REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: December 15, 2005

SUBJECT: Animal Services Spay / Neuter

ATTACHMENTS: Animal Services Presentation

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Staff has prepared the attached presentation to update the Board regarding the spay / neuter program. The presentation includes a proposal to consider a countywide animal license program as one method of funding the spay neuter program.

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION/ACTION REQUIRED:

I recommend the Board consider the license program as a funding mechanism for spay / neuter, and task the Animal Services Committee with development of an ordinance to facilitate this program. The Board may also want to include restraint requirements to the Animal Service Committee's charge.



Henderson County Animal Services Spay/Neuter Program

GOAL:

To develop a program that will allow financially challenged members of the public an opportunity to have their animal spayed or neutered at little or no cost.

Spay / Neuter Programs

- Several Programs already exist that the public may or may not be aware of.
- Blue Ridge Humane Society
- Community Partnership for Pets
- Animal Compassion Network
- Animal Welfare Alliance
- Humane Alliance

Spay / Neuter Programs

- Blue Ridge Humane Society
- PO Box 706 Hendersonville, NC 28793
- Phone 828.685.7107
- Fax 828.272.0949
- www.the-aarc.com
- Offers free spay/neuter

Spay / Neuter Programs

- Community Partnership for Pets
- Mary Cervini 828.693.5172
- cpforpetsinc@aol.com
- www.communitypartnershipforpets.org
- Provides financial assistance for low-cost spay/neuter

Spay / Neuter Programs

- Animal Compassion Network
- Eileen Bouressa 828.258.4820
- www.animalcompassionnetwork.org
- Offers discount coupons on low cost spay neuter program at Humane Alliance

Spay / Neuter Programs

- Animal Welfare Alliance
- Don Gladieux
- PO Box 533, Flat Rock, NC 28731
- Donated \$40,000 to 4 local vets to provide free spay/neuter.

Spay / Neuter Programs

- Humane Alliance
- 231 Haywood St Asheville, NC 28801
- Phone 828.252.2079
- www.humanealliance.org
- Provides low-cost spay/neuter and pick up service.

Proposed Animal Services Spay / Neuter Program

- In addition to working with each of these organizations, the Animal Services Committee proposes a special fund to assist families that are eligible for financial assistance through the county.
- Revenue for this fund can be generated through animal licensing, adoption fees, fund raising, partnerships, etc.

Funding Options

- A license program will encourage the spay/neutering of pets by way of a fee schedule.
- A license will be more expensive if an animal is not spayed/neutered.
- Example- \$10 if altered, \$65 if not.

Revenue Projections

- Based on 2004 statistics from the Animal Service Center.
- Dogs adopted- 499 X \$10 = \$4,990
- Cats adopted- 170 X \$10 = \$1,700
- Dogs reclaimed- 141 X \$10 = \$1,410
- Cats reclaimed- 70 X \$10 = \$700
- Total funds generated= \$8,800

Fund Raising Options

- Additional Revenue could be generated with the purchase of an engraving machine.
- The cost of the engraving machine is \$3,250



Funding Partners

"I Care" is a state program covering a percentage of funds expended for spay/neuter programs. Reimbursement is based on the tier system.

End Result

- Based on an average cost of \$65 per animal, 135 animals could receive 100% financial assistance through the spay / neuter program.
- Utilized in collaboration with spay / neuter programs of other agencies, low or no cost spay / neuter should be available to anyone needing assistance.

