

RESOLUTION NO. 20140612-068

WHEREAS, the City of Austin is committed to being a leader in animal welfare and was the first large city in the United States to successfully achieve no-kill status, which is defined as having live outcomes for a minimum of 90% of animals; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin first achieved no-kill status in February of 2011, and achieved annual total live outcome rates of 91.2% in 2011, 91.7% in 2012, and 93% in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin Animal Services Office moved from the Town Lake Animal Center (TLAC) site to the new Austin Animal Center (AAC) site on Levander Loop in November of 2011; and

WHEREAS, the AAC was designed prior to the passage of the no-kill policy, has less kennel space compared to TLAC, and the design did not anticipate many of the current needs that accompany the City's no-kill policy; and

WHEREAS, April through November are the busiest months for animal intake, during which the AAC on average runs 80-120 kennels short, requiring dogs to be doubled up in kennels, and adoptable animals to be housed in offices, medical space, and quarantine areas away from public view; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin and two area partners received an unrestricted grant from Maddie's Fund on Thursday, April 10, 2014 in honor and recognition of the no-kill and animal advocacy achievements in Austin; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin currently has access to approximately sixty kennels at the Town Lake Animal Center site, which may become unavailable as early as May 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Animal Services Office staff have identified two project opportunities to expand kennel space at the existing site, and staff has two capital improvement project proposals on file with the City of Austin Corporate Budget Office; and

WHEREAS, approximately \$1.2 million of City funds in addition to \$1 million in grants from Maddie's Fund could provide up to sixty additional kennels that would specifically address the loss of the current sixty City kennels housed at the Town Lake Animal Center; and

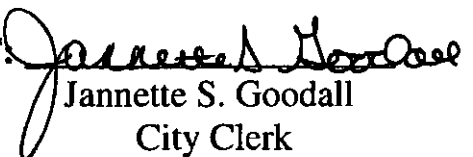
WHEREAS, approximately \$2.8 million of City funding could pay for the expansion of an additional 60 kennels, which would help address the chronic space shortage at the AAC; and

WHEREAS, it is in the City's best interest to ensure that the AAC has the necessary resources to maintain no-kill status and protect the welfare of animals in the care of the City of Austin; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to prepare two separate items for consideration during the Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget process that would fund capital improvement projects to expand kennel space at the Austin Animal Center based on the proposals on file with the Corporate Budget Office, taking into account utilizing \$1 million from the Maddie's Fund Grant.

ADOPTED: June 12, 2014

ATTEST: 
Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk