



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 4

Agenda Date: November 6, 2024

In Control: Planning and Community Development Committee

DEPARTMENT: Neighborhood and Housing Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Veronica Garcia, Director

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Briefing and possible action related to the Council Consideration Request for establishment of a pilot Pet Deposit Assistance Program.

SUMMARY:

Briefing and possible action related to the Council Consideration Request for the establishment of a pet deposit assistance program aimed at reducing the burden of pet adoption for renters.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On February 16, 2024, Councilmember Jalen McKee-Rodriguez issued a Council Consideration Request for the establishment of a pet deposit assistance program aimed at reducing the burden of pet adoption for renters. The CCR was assigned to the Neighborhood and Housing Services Department and presented to the Governance Committee on April 17, 2024. The Governance Committee referred the CCR to the Planning and Community Development Council Committee, which took place on August 24, 2024.

ISSUE:

On August 24, 2024, PCDC requested staff provide a recommendation related to the establishment of a pet deposit program. Staff coordinated with the San Antonio Apartment Association (SAAA) to gather input from housing providers regarding pet deposit costs and how often fees were collected. Neighborhood & Housing Services Department (NHSD) and Animal Care Services (ACS) outlined a one-year pilot pet deposit assistance program based on input. The pilot program recommends that ACS administer applications to renters seeking to adopt or foster a pet and outlines eligibility requirements.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no funding in the FY 2025 adopted budget for a Pet Deposit Assistance Program. Staff estimates that \$50,000.00 in funding will be required to support approximately 100 grants for pet deposit assistance.

ALTERNATIVES:

PCDC may request changes to the recommendation. PCDC may also recommend not proceeding with a one-year pilot Pet Deposit Assistance Program which may limit pet adoptions for income restricted residents. The NHSD Resident Relocation Assistance Program will continue to provide pet deposit assistance for eligible renters seeking relocation support.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends PCDC forward the pilot program to City Council for consideration.