



CITY OF SALINAS

COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: June 22, 2021

DEPARTMENT: ADMINISTRATION

FROM: Steven S. Carrigan, City Manager

BY: Adele Fresé, Chief of Police
Tonya Erickson, Management Analyst
Jim Pia, Assistant City Manager

SUBJECT: ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO MEMORANDUM
OF AGREEMENT REGARDING THE ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES PILOT
PROJECT

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve a Resolution approving Amendment No. 3 to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the County of Monterey and the City of Salinas regarding the Animal Control Services Administration Pilot Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the attached resolution approving the Amendment No. 3 to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the County of Monterey and the City of Salinas regarding the Animal Control Services Administration Pilot Project.

BACKGROUND:

In the Fall of 2015, the County of Monterey and City of Salinas retained Management Partners to review the ongoing animal control services functions provided by Monterey County and the City of Salinas at separate locations in very close proximity to one another on Hitchcock Road. Management Partners presented their findings to both the County Board of Supervisors and the City Council on June 28, 2016. At that time, the County and City agreed to establish an Animal Services Ad Hoc Committee. Appointed members included Supervisors John Phillips and Chris Lopez, and the City's current members include Mayor Kimbley Craig, and Council Members Carla Gonzalez and Tony Barrera.

In November of 2017, the Salinas City Council and Monterey County Board of Supervisors approved an MOA for a shared Animal Services Administrator (Administrator) position to review options for

consolidated animal services between the two entities. The position was filled in May 2018 and a joint effort on animal services operations began.

The Ad Hoc Committee agreed in October of 2019 to have staff explore the additional shared staffing services in the area of Animal Care and Veterinary Services. Discussions then took place with representatives of City and County staff and management and SEIU regarding feasibility and support for shared positions. All parties agreed to move forward, and on February 25, 2020 Amendment No. 2 was approved, thereby modifying the scope to include greater animal care and veterinary services, and adjusting the total funding of the pilot project.

This Amendment No.3 to the MOA, will:

1. Continue the shared staffing positions per Amendments Nos. 1 and 2, and update the anticipated costs for the FY 2021-2022 Budget Year at a six-month rate; and
2. Support the Parties' agreement under the COVID-19 MOU, to continue working in one facility; and
3. Extend the terms of the MOA and Amendments to December 31, 2021; and
4. Continue to consolidate services in terms of vendors and shared purchases, that include the City discontinuing use of separate agreements with vendors and instead, reimbursing the County for shared associated costs, thereby providing cost-savings to the Parties.

The goal of the Pilot Project is to have the County and City provide shared services in the area of Animal Control Services. Concerns have arisen in recent months regarding increasing costs, staffing oversight, equity in cost sharing among all involved jurisdictions, as well as timely and transparent data sharing and communication. City and Department leadership have instituted regular meetings with County Health Department and Animal Services leadership to work toward resolution of the identified issues. It is hoped that issues can be addressed, and a new Agreement can be adopted by the end of 2021 that will save costs and gain efficiencies for the Parties, as well as other possible jurisdictions, to jointly work out a successful shared animal services model.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

Not a Project. The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Guidelines Section 15378).

STRATEGIC PLAN:

The proposed action meets the Goal of improving the City's operational efficiency.

DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:

The Administration, Police and Human Resources Departments coordinated on this effort.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

By utilizing shared positions, at various share cost percentages depending on the position, the City and County Animal Shelter operations can continue to consolidate and save resources. City and County staff, working with the Administrator, will continue to look for ways to save as they move forward in jointly providing Animal Control Services.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution

Amendment No. 3 to Memorandum of Agreement

RESOLUTION NO. _____ (N.C.S.)

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF MONTEREY AND THE CITY OF SALINAS FOR THE ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION PILOT PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Salinas and the County of Monterey decided and approved on November 17, 2017, for mutually beneficial purposes and on a pilot program basis, to combine animal control services administration management under an employee of one agency instead of their respective agencies each maintaining such an employee; and

WHEREAS, the City of Salinas and the County of Monterey decided and approved on April 2, 2019, for mutually beneficial purposes to modify scope of services for the provision of additional shared services in the area of operation supervision, volunteer coordination, and Advisory Board composition; and

WHEREAS, the City of Salinas and the County of Monterey decided and approved on February 25, 2020, for mutually beneficial purposes to modify scope of services for the provision of additional shared services including animal care and veterinary services; and

WHEREAS, in April of 2020 in response to the COVID-19 federal, state and local state of emergency, the Parties entered into an emergency Memorandum of Understanding (“COVID-19 MOU”) authorizing both Parties to work in the County facility, during the COVID-19 health pandemic before a Joint Powers Agreement (“JPA”) was in place; and

WHEREAS, the City and County continue their efforts toward collaboratively providing animal control services and provide additional changes by way of this Amendment No. 3 to the Memorandum of Understanding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed for and on behalf of the City of Salinas to execute the Amendment No. 3 to the Memorandum of Agreement between the County of Monterey and the City of Salinas.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 22nd day of June 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Kimbley Craig, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia M. Barajas, City Clerk