



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST NOTICE OF INTENT

(Revised: 9/23/13)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 10/16/14
Agenda Item #: R.3
Est. Start Time: 10:30 am
Date Submitted: 10/1/14

Agenda **NOTICE OF INTENT to apply for a Petco Foundation Grant to fund Title: Animal Services' Kitten Triage Project to save the lives of more kittens**

Note: This APR is for NOI's only. APRs are available for other types of submittals. Title should not be more than 2 lines but be sufficient to describe the action requested.

Requested Meeting Date: October 16, 2014 **Time Needed:** 20 minutes
Department: Community Services **Division:** Animal Services
Contact(s): Mike Oswald
Phone: 503-988-6233 **Ext.** **I/O Address:** B324
Presenter Name(s) & Title(s): Mike Oswald, Division Director and Ann Potter, Program Supervisor

General Information

1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Requesting approval for the Animal Services Division to apply for a Petco Foundation Grant in the amount for \$62,660.

2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results.

Each year during "kitten season" (July to October), the Division's shelter receives over 1,200 kittens. These kittens are brought to us by the public as feral, sick, abandoned or social, healthy individual kittens, kitten litters with their moms, litters without moms, and kittens that are weaned or unweaned. This huge influx stresses the shelter's capacity, both staffing and facilities, limiting the Division's ability to adequately and humanely care for kittens. Very young, unweaned kittens without their moms are especially difficult to care for.

In 2012, the Division was able to save 857 of the 1,295 kittens received (a 66% Live

Release Rate), while 438 were euthanized. This outcome was unacceptable to the Division, and clearly not consistent with the Division's commitment to end euthanasia.

In 2013, the Division created a pilot project, the "Kitten Triage Project," with the goal to save all kittens brought in to the Division's animal shelter. The pilot project involved converting an underutilized, mobile hospital trailer into a kitten triage ward where all incoming kittens were immediately assessed and given urgent medical care; and underweight and feral kittens could be cared for until transferred to foster homes or partner agencies. We staffed the project seven days per week with dedicated, temporary staff members. Volunteers were used to transport kittens, and to provide foster homes. The funding for the pilot project came from private donations.

The life-saving performance of the 2013 pilot project was remarkable! The Division's kitten save rate climbed from 66% in 2012 to an amazing 94% in 2013. Of the 1,250 kittens received, 1,184 were saved.

Based on the success of the 2013 project, MCAS resumed the Kitten Triage Project on July 1, 2014, with a plan to run the project through October 2014. Unfortunately, obtaining funding for the project for the 2014 kitten season has been a challenge, resulting in the need to use unexpected cost savings from other areas, conduct ongoing solicitation of private donations, and reassignment of staff for project operations. Despite these challenges, the current kitten Live Release Rate from July 1st to August 15, 2014, was 94%. The project is on track to be as successful this year as in the pilot year.

A grant award of \$62,660 from the Petco Foundation would fund the Kitten Triage Project for the upcoming 2015 kitten season (July - October) and ensure the program is fully operational throughout the kitten season. Roughly half of the funding would pay for dedicated animal care staff for the kitten ward and half would pay for medicine and vaccines, which cost approximately \$27.50 per kitten. The Division would continue to provide the trailer, additional support staff and oversight. Furthermore, secure funding would allow MCAS staff to focus their energy on program planning and implementation allowing for potential expansion of program services and further enhanced outcomes.

This impacts Program Offer 91007 and the Live Release Rate performance measures.

3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).

Funding for the current Kitten Triage Project is from private donations to Animal Services.

4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.

None

5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.

The Kitten Triage Project goals and performance measures have been discussed with the Division's Community Advisory Committee. Citizens participate in the project by volunteering hours to support our medical team in the kitten ward, serve as drivers to transport kittens to partner agencies, and provide foster care for kittens in private homes.

Grant Application/Notice of Intent

If the request is a Grant Application or Notice of Intent, please answer all of the following in detail:

- **Who is the granting agency?**
Petco Foundation, a private animal welfare foundation
- **Specify grant (matching, reporting and other) requirements and goals.**
Grant does not require matching funds. The grant requires reporting.
- **Explain grant funding detail – is this a one time only or long term commitment?**
\$62,660 one-time-only funding.
- **What are the estimated filing timelines?**
September 10, 2014. The Division was notified about the grant application deadline in early September. The application has been submitted in order to meet the deadline.
- **If a grant, what period does the grant cover?**
2015 Kitten Season, July - October
- **When the grant expires, what are funding plans?**
Secure additional grant funding or we will do private fundraising.
- **Is 100% of the central and departmental indirect recovered? If not, please explain why.**
The grant funds are 100% dedicated to direct staffing and supplies.

Required Signatures

**Elected Official
or Department/
Agency Director:** Kim Peoples /s/ **Date:** 9/30/14

Budget Analyst: Ching Hay /s/ **Date:** 10/1/14

Note: Please submit electronically. We are no longer using actual signatures. Insert names of your approvers followed by /s/. Please insert date approved