



AGENDA STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 12, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

THRU: Patrick Gallegos, Interim City Manager

FROM: Michael Henderson, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: **Approving and Authorizing Amendment 1 to the Agreement with Wetlands and Wildlife Care Center for Wildlife Animal Control Services**

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

That the City Council adopt Resolution 7640:

1. Approving Amendment 1 to the Agreement with the Wetlands and Wildlife Care Center; and,
2. Authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute the Amendment; and,
3. Authorizing future extensions, if exercised, as outlined in the Amendment.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS:

The Wetlands and Wildlife Care Center (WWCC) is a nonprofit organization located in Huntington Beach, California. It is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of injured and orphaned native wildlife. WWCC also provides critical public education and outreach programs to promote coexistence with local wildlife and preservation of native ecosystems. The Center serves Orange County and surrounding regions, responding to thousands of wildlife emergencies each year and partnering with cities, law enforcement agencies, and environmental groups. On July 1, 2023, the City of Seal Beach entered into an agreement with WWCC to provide wildlife field services and sheltering support for wild animals found within City limits. This partnership was a key component of the City's newly launched in-house animal control program, the first of its kind in many years, ensuring the health, safety, and humane treatment of both residents and local wildlife.

At the time the original agreement was developed, the compensation was based on historical data from the previous animal control provider—the City of Long Beach. However, since establishing the City's in-house program, the volume of animals taken to WWCC has significantly exceeded initial estimates. This increase

is due to more responsive, local field operations and greater emphasis on proactive animal welfare services.

Amendment 1 adjusts the monthly compensation from \$500 to \$1,000 during the one-year extension period (FY 2025-2026) to better reflect the true scope of services being provided by WWCC. This revised rate ensures that WWCC is fairly compensated for the substantial increase in animals received from the City and allows the City to continue providing humane, professional care for wildlife. In addition, the amendment allows the City to exercise up to two additional one-year extensions beyond FY 2025-2026, under the same terms and compensation, should the partnership remain beneficial and funding be available.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

There is no environmental impact related to this item.

LEGAL ANALYSIS:

The City Attorney has reviewed and approved the amendment as to form.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The increase from \$500 to \$1,000 per month for FY 2025-2026 will be included in the proposed operating budget. Sufficient funds are available within the Animal Control Budget allocation for animal services.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

This item is not applicable to the Strategic Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council adopt Resolution 7640:

1. Approving Amendment 1 to the Agreement with the Wetlands and Wildlife Care Center; and,
2. Authorizing the Interim City Manager to execute the Amendment; and,
3. Authorizing future extensions, if exercised, as outlined in the Amendment.

SUBMITTED BY:

NOTED AND APPROVED:

Michael Henderson

Michael Henderson, Chief of Police

Patrick Gallegos

Patrick Gallegos, Interim City Manager

Prepared by: Nick Nicholas, Support Services Bureau Captain

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Resolution 7640
- B. Amendment 1 to the Professional Services Agreement with Wetlands and Wildlife Care Center
- C. Original Professional Services Agreement with Wetlands and Wildlife Care Center