant Angela Hooks
Complaining Witness: Karen Yefat El Hirschorn

The Board discussed the merits of the appeal, the evidence provided to the Hearing Examiner, and the grounds supporting the General Manager's determination.

Commissioner Gross made a motion to reverse the decision of the General Manager and instructed the Department to issue Terms, Conditions and Restrictions appropriate for barking dogs. **Commissioner Wolfson** seconded and the motion was approved by a vote of 4-0.

Ayes: García, Gross, Sandoval and Wolfson

Noes: None.

Absent: Finsten

Public Comment:
None.

REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Nansi Aluka Shegem spoke about her experience with calling animal control to report a dog that had recently given birth which was owned by a homeless person and the issues with the process.

Teri Austin, The Amanda Foundation, noted that more enforcement and people were needed in the field. She also stated there was still a lack of information displayed for the public at the animal centers.

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. City of Los Angeles Procurement Process Presented by the Department of General Services

Melissa Yusilon, Director of Supply Chain Services, provided an overview on the City of Los Angeles' commodity procurement procedures including contract compliance administration and annual purchasing requirements. **Commissioner Gross** asked what the process would be to approve a horse trailer. **Ms. Yusilon** responded that with commodity purchases there is a goal of 40 days for purchases less than \$100,000 and upwards to 60-90 days for purchases over \$100,000 due to the compliance requirements that the City imposes. If the

Commission approved the purchase of a horse trailer, the Department's Chief Accounting Employee would submit a requisition via the FMS system that would be routed through Central Purchasing and finally to the Department of General Services (GSD). At that point it would be assigned to a commodity group that would create a competitive bid document that would be advertised. Once responses were received GSD would work with the lowest, responsive dollar value and the Department to ensure that the minimum specifications were met. After approvals by the GSD City Attorney a formal award would be made to the vendor. **Commissioner Gross** asked when the Department would receive the item. **Ms. Yusilon** stated that if the Commission only approved one trailer and it was under \$40,000 the Department could have it in under 40 days. **Commissioner Gross** asked if there was any exception to expedite if it was an emergency item. **Ms. Yusilon** responded that if it was a request for an emergency item that was over \$100,000, GSD would submit a request for waivers to the Mayor's Office. GSD would also reach out to Animal Services to define the critical status. **Commissioner Gross** inquired if there were some restrictions based on boycotts. **Ms. Yusilon** stated that there were a number of ordinances that required Central Purchasing to reach out and identify the best bidders, however not necessarily boycotts; If there weren't any ordinances it would be based on the vendor's willingness to respond to a bid. **Commissioner Gross** asked if there was an approved list of vendors. **Ms. Yusilon** responded that there was not an approved list for commodities for horse trailers. Animal food is on an annual requirements contract where GSD reaches out to a number of vendors based on the veterinarian dietary requirements. **Ms. Yusilon** also noted that GSD does have the ability to utilize other cooperative contracts with other agencies.

Public Comment:
None.

B. Approval of the Minutes for Meeting of January 8, 2019.

Public Comment:
None.

Ms. Dean noted a correction to the last sentence of the public comment section provided by Michelle Kelly.

Commissioner Sandoval moved to approve the minutes of January 8, 2019 with the corrections as noted. **Commissioner García** seconded and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

Ayes: García, Gross, Sandoval and Wolfson

Noes: None.

Absent: Finsten

4. ORAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER (Taken Out of Order - After Item 6.A)

GM Barnette discussed the following:

- Commended staff for their support of the youth volunteer program which was enacted during the Los Angeles Unified School District teacher strike.
- A change to add rabbits to the mandatory spay/neuter ordinance was approved at the last Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee.
- We have had meetings with the Chief Procurement Officer to try to streamline the process to procure items. We asked that they consider having more vendors to choose from in order to price shop and hopefully drive the prices down.
- We have a new PIO that starts in early February. He has an extensive marketing background and we ask your patience as he comes on board and gets familiar with his new position.
- We ended 2018 at 89.7% live save rates for dogs and cats. Dogs are over 93%. Most of the work we still have to do is with cats. We have a few ideas in mind to try to reduce the population in cats coming into the City shelters.
- We have a policy about what can be displayed in the shelter lobbies with some restrictions. Our flyers are in the shelter lobbies and just before our PIO left she placed an order to keep our supply of information materials in stock which include spay/neuter and dog laws.
- We hope to have all of the vouchers online that are printable with bar codes by mid-February before World Spay Day.

