

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to establishing permit requirements for mobile and independent animal groomers.

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

1. REQUEST the City Attorney, in consultation with the Department of Animal Services (DAS), to prepare and present an ordinance amending Sections 53.50(a) and 53.50(f) of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to include the requirement for DAS permits for mobile and independent groomers, and to establish permit fees for these categories.
2. INSTRUCT the DAS, in consultation with the Board of Animal Services Commissioners, to promulgate appropriate rules and regulations associated with all categories of grooming permits covered by LAMC Section 53.50, and that the development of these rules and regulations consider the categories discussed in the accompanying Motion.

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:

On February 6, 2019, Council considered Motion (Koretz - Blumenfield) relative to establishing permit requirements for mobile and independent animal groomers. Motion states that pet grooming is a growing field which has expanded beyond brick-and-mortar grooming parlors of the sort for which DAS requires permits. As the field has grown, the number of incidents nationwide in which companion animals have been injured by inexperienced or ill-equipped groomers has multiplied. This has led to an increasing number of states or local jurisdictions adopting or proposing groomer licensing or permitting laws.

In order to address the increasing number of groomers operating from mobile vehicles or otherwise independent of fixed-location parlors, Motion movers believe the City should consider amending Section 53.50 to include mobile and independent groomers. To do so will enable DAS to verify permittees meet appropriate professional, health, and safety standards upon obtaining a license and when being inspected.

Motion includes suggested categories of rules and regulations: types and levels of professional training, licensing and/or certification; equipment requirements, staffing requirements, facility and facility cleanliness, sanitation and maintenance requirements, operational requirements, permit and certification display requirements, accident and emergency procedural requirements, reporting requirements for problem incidents and violations, and any other requirements DAS may deem necessary or appropriate.

Motion recommends that Council request the City Attorney prepare an ordinance to establish permit requirements for mobile pet groomer as well as the permit fee amounts. Council referred Motion to the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee for consideration.

At its meeting held February 20, 2019, the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee recommended that Council approve Motion relative to this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. K. Smith', written over the committee name.

MEMBER VOTE

KORETZ: YES

SMITH: YES

PRICE: YES

JAW

2/21/19

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-