

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council - Commissioner's Court Meeting	Item ID	33865	Agenda Number	2.
---	---------	-------	---------------	----

Meeting Date:	8/7/2014	Department:	Animal Services Office
---------------	----------	-------------	------------------------

Subject

Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$3,525 in additional grant funds from the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES, ZOONOSIS BRANCH, and amending the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Animal Services Office Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20130909-001) to appropriate \$3,525 for spay and neuter services.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$3,525 is available from the Texas Department of State Health Services, Zoonosis Branch. The grant period is August 31, 2014 through August 30, 2015.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	Approval of the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Operating Budget September 9, 2013
For More Information:	Abigail Smith, Chief Animal Services Officer 512-978-0536
Boards and Commission Action:	June 11, 2014 – Unanimously approved by the Animal Advisory Commission on a 4-0 vote.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

The Animal Services Office was recently notified that the Texas Department of State Health Services, Zoonosis Control Branch, is renewing their grant funding in the amount of \$23,525 through the Animal Friendly Spay/Neuter Grant Awards program. The funding extends from August 31, 2014 through August 30, 2015. The awards are made possible by the Animal Friendly License Plate Program, which requires the submission of applications in order to receive any portion of the earmarked proceeds.

The grant appropriation in the 2013-2014 Budget was \$20,000. The requested increase represents the difference between the grant appropriation of \$20,000 and the grant renewal amount of \$23,525.

Since August of 2000, the Animal Services Office has worked diligently to decrease the number of euthanized adoptable dogs and cats by funding a free mobile spay and neuter clinic service for low-income families. The City contracts with Emancipet, Inc., a local nonprofit corporation, on an annual basis and sterilizations are performed by a licensed veterinarian. Emancipet is the only mobile high volume spay and neuter service provider that offers professional veterinary services targeted to low-income pet owners in the Austin/Travis County area. The surgical cost per animal is well below the average market cost.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute to this grant. All department grant application requests are reviewed by the Budget Office prior to submission to ensure that the grant minimizes the financial impact to the City.

RELATED DEPARTMENT GOAL: Promotion/Prevention/Protection: Animal Services – promote responsible pet ownership to reduce animal homelessness.

OUTCOMES: The additional funds would allow the City of Austin to increase the number of grant funded sterilizations by approximately 500.