Commissioner Sandoval thanked GM Barnette for providing information on the types of materials (flyers) that are located in shelter lobbies, but asked about what type of signage is located in the shelter. **GM Barnette** stated that we could create signage similar to flyers that can be displayed in the shelters once our PIO comes on board and gets adjusted.

Public Comment:

Terri Austin, The Amanda Foundation, stated she had a panoramic video of what was posted at the East Valley Animal Center and what was missing was something eye-catching that makes people stop and read about the joys of a mature cat. She further stated that there are ways to come at the public in a friendly, fun way to extol the virtues of a more mature pet.

Phyllis Daugherty stated that all of the large organizations have beautiful posters that can be adapted and the Department did not need to wait until someone comes on board. Also, she stated that nothing was displayed on our animal control vehicles.

Commissioner Sandoval added that he wanted to congratulate the Department on the 'No Kill' numbers. He noted that the Department is better than in the past.

5. COMMISSIONERS' ORAL REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (Taken Out of Order - After Item 3.B)

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Commissioner Sandoval: Requested a report back regarding our lobbies at the shelters including information about spay/neutering, senior dog adoptions and an overall stock of what information is located in our lobbies.

Commissioner García: Supported Commissioner Sandoval's request regarding information displayed in the animal service center lobbies.

Commissioner Wolfson: Commended the Department on what it did related to providing options to students who were not in class due to the teacher strike. It was a very proud moment. He also asked the Department for an update on where it was on 'No Kill.'

Commissioner Gross: Reported that he attended Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian 'Tenants Rights' forum at the Van Nuys State Building on January 17th. It was a packed crowd and he was able to distribute information on animal services, adoptions, spay/neuter and animal laws.

Public Comment:
None.

6. Board Reports

- A. Authorize Terms, Conditions and Restrictions for Dangerous Animal Case: 181384WLA.

AGM Watson reported that as instructed by the Board, staff prepared Terms, Conditions and Restrictions for its consideration.

Public Comment:

Elizabeth Gadzimugometovas and her attorney **Michael Rotsten** requested changes and noted concerns related to Item Nos. 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 of the proposed Terms, Conditions and Restrictions.

The Board discussed the issues presented by **Mr. Rotsten** and **Ms. Gadzimugometovas** concerning the items. With regards to Item 13, **ACA Lesel** requested the address of the dog's location so that the condition would apply to that specific address. **Ms. Gadzimugometovas** complied and provided the address for the record.

Commissioner Wolfson made a motion to approve modified terms, conditions and restrictions that would note that the number of days for applicable fees referenced in Item No. 2 would be reduced subject to a conversation with the Department, an exception to the use of a muzzle in veterinarian offices and the houses of friends would be added to Item No. 3 and "if necessary" would be added to Item No. 10. **Commissioner García** seconded the motion. **Commissioner Sandoval** requested that an additional modification be added to require that the Department release the dog to the owner within five days of the dog owner's compliance with the modified Terms, Conditions and Restrictions and seconded the amended motion. The amended motion was approved by unanimous vote of 4-0.

Ayes: García, Gross, Sandoval and Wolfson

Noes: None.

Absent: Finsten

- B. Authorize a Memorandum of Agreement Between the City of Los Angeles and Pedro Pet Pals for Animal Transportation Services.

Annette Ramirez, Director of Field Operations (DFO) - Livesaving, reported that Pedro Pet Pals offered to provide the Department with bus that was modified for animal transportation so that it could be used to transport animals to off-site adoption events. **GM Barnette** noted that Pedro Pet Pals had been a friend of the Department for many years and they primarily worked out of the Harbor area. **Commissioner Sandoval** asked how it would work to use the bus and if we were proposing these services because we were understaffed. **GM Barnette** stated that we would be providing staff and volunteers and Pedro Pet Pals would provide a big bus and a bus driver. **Commissioner García** inquired as to how many animals could fit on the bus. **DFO Ramirez** responded that the bus was equipped with three banks of cages that could be changed around to accommodate up to 18 animals. **Commissioner Sandoval** inquired about processes for multiple events and coordination and about funding for the bus. **DFO Ramirez** responded that she would be overseeing the coordination and deployment of the bus and that no funding would be required for the use of the bus.

