



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 09/10/2024

REQUESTER: Kellee Robertson, Animal Welfare Center Manager

PRESENTER: Kevin Foster, Chief of Police

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZATION, APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT CAGES AND KENNEL RUNS FROM THE MIDMARK CORPORATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$79,591.39 FOR THE ANIMAL WELFARE CENTER.

BACKGROUND:

In the City of Norman FYE25 budget, \$120,000 in funds were approved by City Council to replace the kennel system at the Animal Welfare Center. This includes the replacement of cages and kennel runs and the flooring underneath.

Kennels in the animal shelter are subject to constant use and can experience significant wear and tear over time. The kennels that currently house dogs are seven years old and, due to age and constant use, are deteriorated to the point that they need to be replaced. The Animal Welfare Center plans to replace the kennels in one of the nine dog rooms each year to spread out the cost of replacing them over time. This Authorization to Purchase, if approved, is the first phase of the replacements.

DISCUSSION:

The condition of our animal shelter reflects the values and commitment of our community. A well-maintained and up-to-date facility demonstrates our dedication to animal welfare and will positively impact public perception. By regularly replacing worn-out kennels, we show our commitment to providing the best practical conditions for the animals in our care. Animals in our shelter rely on the kennels as their temporary homes, so we must provide them with comfortable and secure living spaces.

The planned program will allow for one of the nine dog rooms to be replaced each year. The kennels are critical to ensure the safety of our guests and staff alike. Kennels are subject to consistent abuse and exposure through daily use, damage by aggressive animals, and exposure to feces and urine, necessitating daily cleaning and sanitation.

This program is critical to maintaining an exceptional live release rate and safety of our staff. Failing to establish an ongoing program for their upkeep will result in a significant one-time cost once the kennels are beyond repair.

In FYE21, City Council approved (R-2021-94) the replacement of the glass doors in dog adoption rooms with wire doors to improve ventilation in the individual kennels. The Midmark Corporation was the chosen vendor for this service and is therefore familiar with our facility and needs. In addition, they are a factory-direct manufacturer and is the sole source for custom Shor-Line products in the United States. They provided a quote for this first phase of replacement kennels at a cost of \$79,591.39 which includes the cost of equipment, supplies, and professional installation.

Funding for this purchase, if approved, is available in the Animal Control Plant & Operating Equipment account (10660270-45199).

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Authorization to purchase replacement cages and kennel runs from the Midmark Corporation in the amount of \$79,591.39 for the Animal Welfare Center.