



CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council **DATE:** January 9, 2023

FROM: Matthew Bronson, City Manager

PREPARED BY: Kristin Eriksson, Deputy City Manager
John Peters, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Contract with San Luis Obispo County for Animal Care and Control Services for FY 2022-25

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing a three-year contract with the County of San Luis Obispo for the continued provision of Animal Care and Control Services through June 30, 2025.

BACKGROUND

State law requires that the City provide a certain level of animal care and control services within its borders. For many years, the City has contracted with the County of San Luis Obispo for the provision of animal care and control services along with other cities in the county. This is the only animal control and care service available in the county and all cities in the county contract with San Luis Obispo County for this service.

The Police Department administers the contract on behalf of the City. The current three-year contract with the County expired on June 30, 2022 though the services have continued until approval of a new contract. Contract costs are increasing from \$71,664 for FY 2021-22 to \$81,877 for FY 2022-23 due mainly to increased labor costs and other increases to the County's costs of providing services. The costs for the remaining two years will be determined annually based on the cost for services in each of the previous years. The County shall use a service-based methodology for determining city service fees based on four key facets of Animal Services' operations including Field Service, Licensing, Shelter Operations, and Education Service.

The proposed contract provides for the provision of Animal Care and Control services to the City for three years through June 30, 2025. Services include, but are not limited to:

- Sheltering and medical care of stray, owner surrendered, confiscated, and quarantined household animals.
 - Reunification of sheltered animals with owners or adopted into new homes.
 - Receipt and publication of lost and found animal reports.
 - Response to calls for service from the Police Department or residents for stray or loose animals, dangerous or vicious animals, bite and neglect/abuse investigations, potential rabies exposure investigations and quarantines, pick up of deceased animals.
 - Regulation of breeders and sales of domestic animals.
 - Animal-related nuisance investigation.
 - Enforcement of state and local animal-related laws.
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Lastly, the contract includes a provision for the City to incorporate County Code Title 9 governing animal care and control services or adopt ordinances that are in conformity with or not in substantial conflict or variation with Title 9. The City has already adopted in Chapter 5 of Article III of the Grover Beach Municipal Code animal control codes in conformity with and not in substantial conflict or variation with Title 9.

Staff proposes that the Council approve the attached contract which would continue animal care and control services by the County through June 30, 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT

The contract fee for FY 2022-23 is \$81,877 and the remaining two years will be based on the cost analysis as outlined in this report. Funding is provided in the City's operating budget.

ALTERNATIVES

The City Council has the following alternatives to consider:

1. Adopt a Resolution approving the three-year contract with the County of San Luis Obispo for the continued provision of Animal Care and Control Services through June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$81,877 for the first year; or
2. Do not adopt Resolution; or
3. Provide alternative direction to staff.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

The agenda was posted in accordance with the Brown Act.

Attachments

1. Resolution
2. Animal Services Contract

RESOLUTION NO. 23-

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GROVER BEACH, CALIFORNIA APPROVING THE CONTRACT FOR ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL SERVICES WITH THE COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

WHEREAS, the City's current agreement with the County for animal services expired on June 30, 2022 with services continued pending approval of an updated agreement; and

WHEREAS, the County informed City representatives that the County's current fees would need to increase, given increased costs of providing services; and

WHEREAS, the City has incorporated in Chapter 5, of Article III, of the Grover Beach Municipal Code, provisions that are in conformity with and not in substantial conflict or variation with County Code Title 9, and the County shall not append or modify that code without consulting with the City; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution supersedes Resolution No.19-24 approving the Animal Services Contract ending June 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the new Animal Services Contract will be for a three year period from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Grover Beach does hereby:

- 1) Approve the Contract for Animal Care and Control Services; and
- 2) Authorize the Mayor of the City of Grover Beach to execute it on behalf of the City.

Upon motion by Council Member _____, second by Council Member _____, and on the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Council Members
NOES:	Council Members –
ABSENT:	Council Members –
ABSTAIN:	Council Members –

the foregoing Resolution was **PASSED, APPROVED**, and **ADOPTED** at the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Grover Beach, California this 9th day of January 2023.

KAREN BRIGHT, MAYOR

Attest:

WENDI SIMS, CITY CLERK

**CONTRACT FOR
ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL SERVICES**

THIS CONTRACT, entered into by and between the County of San Luis Obispo, a public entity the State of California, ("County") and, the City of Grover Beach, an incorporated city in the State of California, ("City").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, County has established the Division of Animal Services to provide animal care and control functions including the enforcement of the ordinances of San Luis Obispo County Code Title 9 and of California state codes pertaining to the care, keeping, and management of animals; and

WHEREAS, County, through Animal Services, maintains and operates an animal shelter and a humane education program; and

WHEREAS, City is desirous of contracting with County for the provision of such services;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the covenants, conditions, agreements, and stipulations set forth herein, the parties hereby agree that County shall perform the services described herein for the compensation set forth herein, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein.

