

MOTION

Spaying and neutering of companion animals is widely accepted as one of the most effective means of combating pet overpopulation and reducing euthanasia in animal shelters. The City of Los Angeles has been a national leader in promoting spay/neuter as part of its effort to achieve "no kill" status. The City's spay/neuter ordinance has served as a model for many other jurisdictions across the country, and its multi-faceted subsidies for spay/neuter surgeries have made the procedure free or affordable for thousands of companion animal guardians looking to comply with the ordinance.

World Spay Day 2019 takes place on February 26, 2019 and the Department of Animal Services is planning to launch a two-month program offering free spay/neuter of cats to commemorate the occasion. This targeted effort is important because the live release rate for cats remains just shy of the 90% mark that is the department's goal.

The department supports spay/neuter by funding mobile spay/neuter clinics, subsidizing surgeries in clinics in the City's shelters, and providing vouchers to companion animal guardians that can be used at veterinary providers of their choice who accept them.

Animal Services hopes to use \$200,000 from the Animal Sterilization Trust Fund to spay and neuter more than 1,500 cats over a two-month period. In 2018, a similar program used \$100,000 to provide surgeries to 866 cats over six weeks. Overall in 2018, the department paid for or subsidized 15,313 cat surgeries.

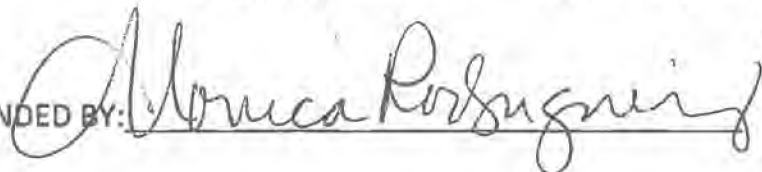
I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Animal Services be authorized to spend up to \$100,000.00 a month in each of March and April 2019 to offer free spay/neuter surgeries for cats through its normal means of providing such surgeries.

PRESENTED BY:



PAUL KORETZ, Councilmember, Fifth District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL



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