

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to increased reimbursement to veterinary partners for the spaying/neutering of shelter dogs and rabbits.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. APPROVE the increase in the amount reimbursed to veterinary partners for the spaying/neutering of shelter dogs and rabbits to \$125 per surgery.
2. APPROVE the increase in the amount reimbursed to veterinary partners for the spaying/neutering of shelter cats to \$70 per surgery.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The Department of Animal Services (DAS) reports that the total amount of funds available for animal sterilization for the DAS varies year to year. Approximately \$1.1 million is allocated to the Animal Sterilization Fund as a fixed amount each year with an additional, variable sum added based on donations and licensing surcharges. In an effort to project the fiscal impact for this proposal, statistics from Fiscal Year (FY) 2015-16 were used. In the October 14, 2016 DAS report, attached to the Council file, are the statistics for FY 2015-16 and had these increases been in place during that fiscal year, total fiscal impact would have been \$536,601.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On November 2, 2016, your Committee considered an October 14, 2016 DAS report relative to increasing reimbursement to veterinary partners for the spay/neuter of shelter animals. According to the DAS, on May 3, 2016, Council approved a proposal to increase the monetary values of free spay/neuter vouchers and discount certificates to \$125 and \$50, respectively (Council File No. 16-0114). This provided much needed financial relief to those veterinarian partners who perform free and discounted spay/neuter surgeries to the public. This action did not impact the reimbursement of spay/neuter services for shelter animals and the rates for these procedures continue to be inadequate to cover the cost of the surgeries. The DAS has four contracts and over 40 letters of agreement with veterinary clinics and private veterinarians who perform spay/neuter surgeries for shelter animals. These animals are sent to our veterinary partners to be altered:

- a. In preparation for adoption
- b. In preparation for pick-up after adoption
- c. Or after their medical condition is healthy enough for surgery

After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the reimbursement increases as detailed in the above recommendations. 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	

11/2/16

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-