

2018-2019 BUDGET QUESTION
Response to Request for Information

DEPARTMENT: Animal Services

REQUEST NO.: 104

REQUESTED BY: Houston

DATE REQUESTED: 8/28/18

DATE POSTED: 8/30/18

REQUEST: What was the funding from Maddie's fund used for that was supposed to be used for dog walkers? Does the \$25,000 included in the FY 2019 proposed budget pay the dog walkers \$15 per hour for this activity?

RESPONSE:

The Maddie's Lifesaving Grant was to be used for programs designed to support lifesaving and adoption efforts. A portion was designated to fund four (4) additional positions to the Behavior and Enrichment team for two (2) years. The focus of these positions was to increase consistent in kennel enrichment and increase out of kennel enrichment opportunities, including playgroup and dog walking.

Two memos that detailed how the Animal Services Office (ASO) would allocate these resources to address Council Resolution 20150521-024 were sent to Council. The memo can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/edims/pio/document.cfm?id=255868>.

The proposed FY 2019 includes funding to retain contracted services for dog walking. ASO staff is currently working with Purchasing on an Invitation for Bids (IFB) with the goal of securing contracted dog walking services for the next fiscal year to augment existing efforts. We are committed to pay \$15/hour and will review the responses to ensure we get the most, in way of services, for the limited funding that is available.