APPROVE RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT GRANT AND EXECUTE AGREEMENT WITH PETSMART CHARITIES, INC. AND AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-18 ANNUAL BUDGET

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution to:

1. Authorize the acceptance of grant funding from PetSmart Charities, Inc., in the amount of $115,761, for the PetSmart Charities Municipal Pets Spay/Neuter program;

2. Authorize the City Manager to execute, on behalf of the City of Stockton, all required contracts or agreements with the granting agency, provide additional information and furnish such documents as may be required, execute all documents and amendments or extensions pertaining to the grant project, and make all required appropriations in compliance with and for the purposes stated in the project agreement;

3. Amend the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18 Annual Budget to increase the Police Grants & Special Programs expenditure and revenue appropriation by $115,761; and

4. Authorize the City Manager to take all necessary and appropriate actions to carry out the purpose and intent of the resolution.

Summary

In August 2017, Animal Services submitted a grant application to PetSmart Charities, Inc., for the Municipal Pets Spay/Neuter program. On November 29, 2017, City of Stockton's Animal Services was notified that the application was approved in the amount of $115,761. Funds received for this grant program can only be used to assist with associated costs of spaying and neutering animals taken in at the Stockton Animal Shelter (SAS), including wellness and vaccines. The grant period begins on the date the agreement is fully executed through December 31, 2018.

DISCUSSION

Background

Animal Services is required by state law to provide medical care for sick and injured animals taken in at the SAS. Prior to the City’s partnership with the San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SFSPCA), the SAS did not have a full-time veterinarian on staff, and many of the sick or injured animals were sent to local veterinarians for treatment, or alternately, humanely euthanized.
Through the partnership, the SFSPCA has provided materials, equipment, and personnel to improve humane outcomes and promote effective and efficient animal care and sheltering services. The SFSPCA and the SAS have collaborated to maximize the opportunities for pet adoption. All animals taken in at the SAS are spayed or neutered prior to adoption. As a result, the number of spay/neuter surgeries has increased. In 2016, Animal Services spayed and neutered 4,387 animals at an approximate cost of $137,000, excluding staff costs.

Present Situation

The process of spaying and neutering animals is critical to controlling pet overpopulation. The SFSPCA devotes two full-time veterinarians on-site six days per week. A third veterinarian from the SFSPCA is on-site once per week to perform spay/neuter surgeries. In addition, there are now six full-time registered veterinary technicians on-site that assist in spay/neuter surgeries and other veterinary care.

On November 29, 2017, PetSmart Charities, Inc., awarded the City $115,761 to pay for related costs associated with spay/neuter services. Animal Services staff will be responsible for coordinating operations and reporting requirements of the grant program. In 2017, the total number of spay/neuter surgeries through November was 3,735 at a cost of approximately $117,000. Grant funding will be used to help offset costs for items associated with spaying and neutering adoptable animals at the SAS. Supplies required to perform this service include sedation drugs, suture material, sterile gloves, and vaccines. With the rising costs to house and provide medical services for animals at the SAS, this grant funding will play a critical role in easing the burden to the general fund. The grant funds cannot be used to pay for staffing or the SFSPCA contract to perform the surgeries.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The grant award is $115,761, with no match requirement and will have no fiscal impact on the General Fund. A budget appropriation in FY 2017-18 is requested for grant revenue and expenses in the amount of $115,761 to the Police Grants & Special Programs Other Special Revenue Programs PetSmart Charities Account No. 025-6440 in the Police Grants & Special Programs Fund.