



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR

January 29, 2008

To:  Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From:  Phil Kamlarz, City Manager

Submitted by: Kate O'Connor, Animal Services Manager

Subject: Donation: Raymond Family Foundation to the Animal Care Shelter

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution accepting a donation from the Raymond Family Foundation to the Animal Shelter in the sum of \$5,000.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The donation of \$5,000 will be deposited in the Animal Shelter Donation Fund: 139-0704-368.20-99. The donation will be officially appropriated in the Second Amendment to the Appropriations Ordinance.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

As part of its community support, The Raymond Family Foundation is making a contribution to the Animal Care Shelter to assist with extraordinary veterinary bills and to assist in the continuation of advertising animal care services such as the spay/neuter program (SNYP), the volunteer program and animal adoptions.

The Animal Shelter runs a low-cost spay/neuter program for the pets of residents of Berkeley and for animals adopted from the shelter. Over population in domestic animals is an ongoing problem making it difficult to find them all good homes. Advertising the SNYP program has increased the number of animals being spayed/neutered in Berkeley thus lowering the number of animals entering the shelter as strays or surrendered by their owners/guardians.

The shelter treats sick and injured animals that have a good chance of recovery and adoption. This is very costly and donations are often used to cover these extraordinary veterinary bills.

Advertising the volunteer program at the shelter has increased the number of active volunteers thus enhancing the lives of the animals while they are at the shelter.

BACKGROUND

In December 2007, The Raymond Family Foundation donated funds to the Animal Shelter to help fund the programs listed below.

Spay/Neuter your Pet Program (SNYP)

The City funds the SNYP program with \$30,000 each year. The program offers low cost spay/neuters for animals of residents of Berkeley and shelter adopters, and is free for the pets of low income residents and residents who own pitbulls, rottweilers or chow chows. This program has helped many people be able to afford to alter their pets thus reducing the numbers of unwanted animals entering the shelter.

Volunteer Program

Each day, an average of 15 volunteers come to the shelter to enrich the lives of the animals and to make them more adoptable. This includes walking and training dogs, giving them treats and toys, playing and socializing with cats and bathing and grooming the animals. The volunteers also help in many other ways such as placing the animals on various websites to increase their chances of adoption, actively fundraising and assisting staff and customers in the office.

Veterinary Care

Some of the animals that come to the shelter have severe illnesses or injuries. However, if the animal is highly adoptable and will recover with medical care, the shelter may elect to put extensive resources into the animal including expensive veterinary work. Veterinary fees for these special cases are often paid for from the donations fund.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The shelter already receives donations from the public and the funds are used for various programs that enrich the lives of the animals at the shelter as well as assisting residents of Berkeley by providing a low cost spay neuter program. The cost of goods and services are increasing continually and any donations are greatly appreciated in order to ensure that the animals in our care receive the best treatment possible.

CONTACT PERSON

Kate O'Connor, Animal Services Manager—(510) 981 6601

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. -N.S.  
APPROVING A DONATION FROM THE RAYMOND FAMILY FOUNDATION TO THE  
ANIMAL SHELTER IN THE SUM OF \$5,000

WHEREAS, the SNYP program offers low cost spay/neuter services for the animals of residents of Berkeley and animals adopted from the shelter and is free for the pets of low income residents and residents who own Pitbulls, Rottweilers and Chow Chows; and

WHEREAS, by advertising the SNYP program more pets will be altered thus reducing the number of unwanted animal entering the shelter; and

WHEREAS, advertising the volunteer program has increased the number of volunteers thus enhancing the lives of the animals; and

WHEREAS, the cost of veterinary treatment for the animals is always increasing; and

WHEREAS, some animals at the shelter have severe illnesses or injuries that are treatable but are expensive; and

WHEREAS, the animal shelter already collects donations from the public for various shelter programs that enhance the lives of animals.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley accepts the donation from the Raymond Family Foundation to the Animal Shelter in the sum of \$5,000.