- 1. Services.** The parties agree to perform the services described in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full at this point.
- 2. Compensation.** The parties agree to the compensation described in Exhibit B, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full at this point.
- 3. Duration.** The parties agree to the duration described in Exhibit C, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full at this point.
- 4. General Conditions.** The parties agree to the general conditions described in Exhibit D, attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as if set forth in full at this point.
- 5. Notices.** Notices required in this contract shall be provided to:

COUNTY
Eric Anderson, DVM
Animal Services Manager
885 Oklahoma Ave.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

CITY
John Peters
Chief of Police
711 Rockaway Ave
Grover Beach, CA 93433

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, County and Contractor have executed this Contract on the day and year set forth below.

CITY OF GROVER BEACH
An Incorporated City in the State of California

By: _____
Karen Bright, Mayor

Date: _____

By: _____
Wendi Sims, City Clerk

Date: _____

Approved as to form and legal effect:

DAVID HALE
CITY ATTORNEY

By: _____
David Hale, City Attorney

Date: _____

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO,
A Public Entity in the State of California

By: _____
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Date: _____

ATTEST:

WADE HORTON
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved as to form and legal effect:

RITA L. NEAL
COUNTY COUNSEL

By: _____
Deputy County Counsel

Date: _____

**CONTRACT FOR
ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL SERVICES**

EXHIBIT A - SCOPE OF SERVICES

1. County Obligations. The County shall perform the following duties:

a) Shelter Services

- i) Maintain, or cause to be maintained, an animal shelter whereat stray, owner surrendered, confiscated, quarantined and custodially impounded household pets are received and provided with appropriate care, housing, and shelter services in accordance with state regulations, local ordinances, and policies governing the humane treatment of such animals.
- ii) Provide services allowing sheltered animals to be returned to their owners, adopted into new homes, or to be humanely euthanized.
- iii) Provide for the receipt and publication of lost and found animal reports.
- iv) Provide services for the humane euthanasia of household pets and for the disposal of their remains.

b) Field Services

- i) Receive and respond to public calls for service related to alleged violations of local or state codes pertaining to the care, keeping, treatment, and management of animals.
- ii) Provide for the response to any of the following circumstances 24 hours a day, seven days a week:
 - (1) Domestic animals posing an active and present threat to public safety.
 - (2) Domestic animals which are severely injured, sick, or in eminent risk and whose owner is unknown or unavailable.
 - (3) Domestic or wild animal demonstrating signs of possible rabies infection.
 - (4) Calls for assistance from law enforcement or emergency response personnel.
 - (5) Reported animal bites where the animal remains in the area unconfined and whose owner is unknown or unavailable.
 - (6) Loose livestock roaming on roadways or other public areas.

- iii) Provide for the response to any of the following during Animal Services' normal business hours:
 - (1) Pick-up and impoundment of unlimited numbers of stray confined domestic animals.
 - (2) Pick-up and disposal of unlimited numbers of dead domestic animals from roadways, parks, and other public areas.
 - (3) Pick up and transfer to shelter of owned animals for surrender or euthanasia.
 - (4) Pick up of dead owned animals for disposal.
- iv) Provide for the necessary medical treatment and emergency care for domestic animals picked up by Animal Services personnel and for those domestic animals presented directly to veterinarians by private citizens and emergency response personnel.
- v) Provide for the receipt, processing and investigation of animal bite reports as well as the subsequent quarantine of animals in accordance with state codes pertaining to rabies control.
- vi) Request assistance from the San Luis Obispo County District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigations when an animal bite results in significant injury causing death or likely to cause death or in any case Animal Services believes may require significant criminal investigation beyond the experience of Animal Services Officers.
- vii) Receive and respond to reports of animals, domestic or wild, which are suspected to be rabid or to have been exposed to rabies infection and attempt to affect their capture. Captured animals will be processed in accordance with state codes pertaining to rabies control.
- viii) Receive and process all applications related to the keeping and sale of household pets; inspect and regulate permitted operations in accordance with local and state codes.
- ix) Provide for the recording, investigation, administrative hearings, and issuance of findings and orders related to animal nuisances, animal seizures or confiscations, and dangerous or vicious animals. Nuisances which remain unresolved following the issuance of an abatement order will be processed to court through the City Attorney's office. This provision does not waive, impair or affect the prosecutorial discretion of the City Attorney to take matters to court.

