

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 01/14/25

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0052

LOG NAME: 23PAWS FOR PATRIOTS DONATION ACCEPTANCE AND FUND APPROPRIATION

SUBJECT

(ALL) Authorize Acceptance of Donations in an Amount Not to Exceed \$100,000.00 to Support the Paws for Patriots Program in the Special Donations LTD Fund for the Code Compliance Department and Adopt Appropriation Ordinance

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize acceptance of donations in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 to support the Paws for Patriots Program; and
 2. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Special Donations LTD Fund in an amount up to \$100,000.00, from Contributions from Others, upon receipt of funds, for the purpose of funding the Paws for Patriots Program for the Code Compliance Department.
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DISCUSSION:

On November 16, 2024, the Code Compliance Department launched a new program called P.A.W.S. for Patriots (P4P), an initiative developed by Fort Worth Animal Care and Control (FWACC) in partnership with community stakeholders. P4P will provide therapeutic volunteer opportunities, career training, and access to vital resources for military veterans, all while improving the lives of shelter animals through interaction, care, and socialization. This program aligns with Fort Worth's commitment to becoming a more veteran-friendly city and supports our veterans as they reintegrate into civilian life.

The Code Compliance Department will rely on the P.A.W.S. for Patriots program to offer a range of services that benefit both veterans and shelter animals. P4P includes several key components: The Volunteer Program, where veterans engage in structured socialization and training for shelter animals; The Boot Camp Program, an immersive course covering shelter operations and animal welfare as a potential career pathway; and The Resource Hub, connecting veterans with essential services, including Veterans Affairs (VA) programs and local veteran-friendly businesses. These programs not only enhance the well-being of shelter animals but also provide veterans with purposeful activities, therapeutic engagement, and a community of camaraderie.

To effectively launch and sustain the P4P initiative, the Code Compliance Department seeks authorization to accept donations up to \$100,000.00. These funds will be deposited into the P4P Donation Fund where they will be directed to essential program areas. This request also seeks authorization to appropriate those funds up to \$100,000.00 as they are donated.

The funding will support volunteer training, outreach campaigns, and operating costs for the program, with allocations for supplies and community events that promote responsible pet ownership and support adoption efforts. Funding is budgeted in the Special Donations LTD Fund for the Code Compliance Department for the purpose of funding the Code Compliance Donations project.

This authorization aims to secure resources that will directly benefit our military community and shelter animals, as well as to foster connections between veterans and their community through service opportunities. By supporting the P4P program, the City Council reinforces Fort Worth's commitment to its veterans, ensuring they receive the support, structure, and opportunities necessary to thrive.

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 funds are currently available in the Code Compliance Donations project within the Special Donations LTD Fund and upon approval of the above recommendation and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance, funds will be available in the Special Donations LTD Fund for the Code Compliance Donations project. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Code Compliance Department has the responsibility of verifying the availability of funds.

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