



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
February 9, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
Submitted by: Amelia Funghi, Animal Shelter Manager  
Subject: Donation to the Animal Shelter from the Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution accepting a donation from the estate of Stephen and Mary Birch in the sum of \$10,000.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

A donation in the amount of \$10,000 from The Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation to Animal Services will be used for off-site veterinary care and will be deposited in the Animal Services Donation Fund. Animal Services spends approximately \$20,000 for off-site veterinary care and a \$10,000 donation will subsidize 50% of this expense. The donation funds will be appropriated as part of the Second Amendment to the FY 2021 Annual Appropriations Ordinance.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Berkeley Animal Care Services (BACS) houses and cares for approximately 1,400 stray, surrendered and abandoned animals each year. Many animals arrive needing veterinary care related to injury or advanced disease processes. Animal Services strives to treat all sick and injured animals that have a good chance of recovery and adoption and uses several local veterinary clinics to provide services that cannot be provided at the shelter such as X-rays, ultrasounds and specialized surgeries. Providing this care is critical to maintaining a high live release rate and low euthanasia rate for shelter animals.

BACKGROUND

Each year starting in 2008, the Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation have generously donated money to BACS to be used for the welfare of the shelter animals. This donation has consistently been used for veterinary care of shelter animals.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with the subject of this report.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Animal Services must provide essential veterinary care to shelter animals in order to maintain a high live release rate. A donation in the amount of \$10,000 will subsidize 50% of the amount Animal Services spends on off-site veterinary care annually.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

If the City were not to accept the \$10,000 donation from the Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation, Animal Services would need to find funds from another source.

CONTACT PERSON

Amelia Funghi, Animal Shelter Manager (510) 981-6603

Attachments:

1: Resolution – Accepting a donation to the animal shelter from the Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation in the sum of \$10,000

RESOLUTION NO. -N.S.

ADOPT A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION TO THE ANIMAL SHELTER FROM THE STEPHEN AND MARY BIRCH FOUNDATION IN THE SUM OF \$10,000

WHEREAS, The Stephen and Mary Birch Foundation has named Berkley Animal Care Services (BACS) as a recipient of a gift; and

WHEREAS, BACS houses and cares for approximately 1,400 stray, surrendered and abandoned animals each year; and

WHEREAS, the shelter treats sick and injured animals that have a good chance of recovery and adoption, and donations are often used to cover these veterinary bills; and

WHEREAS, the donation in the sum of \$10,000 will be deposited in the Animal Shelter Donation Fund and the donation funds will be appropriated as part of the Second Amendment to the FY 2021 Annual Appropriations Ordinance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Council accepts a donation to the Animal Shelter from the Stephen and Mary Birch in the sum of \$10,000.

