

**BOARD OF  
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# City of Los Angeles

CALIFORNIA



**ERIC GARCETTI**  
MAYOR

**DEPARTMENT OF  
ANIMAL SERVICES**

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6<sup>TH</sup> Floor, Suite #600  
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ANNETTE G. RAMIREZ  
INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER

CURTIS R. WATTS  
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER  
Administration

DR. JEREMY PRUPAS  
CHIEF VETERINARIAN

April 6, 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: ACCEPTANCE OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE GRANT AWARDED BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (ASPCA) FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$110,000 FOR A TOTAL OF \$510,000 AND AN EXTENSION OF THE GRANT TERM TO DECEMBER 22, 2019 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022**

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

1. **ACCEPT** the First Amendment to the grant agreement from the ASPCA for an additional \$110,000 for a total award of \$510,000 and an extension of the grant term from December 22, 2019 through December 31, 2022 for a three-year grant award for fee-waived public adoptions of cats and kittens in the amount of \$360,000, \$110,000 and \$40,000 for marketing and promotional activities;
2. **FORWARD** the acceptance of the additional grant funds to the Mayor and City Council for approval;
3. **APPROVE** the deposit of these funds into the appropriate accounts within the Animal Welfare Trust Fund – Fund No. 859 and restrict these funds for the designated purpose of fee-waived public adoptions of cats and kittens and marketing and promotional activities; and,

"Creating a Humane LA"

**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

Visit our website at [www.LAAnimalServices.com](http://www.LAAnimalServices.com)

SUBJECT: Transmittal to Mayor and Council

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE GRANT AWARDED BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (ASPCA) FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$110,000 FOR A TOTAL OF \$510,000 AND AN EXTENSION OF THE GRANT TERM TO DECEMBER 22, 2019 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022**

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4. **AUTHORIZE** the Board of Animal Services Commissioners to authorize the transfer of ASPCA grant funds from the Animal Welfare Trust Fund – Fund No. 859 to the Animal Sterilization Fund – Fund No. 842 quarterly for reimbursement of sterilization costs associated with all ASPCA sponsored fee-waived public adoptions of cats and kittens until the \$470,000 is exhausted.

**SUMMARY:**

The Department is constantly seeking new and innovative avenues for encouraging animal adoptions in the City of Los Angeles and this grant will help to accomplish this goal while increasing the Department's live save rates.

Over the years, the Department has used a variety of strategies to encourage adoptions. One proven successful method is to offer fee waived adoptions. Documented data supports that when an organization has offered to subsidize adoption fees, adoption numbers have risen during the reduced fee period. Detractors to this method believe that reduced fee and/or fee waived adoptions devalue an animal and increase the potential for an animal to be abused, abandoned or neglected. Nationwide studies have gathered information from numerous adoption agencies and there is no evidence to support a greater likelihood of abuse or neglect in fee waived adopted animals.

This is the Department's fourth ASPCA grant. Prior grants were received in 2015, 2017, and 2018 but did not include funding for marketing or promotional activities.

The 2020 ASPCA grant subsidized a total of 9,345 free cat and kitten adoptions, 3,865 in 2020 and 5,480 in 2021, which positively impacted our overall live save rate.

On January 25, 2022, the Board of Animal Services Commissioners authorized the acceptance of the First Amendment to the Grant Awarded by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) for an additional \$110,000 for a total of \$510,000 and an extension of the Grant Term to December 22, 2019 through December 31, 2022 subject to the approval of the City Council and Mayor.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund. Authorization to transfer the grant's funds held in the Animal Welfare Trust Fund – Fund No. 859 to Animal Sterilization Fund – Fund No. 842 is required to prevent the City's General Fund from subsidizing sterilization costs associated with ASPCA's sponsorship of fee-waived public adoptions of cats and kittens.

