

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 10/27/20

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 20-0800

LOG NAME: 23PETSMART ANIMAL WELFARE GRANTS

SUBJECT

(ALL) Authorize Application for, and Acceptance of, if Awarded, Pet Focused Funding from PetSmart Charities Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$500,000.00 to Support the Ongoing Operations of the PetSmart Pet Adoption Centers and to Support Other Animal Welfare Programs, Authorize Execution of Related Grant Agreements and Adopt Appropriation Ordinance and any Corresponding Interest Income

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the application for, and acceptance of, if awarded, pet focused funding from PetSmart Charities Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00 to support the ongoing operations of the PetSmart Pet Adoption Centers and to support other Animal Welfare Programs;
 2. Authorize the execution of related grant agreements with PetSmart Charities Inc; and
 3. Adopt the attached Appropriation Ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Other Fund in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00 plus any accrued interest from contractual award funds in the amount up to \$10,000.00, based on actual receipts.
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DISCUSSION:

The City of Fort Worth enjoys a productive relationship with PetSmart Charities, Inc. that includes working together to promote animal welfare through numerous special initiatives for the benefit of the city's animal shelter. In addition, the ongoing partnership supports two satellite adoption centers at PetSmart retail stores and periodically there are special adoption or other promotional events held at these stores or other locations in Fort Worth. These events are typically facilitated by the Animal Care and Control Division of the Code Compliance Department with an Agreement that PetSmart Charities, Inc. will reimburse the City for costs associated with the event. These costs can include but are not limited to marketing, promotion and purchase (or rental) of event equipment and supplies.

Since the inception of the PetSmart animal shelter/animal adoption centers in 2010, the Code Compliance Department has offset operating expenses through solicited donations, adoption fees and general operating funds. PetSmart Charities is planning on awarding the city \$250,000.00 to offset costs associated with operating these adoption centers.

The remaining \$250,000.00 will cover other various small grant opportunities sponsored by PetSmart Charities. Many of these smaller grants are announced with a very short timeline for the City to submit an application, and there may not be adequate time to obtain approval of an individual M&C before the grant application deadline. In those cases, the City may have to forfeit available grant funds. Furthermore, approval of multiple grants streamlines the administrative process when there are many grants each year.

The grant funds will be made available by PetSmart Charities, Inc. (Grantor) after both Grantor and the City have signed a Grant Agreement. No budget will be set up for any activity until after a grant award has been received. Indirect costs are not applicable.

In the interest of efficiency, the Code Compliance Department is requesting approval of this M&C to facilitate a more expedient turnaround of application and grant or agreement documents.

The grants will serve ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance, funds will be available in the current operating budget, as appropriated, in the Grants Operating Other Fund. The Code Compliance Department (and Financial Management Services) will be responsible for the collection and deposit of funds due to the City. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Code Compliance Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. Some grants may be on a reimbursement basis while other grants will be paid out in advance.

Submitted for City Manager's Office by: Valerie Washington 6199

Originating Business Unit Head: Brandon Bennett 6322

Additional Information Contact: David B. Carson 6336

