Board of Supervisors  
Kern County Administrative Center  
1115 Truxtun Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA  93301

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE 90-DAY EXTENSION FOR AGREEMENT 667-2012 WITH THE CITY OF BAKERSFIELD FOR ANIMAL SHELTER SERVICES  
(Fiscal Impact: $185,000 Revenue; Budgeted; Discretionary)

The purpose of this letter is to obtain your Board's approval to negotiate a 90-day extension of Agreement 667-2012 with the City of Bakersfield for Animal Shelter Services. Agreement 667-2012 was approved by your Board August 21, 2012 and provided for Animal Shelter Services to the City of Bakersfield, from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013. Under the agreement the City paid the County $740,000 for the twelve-month period for providing animal shelter services to the City and established the framework for collaborative efforts on vaccinating and licensing, and promotion of responsible pet ownership within the City and County. Both jurisdictions also agreed to allocate one-time resources for physical site improvements in order to improve the service to the public and care of the animals and to create a joint County/City task force comprised of members of the Board of Supervisors, members of the City Council, and the Chairman of the Animal Control Commission to provide a public forum, allowing for public input, ideas and recommendations.

The County and City formed the Metro Bakersfield Animal Control Committee (MBACC). MBACC met several times; the most recent meeting was held March 13, 2013. In that meeting the City and the County mutually agreed to explore the option of developing a new Animal Shelter Facility, including a joint intake facility. Since that time, both the City and the County have independently engaged Swatt Miers Architects to provide a needs assessment and facility programming services. Services include a review of the existing facility, developing holding capacity based on the needs assessment, and providing a preliminary program floor plan and cost estimates.

As the County and the City continue to develop a mutually acceptable vision for the Metropolitan Bakersfield animal care needs, Agreement 667-2012 is set to expire June 30, 2013. The City proposed to the County a non-cancellable two-year operational agreement that incorporates the requirement for the County to design and construct a new County animal shelter on land made available by the City located immediately adjacent to the current animal shelter facility, 201 S
Mt. Vernon Ave., Bakersfield. The City has estimated the value of the 3.8 acres land at $330,000 and has indicated that they would transfer the land to the County at a time and with terms mutually agreeable to the City and County which have not been delineated in the proposed agreement. In addition, the proposed agreement requires the County to design and construct a new joint intake facility in exchange for the value of the land provided by the City. The proposed operational agreement provides the County with a $5,920 annual increase for the first year and a consumer price index (CPI) per the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics for West B/C urban wage earners and clerical workers increase the second year for the animal shelter services provided for City by the County.

The County is in the process of evaluating the proposal presented by the City; however, it is necessary for the County to have the needs assessment and facility programming completed to determine the anticipated needs and cost of the facility. In addition, it is also necessary to mutually agree to a compensation that is based on the actual cost for the services the County provides to the City of Bakersfield. The County has proposed a method that allocates actual shelter costs based on the proportion of animal intakes that comes from the City residents.

The existing agreement provides for a 90-day extension, if both City and County agree in writing to such an extension. Under the 90-day extension, the City will compensate the County with an additional quarterly payment of $185,000, and all other provisions of the existing agreement would remain in full force and effect. In order to find a mutually acceptable agreement on the construction of a new facility and in order to have all the necessary information for your Board, we are recommending that your Board authorize the Director of Animal Control to request a 90-day extension of the existing agreement with the City. If additional time is necessary to finalize the cost and financing options of a new animal shelter facility, the County could potentially request for a one-year extension of the existing agreement.

Therefore, IT IS RECOMMENDED that your Board authorize the Animal Control Director to negotiate and sign a 90-day extension of agreement 667-2012 with the City of Bakersfield for animal shelter services, extending the term from June 30, 2013 through September 30, 2013 in an amount not to exceed $185,000.

Sincerely,

Jen Woodard
Animal Control Director

JW/ 

cc: Office of County Counsel
    County Administrative Office
    City of Bakersfield