

## **RESOLUTION 2023-0210**

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

June 20, 2023

### **Suspend the Competitive Bidding Process to add Additional Funding for Contracted On-Site Veterinary Services with Friends of the Front Street Animal Shelter**

#### **BACKGROUND**

- A. The City of Sacramento Front Street Animal Shelter (Shelter) is classified as a depositary for living animals and therefore bound by California Civil Code. California Civil Code § 1834 states: “A depositary of living animals shall provide the animals with necessary and prompt veterinary care, nutrition, and shelter, and treat them kindly. Any depositary that fails to perform these duties may be liable for civil damages as provided by law.” If an animal enters the shelter and is sick or injured it must be treated.
- B. The City currently has 3.0 FTE (full-time equivalent) Veterinarian positions – due to a nationwide veterinarian shortage, two of the three positions remain vacant. To meet the requirements of the California Civil Code and continue providing service for the animals that come through the shelter, the City is required to have contracted on-site veterinary services to provide additional veterinary coverage.
- C. Friends of the Front Street Animal Shelter (Friends) has an existing pool of several licensed veterinarians that can provide hourly on-site contracted relief veterinary services for the Shelter. Rather than the City contracting and managing multiple small contracts with individual veterinarians, the City contracts with the Shelter’s recognized nonprofit partner Friends, for on-site veterinary services.
- D. City Code section 3.56.230(c) authorizes the City Council to suspend competitive bidding for a contract when, upon a two-thirds vote, the City Council determines it is in the best interest of the City to do so.
- E. Because the City is mandated to provide necessary and prompt veterinary care, and because Friends is the only recognized partner nonprofit 501(c)(3) affiliated with the City Shelter, it is in the City’s best interests to suspend competitive bidding, add additional funding, and continue to contract with Friends of the Front Street Animal Shelter.

**BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL  
RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.**

In the best interest of the City, competitive bidding is suspended for contracted on-site veterinary services to continue contracting with Friends of Front Street

Adopted by the City of Sacramento City Council on June 20, 2023, by the following vote:

Ayes: Members Guerra, Jennings, Kaplan, Maple, Loloee, Talamantes, Valenzuela,  
Vang, and Mayor Steinberg

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Attest:  07/05/2023  
Mindy Cuppy, City Clerk

*The presence of an electronic signature certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy as approved by the  
Sacramento City Council.*