MEETING AGENDA
BOARD OF ANIMAL SERVICES COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
Monday June 12, 2006
10:00 a.m.
LOS ANGELES CITY HALL
200 N. Spring St.
Room 1060
Los Angeles, CA  90012

Commissioners:
Kathleen Riordan, President
Tariq Khero, Vice-President
Marie Atake
Glenn Brown
Deborah A. Knaan

Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. For information please call (213) 482-9501.

Si require servicios de traduccion, favor de notificar la oficina con 24 horas por anticipado.

COMMISSION MEETING.

1. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

2. OLD BUSINESS INCLUDING MATTERS FOR BOARD ACTION
   A. Board Report: Mandatory Spay and Neuter Ordinance

3. NEW BUSINESS
   A. Commission Recommendations For New Agenda Items

4. COMMISSION BUSINESS
   A. Approval of the Minutes for April 24, and May 22, 2006
   B. Meetings/Events Attended

5. GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FOR BOARD ACTION
   A. Board Report: Trap Neuter and Return
   B. Board Report: South LA Spay/Neuter Clinic and Mobile Spay/Neuter Van
   C. Board Report: Free Microchips

6. REGULAR AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEM
   A. None

7. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - (Comments from the public on items of public interest within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction.)
8. ADJOURNMENT

AGENDAS - The Board of Animal Services Commissioners (Board) meets regularly every second (2nd) and fourth (4th) Monday of each month at 9:00 A.M. Regular Meetings are held at City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Room 1060, in Los Angeles, CA 90012. The agendas for Board meetings contain a brief general description of those items to be considered at the meetings. Board Agendas are available at the Department of Animal Services (Department), Administrative Division, 221 North Figueroa Street, 5th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Board Agendas may also be viewed on the 2nd floor Public Bulletin Board in City Hall East, 200 North Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Internet users may also access copies of present and prior agenda items, copies of the Board Calendar, as well as electronic copies of approved minutes on the Department’s World Wide Web Home Page site at http://www.laanimalservices.com/CommissionAgendas.htm

Three (3) members of the Board constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Board may consider an item not listed on the Board Agenda only if it is determined by a two-thirds (2/3) vote that the need for action arose after the posting of an Agenda. Some items on the Agenda may be approved without any discussion.

The Board Secretary will announce the items to be considered by the Board. The Board will hear the presentation on the topic and gather additional information from Department Staff. Once presentations have finished, the Board President will ask if any Board Member or member of the public wishes to speak on one or more of these items. Each speaker called before the Commission will have one (1) minute to express their comments and concerns on matters placed on the agenda.

PUBLIC INPUT AT BOARD MEETINGS – Public Participation on Agenda Items. Members of the public will have an opportunity to address the Board on agenda items after the item is called and before the Board takes action on the item, unless the opportunity for public participation on the item was previously provided to all interested members of the public at a public meeting of a Committee of the Board and the item has not substantially changed since the Committee heard the item. When speaking to an agenda item other than during Public Comment (see Public Comment below), the speaker shall limit his or her comments to the specific item under consideration. California Government Code Section 54954.3.

Public Comment. The Board will provide an opportunity for public comment at every regular meeting of the Board. Members of the public may address the Board on any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board as part of Public Comment.

Speaker Cards. Members of the public wishing to speak are to fill out one speaker card for each agenda item on which they wish to speak and present it to the Board secretary before the item is called.

Time Limit for Speakers. Speakers addressing the Board will be limited to one (1) minute of speaking time for each agenda item. The Chairperson, with the approval of a majority of the Board, may for good cause extend any speaker’s time by increments of up to one (1) minute. Total speaker time on any agenda item will be limited to ten (10) minutes per item and fifteen (15) minutes for Public Comment, unless extended as above.

Brown Act. These rules shall be interpreted in a manner that is consistent with the Ralph M. Brown Act, California Government Code Section § 54950 et seq.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT. Speakers are expected to behave in an orderly manner and to refrain from personal attacks or use of profanity or language that may incite violence.

All persons present at Board meetings are expected to behave in an orderly manner and to refrain from:

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disrupting the meeting, interfering with the rights of others to address the Board and/or interfering with the
conduct of business by the Board.

