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**DEPARTMENT OF
ANIMAL SERVICES**

221 N. Figueroa Street
6TH Floor, Suite #600
Los Angeles, CA 90012

(888) 452-7381
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ANNETTE G. RAMIREZ
INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER

CURTIS R. WATTS
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
Administration

DR. JEREMY PRUPAS
CHIEF VETERINARIAN

January 24, 2023

The Honorable Karen Bass
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 A \$150,000 GRANT FROM THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (ASPCA) INTO THE ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST FUND

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

1. **ACCEPT** a \$150,000 grant from the ASPCA for fee-waived public adoptions of kittens and cats in the amount of \$147,000 and \$3,000 for marketing and promotional activities;
2. **FORWARD** the acceptance of these 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 Animal Sterilization Fund – Fund No. 842 and restrict these funds for the designated purpose of fee-waived public adoptions of kittens and cats, and for 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, and the Animal Sterilization Fund – Fund No. 842, for reimbursement of adoption fees and marketing and promotional

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SUBJECT: Transmittal to Mayor and Council

ACCEPTANCE OF A \$150,000 GRANT FROM THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (ASPCA) INTO THE ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST FUND

activities associated with all ASPCA sponsored fee-waived public adoptions of kittens and cats until the \$150,000 is exhausted.

SUMMARY:

The Los Angeles Administrative Code, Section 5.200.1 (Receipt of Property) states that any gift or bequest to be used by the Department that exceeds \$25,000 must be approved by the Mayor and City Council.

On December 14, 2022, the Department of Animal Services (Department) submitted an application to the ASPCA for a grant in the amount of \$150,000 to subsidize the cost of fee-waived public adoptions of kittens and cats and for marketing and promotional activities. On December 20, 2022, the ASPCA awarded Grant No. 202211-29941 in the amount of \$150,000 to the Department per the attached Grant Agreement Reference (Agreement). The Agreement contains all grant requirements, timeliness, usage and reporting requirements. The terms and conditions of the grant were accepted and agreed upon by the Department. The agreement was signed and returned to the ASPCA.

On January 10, 2023, the Board of Animal Services Commissioners authorized the acceptance of a \$150,000 grant from the ASPCA subject to the approval of the City Council and Mayor.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There will be no financial impact to the General Fund. The funds from this grant will be deposited into the Animal Welfare Trust Fund and disbursements will be made pursuant to the provisions of the Fund.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Annette G. Ramirez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Annette" and last name "Ramirez" clearly legible.

Annette G. Ramirez
Interim General Manager

Attachment: Adopted Board Report – Acceptance of a \$150,000 Grant from the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) into the Animal Welfare Trust Fund

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

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Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners

MEETING DATE: January 10, 2023

PREPARED BY: Jennifer Curiel

REPORT DATE: December 30, 2022

TITLE: Director of Field Operations - Shelter

**SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF A \$150,000 GRANT FROM THE AMERICAN SOCIETY
FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (ASPCA) INTO THE
ANIMAL WELFARE TRUST FUND**

BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:

1. **ACCEPT** a \$150,000 grant from the ASPCA for fee-waived public adoptions of kittens and cats in the amount of \$147,000 and \$3,000 for marketing and promotional activities;
2. **FORWARD** the acceptance of these 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 Animal Sterilization Fund - Fund No. 842, and restrict these funds for the designated purpose of fee-waived public adoptions of kittens and cats, and for marketing and promotional activities;
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, and the Animal Sterilization Fund - Fund No. 842, for reimbursement of adoption fees and marketing and promotional activities associated with all ASPCA sponsored fee-waived public adoption of kittens and cats until the \$150,000 is exhausted.

BACKGROUND:

On December 14, 2022, the Department of Animal Services (Department) submitted an application to the ASPCA for a grant in the amount of \$150,000 to subsidize the cost of fee-waived public adoptions of kittens and cats and for marketing and promotional activities. On December 20, 2022 the ASPCA awarded Grant No. 202211-29941 in the amount of \$150,000 to the Department per the attached Grant Agreement Reference (Agreement). The Agreement contains all grant requirements, timeliness, usage and reporting requirements.

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The terms and conditions of the grant were accepted and agreed upon by the Department, the Agreement was signed and returned to the ASPCA.

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 accomplish this goal while increasing the Department's live save rate.

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 Grant will subsidize a total of 6,012 cats and kitten adoptions which positively impacts our overall live save rate.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There will be no financial impact to the General Fund. The funds from this grant will be deposited into the Animal Welfare Trust Fund and disbursements will be made pursuant to the provisions of the Fund.

Approved:



Annette G. Ramirez, Interim General Manager

Attachment

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"/>