

Program #91006B - Animal Services Field Services Animal Control Officer

2/20/2019

Department: Community Services **Program Contact:** Jackie Rose

Program Offer Type: Existing Operating Program Program Offer Stage: As Requested

Related Programs: 91005, 91006, 91007

Program Characteristics: Out of Target

Executive Summary

As a result of budget constraints for FY20, the Field Services program was reduced by 1.00 FTE Animal Control Officer (ACO-2) position. This program offer is submitted as a request is to restore this position as originally funded. The Field Services program delivers comprehensive animal control services with the primary function of providing public safety to all cities and unincorporated areas in Multnomah County regarding animal related issues. Service is provided to the community seven days a week.

Program Summary

The Field Services program delivers comprehensive, 24-hour animal control services with the primary function of providing public safety to all cities and unincorporated areas in Multnomah County. Services include, but are not limited to, responding to dangerous dog attacks, investigating reports of animal bites, quarantining animals due to suspected rabies exposure, picking up stray animals and assisting law enforcement agencies as first responders for animal related situations (house fires, arrests, vehicle accidents, etc.). Additionally, this program is responsible for ensuring the welfare of the animals in our county by responding to and investigating all cases involving suspected animal abuse/neglect/abandonment, investigating reports of dog fighting activities and ensuring that humane standards of care are provided to all animals in licensed animal facilities (boarding facilities, breeding kennels, retail stores, rescue entities, etc.). The ACO-2 position is charged with carrying out these duties.

This program offer is submitted as a request to restore the eliminated ACO-2 position to the Field Services program. The current staffing pattern for the program consists of 8.00 FTE ACO-2 positions covering five districts, seven days per week. In order to provide the greatest amount of coverage each day, these positions are scheduled for 10-hour shifts for 4 work days per week, with contracted services providing emergency-only coverage during the evening/night time hours. There are only four (4) ACO-2 positions working any given day to cover the entire county. As such, a reduction of 1.00 FTE for this work unit is a 12.5% reduction in the workforce but equates to a 25% reduction in service capacity. This reduction will limit resources to meet the needs of the community. Specific impacts may include the following: 1) Response times may be longer than desired due to limited number of officers available to respond, resulting in delayed response to public safety issues such as loose aggressive dogs, animals in distress, dog bite investigations, animals in traffic, cruelty investigations and welfare checks; 2) Officers' ability to respond to and assist law enforcement agencies in a timely manner may be reduced; 3) Officers' workloads may increase, especially during the peak season, resulting in greater use of overtime; and 4) The program will have greater difficulty meeting daily demands when officers are on vacation/sick, leaving the team even more shorthanded in the field.

Performar	Performance Measures								
Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY18 Actual	FY19 Purchased	FY19 Estimate	FY20 Offer				
Output	Number of Calls Responded to by Officer	1,536	1,600	1,600	1,600				
Outcome	Citations Issued in Response to Calls by Office	84	56	75	75				

Performance Measures Descriptions

Number of Calls Responded to by Officers reflects complaints received by dispatch that one (1) ACO2 position is able to respond. This includes finalized calls and calls that are still being worked by an Officer. Citations Issued in Response to Calls reflects enforcement citations issued by ACO2 position in the field. It does not include citations for pet license noncompliance.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

ORS 609.010 to 609.190 pertains to Animal Control mandates, which includes: dogs running at large prohibited, potentially dangerous and dangerous dogs regulations, dogs as public nuisance prohibited, impoundment and shelter requirements for violations, dog license requirements, and impoundment of dogs harming livestock requirements. ORS 609.205 pertains to prohibitions against keeping wild or exotic animals. ORS 433.340 - 433.390 pertains to Rabies Control which includes: requirements to report animal bites, impoundment, quarantine and disposition requirements, inoculations against rabies requirements, records requirements, and requirement for all fees to go into the Animal Services Fund. Multnomah County Code Chapter 13 provides local regulations for animal ownership.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	
Program Expenses	2019	2019	2020	2020	
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$88,325	\$0	
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$88,325	\$0	
Program Total:	\$0		\$88,325		
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	

Program Revenues					
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	

Explanation of Revenues

This program is supported by County General Funds.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2019: 91006-19 Animal Services Field Services

The primary function of the Field Services program is to ensure public safety and adherence to all applicable laws/ordinances while also ensuring the safety and well-being of animals in Multnomah County. Due to the high number of low-income and homeless persons in the County, a large percentage of time is dedicated to assisting these populations. As a result of the proposed budget constraint, the Field Services program will be reduced by 1.00 FTE ACO-2 position. It is estimated that this reduction will have a 15%-20% impact on operational performance and response public safety functions. The proposed budget constraint will increase response times to dispatched calls and reduce capacity for investigations. We anticipate that these changes will have the greatest impact on vulnerable low-income and homeless populations.