In the event that any speaker does not comply with the foregoing requirements, or if a speaker does not
address the specific item under consideration, the speaker may be ruled out of order, their speaking time
forfeited and the Chairperson may call upon the next speaker.

The Board, by majority vote, may order the removal from the meeting of any speaker or audience member
continuing to behave in a disruptive manner after being warned by the Chairperson regarding their behavior.
Section 403 of the California Penal Code states as follows: “Every person who, without authority of law,
willfully disturbs or breaks up any assembly or meeting that is not unlawful in its character, other than an
assembly or meeting referred to in Section 302 of the Penal Code or Section 18340 of the Elections Code, is
guilty of a misdemeanor

**VOTING AND DISPOSITION OF ITEMS** – Most items require a majority vote of the entire membership
of the Board (3 members). When debate on an item is completed, the Board President will instruct the
Secretary to "call the roll". Every member present must vote for or against each item; abstentions are not
permitted unless there is a Conflict of Interest for which the Board member is obliged to abstain from voting.
The Secretary will announce the votes on each item. Any member of the Board may move to "reconsider"
any vote on any item on the agenda, except to adjourn, suspend the Rules, or where an intervening event has
deprived the Board of jurisdiction, providing that said member originally voted on the prevailing side of the
item. The motion to "reconsider" shall only be in order once during the meeting, and once during the next
regular meeting. The member requesting reconsideration shall identify for all members present the Agenda
number and subject matter previously voted upon. A motion to reconsider is not debatable and shall require
an affirmative vote of three members of the Board.

When the Board has failed by sufficient votes to approve or reject an item, and has not lost jurisdiction over
the matter, or has not caused it to be continued beyond the next regular meeting, the issue is again placed on
the next agenda for the following meeting for the purpose of allowing the Board to again vote on the matter.

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Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners
Edward A. Boks, General Manager

COMMISSION MEETING DATE:       June 12, 2006
SUBJECT:                          California Environmental Quality Act
                                  Requirements for Trap Neuter and Release
REPORT DATE:                      June 7, 2006

SUMMARY:
At the Board of Animal Services Commissioners (Commission) meeting on June 26, 2005, the Board approved, in concept, a Trap, Neuter and Release Policy (TNR Policy) for feral cats. Prior to drafting the policy and procedures for the TNR Policy, the Department of Animal Services (Department) must be in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and review the environmental impact if any, that might result if the Department and the City were to adopt a TNR Policy.

BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:
That the Commission direct the General Manager to prepare a report in compliance with CEQA outlining the effect of a TNR program on the environment.

FISCAL IMPACT:
The Department will be seeking assistance from other City Departments to help in the environmental review process. Alternatively, the Department will look for an outside environmental consultant.

BACKGROUND / HISTORY:
CEQA requires state and local agencies to identify the significant environmental impacts of their actions and to avoid or mitigate those actions, if possible. A public agency must comply with CEQA when it undertakes an activity defined as a project or program. A project or program is described as an action that may cause either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect change in the environment.

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At a minimum, an initial review of the project and its environmental effects must be conducted. Depending on the potential effect, a further and more substantive review may be required in the form of an environment impact report (EIR). Returning feral cats may have a material impact upon birds and other animals and upon neighborhoods.

In order for the Department to proceed with establishing a TNR Policy, a report outlining the potential effects on the environment must be completed. The report must meet the requirements of the Public Resource Code §21000 et seq.

RECOMMENDED SOLUTION:

In order for the Department to proceed with any TNR Program, it is recommended that the Commission direct the Department to complete a report dealing with the effect a feral cat spay, neuter and return program would have upon the environment. The report should meet the requirements contained in CEQA.

