

TRANSMITTAL

To:

THE COUNCIL

Date:

SEP 10 2013

From:

THE MAYOR

TRANSMITTED FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. PLEASE SEE ATTACHED.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Garcetti", is written over a horizontal line.

(Ana Guerrero)

ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor

BY _____ DEPUTY

CITY CLERK

2013 SEP 10 PM 12:09

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BRENDA BARNETTE
GENERAL MANAGER

JOHN D. CHAVEZ
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER

June 5, 2013

Honorable Antonio R. Villaraigosa
Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Room 303, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

SUBJECT: CHANGES TO THE "NEW HOPE" PROGRAM'S POLICIES AND FEES

At its meeting of May 14, 2013, the Board of Animal Services Commissioners discussed changes to the New Hope program policies and fees. By a vote of 4-1, the Board approved a motion to:

- DIRECT the City Attorney to prepare the ordinance to change City codes to increase the adoption fee paid by New Hope partners from \$40 to \$50; and
- AMEND code changes so that animals over six-years-old or adopted from the "red" or "blue"¹ lists are released at no cost to the New Hope partner.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the New Hope program is to expand opportunities for Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) dogs, cats and rabbits to find permanent homes by partnering with qualified 501(c)(3) organizations. The last revision to the New Hope program was in 2010 and the Department is recommending these current changes to efficiently operate the program and address the Department's goals.

Currently, New Hope fees are \$40 for the spay/neuter deposit and a \$5.50 dog license tax. This amount does not cover the average cost (\$68) of sterilizing dogs/cats. Animal Services must subsidize the additional cost to spay/neuter these animals.

¹ "Blue" list animals have a treatable medical condition that is too severe to be cared for in a shelter. "Red" list animals are in danger of being euthanized after 48 hours.

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June 5, 2013

The proposed fee changes would be as follows:

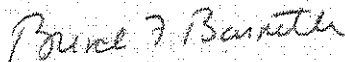
- \$50 flat fee for New Hope adoptions
- \$5.50 dog license tax (for Los Angeles-based New Hope partners)
- No-fee adoptions on "blue" and "red" list animals
- No-fee adoptions on animals seven years of age or older
- No-fee adoptions for all animals under eight weeks
- No fees for equines on the "blue" or "red" list

The Department must still sterilize all healthy animals adopted through the New Hope program.

It is also important to note that another policy change, not included in the attached Board report, was made at the May 14th meeting. (This change does not require Mayor or Council approval.) The Board amended the Department's report to limit the hours New Hope partners could redeem animals from the shelters. The Board, by a 4-1 vote, agreed to limit the time that animals could be pulled from shelters to 8:00 P.M., except for special arrangements for after-hour pick-ups.

If you require additional information regarding this action of the Board, please have your staff contact me at (213) 482-9558 or Ross Pool, Management Analyst II, at (213) 482-9501.

Sincerely,



Brenda F. Barnette
General Manager

BFB:RP

Attachment

cc: Dov Lesel, Assistant City Attorney
Jim Bickhart, Office of The Mayor
Ross Pool
File 61617