



**STAFF REPORT**  
**10/25/2023**

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** Rene Rosales, Code Enforcement Manager

**SUBJECT:** Authorize a Community Sponsorship to Animal Action League in the Amount of \$16,000 to Support Public Spay/Neuter Clinic Events

---

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council consider awarding a sponsorship to Animal Action League in the amount of \$16,000.00 to support upcoming spay/neuter clinic events for residents of the City of Coachella.

**BACKGROUND:**

Animal Action League (AAL), a 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation, was founded in 1989 for the express purpose of providing spay/neuter services for underprivileged cats and dogs. After working for 15 years in affordable spay/neuter clinics, it became obvious that those in most desperate need of this service were not being reached. Although this service was offered free to low income pet owners, there was as high as a 50% “no show” rate. In checking with these owners, the “no show” cause was due to transportation problems or they forgot, other plans intervened – in other words – such service was not high on the owner’s agenda.

Studies have determined that 3% of the pet-owning population is creating the overpopulation problem; and that this 3% are primarily low income and/or non-motivated pet owners. In order to be effective, AAL determined that a mobile clinic would be the most effective way to address this issue. It was determined that AAL could offer quality, “no frills” service and bring it directly to these communities where these animals most desperately needed help. In 2005, their goal was realized by acquiring a 32 foot, custom built, mobile, spay/neuter trailer.

**DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:**

Animal Action League (AAL) is requesting grant funding support to help put on five (5) public spay/neutering clinic events for the residents of the City of Coachella. AAL will conduct five free upcoming spay/neutering clinics in the City of Coachella for the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 for any resident that shows proof of residency, such as a government issued identification card, utility bills/credit card statement, rental/lease agreement, etc. Each clinic has a cost recovery of \$3,200/clinic and during each clinic event; the following item below will be included:

- Professional Veterinary staff for an average of 27 to 33 spay/neuters surgeries.
- Office staff for paperwork, money collection and receipts.
- Staff and Volunteers to organize check-in table and clients.
- Surgical Trailer to house pets safely and comfortably.
- Pain shot and preventive antibiotic injection at time of surgery.
- Aftercare Medical phone line for clients for any questions or concerns after surgery.

On May 30, 2023, this sponsorship request was taken in front of the Building/Code Enforcement/Public Safety Sub-Committee for discussion and feedback. The Sub-committee approved the proposal and request to take it in front of the City Council to allocate the necessary funds.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Authorize sponsorship request to AAL in the amount of \$9,600 to conduct three (3) public spay/neutering events in the City of Coachella.
2. Authorize sponsorship request to AAL in the amount of \$3,200 to conduct one (1) public spay/neutering event in the City of Coachella.
3. Not Authorize sponsorship request to AAL to conduct any public spay/neutering events in the City of Coachella.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Should the City Council approve the staff recommendation, an appropriation of \$16,000 from the City General Fund will be required to authorize this sponsorship request.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Attachment “A” - AAL Proposal for the Public Spay/Neuter Clinic Events