

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



ITEM: 3.94
(ID # 28510)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, July 29, 2025

FROM : BOS DISTRICT 5

SUBJECT: BOS DISTRICT 5: Approve the use of Unincorporated Communities Initiative funds in the amount of \$160,000 for the D5 Furry Pets Foster Care program in collaboration with the Department of Animal Services; District 5. [Total Cost \$160,000-100% General Fund/Unincorporated Communities Initiative] (4/5th Vote Required)

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the use of Unincorporate Communities Initiative funds in the amount of \$160,000 for the D5 Furry Pets Foster Care program in collaboration with the Department of Animal Services; and
2. Authorize the Director of Animal Services, or designee, to continue implementing the program.

ACTION: Policy


ACTION: Policy


Supervisor Yxstian Gutierrez 7/25/2025

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Gutierrez, seconded by Supervisor Medina and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Medina, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Gutierrez
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: July 29, 2025
xc: BOS-D5, Animal Services

Kimberly A. Rector
Clerk of the Board
By: 
Deputy

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FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$ 160,000	\$ 0	\$ 160,000	\$ 0
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
SOURCE OF FUNDS: 100% General Fund – Unincorporated Communities Initiative funds			Budget Adjustment: No	
			For Fiscal Year: 25/26	

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

BACKGROUND:

Summary

The D5 Furry Pets Foster Care program will provide approved county residents with a stipend of \$25 per night for fostering pets in need or up to \$50 per night if residents foster a pair of dogs or a litter of puppies or kittens from the San Jacinto Valley Animal Campus. Approved county residents will be provided with basic supplies to foster pets as well.

Residents must complete a sign up and approval process to enroll in the program. The sign up and approval process can be done in person or online and is available in English and Spanish.

Residents can foster for up to 21 days and fosters are encouraged to serve as adoption ambassadors to help their foster pets find their new homes. During the three weeks, foster parents will be asked to seek adoption placement for the animals in their care. This could include posting pictures and information on social media sites, introducing foster pets to friends and family interested in adoption, or taking them to pet friendly locations in the community. If a foster can get their foster pet adopted into a new home within two weeks or less, a \$150 bonus will be given to the foster parent. After the three weeks, if an adopter is not found, the foster parent can choose to adopt the pet(s) at no charge or return them to the animal shelter.

If a potential adopter wants to adopt a foster pet, Animal Services will complete the adoption process for the adopter at no charge. Adoption paperwork can be completed in person or online. The adopter will receive a gift card to Petco or PetSmart, when adopting their new pet. Please note that gift cards are for adopters who have not fostered the pet. Gift cards will be available while supplies last.

The D5 Furry Pets Foster Care program aims to achieve the following goals: increase adoptions and help pets in District 5 find homes, reduce the number of pets housed in kennels in the shelter each night to allow other stray animals to get the help they need, and lastly, prevent euthanasia of adoptable pets by finding temporary placements for these animals.

To participate in the D5 Furry Pets Foster Care Program individuals must: choose a pet from the San Jacinto Valley Animal Campus, complete the Animal Services' sign-up form (available online), watch a brief orientation video- this can be done from home, and be 18 years or older.

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Impact on Residents and Businesses

In the previous round of funding, a total of 225 pets were helped through this program. Of the 225 pets, 56 were adopted and 169 were fostered. The D5 Furry Pets program effectively helped extend pets' lives, relieve shelter capacity, and reduce euthanasia rates.

Additionally, this program supports the Department of Animal Services mission in "Working Together to Improve Riverside County for People and Animals," and increases the department's efforts to help move pets from shelters into stable, forever homes.

The program will continue to benefit citizens and animals by providing a toolkit and supplies for foster parents to use to help promote foster pets. It also will continue to assist in managing/addressing the pet population and encouraging county residents to foster and adopt pets.

Additional Fiscal Information

In this next round of funding, \$160,000 will be allocated from Unincorporated Communities Initiative funds to the D5 Furry Pets Program for FY25/26.