SUBJECT: Transmittal to Mayor and Council

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE GRANT AWARDED BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (ASPCA) FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$110,000 FOR A TOTAL OF \$510,000 AND AN EXTENSION OF THE GRANT TERM TO DECEMBER 22, 2019 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022**

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Respectfully submitted,



Annette G. Ramirez  
Interim General Manager

Attachment: Adopted Board Report – Acceptance of the First Amendment to the Grant Awarded by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) for an additional \$110,000 for a total of \$510,000 and an Extension of the Grant Term to December 22, 2019 through December 31, 2022

cc: Jacqueline Reyes, City Administrative Officer  
Sharon Lee, Los Angeles Animal Services

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Administration

ANNETTE G. RAMIREZ  
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER  
Lifesaving

DR. JEREMY PRUPAS  
CHIEF VETERINARIAN

## Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

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**MEETING DATE:** January 25, 2022

**PREPARED BY:** Sharon Lee

**REPORT DATE:** January 20, 2022

**TITLE:** Senior Management Analyst II

**SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE GRANT AWARDED BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (ASPCA) FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$110,000 FOR A TOTAL OF \$510,000 AND AN EXTENSION OF THE GRANT TERM TO DECEMBER 22, 2019 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022**

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### BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:

1. **ACCEPT** the First Amendment to the grant agreement from the ASPCA for an additional \$110,000 for a total award of \$510,000 and an extension of the grant term from December 22, 2019 through December 31, 2022 for a three-year grant award for fee-waived public adoptions of cats and kittens in the amount of \$360,000, \$110,000 and \$40,000 for marketing and promotional activities;
2. **FORWARD** the acceptance of the additional grant funds to the Mayor and City Council for approval;
3. **APPROVE** the deposit of these funds into the appropriate accounts within the Animal Welfare Trust Fund – Fund No. 859 and restrict these funds for the designated purpose of fee-waived public adoptions of cats and kittens and marketing and promotional activities; and,
4. **AUTHORIZE** the Board of Animal Services Commissioners to authorize the transfer of ASPCA grant funds from the Animal Welfare Trust Fund – Fund No. 859 to the Animal Sterilization Fund – Fund No. 842 quarterly for reimbursement of sterilization costs associated with all ASPCA sponsored fee-waived public adoptions of cats and kittens until the \$470,000 is exhausted.

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**BACKGROUND:**

On November 22, 2019, the Department of Animal Services (Department) submitted an application to the ASPCA for a grant in the amount of \$400,000 to subsidize the cost of fee-waived public adoptions of cats and kittens and for marketing and promotional activities. On December 24, 2019, the ASPCA awarded Grant No. 201804-20620 in the amount of \$400,000 to the Department, which was approved by the Board of Animal Services Commissioners on February 25, 2020, and adopted by the City Council on March 17, 2020.

The terms and conditions of the grant were accepted and agreed upon by the Department, the Agreement was signed and returned to the ASPCA and the funds were forwarded to the Department via Electronic Fund Transfer on January 17, 2020.

On December 26, 2021, the ASPCA provided the Department with the First Amendment to Grant Number 201804-20620 to add an additional \$110,000 for a new total of \$510,000 and to amend the grant term to December 22, 2019 through December 31, 2022. The terms and conditions of the First Amendment to the grant were accepted and agreed upon by the Department, and the Agreement was signed and returned to the ASPCA on January 5, 2022. The funds were forwarded to the Department via Electronic Fund Transfer on January 14, 2022.

**SUMMARY:**

The Department is constantly seeking new and innovative avenues for encouraging animal adoptions in the City of Los Angeles and this grant will help to accomplish this goal while increasing the Department's live save rates.

Over the years, the Department has used a variety of strategies to encourage adoptions. One proven successful method is to offer fee waived adoptions. Documented data supports that when an organization has offered to subsidize adoption fees, adoption numbers have risen during the reduced fee period. Detractors to this method believe that reduced fee and/or fee waived adoptions devalue an animal and increase the potential for an animal to be abused, abandoned or neglected. Nationwide studies have gathered information from numerous adoption agencies and there is no evidence to support a greater likelihood of abuse or neglect in fee waived adopted animals.

This is the Department's fourth ASPCA grant. Prior grants were received in 2015, 2017, and 2018 but did not include funding for marketing or promotional activities.

The 2020 ASPCA grant subsidized a total of 9,345 free cat and kitten adoptions, 3,865 in 2020 and 5,480 in 2021, which positively impacted our overall live save rate.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund. Authorization to transfer the grant's funds held in the Animal Welfare Trust Fund – Fund No. 859 to Animal Sterilization Fund – Fund No. 842 is required to prevent the City's General Fund from subsidizing sterilization costs associated with ASPCA's sponsorship of fee-waived public adoptions of cats and kittens.

Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners  
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Approved:



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Dana H. Brown, General Manager

Attachment: First Amendment Grant Agreement Reference – Grant Number 201804-20620

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**BOARD ACTION:**

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