Public Comment:
None.

Commissioner Sandoval made a motion to authorize a Memorandum of Agreement between the City of Los Angeles and Pedro Pet Pals for animal transport services. **Commissioner Wolfson** seconded and the motion was approved by unanimous vote of 4-0.

Ayes: García, Gross, Sandoval and Wolfson

Noes: None.

Absent: Finsten

- C. Authorize the Use of Animal Welfare Trust Funds to Purchase a Two-Horse Trailer for Emergency Evacuations and Animal Transport.

GM Barnette noted that the Department was expecting a check from Petco for \$10,000, specifically dedicated for emergency services, so the amount requested would be offset by this restricted donation. Further she reported that the Department's current horse trailers were big and bulky and required a special driver license. The purchase of a two-horse trailer would allow staff to be more nimble when evacuating animals. This is something that would keep staff and animals safe during transport.

Public Comment:
None.

Commissioner Sandoval made a motion to authorize the use of Animal Welfare Trust Funds to purchase a two-horse trailer for emergency evacuations and animal transport. **Commissioner García** seconded and the motion was approved by unanimous vote of 4-0.

Ayes: García, Gross, Sandoval and Wolfson

Noes: None.

Absent: Finsten

D. Change in the Late-Term Spay Policy for Los Angeles Animal Services Dog.

GM Barnette reported that the policy was considered by the Commission in 2013 after a very in-depth discussion. At that time the live save rate wasn't anywhere near 93% for dogs as it was much lower. The Commission at that time felt that bringing any more dogs into the shelter was not a financially smart or good decision, nor was having more animals in the City. She further reported that the Commission did however at that time state that when the Department was doing better, and was saving more lives the Commission should reconsider. She pointed out that even though a little dog named Snowball started the conversation, it was something that the former Commission had asked to have reconsidered when the Department was in a different place. She reported that some restrictions were added to the proposed policy including a condition that would allow dogs to be available to Department foster families first if available. They would later come back to the shelter and be available to be adopted out of the shelter after they were spayed and neutered, or they could actually go to pet stores in light of the new ordinances. Exceptions included if there were not enough foster volunteers available, the Department could allow New Hope partners to foster, and once they prove that the puppies were spayed or neutered, or that mom was spayed, then they could adopt them out into the community. **Commissioner Gross** noted that he had a number of concerns about the proposed policy, one being the need for more information. He further expressed that it was great that the Department had hit No Kill, but the real challenge of No Kill is not hitting it but maintaining it. He stated he was really concerned about doing it without knowing if the Department could keep the levels and how this would impact (the Department). He stated he was not sure from the report how many cases of this the Department had, when dogs came in and they were pregnant, what term they were at, or what the impact was in other shelters and cities that had done this. **GM Barnette** reported that the Department does not usually receive information back on how many pregnant dogs are spayed, but could start asking for it now, although this may slow things down even more. Also, there was an article written out of Orange County that did talk about practices of the other shelters. She further stated that one of her concerns was foster parents for very, large breed dogs, but at the same time would be the last person on earth that would say we need to do any breed, specific legislation on this. **Commissioner Gross** noted that Snowball's situation was very sad and

that he was a cute, small breed dog and what was seen in the shelter was not that and as such he was concerned the Department may not see the same response. He expressed concerned that if these puppies got adopted it would likely mean that one dog in the shelter would not get adopted. **Commissioner Sandoval** indicated that he shared some of the same concerns as President Gross in that there wasn't enough data presented that would dictate which way to vote if the Department did not have any information on the number of abortions performed. He also inquired as to the protocol procedures that were in place to determine pregnancies in female dogs. **GM Barnette** noted that sometimes the dogs have puppies the night before they are scheduled to be spayed, which are not by planning but it happens. In most dogs during the first several weeks their pregnancies are almost unidentifiable and you cannot see a thing. **Commissioner Sandoval** stated that he was out preaching in the community, talking to families with these dogs and cats. He asked how he could go back and tell them to spay and neuter their animals when they can respond that the Department is not doing that at the shelter. **GM Barnette** reported that there was a petition on Change.org about this subject, with a lot of the signers being from across the country and out of the country, so she didn't know what the local sentiment was on the subject. **Commissioner Wolfson** noted that since there was no real sense as to how many late term pregnancies happened and there was no way to even estimate, that it might make sense to hear public comment because there may be a lot of educated testimony from the community.

