

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to acceptance of \$380,000 donation from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA).

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. ACCEPT the ASPCA funds in the amount of \$380,000 to pay for New Hope adoption fees.
2. AUTHORIZE the Department of Animal Services (DAS) to deposit \$304,000 of the grant receipts in the Animal Sterilization Fund (Fund 842).
3. AUTHORIZE the Controller to establish an appropriation account titled "ASPCA New Hope Adoptions and Appropriation" Account No. 060042, within Fund 842 for the receipt of the grant funds; and further AUTHORIZE the DAS's disbursement of the ASPCA donation to assist New Hope adopters.
4. AUTHORIZE the DAS to deposit \$76,000 of the grant receipts in the Animal Welfare Trust Fund, Fund 859.
5. AUTHORIZE the Controller to establish an appropriation account titled "ASPCA New Hope Adoptions and Appropriation" Account No. 060043, within Fund 859 for the receipt of the grant funds; and further AUTHORIZE the DAS disbursement of the ASPCA donation to pay for electronic animal identification devices (microchips).

Fiscal Impact Statement: The DAS reports that approval of the recommendations in the May 21, 2014 DAS report, attached to the Council file, will provide \$380,000 in funding to the Animal Welfare Trust Fund. Acceptance of this donation will have no impact on the General Fund.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On August 5, 2014, your Committee considered a May 21, 2014 and July 31, 2014 DAS reports relative to a request to accept a \$380,000 donation from the ASPCA to pay for New Hope adoption fees. According to the DAS, there are 236 "New Hope" partners working with the DAS. These partners are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations serve as rescue groups who adopt shelter animals and put them into homes. In 2012-13, New Hope partners adopted 8,726 animals. These partners are required to pay a \$40 spay/neuter deposit and Los Angeles-based New Hope organizations are required to pay an additional \$5.50 tax. As required by State law, this deposit is used to sterilize an animal before an animal is released from the shelter. To spur adoptions from New Hope partners, the ASPCA agreed to subsidize one year's worth of New Hope adoptions.

Additionally, the DAS clarified in its July 31, 2014 report that of the \$50 required to be paid by New Hope rescue partners, \$40 is dedicated to sterilization fees; \$10 is to pay for microchipping these animals. Therefore, the \$380,000 needs to be proportionally allocated into two different funds (Animal Sterilization and the Animal Welfare Trust Fund). This addresses a mistake in the DAS's original May 21, 2014 report, which had the entire grant going into the Animal Welfare Trust Fund. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend authorizing the acceptance of the donation from the ASPCA. This matter is now

submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

**MEMBER    VOTE**

KORETZ:    YES

O'FARRELL: YES

FUENTES:    ABSENT

ARL

8/5/14

**-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-**