



STAFF REPORT
9/11/2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Dr. Gabriel Martin, City Manager

SUBJECT: Approve First Amendment to the Agreement for Animal Control Field and Shelter Services Between the City of Coachella and the County of Riverside Department of Animal Services to Extend the Contract for One Year in the Amount of \$508,206

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approve the First Amendment to the Agreement for Animal Control Field and Shelter Services Between the City of Coachella and the County of Riverside Department of Animal Services to Extend the Contract for One Year in the Amount of \$508,206.
2. Authorize the City Attorney to make necessary non-monetary changes to the agreement.
3. Authorize the City Manager to execute said contract

BACKGROUND:

The City of Coachella collaborates with the Riverside County Department of Animal Services (RCDAS) for local animal control services. Through the agreement, RCDAS enforces local licensing requirements, investigates situations of animal neglect, shelters and cares for lost and abandoned animals, and promotes responsible pet ownership through public outreach. On July 1, 2021, the previous three-year agreement expired on June 30, 2024. Staff recommends approving the First Amendment to the agreement, extending the service relationship through June 30, 2025.

The City of Coachella has contracted with County Animal Services to provide a variety of animal services. Those services include:

- Responding to calls for field service assistance
- Impounding animals found at large
- Providing humane care and treatment of stray or abandoned animals
- Investigating reported bites by animals
- Quarantining animals suspected to be rabid
- Responding to and processing nuisance complaints
- Removing deceased animals from the public right-of-way
- Encouraging the return of any lost or stray animal
- Inspecting and issuing permits for dog kennels and catteries

- Enforcing appropriate provisions of ordinances

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

On May 30, 2024, RCDAS provided a letter (Exhibit “A”) to all City Partners that the County Executive Officer and Board of Supervisors (the Board) to increase rates by 5% on all contracts for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. RCDAS will be proposing amendments to Ordinance No. 534 and No. 630 that will streamline processes, increase efficiency and update practices to be in line what is practiced nationwide and recommend that all City Partners adopt those versions of these County Ordinances once adopted by the Board.

Below is RCDAS proposed rates for Fiscal Year 2024-2025:

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES		
FY 24-25 CONTRACT CITY RATES		
PROPOSED ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER (ACO) RATES		
POSITION	CURRENT RATE FY 2023/2024	PROPOSED RATE FY 2024/2025
ACO (Hourly Rate)	\$131.31	\$137.88
ACO (Overtime/Hourly- minimum call out of 2 hours)	\$170.15	\$178.66
PROPOSED DAILY SHELTERING RATE		
SERVICE	CURRENT RATE FY 2023/2024	PROPOSED RATE FY 2024/2025
Daily Sheltering Rate	\$34.10	\$35.81
PROPOSED LICENSE PROCESSING FEES		
SERVICE	CURRENT RATE FY 2023/2024	PROPOSED RATE FY 2024/2025
License Processing Fee	\$11.35	\$11.92
PROPOSED IMPOUND FEES		
LOCATION	CURRENT RATE FY 2023/2024	PROPOSED RATE FY 2024/2025
Blythe	\$6.90	\$7.25
San Jacinto	\$10.44	\$10.96
CVAC	\$10.86	\$11.40
Jurupa Valley	\$12.53	\$13.16
OTHER PROPOSED FEES		
SERVICE	CURRENT RATE FY 2023/2024	PROPOSED RATE FY 2024/2025
Large Animal-Horses	\$20.00	\$21.00
Large Animal-Donkey, Sheep	\$12.00	\$12.60
Deads	\$70.00	\$73.50
Wildlife	\$138.00	\$144.90

The new agreement (Exhibit “B”) is significantly the same, but does incorporate changes in the compensation paid to the County, as highlighted in the Financial Summary section above. Staff is also recommending purchasing optional services that will address some regional animal control issues by providing four (4) Shot/Spay and Neuter Bus Services events. The cost of each event will be \$3,000 for a total of \$12,000, which includes the cost to provide three (3) clinic services staff and one veterinarian for 9 hours, to be billed based on actual usage as requested by the City.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Recommend denial of First Amendment.
2. Continue this item and provide staff with direction.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Overall, the annual cost for services for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 is estimated to total \$508,206, but actual costs will vary depending on field-service personnel overtime, animal calls, and the number of licenses issued. On July 10, 2024, the City Council approved a budget appropriation for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for animal control services in the amount of \$514,500, so the proposed cost is within budgeted parameters and there will be no additional impact to the General Fund.

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE(S):

1. Exhibit “A” – Letter from RCDAS to City Partners with Proposed Rates for Fiscal Year 2024-2025
2. Exhibit “B” - First Amendment to the Agreement for Animal Control Field and Shelter Services Between the City of Coachella and the County of Riverside Department of Animal Services to Extend the Contract for One Year