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August 13, 2014

Council File: 14-0600-S9
Council Districts: All
Contact Person and Phone:
Brenda F. Barnette (213) 482-9558

Honorable City Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
200 North Spring Street
Room 395, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012

ADOPTED BUDGET RECOMMENDATION TO ESTABLISH AN ANIMAL FOUNDATION

RECOMMENDATION

- NOTE AND FILE this report back relative to the establishment of an animal foundation.

SUMMARY

Council File 14-0600-S9 instructed the Department of Animal Services to report to the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee on the possibility of establishing an animal foundation. This report complies with that request.

CREATION OF AN ANIMAL FOUNDATION

The General Manager is working with former Animal Services Commissioner Maggie Neilsen, Partner and CEO of Global Philanthropy, to form "The Foundation," a public nonprofit to help support the work of Animal Services. This team obtained the services of the Law Offices of Jill Ryther; they have agreed to provide pro bono legal services. Working in cooperation with the Office of the City Attorney, the law firm will prepare the filing for 501(C)3 status.

The Foundation hopes to launch publicly this fall. Ms. Neilsen has created an impressive packet to attract potential board members, donors and celebrities. The draft materials are being reviewed to ensure that the City is represented accurately. The packet includes possible projects designed to attract a variety of supporters.

As part of The Foundation, the Department will explore partnerships with nonprofits to operate a shelter that was closed because a new shelter replaced it. The nonprofit would use it as a job training location

"Creating a Humane LA"

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

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ESTABLISHING AN ANIMAL FOUNDATION

for community members who could benefit in developing skills such as customer service, janitorial, clerical, animal care, pet grooming, veterinary assistants, and more. Trainees would also earn their General Education Degree if they have not already completed high school.

Animal Services is working with Chrysalis (nonprofit organization dedicated to creating a pathway to self-sufficiency for homeless and low-income individuals by providing the resources and training) to determine whether this partnership could support The Foundation.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no impact on the General Fund.

Brenda F. Barnette

Brenda F. Barnette
General Manager

CC: Honorable Paul Koretz, Council District 5
Honorable Felipe Fuentes, Council District 7
Honorable Mitch O'Farrell, Council District 13
Patricia Whelan, Office of the Mayor
Ryan Carpio, Office of the Mayor
Mandy Morales, Office of the Mayor