



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR  
SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager  
Submitted by: Peter Radu, Assistant to the City Manager  
Subject: Contract No. 32100053 Amendment: Orsolya Kuti, DVM to Provide On-site Veterinary Services for Berkeley Animal Care Services

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to amend Contract No. 32100053 with Orsolya Kuti for on-site veterinary services for Berkeley Animal Care Services, increasing the contract amount by \$8,000 for a new total not to exceed amount of \$228,000, and extending the contract term to September 14, 2023.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Berkeley Animal Care Services regularly contracts with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) to provide veterinary services two days per week onsite at the Dona Spring Animal Shelter. The amended contract will be extended through September 14, 2023. \$188,000 will come from the Berkeley Animal Care Services General Fund budget code 011-21-203-000-0000-000-424-612410. In April 2021, the Friends of Berkeley Animal Care Services donated \$4,800 to be used for on-site veterinary care and agreed to donate additional funds as needed in \$5,000 increments for an amount not to exceed \$40,000. The donation funds for the contract will be appropriated as they are received by the City.

Annual funds for the contract are subject to Council approval of the future budgets and the Annual Appropriations Ordinances.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

In September 1, 2020, the City of Berkeley entered into a three-year contract ending August 31, 2023 with Orsolya Kuti, DVM to provide on-site veterinary care at the Dona Spring Animal Shelter. The current contract specifies the hourly rate of pay as \$75.00 per hour. In March of 2023, the California Animal Welfare Organization released a survey indicating that the average rate of pay for veterinarians in animal shelter is \$84.79 per hour, which indicated that the hourly rate of pay for the contracted veterinarian is below the current market rate of pay.

### BACKGROUND

BACS is a full-service municipal animal care and control agency, enforcing local and state laws throughout the City of Berkeley (COB) and the City of Albany. BACS is also contracted to shelter animals for the cities of Emeryville and Piedmont. BACS is an open-door facility accepting approximately 1,700 stray and homeless animals annually. BACS has a constant influx of animals that need to receive affordable veterinary care, treatment and spay/neuter services. The BACS shelter is open to the public seven days a week to receive stray, surrendered and confiscated animals. Additionally, field services are provided seven days week during which Animal Control Officers impound stray, surrendered and confiscated animals. Many animals arrive at the shelter sick or injured and in need of immediate veterinary care. On-site veterinary services include, but are not limited to: examining and diagnosing shelter animals, treating sick or injured animals, performing spay/neuter surgeries, performing other routine surgeries. In order to adhere to the BACS Euthanasia Policy and to maintain the current high live release rate of 90%, sick or injured animals must obtain necessary treatment so that they have a much better chance of rescue or adoption.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

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

### RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Orsolya Kuti is a local veterinarian who has practiced veterinary medicine since 2014 and has specialized in animal shelter medicine since 2017. Dr. Kuti's experience and expertise in shelter medicine require an hourly rate of pay consistent with the industry standard.

### ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

The alternative to engaging in a contract amendment with with Dr. Kuti is to continue using Dr. Kuti on a per diem basis. The limit of spending for per diem veterinarian is \$5,000 within a Fiscal Year. The need for on-site veterinary services is 16 hours per week and the cost of veterinary services needed would exceed the limit of permitted spending for per diem vendors in sixty (60) days.

### CONTACT PERSON

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

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

CONTRACT NO. 32100053 AMENDMENT: ORSOLYA KUTI, DVM TO PROVIDE ON-SITE VETERINARY SERVICES FOR BERKELEY ANIMAL CARE SERVICES

WHEREAS, BACS has a constant influx of animals that need to receive immediate and affordable veterinary care and treatment; and

WHEREAS, sick or injured animals that obtain necessary procedures and/or treatment/s have a much better chance of rescue or adoption; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to provide veterinary care and oversight on the premises for 16 hours per week; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Orsolya Kuti is a highly qualified veterinarian with extensive experience and expertise shelter medicine; and

WHEREAS, Friends of Berkeley Animal Care Services will donate an amount not to exceed \$40,000 in FY 2023; and

WHEREAS, the contract will be funded as a General Fund allocation and will be subject to the City's annual appropriation process.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to execute an amendment to Contract No. 32100053 with Orsolya Kuti for on-site veterinary services for Berkeley Animal Care Services (BACS), increasing the contract amount by \$8,000 for a new total not to exceed amount of \$228,000, and extending the contract term to September 14, 2023.

