

A G E N D A

**RCA**

Austin City Council

Item ID

4995

Meeting Date:

4/7/2011

Department:

Health and Human Services

Subject

Approve an ordinance authorizing acceptance of \$49,977 in grant funds from the TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES, ZOONOSIS BRANCH, and amending the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Health and Human Services Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20100913-002) to appropriate \$49,977 to conduct spay and neuter activities.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available from the Texas Department of State Health Services, Zoonosis Branch. The grant period is September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2011.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:**Prior Council Action:**

Approval of the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Operating Budget, September 13, 2010.

For More Information:

Filip Gecic, Interim Animal Services Officer, 972-6057; Charles Kemp, Agenda Coordinator, 972-5023

Boards and Commission Action:**MBE / WBE:****Related Items:**

Additional Backup Information

The Animal Services Office (ASO) was recently notified that the Texas Department of State Health Services, Zoonosis Branch (DSHS), is awarding the City an additional \$49,977 in grant funds through the Animal Friendly Spay/Neuter Grant Awards program. This is a one-time award and will bring the City's total grant award to \$69,977. The funding is for the March 1st, 2011 through August 31st, 2011 period. These grant awards are made possible by the Animal Friendly license plate program; however, applications must be submitted to receive any portion of the earmarked proceeds.

Since August of 2000, ASO, formerly the Animal Services Division of HHSD, has worked diligently to decrease the number of adoptable dogs and cats that are euthanized by funding a free mobile spay/neuter clinic service for low-income families. The City contracts with Emancipet, Inc. on an annual basis, and sterilizations are performed by a licensed veterinarian. Emancipet, a local nonprofit organization, is the only mobile service provider that offers professional veterinary services targeted to low-income pet owners in the Austin 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.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

Related Department Goal Promotion/Prevention/Protection: Animal Services -- promote responsible pet ownership to reduce animal homelessness.

Outcomes:

The additional funds will allow the City of Austin to increase the number of grant funded sterilizations by approximately 1,000.