Edward A. Boks, General Manager

BOARD ACTION: _____Passed_____Disapproved_____Passed with Noted Modifications

_____Continued_______Tabled_______________________New Date
Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners
Edward A. Boks, General Manager

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: June 12, 2006
SUBJECT: Mandatory Spay/Neuter of Dogs
REPORT DATE: June 8, 2006

SUMMARY:

In fiscal year 2004-2005 the Department of Animal Services impounded 26,637 dogs. During that year 9,184 dogs were euthanized. Despite strong efforts to place dogs into new homes and reunite lost dogs with their owners, there are still not enough adoptive homes to absorb this surplus. There is a very strong demand from the public that animal care and control agencies work towards a "no-kill" model. We must first greatly reduce the numbers of dogs flooding the shelter system. An ordinance requiring the mandatory spay/neuter of all dogs with certain exemptions will help us reach that goal by reducing the number of dogs born or running loose in the City of Los Angeles.

BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:

That the Board:

Direct the Department of Animal Services to draft an ordinance, similar to the one recently passed by Los Angeles County, regarding the mandatory spay and neuter of all dogs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Currently the Department has 13,391, unaltered $100.00 dog licenses in the system, which accounts for about 13% of the total licenses. It is unknown how many of these licenses will actually qualify for the spay/neuter exemption and remain $100.00 licenses and how many will have to be reduced to the lower, altered licenses (currently $10.00 but expected to increase to $15.00) once the animal is altered. Once a current $100.00 unaltered dog license expires the owner will have to show compliance with the exceptions in order to continue to have an unaltered animal.
BACKGROUND / HISTORY:

Public Safety: Stray dogs are public safety hazards, and unsterilized dogs are more likely to stray. Stray dogs can bite or attack people or other animals, cause traffic accidents, spread disease, damage property and harm the quality of life for residents in a community. Unaltered stray dogs also add to the overpopulation of dogs in the community. Unaltered dogs are also three times more likely to bite someone than altered animals. During the last fiscal year of the 26,637 dogs impounded by the Department, 14,140 of them were stray dogs.

Unneutered males search for mates and are attracted in packs when female dogs come into heat. Interference between male dogs intent on breeding can be dangerous. Neutering male dogs is often one of the first recommendations made by animal behaviorists to reduce aggression. Testosterone acts as a modulator that makes dogs react more intensely. When an intact (unneutered) dog decides to react to something, he reacts more quickly, with greater intensity, and for a longer period of time. Intact males and females are more likely to display aggression related to sexual behavior than are neutered animals. Fighting, particularly in males and directed at other males, is less common after neutering.

Female dogs are often very protective of their litters and may bite if they feel their offspring are threatened. When related to the hormonal imbalance of false pregnancy or the agitation associated with estrus, spaying eliminates irritable aggression in female dogs.

Approved

Edward A. Boks, General Manager

BOARD ACTION:

Passed       Disapproved
Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners
Subject: Mandatory Spay/Neuter of Dogs

General Manager

_______ Passed with noted modifications

Continued ________

_______ Tabled

New Date __________________
Report to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners
Edward A. Boks, General Manager

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: June 12, 2006
SUBJECT: South LA Spay/Neuter Clinics and Mobile Spay/Neuter Van
REPORT DATE: June 8, 2006

SUMMARY:
In February 2005, an RFP was issued to provide Mobile Spay/Neuter Services to the residents of the City of Los Angeles. Two (2) proposals were submitted in April 2005. Of those two (2), a contract was signed with the Sam Simon Foundation in August 2005. The Sam Simon Foundation began service in September 2005.

As part of the contract with the Sam Simon Foundation, the Department does periodic reviews to ensure compliance. Because of this and with the South Los Angeles Spay/Neuter Clinic not being utilized, the Department and The Sam Simon Foundation have agreed to allow the Sam Simon Foundation to operate the existing South LA Spay/Neuter Clinic to provide spay/neuter services using existing City Vouchers a minimum of four days a week. It is anticipated that three days will be to Spay Neuter Shelter Animals plus one day a week for the community surrounding the spay/neuter facility. In addition, the Department has also negotiated with the Amanda Foundation to assume the existing Sam Simon Foundation Mobile Spay/Neuter Van contract.

