

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

348



**FROM:** Community Health Agency, Department of Animal Services

**SUBMITTAL DATE:**  
September 5, 2007

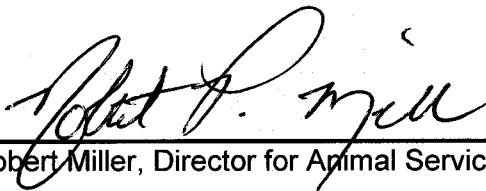
**SUBJECT:** Ratify the Agreement to the contract with Ramona Humane Society for the Pet Overpopulation Coalition (POPCO) Voucher Program

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Ratify the Agreement to the Pet Overpopulation Coalition (POPCO) Voucher Program with the Ramona Humane Society and the County of Riverside for the performance period from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 in the amount of \$90,000; and,
- 2) Authorize the Chairperson to execute four (4) copies of the Amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** The Department of Animal Services (DAS) has taken a proactive approach to reduce pet overpopulation within Riverside County. One of the avenues that the Department has (Continued)

RM:pmh

  
 Robert Miller, Director for Animal Service

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 90,000	In Current Year Budget:	Yes
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 90,000	Budget Adjustment:	No
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 90,000	For Fiscal Year:	07/08

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b> POPCO Spay/Neuter Voucher Fund.	<b>Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>Requires 4/5 Vote</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** APPROVE

BY:   
 Debra Cournoyer

**County Executive Office Signature**

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL  
 BY:  MARSHAL VICTOR  
 DATE: 09-18-07  
 Departmental Concurrence

Dept't Recomm.:  Consent  Policy  
 Per Exec. Ofc.:  Consent  Policy

ATTACHMENTS FILED WITH THE CLERK OF THE BOARD  
 3.24 2/27/07; 3.15 9/26/06;  
 3.8 6/20/06; 3.14 9/27/05  
 3.5 12/7/04; 3.9 8/26/03

3.13

**BACKGROUND:**

accomplished this is through the Pet Overpopulation Coalition (POPCO) Voucher Program.

To efficiently distribute spay/neuter vouchers throughout Riverside County, the Department of Animal Services has undertaken a county-wide advertising campaign for the Spay/Neuter Voucher program, as well as working with the veterinary community to promote voucher acceptance and encourage participation in the program. The POPCO telephone number is listed on all advertising. When constituents call POPCO, they are directed to the best resource for their particular situation. Sometimes there are grants for specific breeds or specific situations and POPCO will direct callers to utilize those resources. When no alternative exists, Riverside County constituent information is forwarded to the Department of Animal Services and the constituent is mailed spay and neuter vouchers to offset the cost or reduce the cost of spaying/neutering their pets, along with a list of participating veterinarians. Once they have contacted a participating veterinarian and surgery has been performed, the veterinarian returns the vouchers and supporting documentation to the Department for reimbursement of \$25 for each cat surgery and \$50 for each dog surgery.

One of the key players in making the POPCO Voucher Program a success is the Ramona Humane Society. During the last nine (9) months of Fiscal Year 2006/07, they altered over 1,150 animals through this program, making a huge impact in the Southwest part of Riverside County. It is estimated that they will alter another 2,000 animals utilizing this program during Fiscal Year 2007/2008.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

During the Fiscal Year 2006/07 Budget Hearings on June 27, 2006 (item 3.54), the Board of Supervisors approved \$150,000 to be used for the Pet Overpopulation Coalition (POPCO) Voucher Program. The Department worked expeditiously with the POPCO partners and expended the entire amount during the first quarter of the year. On October 31, 2006 (item 3.20), the Executive Office recommended, and the Board of Supervisors concurred, that an additional \$150,000 be given to the Department to continue this vital program. An annual contribution of \$300,000 has been included in the Fiscal Year 2007/2008 budget.