

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

February 16, 2016

The enforcement of laws regarding the vaccination of domestic animals and the licensing of these animals serves an important public health and safety function. In fact, the Department of Animal Care and Control was created in 1937 at the height of a statewide rabies epidemic, which saw 1,700 cases of rabies in Los Angeles County alone.

The Department of Animal Care and Control employs officers and support staff to specifically enforce state and local laws regarding vaccination and licensing requirements. These efforts are important to provide responsive, efficient and high-quality animal care and control services that preserve and protect public and animal safety.

Over the years, new opportunities have arisen by which vaccination and licensing enforcement services can possibly be improved. Better methods of communication to local residents, community outreach services, methods of payment and notification, and enhanced customer service are areas which my office has noted may need review.

MOTION

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

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ANTONOVICH _____

SOLIS _____

(M O R E)

Currently, vaccination and licensing enforcement practices involve officers visiting residences door to door follow up on with fees owed by residents. However, residents are dissatisfied at times with this process and the options given to provide fee payment.

I, THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Animal Care and Control to review the current vaccination and licensing enforcement practices and compare with practices in other jurisdictions in order to identify improvements to enhance customer service and community outreach, payment and notification method, review staff structure/assignments and determine the use of potential new technologies resulting in improved operational efficiencies; and direct the Director of Animal Care and Control to report back to the Board in 60 days with such recommendations and a pilot program for implementation.

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DK:azr