BOARD ACTION RECOMMENDED:
That the Board approve and authorize the General Manager to execute:

1. An agreement with the Sam Simon Foundation to operate the existing South Los Angeles Spay/Neuter Clinic.
2. An agreement with The Amanda Foundation to assume the existing mobile Spay/Neuter Van Contract.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

BACKGROUND / HISTORY:

In order to comply with the law, the Department must assume the dog and cat being adopted by the Shelter must be spay/neutered. At present, the adoption paperwork is completed and the unaltered animal is transported to a nearby Veterinary Hospital to be spay/neutered. Thereafter the new owner picks-up the Dog or cat from the Vet and it is altered. By having an operator at the existing South Los Angeles Spay/Neuter Clinic the dog or cat can be altered on the premises.

It is anticipated that the agreement with The Sam Simon Foundation will provide that Sam Simon Foundation will operate existing Clinic on Saturdays, Mondays and Thursday primarily for Spay/Neuter of Shelter Animals in the process of adoption. In addition, the Sam Simon Foundation will operate one day (TBD) to provide spay/neuter service for dogs and cats belonging to members of the public that live in the surrounding community of the South Los Angeles Animal Shelter.

The Sam Simon Foundation has agreed to accept existing spay/neuter vouchers for the services as follows:

1. Free Spay/Neuter Certificate Program - $60 per surgery
   a. Low-Income
   b. Senior Citizen
   c. Disabled

2. Discount Coupon Programs - $30 per surgery

3. Spay/Neuter Adoption Programs – Average of $44 per Surgery
   a. Pre-Release
   b. Post Release
   c. Pre-Adoption
   d. Large Dog Adoption (an extra $50 for dogs in excess of 55 pounds)

It is anticipated by the Sam Simon Foundation that they will be able to perform 25 spay/neuter’s per day. The Department will work with The Sam Simon Foundation to
increase the number of spay/neuter through education of its Veterinary Staff. The Sam Simon Foundation anticipated its daily cost to operate the South LA Spay/Neuter Clinic to be approximately $1,500 per day. This cost would include labor costs for staff, supplies and equipment /facility maintenance.

The Department will provide the clinic space, utilities and will also allow the Sam Simon Foundation to use the existing equipment such as Auto Claves, Anesthesia, washer /dryer and any other equipment existing in the Spay/Neuter Clinic at no cost to the Sam Simon Foundation.

In the event that the Sam Simon Foundation’s monthly voucher income is greater than its operational costs, then The Sam Simon Foundation will pay the City an amount equal to the 50% of such excess to reimburse the City for the cost of utilities, use of equipment and in-lieu of rent for use of the facility. In addition, should there be any excess income over cost of operations, The Sam Simon Foundation will work in conjunction with the Department to hold special spay/neuter events for Feral Cats and other agreed upon events.

In order for The Sam Simon Foundation to undertake the operation of the Spay/Neuter Clinic The Amanda Foundation has agreed to assume the existing Sam Simon Foundation Mobile Spay/Neuter Van Contract. The Amanda Foundation will abide by all of the terms and conditions of the existing The Sam Simon Foundation Mobile Spay/Neuter Van contract except that the Amanda Foundation will use its best efforts to achieve the 7,000 spay/neuter per year for the remainder of the term contract.

The Department is currently drafting an RFP to find one or more operator for the spay/neuter Clinic and South LA existing spay/neuter clinics. It is expected that the RFP will be released by the Department in the next 60 days upon Board approval. Currently the South Los Angeles Spay/Neuter Clinic and its equipment are sitting vacant and unused. The benefit to the Department in having The Amanda Foundation take over the Mobile Van Agreement and The Sam Simon Foundation operate the Clinics is that the residents of the South Los Angeles community will benefit immediately. It is anticipated that the agreement with The Sam Simon Foundation to operate the South Los Angeles Spay/Neuter Clinic will be for approximately six (6) months or until the operator is selected through the RFP process that the Department will be releasing within the next 60 days.

RECOMMENDED SOLUTION:

The Department recommends that:

The Board of Animal Services Commissioners approve this report and authorize the General Manager of the Department to execute:

1. An agreement with The Sam Simon Foundation to operate the existing South Los Angeles Spay/Neuter Clinic.
2. An agreement with The Amanda Foundation to assume the existing mobile Spay/Neuter Van Contract.

Approved

Edward A. Boks, General Manager

BOARD ACTION:

_______ Passed

_______ Passed with noted modifications

_______ Tabled

Disapproved ________

Continued ________

New Date __________________