Agenda Item #: 6D1
10:30 TIME CERTAIN

# PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

Meeting Date: January 15, 2008		[]	Consent Ordinance	[X]	Regular Public Hearing
Department:		r 1	Oramanoo	r 1	
Submitted By:	Public Safety				
Submitted For:	Animal Care an				

#### I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to approve: a) Budget Transfer of \$500,000.00 from the General Fund Contingency to establish a County-wide Sterilization Voucher Program; b) Establish an additional full-time veterinarian position to be funded by rabies tag fees which are non-ad valorem dollars; c) Authorize staff to implement the following new programs which will enhance the County's sterilization efforts; (1) Establishment of a County-wide Sterilization Voucher Program; (2) Establishment of a West County No-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic; (3) Expand existing Spay Shuttle operational hours/days; (4) Develop a Humane Education Program with the school system and Channel 20; (5) Establish 3 "24-Hour OP AROUND THE CLOCK" events for owned and/or feral cats; (6) Implement a "Citizens Animal Patrol" volunteer program for public education.

Summary: As a result of a workshop on October 23, 2007, to discuss Pet Overpopulation in Palm Beach County, the Board directed staff to prepare an amendment to the animal care ordinance to implement a sterilization program for dogs and cats and to review options to further enhance spaying and neutering in Palm beach County. Staff has developed several new programs as identified above which would enhance the sterilization efforts and improve educational awareness of pet owners in Palm Beach County. Staff recommends that the implementation of these programs be contingent on approval of the revised ordinance. Countywide (SF)

**Background and Justification:** Each year approximately 20,000 unwanted/unadopted animals are euthanized by the Division, and the number of unwanted/unadopted animals increases annually. (Continued on page 4)

#### Attachments:

- Budget Transfer
- 2. Proposed Sterilizations Enhancement Programs Overview

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Recommended by:	- ianne	M. ( Sun 4 /4/2	1-5-08
	Department Director	///	Date
	11 100		
Approved By:	Vitul Jani	ante	1/14/08
	Assistant County Admi	nistrator	Date

#### II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

#### A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact

Fiscal Years	2008	2009	<u>2010</u>	2011	<u>2012</u>
Capital Expenditures		(50,000	600,000	704.000	710,000
Operating Costs	615,000	672,000	688,000	704,000	710,000
External Revenues	(115,000)	(172,000)	(199,000)	ender of the second of the sec	
Program Income (County)	(115,000)	(172,000)	(188,000)		
In-Kind Match (County)					
Net Fiscal Impact	500,000	500,000	500,000	704,000	710,000
# ADDITIONAL FTE					
POSITIONS (Cumulative)	1	1	1_	1	1
* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	TD 1 40 W7	TA.I			

Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes \_\_\_ No \_x
Budget Account No.: Fund <u>0001/1420</u> Department <u>660</u> Unit <u>2220/2240</u> Object <u>var</u>

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

The \$500,000 voucher program will be a continuing program. The additional veterinarian position and spay/neutering costs estimated at \$167,000 annually will be absorbed from Spay Shuttle Fund. There are sufficient funds to absorb these costs for at least the next 3 years.

The administration costs of Voucher Sterilization, Citizens Animal Patrol, Humane Education and West County No-Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic programs will be absorbed within the current Animal Care budget.

C. Departmental Fiscal Review:

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

B. Legal Sufficiency:

Contract Administration

Degai Sufficiency

Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

**Department Director** 

This summary is not to be used as a basis for payment.

#### Background and Justification: (continued from page 1)

In order to reduce the numbers of unwanted animals, and subsequent euthanasia, the Division has recommended a sterilization ordinance for Palm beach County. As part of the recommended and revised ordinance, staff has identified several programs to enhance the numbers of animals receiving sterilization and increasing accessibility for low cost or free spaying and neutering for the owners of companion animals.

The identified recommendations are as follows:

#### Establish Voucher Sterilization Program

This program will provide vouchers in the amount of \$100.00 per pet and has the potential of sterilizing 5,000 unaltered animals each year.

## Establish West County Shelter s/n program has potential for more than 3,500 sterilizations annually

The existing West County shelter will be converted into a "no-cost" sterilization clinic and will be open to the public. This facility will have the potential to sterilize more than 3,500 unaltered animals each year.

#### **Existing Spay Shuttle Operations**

Currently, the Spay Shuttle operates 4 days per week. The revised plan will allow for increasing the operating days but will be contingent upon securing additional relief veterinarians. Funding for the additional hours will be supported by revenue collected from rabies tags which are non-ad valorem dollars.