Public Comment:

Lisa Lange, PETA urged the Commission to reject the proposed policy. There was a lot of discussion on live save rates, but spay/neuter was not being promoted very much by the Department. She also noted that we cannot be a No Kill city until we were a no birth City and we needed to deal with and help the animals now, not create more of them.

Diana Mendoza, PETA, reported that they had canvassed over 1,000 homes and saw many intact animals, numerous people looking to breed without a permit and met almost no one that knew about the law. She also stated that this City has no shortage of dogs and that this policy change would exasperate an already tragic population crisis in our City and urged the Commission to vote no on the proposed policy change.

Catherine Marcucci, Hand in Paws, stated that many volunteers wanted to work directly with our legislators to develop clearer language in our policies and laws that offer protections for all animals across the board. She also stated that we needed policies and laws that leave out any uncertainty as to what to do in cases such as that of Snowball.

Marni Colwell, Bichon Fur Kids Rescue, stated she believed in the New Hope partnership with the City and that it had served the community well. She also stated that their organization took in a lot of dogs with medical conditions including several pregnant dogs and would like to work with the community to educate on spay and neuter.

Melissa Drabis, OPCA Shelter Alliance, Bichon Fur Kids Bichon Rescue of Orange County, stated she initially recognized Snowball's situation and believed

that the situation could have been handled differently and better. She also stated that the Department was killing viable puppies by aborting dogs that were as pregnant as Snowball was and she didn't think that aligned with the No Kill policy.

Michele Olivier, Bichon Rescue of Orange County, spoke about the lack of updates provided on Snowball's status and that of her puppies. She also added that she believed the spay and neuter policy was the problem and no birth was not the answer.

Phyllis Daugherty, Animal Issues Movement, didn't want to see us going back to bringing in truck loads of dogs. She stated that we had set a trend of being a No Kill city and the only way that could be maintained is by not increasing the number of animals.

Teri Austin, The Amanda Foundation, stated that she found it hard to believe that this misguided policy was once again being promoted by the GM. Further if there were less dogs and cats in our shelters, then the emphasis should be on re-homing the ones still in the shelters, and beyond the cost and the staffing issues, it was counter intuitive on any level to suggest that somehow producing more dogs leads to No Kill.

Tracy Jones, The Amanda Foundation, read a letter into the record from Lori Weise, founder of Downtown Dog Rescue in which she expressed her concern to a change in the late term spay policy and opposed any change that would increase the number of puppies being born within the shelter system.

GM Barnette stated that this report was put together by staff to try to come up with a report that might work should the Commission decide to take this course of action. Although her name was on the report, she had not taken a position on it. **GM Barnette** reported that despite efforts to care for Snowball, she had died but her puppies survived and were being fostered. **Commissioner Gross** commended staff for doing everything possible to save Snowball and acknowledged it was an awful situation surrounding her that got a lot of attention, but that the Department didn't make policy based on one situation. **Commissioner Gross** expressed concern that the Department had a policy that seemed to be working and had gotten the Department to No Kill; however No Kill needed to be maintained. Secondly the fact that the Department had a staff shortage was a concern. He was open to getting more information and more input from partners, but his inclination at that moment was not to change the policy. **AGM Webber** spoke about her experience with late term spay policies in New York. She expressed that she thought it would be best, if there was a spay and neuter campaign to get animals spayed and neutered before they entered the shelter, but once they do come to shelter, and they are in a late term pregnancy state, it is hard to be the AGM of Lifesaving in this situation. She stated that she heard what the Commission was asking for as for as a report back and believed that would be telling information. **Commissioner Wolfson** asked if veterinarians had discretion on these things. **GM Barnette** responded that they did, however the policy leaned toward doing the late term spay. **Commissioner Wolfson** stated it was troubling for him in both directions and he didn't think this was an easy one for anyone.

Commissioner García agreed with Commissioner Wolfson and stated that more information would be needed to make this type of determination. **GM Barnette** noted that the Department didn't collect that information but would certainly ask the spay and neuter partners how many they see and make a distinction if they are late term. She would also ask veterinarians that took vouchers. **Commissioner Wolfson** asked if having puppies in the shelter would bring in more foot traffic which could lead to more adoptions and stated he believed there were ways to be holistic with the decision making process.

