

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Downtown Dog Rescue and Inner City Law Center to provide pet-related services for homeless pet owners.

Recommendation for Council action:

AUTHORIZE the Department of Animal Services (DAS) to execute an MOU with Downtown Dog Rescue and Inner City Law Center to provide free pet-related services to the Skid Row community and adjacent areas where homeless people and people in transition are living with pets as described in the June 20, 2016 DAS report, attached to the Council file.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The DAS reports that there is no fiscal impact to the General Fund from entering into the MOU as per the June 20, 2016 DAS report, attached to the Council file.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

(Homelessness and Poverty Committee waived consideration of the above matter)

Summary:

On August 3, 2016, your Committee considered a June 20, 2016 DAS report relative to proposed MOU with the Downtown Dog Rescue and Inner City Law Center to provide pet-related services for homeless pet owners. According to the DAS, on March 8, 2016, the Board of Animal Services Commissioners considered and approved an item recommending formation of a partnership between the DAS, Downtown Dog Rescue, and Inner City Law Center to provide pet-related services for homeless pet owners in the downtown area. The specific intent of the partnership is to connect the homeless pet owner population in the Skid Row community with an easily accessible pet resource center.

The Inner City Law Center is prepared to donate office space in which to operate the pet resources center. Downtown Dog Rescue would provide staffing skilled at outreach to the homeless community to educate them about the services available by the DAS such as free spay/neuter services and how those services can be accessed. The overall intent of the center is to provide resources and services for pet owners who do not otherwise have the means to obtain them. The center's resources and services will improve community members' ability to properly care for and keep their pets. This will result in healthier companion animals, better care for the animals, fewer unwanted litters, and a place that fosters trust in goodwill in the homeless community. It should be noted that this partnership would partially achieve the goals set forth in the Citywide Homeless Strategy 9H which provides for a series of actions to assist homeless individuals and their pets.

After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the MOU. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
KORETZ:	YES
RYU:	YES
HARRIS-DAWSON:	YES
ARL	

8/3/16

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-