

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the allocation and distribution of animal control services in South Los Angeles.

Recommendation for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Harris-Dawson - Koretz):

INSTRUCT the Department of Animal Services (DAS) to report to the Personnel and Animal Welfare (PAW) Committee within 30 days in regard to the allocation and distribution of animal control services to include:

- a. The number and type of officers assigned to the South Los Angeles Animal Shelter, including related field staff.
- b. South Los Angeles Animal Shelter's hours of operation and capacity.
- c. An estimate of the current number of stray dogs in South Los Angeles.
- d. Animal spay and neuter resources for both mobile and stationary services.
- e. Current workload indicators for animal control officers assigned to the area.
- f. A brief description of special efforts or programs targeting areas with stray dog problems in South Los Angeles.
- g. Any additional information to provide a clear picture of the level of animal service resources dedicated to South Los Angeles.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Officer have completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On November 18, 2015, your Committee considered a Motion (Harris-Dawson - Koretz) relative to the allocation and distribution of animal control services in South Los Angeles. According to the Motion, the health and well-being of all animals has been a priority of Council, as evidenced by its continued support for expanded animal services and facilities throughout the City. Unfortunately, many dogs suffer from a lack of responsible ownership or abandonment. These pets, and their subsequent offspring, often end up roaming the City's streets, many times joining into packs that cause safety concerns for many residents who feel threatened by their aggressive behavior.

In South Los Angeles, residents have recently expressed concerns about the level of animal services provided to control strays in the area. All programs to manage and control stray animals are administered by the DAS and more than \$23 million has been allocated to the DAS to implement a multi-pronged approach for animal care and control to include funding for active spay and neuter programs and staffing to bring stray animals into the City's animal shelters for possible adoption into a responsible owner's home.

However, what is unclear is the distribution of the limited DAS resources to South Los Angeles. Anecdotal evidence suggests that resources dedicated to South Los Angeles are currently inadequate and should be supplemented to address a growing problem of stray animals. The City will soon be expanding its animal control services by increasing the number of Animal Control Officers and deploying a new Spay and Neuter mobile vehicle.

To respond to constituents' concerns, the DAS should submit to the PAW Committee a comprehensive report describing in detail the current allocation of departmental resources to neighborhoods in South Los Angeles. This report will provide a solid basis to consider the future allocation of spay and neuter contracts, animal control staffing, and any related outreach services. In addition, this report will also provide a clearer picture of staffing and resources currently assigned to the South Los Angeles Animal Shelter, including related field staff, that will allow a comparison with staffing and resources in other parts of the City. Lastly, this report should include recommendations to improve operations and/or supplement staffing to address the growing concerns about stray animals in the South Los Angeles area.

After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion as detailed in the above recommendation. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PERSONNEL AND ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE



<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
KORETZ:	YES
RYU:	YES
HARRIS-DAWSON:	YES

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11/18/15

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