



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
{{item.tracking_number}}

Agenda Item Number: {{item.number}}

Agenda Date: August 22, 2024

In Control: Planning and Community Development Committee

DEPARTMENT: Neighborhood and Housing Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Veronica Garcia, Director

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Council Consideration Request on the establishment of a pet deposit assistance program

SUMMARY:

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 purpose of this briefing is to provide an analysis on the CCR and get feedback from PCDC.

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.

ISSUE:

City staff is requesting feedback from the PCDC on the development of a program that provides grants for pet deposits to individuals that want to foster or adopt a pet but cannot afford the pet deposit required by their landlord. An initial analysis of the request identified the following:

- The City does not have a program that provides financial assistance for pet deposits to individuals that want to foster or adopt a pet but cannot afford the pet deposit required by their landlord.
- There is nothing in federal law that would prohibit the City from creating such a program. State law does not prohibit the city from creating such a program as long as there is a public purpose and benefit underlying the need for the program.
- A pet deposit assistance program is in line with the community survey and Animal Care Services Strategic Plan.
- The City does not have funding for the program. The average pet deposit in San Antonio is \$200 - \$500. In order to provide 100 grants for pet deposit assistance, the budget would need to include \$20k - \$50k. This does not include the costs to administer the program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only. However, there is not funding identified in the FY24 Adopted Budget or FY25 Proposed Budget for the program.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

No recommendations will be made at this time. The purpose of this briefing is to get feedback from PCDC. Based on feedback, staff will engage additional stakeholders prior to returning to PCDC with a recommendation.