

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 02/11/25

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0125

LOG NAME: 23PETSMART OPERATIONAL FUNDING

SUBJECT

(ALL) Ratify Application for, and Authorize the Acceptance of Grant Funding from PetSmart Charities, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$150,000.00 to Support the City of Fort Worth's Everyday Adoption Centers Located at PetSmart Alliance and Hulen for Operations and Programs, Authorize Execution of the Related Grant Agreements, and Adopt Appropriation Ordinance

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Ratify application for, and authorize the acceptance of grant funding from PetSmart Charities, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00 to support the City of Fort Worth's Everyday Adoption Centers located at PetSmart Alliance and Hulen for operations and programs;
 2. Authorize execution of the related grant agreements; and
 3. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Operating Other Fund in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00, for the purpose of funding the City of Fort Worth's Everyday Adoption Centers located at PetSmart Alliance and Hulen for operations and programs.
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DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication is to ratify the application for and the acceptance and execution of grant agreements for grant funding from PetSmart Charities, Inc in the amount of \$150,000.00. These grant funds received from PetSmart Charities, Inc. can be used to support operations and adoption events at the Everyday Adoption Centers located at PetSmart Alliance and Hulen as follows: Lower Adoption Fees: Grants can allow shelters to subsidize or waive adoption fees, making it easier for people to adopt animals, especially those who might be hesitant due to costs.

Improved Facilities and Care

- Upgraded Shelter Conditions: Grants can help shelters improve their infrastructure, such as expanding kennel space, improving sanitation, or upgrading medical facilities. These enhancements can lead to a more comfortable environment for animals, making them more adoptable.
- Better Veterinary Care: Shelters can use grant funds to cover veterinary expenses, ensuring animals are healthy, spayed/neutered, and vaccinated before adoption. Healthy animals are more likely to be adopted quickly.

Enhanced Adoption Programs

- Lower Adoption Fees: Grants might allow shelters to subsidize or waive adoption fees, making it easier for people to adopt animals, especially those who might be hesitant due to costs.
- Adoption Events and Marketing: With more funds, shelters can organize adoption events or run marketing campaigns, increasing community awareness and reaching potential adopters. Digital marketing or partnerships with local businesses can also be funded to boost visibility.

Behavioral and Training Support

- Training Programs for Animals: Grants could fund behavioral training or rehabilitation for animals with special needs or behavioral issues. Trained animals are more appealing to potential adopters.
- Post-Adoption Support: Some shelters use grants to provide post-adoption support, such as behavior consultations or initial supplies for new pet owners, which can lead to more successful, long-term adoptions.

Community Engagement and Education

- Educational Programs: Grants can enable shelters to develop educational programs that promote responsible pet ownership, spay/neuter awareness, and proper animal care, which can reduce the number of animals that end up in shelters and increase adoption success rates.
- Outreach Initiatives: Funding can also help shelters engage with underserved communities, promoting adoption in areas where resources might be limited.

In summary, a grant can significantly boost an animal shelter's ability to adopt out more animals by improving care, increasing capacity, and enhancing the shelter's visibility and community outreach. We struggle with staffing and resources so this grant would benefit by providing animals with their fur-ever homes.

The City of Fort Worth enjoys a productive relationship with PetSmart Charities, Inc. (Grantor), that includes working together to promote animal

welfare through numerous special initiatives for the benefit of Fort Worth animal shelter animals.

No City salaries are charged to the grants, so indirect cost recovery is not applicable. There are no matching funds required. The Grant Application Repository # is GRNT-APPL-0000000106.

The grants will serve ALL COUNCIL DISTRICTS.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This M&C does not request approval of a contract with a business entity.

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. This is an advance grant.

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