Commissioner Sandoval moved to oppose the proposed change to the late term spay policy and direct the Department to bring back more information on the policy. The motion was not seconded and therefore failed.

Commissioner Wolfson moved to table the item until more information was provided regarding the number of late term abortions and estimates, and the impact that has on No Kill in terms of the overall numbers. **Commissioner Gross** seconded and the motion was approved by a vote of 3-1.

Ayes: García, Gross and Wolfson

Noes: Sandoval

Absent: Finsten

7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting ended at 11:26 a.m.

**BOARD OF
ANIMAL SERVICES
COMMISSIONERS**

LARRY GROSS
PRESIDENT

OLIVIA E. GARCIA
VICE PRESIDENT

COMMISSIONERS

ALISA FINSTEN

JOSE SANDOVAL

ROGER WOLFSON

City of Los Angeles
CALIFORNIA



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

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TAMMY WATSON
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
Administration

MELISSA WEBBER
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
LifeSaving

DR. JEREMY PRUPAS
CHIEF VETERINARIAN

Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

MEETING DATE: February 26, 2019

PREPARED BY: Catherine Chico

REPORT DATE: February 12, 2019

TITLE: Sr. Management Analyst II

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO RELEASE MARKETING, FUND RAISING, PUBLIC RELATIONS,
AND WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT / MANAGEMENT SERVICES REQUEST FOR
PROPOSALS (RFP)**

BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:

APPROVE Los Angeles Animal Services' (LAAS) request to release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to select a contractor for the development and coordination of LAAS's marketing outreach related to high-level donor fundraising, public relations, and rebranding, including the development and management of a new website.

BACKGROUND:

LAAS has provided marketing outreach with limited staff and resources, such as, mailers and event advertisement; however, with modern technology-driven social media, it has become necessary to develop a comprehensive marketing program that includes rebranding and outreach techniques to maintain historically consistent donor and volunteer participation, while simultaneously reaching out to tap new fundraising and volunteer resources. The experience, time, and resources needed to implement a LAAS rebranding, website development, website management, and fundraising outreach program are not within the scope of LAAS's current resources.

SUMMARY:

The RFP will allow LAAS to obtain a contractor or firm to use modern marketing techniques on a wider scope to develop, implement, and coordinate a high-level fundraising program, obtain new resident and non-resident participation, while simultaneously enhancing and maintaining current public relations outreach and participation.

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Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO RELEASE MARKETING, FUND RAISING, PUBLIC RELATIONS,
AND WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT / MANAGEMENT SERVICES REQUEST FOR
PROPOSALS (RFP)

Upon completion of the RFP process, LAAS will make a recommendation to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners, which will include contract cost and a contract award recipient.

The initial term of the agreement shall be for three (3) years with two (2) one-year renewal options, exercisable at the City's sole discretion.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the general fund for the release of the RFP.

After analysis of all submitted RFPs, contract cost will be established and will be funded by the Animal Welfare Trust Fund.

Approved:

Brenda F. Barnette
Brenda F. Barnette, General Manager

BOARD ACTION:

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

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Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

MEETING DATE: February 26, 2019

PREPARED BY: Pat Avilez

REPORT DATE: February 20, 2019

TITLE: Management Analyst

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO USE FUNDS FROM THE ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST FUND TO
PAY TRENDKITE, INC. FOR ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION COSTS**

BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:

AUTHORIZE the use of Animal Welfare Trust Funds to purchase annual subscriptions for public relations and media monitoring services from Trendkite, Inc.

BACKGROUND:

The Department subscribes to Trendkite, Inc. to streamline our public relations outreach, tracking and monitoring efforts. The Department relies on adoption partners, foster parents and volunteers to reach our goal of finding permanent homes for the shelter animals. Expanding our message to a broader audience is necessary to garner donations and contributions, to attract adoption partners and foster parents and to continue the services and programs we offer while keeping our costs down. The Department is committed to increasing its brand awareness, presenting a positive image and continue to be the resource for animal services in the community.

SUMMARY:

It is the Department's goal to educate and promote its services and special events to the community through print media and digital public relations. The public relations software will be instrumental in navigating the new digital reality and will strengthen our targeting, messaging and advertising strategies. The Public Relations Specialist will work with the Trendkite platform to monitor media coverage.

