RESOLUTION NO. 2007-168

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

March 20, 2007

AMENDING THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO FEE AND CHARGE REPORT TO AMEND FEES FOR ANIMAL CARE SERVICES

BACKGROUND

A. City Code §§ 9.44.140, 9.44.430, 9.44.440, 9.44.490, and 9.44.500 allow license fees and other fees for dogs and cats to be established by resolution of the City Council.

B. To address the costs and related public safety and enforcement issues associated with the pet overpopulation problem, City staff has proposed a new licensing fee schedule that creates a significant financial incentive for pet owners to spay and neuter their animals while presenting a modest fee increase for altered animals. The regulatory goal of increasing licensing fees is to reduce pet overpopulation by providing economic incentives for owners to alter their dogs and cats.

C. The proposed licensing fees were developed with input from numerous animal welfare organizations including the County of Sacramento, Humane Society of the United States, Animal Protection Institute, and the Sacramento Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

D. The City's shelter operation is adversely impacted by housing unaltered animals, as they often require special attention and separate kenneling, contributing to space shortages and behavioral problems. Unaltered animals are also a major cause of nuisances such as aggressive and "running at large" behaviors. Consequently, a portion of the proposed fees is targeted at recovering enforcement and housing costs, medical and surgical expenses and damage caused by these unaltered animals.

E. The fees are intended to help recover the actual costs of administering and enforcing the licensing ordinances, and to help offset the costs of providing animal care services, including those mentioned above.

F. The proposed licensing fees bears a reasonable relationship to the social and economic burdens caused by unaltered animals, dog and cat breeding businesses, and pet overpopulation.

BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City of Sacramento Fee and Charge Report is hereby amended to include the following Animal Care Services licensing fee increases.

General Services Department

Fee Name: Animal Care Licensing Fee
Current/Proposed Fees:

Altered Dog			Unaltered Dog		Unaltered Dog (Breeder's Fee)
Current Fee		**Proposed**	**Current Fee**	**Proposed**	**Proposed**
1 year	$12	$15	$36	$150	$36
3 year	$30	$35	$90	$400	N/A
Altered Cat			**Unaltered Cat**		**Unaltered Cat (Breeder's Fee)**
Current Fee		**Proposed**	**Current Fee**	**Proposed**	**Proposed**
1 year	$10	$10	$30	$75	$36
3 year	$25	$25	$75	$200	N/A

Adopted by the City of Sacramento City Council on March 20, 2007 by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers, Cohn, Fong, Hammond, McCarty, Pannell, Sheedy, Waters and Mayor Fargo.

Noes: None.

Abstain: None.

Absent: Councilmember Tretheway.

Heather Fargo
Mayor Heather Fargo

Attest:
Shirley Concolino
Shirley Concolino, City Clerk