- x) Assist in the preparation and filing of court documents related to the civil and/or criminal prosecution of cases involving violation of municipal codes pertaining to the care, treatment, and keeping of domestic animals.
 - xi) Provide for the preparation, filing and civil or criminal prosecution of cases involving violations of California state codes pertaining to the care, treatment, and keeping of domestic animals.
- c) *Reporting*: Provide to the City bi-annual service activity and financial reports reflecting field services, licensing, shelter operations, and humane education programs. Reports will detail this information for both the individual quarter and year-to-date.
- d) *Collaboration*: Participate collaboratively with the City in regards to matters impacting the provision of animal care and control services. County shall not amend or modify the provisions of Title 9 of the San Luis Obispo County Code without having first consulted with the City.
2. City Obligations. The City shall perform the following duties:
- a) *Ordinance Conformity*: Adopt, either by direct incorporation in the municipal code or by way of reference, animal control ordinances which are in conformity to and are not in substantial conflict or in variation from Title 9 of the San Luis Obispo County Code
 - b) *Prosecution of Municipal Code Violations*: Through the City Attorney, provide for the preparation, filing and civil or criminal prosecution of cases involving violation of municipal codes, pertaining to the care, treatment, and keeping of animals, including all such codes incorporated into the municipal code by way of reference.
 - c) *Assistance*: Provide such assistance and support to Animal Services personnel as that may be reasonably necessary to safely and effectively execute the operations required by this contract within the City limits.
3. Animal Care and Control Coordination Group: The County and City agree that Animal Services is a shared interest of all parties and that all participating jurisdictions will share in the cost and revenue generated based on actual costs and fees generated in each jurisdiction. Further, policy-setting and procedure development will happen in a collaborative manner, with all participating jurisdictions having input into the best way to conduct these services in San Luis Obispo County.

To coordinate efforts, the participating jurisdictions, including the City and County agree to meet and confer periodically to discuss current issues as they relate to the fiscal and practical application of this contract, along with other potential items identified by the group. Such meetings shall be coordinated by the Health Agency Director from time to time as necessary, but no less than once quarterly.

This group commits to a goal of reducing animal intakes and total animal nights by an average of 5% annually for the next five years while maintaining the compassionate and responsible provision of services and improving Animal Services revenues to decrease the net cost of services. The targeted reductions are to be accomplished primarily by reducing the need for services and the costs of those services, not by reducing or denying needed services.

As part of this commitment, the County agrees to develop performance benchmarks and communicate them quarterly to the group on the following:

- a) Cost of Services/per Capita (by City) over time.
- b) Cost of services/per City over time.
- c) Number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions within Animal Control over time.
- d) Number of field FTE within Animal Control over time.
- e) Geographical Information Service (GIS) heat maps of calls for service over time by City (requested development from County IT Department, maps to be provided when available).
- f) Average response times by call types over time by City.
- g) Percentage of animals licensed by the City over time.
- h) Other data points charted out over time that were used to spread out the Animal Shelter costs.

In the first quarter of year one of this contract, the group will propose Ordinance updates aimed at lowering domestic animal populations and costs and increasing animal services related revenues. The County agrees to present the collaborative Ordinance updates for consideration by the County Board of Supervisors. The City agrees to present the Ordinance updates for consideration by their City Council.

CONTRACT FOR ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL SERVICES

EXHIBIT B - COMPENSATION

- 1) First Year Service Fee: The City agrees to pay to the County the amount of \$81,877 for services provided under this Contract during the first year of service.
- 2) Subsequent Years' Service Fee: The County shall compute on an annual basis a service fee assessed to the City for services provided under this Contract.
- 3) Timing of Service Fee: The County shall calculate annual service fees and provided them to the City prior to April 15th of each year, with service fees becoming effective on July 1st of that year. No further action by either party is necessary to implement new fees in subsequent years.

- 4) Service Fee Methodology: The County shall use a service-based methodology for determining city service fees. The service-based methodology shall be based on four key facets of Animal Services' operations:
- Field Service
 - Licensing
 - Shelter Operations
 - Education Services
- a) *Determination of Cost of Service* - The cost of providing services to the City will be calculated by determining the average percentage of service allocated to the City over the preceding three years for each of the four facets of operations and multiplying this percentage against Animal Services operational cost for each facet. Combined, this then represents the City's total service cost in proportion to the County and all other contracting parties.
- b) *Credit for Fees* - The average annual revenue generated from fees or fines assessed directly to residents of the City by Animal Services over the preceding three years will be applied against the City's total service cost.
- c) *Determination of Service Fee* - The fee assessed to the City for provision of services outlined in this contract shall be determined by subtracting the average revenue as determined by item 4b of this exhibit from the average cost of service as determined by item 4a of this exhibit.
- 5) Billing: County shall bill City for contracted services in quarterly increments. City shall remit payment to the County within thirty (30) days of receipt of billing.

**CONTRACT FOR
ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL SERVICES**

EXHIBIT C - DURATION

- 1) Effective Date: This contract shall be effective July 1, 2022, or fifteen (15) days following of the date of the signature of the County, whichever is later. The County shall be the last to sign this contract.

