

**TO THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

Your

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Committee

reports as follows:

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to proposed funding and position authority for Animal Care Technician positions in the Department of Animal Services.

Recommendations for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Koretz – Alarcón – LaBonge),
SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. AUTHORIZE 16 Animal Care Technician positions to the Department of Animal Services by resolution authority for the remainder of the current Fiscal Year.
2. INSTRUCT the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to identify funding for Animal Care Technician positions for the remainder of the Fiscal Year and to transfer funds, as needed, in the next Financial Status Report.
3. REQUEST the Mayor to include funding and position authority for 16 Animal Care Technician positions in the proposed Fiscal Year 2013 -14 Budget.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the CAO nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

(Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee waived consideration of the above matter)

Summary:

At its meeting of April 8, 2013, the Budget and Finance (BF) Committee considered Motion (Koretz – Alarcón – LaBonge) relative to proposed funding and position authority for Animal Care Technician positions in the Department of Animal Services (ASD) for the remainder of this Fiscal Year and in the proposed Fiscal Year 2013-14 Budget. The Motion states since 2005-06, the ASD has experienced a 167% increase in kennel and cage space capacity at its shelters, however, staffing to monitor that capacity, and to care for the animals housed within, has only increased 12%. ASD reports that this staffing imbalance has become a safety issue for its employees and impacts the level of service the Department provides.

The Department further contends that it only has enough employees to staff four shelters, and therefore, in response to the safety and service provision challenges, ASD recently proposed moving all of its 16 nighttime ACT workers to daytime shifts. After protests from the public and current ASD shelter workers who are concerned about the welfare of impounded animals without trained supervision during the graveyard shift, Department management has delayed the proposed redeployment of ACT staff. The Motion concludes that every effort should be made to provide the desperately needed staffing to this Department in both this and the next fiscal year.

During Committee consideration, DAS representatives provided an overview of the staffing situation and responded to related questions from Committee members. DAS representatives stated that the Department is able to absorb the additional staffing costs for the remainder of this Fiscal Year. The CAO representative noted that the Department will need additional funding, over its current year budget, to continue these positions in the next Fiscal Year. After further discussion and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the BF Committee recommended that Council approve the recommendations contained in the Motion. This matter is now submitted to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
KREKORIAN:	YES
ENGLANDER:	YES
ROSENDAHL:	YES
KORETZ:	YES
LABONGE:	ABSENT

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