FISCAL IMPACT:

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Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners
SUBJECT: REQUEST TO USE FUNDS FROM THE ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST FUND TO PAY
TRENDKITE, INC. FOR ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION COSTS

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund.

Approved:


Brenda Barnette, General Manager

BOARD ACTION:

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

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Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

MEETING DATE: February 26, 2019

PREPARED BY: MeLissa Webber

REPORT DATE: February 21, 2019

TITLE: Assistant General Manager

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE USE OF ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST FUNDS FOR LOEHR
ANIMAL BEHAVIOR ENRICHMENT TRAINING PROGRAM**

BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:

APPROVE the use of \$7,950 in Animal Welfare Trust Funds for a seven day Loehr Animal Behavior enrichment training program for staff and volunteers at the Los Angeles Animal Service (LAAS) Centers.

BACKGROUND:

Loehr Animal Behavior (Loehr) is an experienced, certified, animal behavior professional consulting firm specializing in training and behavior modification programs used to encourage positive reinforcement with dogs, cats, and horses. Trish McMillan, Director, is a certified professional dog trainer and dog and cat behavior consultant who gained comprehensive experience working with the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty for Animals (ASPCA) where she assisted staff, volunteers and adopters with finding homes for shelter animals and assessed and rehabilitated shelter animals suffering from prior adverse conditions such as cruelty, hoarding and fighting situations. This experience was used to develop training sessions for shelter volunteers and staff which include the following lecture topics:

- Canine body language
- Feline body language
- Dog play
- Breaking up dog fights
- Defensive handling
- Dog handling
- Dog-dog introductions
- Cat handling

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SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE USE OF ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST FUNDS FOR LOEHR
ANIMAL BEHAVIOR ENRICHMENT TRAINING PROGRAM

-
- Cat clicker training
 - Enrichment for shelter dogs
 - Enrichment for shelter cats
 - Behavior modification for shelter dogs
 - Food and resource guarding in shelter dogs
 - Managing over-aroused dogs in kennels

The Loehr enrichment program has been used successfully in several animal shelters across the country and is a beneficial tool used to increase shelter animal adoptability and to provide enrichment to the shelter animals and the staff and volunteers who care for them.

SUMMARY:

The Loehr program would include a half-day consultation and a half-day staff and volunteer training session at each of the six LAAS animal centers. The seventh day of the program would be a one day session where Loehr would provide an expert assessment that would include recommendations regarding care and handling approaches that may lead to an increase in animal adoptions as well as volunteer, staff and animal enrichment.

LAAS is continually seeking different ways to train volunteers and staff and enhance the lives of the animals in the shelters awaiting adoption. The Loehr enrichment program would be a valuable addition to the Department's training program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund. The cost of the Loehr Program funds will be expended from the Animal Welfare Trust Fund (Fund 859).

Approved:


Brenda Barnette, General Manager

BOARD ACTION:

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

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Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

MEETING DATE: February 26, 2019

PREPARED BY: Carolyn Almos

REPORT DATE: February 13, 2019

TITLE: Director of Volunteer Programs

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO EXPAND THE LOCATION AND HOURS OF THE VOLUNTEER
PROGRAM FOR 12-15 YEAR OLDS WITH ADULT SPONSOR**

BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:

1. **APPROVE** the expansion of the location of the volunteer program for 12-15 year olds with an adult sponsor to all six Animal Services Centers; and
2. **APPROVE** the expansion of the hours of the volunteer program for 12-15 year olds with an adult sponsor to include any hours the facilities are open to the public.

BACKGROUND:

In March 2018 this Board approved a pilot program to be implemented at the East Valley Animal Services Center to allow children aged 12-15 years to volunteer as part of a two-person team with an adult sponsor. Recently, during the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) strike, a modified version of the program was offered at all locations for LAUSD students 12-18 supervised by Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) staff, and was hugely successful in terms of community response and support for our Animal Services Centers. The Department believes this temporary expansion demonstrated that the program can be an asset to both the Department and the community throughout the City.

