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**DEPARTMENT OF
ANIMAL SERVICES**

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ANNETTE G. RAMIREZ
INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER

CURTIS R. WATTS
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
Administration

DR. JEREMY PRUPAS
CHIEF VETERINARIAN

September 12, 2022

The Honorable Eric Garcetti
Mayor, City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 303
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Honorable City Council
c/o City Clerk
Room 395, City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Attention: Ms. Heleen Ramirez, Office of the Mayor

**RE: REQUEST TO LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL FOR CONTINUED PROTECTION AGAINST
EVICTIONS FOR PETS FOR THOSE ADOPTING PETS DURING THE COVID STATE OF
EMERGENCY**

Recommendation for Council Action, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. **APPROVE** a request from the Board of Animal Services Commissioners to the Los Angeles City Council to take the appropriate action to ensure that all tenants who adopted animals during the LA City's COVID 19 State of Emergency and have been protected by the City's COVID eviction protections approved by the City Council and signed into law by the Mayor continue to be protected from eviction based on having pets after the State of Emergency expires or the COVID eviction protection are amended.
2. **AUTHORIZE** staff to transmit this recommendation to the Mayor and City Council for consideration.

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SUBJECT: Transmittal to Mayor and Council
REQUEST TO LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL FOR CONTINUED PROTECTION AGAINST
EVICTIONS FOR PETS FOR THOSE ADOPTING PETS DURING THE COVID STATE OF
EMERGENCY

SUMMARY

In May 2020 the City of Los Angeles adopted Ordinance No. 186606 which set forth regulations regarding residential and commercial evictions during the COVID-19 “Safer at Home” Declaration of Emergency period (“Local Emergency Period”). The ordinance established Section 49.99.2 (Prohibition on Residential Evictions) which included clause C, which reads as follows: “No Owner shall endeavor to evict or evict a residential tenant based on the presence of unauthorized occupants or pets, or for nuisance related to COVID-19 during the Local Emergency Period.”

As the COVID pandemic slowly winds down, it is increasingly likely that the City, for a variety of serious reasons, will soon alter or repeal some elements of the eviction regulations adopted in 2020. This likelihood suggests that companion animals who have been living in rental units where they previously weren’t permitted could be placed in jeopardy of being displaced. This in turn could lead to a rash of relinquishments to the City’s crowded animal shelters.

In order to mitigate that possibility, the City Council should incorporate into any new ordinance altering LAMC 49.99.2.C a provision requiring landlords and building managers to allow any companion animal residing in a unit pursuant to that section to continue residing there for the duration of the animal’s natural life, or the tenant either relocates or voluntarily relocates the animal, and to refrain from evicting any tenant whose animal is in residence based on Section 49.99.2.C.

At its meeting on August 23, 2022, the Board of Animal Services Commissioners approved this item for recommendation to the Mayor and City Council for consideration.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund.

Respectfully submitted,



Annette G. Ramirez
Interim General Manager

Attachment: Adopted Board Report – Request to Los Angeles City Council for Continued Protection Against Evictions for Pets for Those Adopting Pets During the Covid State of Emergency

cc: Jacqueline Reyes, City Administrative Officer

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Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

MEETING DATE: August 23, 2022

PREPARED BY: Annette Ramirez

REPORT DATE: August 12, 2022

TITLE: Interim General Manager

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL FOR CONTINUED PROTECTION AGAINST EVICTIONS FOR PETS FOR THOSE ADOPTING PETS DURING THE COVID STATE OF EMERGENCY

BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:

1. **APPROVE** a request from the Board of Animal Services Commissioners to the Los Angeles City Council to take the appropriate action to ensure that all tenants who adopted animals during the LA City's COVID 19 State of Emergency and have been protected by the City's COVID eviction protections approved by the City Council and signed into law by the Mayor continue to be protected from eviction based on having pets after the State of Emergency expires or the COVID eviction protection are amended.
2. **AUTHORIZE** staff to transmit this recommendation to the Mayor and City Council for consideration.

BACKGROUND:

The following report was requested by Board President Larry Gross.

In May 2020 the City of Los Angeles adopted Ordinance No. 186606 which set forth regulations regarding residential and commercial evictions during the COVID-19 "Safer at Home" Declaration of Emergency period ("Local Emergency Period"). The ordinance established Section 49.99.2 (Prohibition on Residential Evictions) which included clause C, which reads as follows: "No Owner shall endeavor to evict or evict a residential tenant based on the presence of unauthorized occupants or pets, or for nuisance related to COVID-19 during the Local Emergency Period."

As the COVID pandemic slowly winds down, it is increasingly likely that the City, for a variety of serious reasons, will soon alter or repeal some elements of the eviction regulations adopted in 2020. This

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SUBJECT: REQUEST TO LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL FOR CONTINUED PROTECTION AGAINST EVICTIONS FOR PETS FOR THOSE ADOPTING PETS DURING THE COVID STATE OF EMERGENCY

likelihood suggests that companion animals who have been living in rental units where they previously weren't permitted could be placed in jeopardy of being displaced. This in turn could lead to a rash of relinquishments to the City's crowded animal shelters.

In order to mitigate that possibility, the City Council should incorporate into any new ordinance altering LAMC 49.99.2.C a provision requiring landlords and building managers to allow any companion animal residing in a unit pursuant to that section to continue residing there for the duration of the animal's natural life, or the tenant either relocates or voluntarily relocates the animal, and to refrain from evicting any tenant whose animal is in residence based on Section 49.99.2.C.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the general fund.

Approved:



Annette G. Ramirez, Interim General Manager

BOARD ACTION:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Passed	Disapproved	_____
_____	Passed with noted modifications	Continued	_____
_____	Tabled	New Date	_____