#### Enhance Educational

To promote humane educational programs utilizing Channel 20 and encouraging animal welfare education in the school system.

#### Establish 3 annual "24-Hour OP AROUND THE CLOCK clinics"

These "marathon" surgical clinics have the potential to increase sterilizations and are targeted for cats – both owned and feral. Implementation of these events will decrease reproduction of feral cats and promotes compliance of the "Feral Cat Colony" ordinance for Trap, Neuter and Release programs.

#### Implement Citizens Animal Patrol

Volunteers are an integral part of animal sheltering. The Division recommends implementation of a new volunteer program (Citizens Animal Patrol - CAP) to assist Field Services in educating the public regarding the revised sterilization ordinance.

08- 04/3

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
BUDGET TRANSFER

Page 1 of 1 pages

060C #30P010 - 064-X3020

**FUND 0001 - GENERAL FUND** 

Use this form to provide budget for items not anticipated in the budget.

ACCT.NUMBER	ACCOUNT NAME	ORIGINAL BUDGET	CURRENT BUDGET	INCREASE	DECREASE	ADJUSTED BUDGET	EXPENDED/ ENCUMBERED AS OF 1/6/08	REMAINING BALANCE
	VOUCHER PROGRAM OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	0	0	500,000		500,000		
CONTINGENCY	RESERVES							
820-9900-9901	CONTINGENCY RESERVES GENERAL FUND BALANCE	20,293,090 <b>1,019,577,842</b>	20,293,090 <b>1,019,577,842</b>	500,000	500,000 <b>500,000</b>	19,793,090 1,019,577,842	MI.	
9								

PUBLIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
INITIATING DEPARTMENT/DIVISION
Administration/Budget Department Approval
OFMB Department - Posted

Signatures Date

When Min 1/6/08

Howard 1/6/08

By Board of County Commissioners
At Meeting of 1/15/2008

Deputy Clerk to the

**Board of County Commissioners** 

88/1/9/08

ATTINC HMONT

#### Proposed Sterilization Enhancement Programs

Animal Care and Control Division
Public Safety Department
January 15, 2008 – Agenda Item Attachment 2

# County-wide Sterilization Voucher Program (program has potential for a minimum of 5,000 sterilizations annually)

- Dollar amount for each voucher to be \$100.00 for dogs or cats (estimated average for sterilization at private veterinary practice - \$250.00)
- Program open to any resident of Palm Beach County receiving financial public assistance and/or is age 75 or over
- ACC will develop a list of veterinarians who will accept the voucher for "payment in full" for sterilization services
- Pet owners who wish to utilize their own veterinarian who is not on the list
  of participating veterinarians will be directly reimbursed the amount of the
  voucher by ACC after submitting both voucher and proof of sterilization
- Proposed implementation date May 1, 2008
- Voucher reimbursement forms and additional program criteria to be developed by ACC
- Vouchers will be directly distributed to qualified applicants prior to sterilization
- A Veterinary Participant form for this program will be mailed to each veterinarian in Palm Beach County in order to establish a list of participants

## West County "No-Cost" Spay/Neuter Clinic (program has potential for a minimum of 3,500 sterilizations annually)

- No cost for sterilization
- Open to all residents of Palm beach County
- Additional vaccines and/or limited medical care available to indigents at low or no cost
- Clinic to be open to the public Tuesday through Saturday
- "Neuter Commuter" vehicle to be provided by ACC to pick up pets of nonmobile residents and deliver back after surgery
- Location of clinic at existing shelter site in Pahokee
- Capital cost is currently budgeted for renovations for this purpose
- Funds are currently budgeted for the West County facility and these funds will be reallocated to support the spay/neuter clinic

# Expand Spay Shuttle Operations (program has potential for a minimum of 2,500 sterilizations annually)

- Expand working days of operation of Spay Shuttle
- Spay Shuttle currently operates 4 days each week. Plans are to expand the days of operation based on the availability of relief veterinarians and available funding

#### **Humane Education**

- Work with Public Affairs and Channel 20 to develop and launch a series of programs on animal care, enforcement and pet overpopulation
- Promote humane education in public schools through Palm Beach County School Board to implement an animal welfare program in elementary schools and to encourage community service for a public or private animal shelter for graduating students

### Conduct 24-Hour "Op Around the Clock" Clinics (potential 400 sterilizations per event)

- For owned and/or feral cats
- Conduct event three times annually
- Encourage local veterinarians to participate and support this event

#### Implement Citizens Animal Patrol

- Recruit volunteers from community
- Program to be part of Field Services
- Primary Purpose of program public education on spaying and neutering