- 2) Service Date: City and County acknowledge that the services provided under this contract are a continuation of those established during the preceding contract term and that these services may have been provided uninterruptedly between July 1, 2022, and the date of execution by the County in order to ensure the interest of public service.
 - a) Both City and County expressly and retroactively authorize the provision of these services.

 - b) For the purposes of billing and determination of the First Year Service Fee as provided in Exhibit B, the first year of service will be presumed to have begun on July 1, 2022.

- 3) Duration: The term of this Contract shall expire June 30, 2025, unless terminated sooner as provided in Exhibit D.

**CONTRACT FOR
ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL SERVICES**

EXHIBIT D - GENERAL CONDITIONS

- 1) Termination: Either party may terminate this contract at any time by giving the other party thirty (30) days written notice of termination. Termination for convenience shall have no effect upon the rights and obligations of the parties arising out of any services provided occurring prior to the effective date of such termination. County shall be paid for all work satisfactorily completed prior to the effective date of termination. In the event that the contract is terminated prior to the conclusion of a quarterly billing cycle, the City shall remit to the County a prorated amount based upon the number of days of service relative to the total number of days in the billing cycle.

- 2) Indemnification: Nothing in the provisions of this Contract is intended to create duties or obligations to, or rights in third parties not party to this contract or affect the legal liability of either party to contract, by imposing any standard of care respecting the regulation and enforcement of laws regarding animals different from the standard of care imposed by law.

It is understood and agreed that neither City, nor any officer or employee thereof is responsible for any damage or liability occurring by reason of anything done or omitted to be done by the County under or in connection with any work, authority or jurisdiction delegated to the County under this Contract. It is also understood and agreed that pursuant to Government Code 895.4, County shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the City, all officers, and employees from all claims, suits or actions of every name, kind, and description brought forth or on account of injuries or death of any person or damage to property resulting from anything done or omitted to be done by the County under this Contract except as otherwise provided by Statute.

It is understood and agreed that neither County nor any officer or employee thereof, is responsible for any damage or liability occurring by reason of anything done or omitted to be done by the City under or in connection with any work, authority or jurisdiction delegated to the City under this Contract. It is also understood and agreed that pursuant to Government Code Section 895.4, the City shall defend, indemnify and save harmless the County, all officers and employees from all claims, suits or actions of every name, kind and description brought forth on account of injuries or death of any person or damage to property resulting from anything done or omitted to be done by City under connection with any work, authority or jurisdiction delegated to the City under this Agreement except as otherwise provided by Statute.

- 3) Notices: Any notice, payment, statement, or demand required or permitted to be given hereunder by either party to the other shall be affected by personal delivery in writing or by mail, postage prepaid. Mailed notices shall be addressed to the parties at the addresses appearing below, but each party may change its address by written notice in accordance with this section. Mailed notices shall be deemed communicated as of three days after mailing.

Notices for County shall be addressed to:

Eric Anderson
Animal Services Manager
885 Oklahoma Ave.
San Luis Obispo, California 93406

Notices for Contractor shall be addressed to:

John Peters
Chief of Police
711 Rockaway Ave Grover
Beach, CA 93433

- 4) Status of the Parties' Officers/Employees/Agents: Neither party's officers, employees, agents, partners, other contractors or subcontractors shall be deemed to be employees of the other party at any time. Nothing in this contract shall be construed as creating a civil service employer - employee relationship or a joint venture relationship. No officer, employee, agent, partner, other contractor or subcontractor of the other party shall be eligible for membership in or receive benefits from any plan for hospital, surgical, or medical insurance, or be eligible for membership in any retirement program, paid vacation, paid sick leave, other leave, with or without pay, collective bargaining rights, grievance procedures, appeals to the Civil Service Commission or any other benefits which inures to or accrues to an employee of the other party. The only performance and rights due the other party are those specifically stated in this contract.
- 5) Governing Law and Venue: This Contract shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of California. Additionally, this contract has been formed and shall be performed in San Luis Obispo County; the venue for any legal action on the contract shall be in San Luis Obispo County.
- 6) Entire Agreement: This Contract embodies the complete agreement of the parties hereto, superseding all oral or written previous and contemporary agreements between the parties relating to matters herein; and except as otherwise provided herein, cannot be modified without the prior written agreement of the parties.

- 7) Severability: In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Contract shall for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision thereof and this Contract shall be considered as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained in this Contract.
- 8) Successors and Assigns: This Contract shall be binding upon and insure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and, except as otherwise provided in this Contract, their assigns.
- 9) Captions: The captions to the various clauses of this Contract are for information purposes only and shall not alter the substance of the terms and conditions of this Contract.
- 10) Authorization: Each of the parties represents and warrants to the other that this Contract has been duly authorized by all necessary corporate or governmental action on the part of the representing party and that this Contract is fully binding on such party.