In the pilot program, the volunteer teams are restricted to serving between 2 and 4 hours on Saturdays only. It is recommended that the hours be expanded to allow these teams to serve during any public hours. The reasons are threefold. The first reason is to relieve staff of the logistically difficult task of policing the restriction on what is arguably the busiest day of the week in terms of serving the public, training new volunteers and overseeing off-site events such as mobile pet adoptions. The second reason is to make the program more user-friendly for the volunteers; it is

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documented that while seven teams have completed the orientation process at East Valley since the New Year, none have begun serving, as the requirement to get trained on Saturdays only between 2 and 4 hours is not always feasible. Expanding the hours will allow them many more opportunities to get the training they need by allowing them to train and serve on Sundays, after school and during school holidays. The third and final reason is, if these teams are really to be an asset to the animals and the staff, they will fulfill that role more readily if they can help at less popular times too, such as weekday afternoons.

It should be noted that the program has important safety restrictions in place. The minors volunteer in the company of the adult volunteer sponsor 100% of the time. The team functions essentially as one volunteer – they are permitted to handle only one animal at a time. Additionally, they are not allowed to handle any behavioral animals, and the adult must handle the animal at all times when outside of an enclosed space.

SUMMARY:

With the shortness of staff in all areas of the Department, volunteers are a critical component to providing animals with care that meets the highest humane sheltering standards. We believe expanding this program helps everyone – the animals get extra attention, the staff gets extra support, and the minor volunteers get an invaluable education in animal care and careers, community service and working in a professional environment as part of a team.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no impact on the Department budget.

Approved:

Brenda Barnette
Brenda Barnette, General Manager

BOARD ACTION:

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

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Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

MEETING DATE: February 26, 2019

PREPARED BY: LaTonya Dean

REPORT DATE: February 13, 2019

TITLE: Commission Executive Assistant

SUBJECT: BEQUEST FROM WALTER R. WORMELL INTERVIVOS TRUST

BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:

1. **APPROVE** the bequest of \$119,000 from the Walter R. Wormell trust on behalf of the Los Angeles Department of Animal Services;
2. **APPROVE** the deposit of funds into the Animal Welfare Trust Fund, subject to the approval of the Mayor and City Council; and
3. **APPROVE** the disbursement of these funds in accordance with the provisions of the Animal Welfare Trust Fund.

SUMMARY:

The Los Angeles Administrative Code, Section 5.200.1 (Receipt of Property) states that any gift or bequest to be used by the Department that exceeds \$25,000 must be approved by the Mayor and City Council.

In February 2019, the Department received a check in the amount of \$119,000 from Brent Bigler, Attorney at Law, representing the Walter R. Wormell Trust. These funds are an unrestricted donation and will be used to fund departmental programs and goals.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no impact on the Department budget. This bequest will be deposited in the Animal Welfare Trust Fund and disbursements will be made pursuant to the Fund provisions.

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Approved:

Brenda Barnette
Brenda Barnette, General Manager

BOARD ACTION:

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

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the various definitions of kennels.

Recommendations for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Koretz - Blumenfield):

1. REQUEST the City Attorney to prepare and present an Ordinance amending the definition of kennel in Section 12.03 of the Los Angeles Planning and Zoning Code (LAPZC) to specify its application only to kennels maintained for business purposes, with the exception of pet shops (which are separately defined in Section 12.03), and that the definition also be used to resolve any differences in language that exist with the dog and cat kennel definitions in Section 53.00 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC), including adding cats if doing so is deemed appropriate and/or useful.
2. INSTRUCT the Department of Animal Services and the Board of Animal Services Commissioners to immediately undertake a public process to make recommendations for the initiation of an Ordinance adding specific per household dog and cat limits to Section 53.00 of the LAMC, amending the dog and cat kennel definitions in Section 53.00 of the LAMC to resolve any differences in language with the proposed revision of the kennel definition in Section 12.03 of the LAPZC, and to ensure that the definition of pet shops in Section 53.00 matches that in Section 12.03, with the intention of having these amendments be considered by the City Council in conjunction with any proposed amendment of the kennel definition in Section 12.03 undertaken as a function of Motion (Koretz - Blumenfield), dated December 13, 2017, and attached to the Council file.


Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

At a regular meeting held on January 17, 2018, the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee considered Motion (Koretz - Blumenfield) regarding the definition of kennel. General Manager of the DAS and a representative of the City Attorney's Office clarified to the Committee regarding the term kennel in the various codes. After an opportunity for public comment, the Committee recommended to approve the Motion and request the City Attorney to prepare the Ordinance. This matter is now submitted to the Council for consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,



PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
KORETZ	YES
PRICE	YES
ENGLANDER	ABSENT