

CITY OF LAGO VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

5901 Municipal Complex, Lago Vista, Texas, 78645



Exceptional Budget Item Request

Budget Account Number: 10-522-4740

Title of Request: Additional Funding for Animal Shelter Contracts

Cost of Request: \$5,000

Justification: The current fiscal year budget allocated \$5,000 to support animal control operations through potential contracts or fees with animal shelters. However, ongoing discussions with various shelters have revealed that this amount is insufficient to secure a contract that effectively meets the City's needs for a reliable facility to house and care for animals in custody. To address this shortfall and advance negotiations, the City requests an additional \$5,000 in funding for the animal shelter contract.

Rationale for Increased Funding

Inadequate Initial Allocation: The initial \$5,000 budget was based on preliminary estimates but has proven insufficient to cover the costs of a comprehensive shelter contract that ensures proper care and placement for animals under the City's animal control program.

Ongoing Negotiations: Our department is actively engaging with multiple shelters to identify a suitable partner. While a final contract amount has not yet been determined, preliminary discussions indicate that an additional \$5,000 will position the City to secure a mutually beneficial agreement that meets operational and animal welfare standards.

Operational Necessity: A formalized shelter contract is critical to maintaining effective animal control services, ensuring animals in custody are transported to a safe, professionally managed facility. This enhances the City's ability to address stray or abandoned animals promptly and humanely.

Community Benefit: A reliable shelter partnership supports public safety and animal welfare, addressing community concerns about stray animals while promoting responsible pet ownership and adoption opportunities.

Financial Considerations

The requested additional \$5,000 will increase the total budget for animal shelter contracts to \$10,000 for the fiscal year. This funding will provide the flexibility needed to finalize a contract that aligns with the City's goals for animal control operations. The City remains committed to negotiating a cost-effective agreement and will provide updates as discussions progress.

Recommendation

The City recommends approving an additional \$5,000 in funding to support the animal shelter contract. This increase will enable the City to secure a reliable partnership with a shelter, ensuring effective animal control operations and enhanced animal welfare outcomes. By investing in this critical service, the City demonstrates its commitment to public safety and responsible stewardship of community resources.