



Mission
Advancing the well-being of animals and people in the County of Los Angeles.

Mandatory & Major Duties

- Operate the County's Seven Animal Care Centers
- Enforce Animal Laws and Regulations
- Manage Pet and Animal Facility Licensing
- Provide Emergency and Disaster Response
- Facilitate Pet Adoptions and Rescue Transfers
- Offer Low-Cost Veterinary Services
- Support Pet Retention and Owner Resources
- Facilitate Lost-and-Found Pet Reunifications
- Conduct Community Outreach and Education
- Respond to Public Safety Concerns

Department Strategic Plan Exists?

[Strategic Plan 2023-26](#)

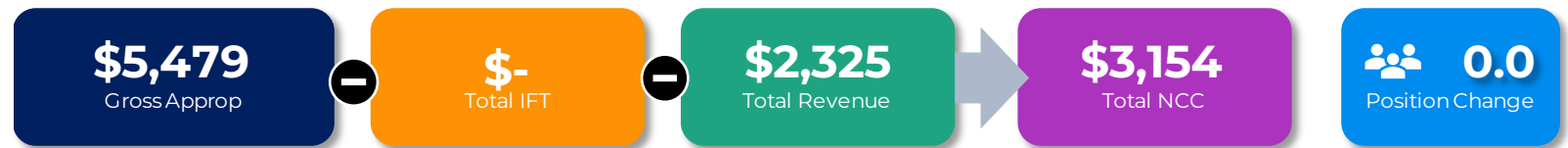
2024-25 Budget (\$Thousands)

As of Supplemental Budget Phase

EXPENDITURES/APPROPRIATIONS	
Total S&EB	\$ 53,586
Total S&S	11,710
Other Charges	1,038
Cap Assets – Equip	-
TOTAL GROSS APPROP	\$ 66,334
Intrafund Transfers	-
TOTAL NET APPROP	\$ 66,334
Revenue	17,986
NET COUNTY COST¹	\$ 48,348
TOTAL BUDGETED POSITIONS	402

¹ Includes restricted and unrestricted locally generated revenues

TOTAL BUDGET REQUEST FOR 2025-26 RECOMMENDED BUDGET PHASE (\$Thousands)



Department Budget Request: Budget Priorities

Listed in order of priority, Amounts in \$Thousands

Priority #	Request Title/Short Descriptor	Funding Source	Gross Approp	less IFT	less Revenue	= NCC	Position Change	Primary Use of Funding (S/D = Service Delivery)	Externally Required?	Board Priority?	Directed by Motion?	Data & Metrics Plan?
1	Unavoidable Higher Operating Costs	NCC	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ 1,745	\$ 2,255	-	S/D - Public	Y - Funding Req	-	N	Y
2	Rodent Abatement Program	NCC	291	-	-	291	-	S/D - Public	Y - Funding Req	-	N	N
3	IT Projects	NCC	600	-	-	600	-	Administrative	Y - Funding Req	-	N	N
*	Other Ministerial Changes		588	-	580	8	-	Administrative	N	-	N	N
TOTAL			\$ 5,479	\$ -	\$ 2,325	\$ 3,154	-					

KEY RO: Revenue Offset | NCC: Net County Cost Change | AFB: Available Fund Balance | DAFB: Department Available Fund Balance | CO: Carryover | Other - SBI: State Budget Impact, MC: Ministerial Changes



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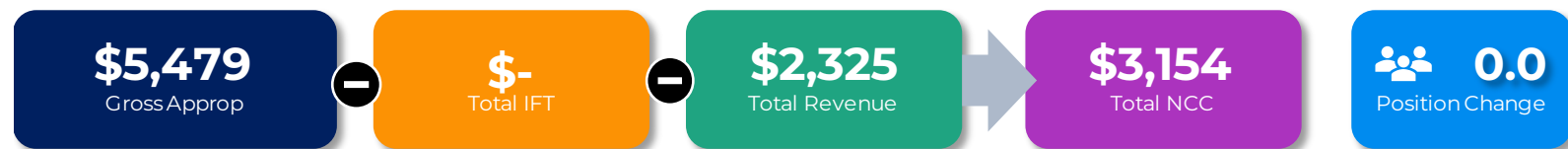
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Department Budget Request:
Budget Challenges/Pressures

Budget Challenge/Pressure	Source	Impact Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INCREASED OPERATIONAL COSTS due to sustained high inflation over the past several years, our Services & Supplies costs have risen significantly, particularly for animal feed, vaccines, medical supplies, laboratory services, cleaning supplies, and other essential items. 	External	<p>DACC costs for basic operating items substantially increased:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animal food: from \$402K in FY 21-22 to an estimated \$711K in FY 24-25. An increase of \$308K. - Animal medicine: from \$464K in FY 21-22 to an estimated \$755K in FY 24-25. An increase of \$291K. - Other supplies: from \$1,025K in FY21-22 to an estimated \$1,584K in FY 24-25. An increase of \$558K. <p>Similar increases have impacted other items like staff uniforms, etc.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INCREASED OPERATIONAL COST Rising charges for services provided by other departments are straining DACC's budget, forcing us to balance urgent repairs, animal feed, and other essential expenditures. 	External	<p>DACC costs for services received from central departments increased:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Internal Services Department: from \$4.6M in FY 21-22 to an estimated \$5.9M in FY 24-25. An increase of \$1.3M. - Department of Human Resources: from \$251K in FY 21-22 to an estimated \$491K in FY 24-25. An increase of \$240K. - Office of the County Counsel: from \$1,025 in FY 21-22 to an estimated \$425K in FY 24-25. An increase of \$424K.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGING FACILITIES 	Internal	<p>With the exception of the Palmdale Animal Care Center, the remaining six care centers are aged and in frequent need of repairs and maintenance. Additionally, due to these facilities being built at a time when shelters operated differently, infrastructure and design of these facilities are also outdated and do not align with our modern needs.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INCREASED ANIMAL ADMISSIONS 	External	<p>Compared to 2023, cat and dog admissions increased by 7% in 2024, primarily due to a rise in pet surrenders as owners face housing and financial challenges. This ultimately leads to higher costs for both contract cities and the County as additional animals require housing and care. From FY2020-21 to FY2023-24, animal admissions increased by 45% and field service calls increased by 21%, resulting in higher costs for contract cities and the County.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEDICAL OUTBREAKS 	Internal	<p>DACC cannot anticipate medical outbreaks at its care centers, such as the recent Strep Zoo cases. Managing these outbreaks often requires specialized and costly medications, such as Convenia for Strep Zoo treatment, which is why it's critical that DACC has these funds available.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIGH VOLUME ANIMAL CONFISCATIONS 	External	<p>DACC often cannot predict large-scale animal confiscations required for cases of abuse, neglect, or hoarding. A recent example involved the removal of over 100 animals in the City and unincorporated areas of Compton. These animals were deprived of proper care, and the owner refused to grant the Department access for a welfare check.</p>

Other Impact from January 2025 Windstorm and Critical Fire Event

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMERGENCY RESPONSE 	External	<p>DACC plays a critical role in disaster response, working alongside the Fire and Sheriff's Departments during wildfires and other emergencies. During the Eaton, Palisades, and Hughes Fires, we evacuated and sheltered animals at our Agoura and Castaic Animal Care Centers, as well as emergency partner sites like Pierce College and the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds. The Hughes Fire further strained our resources, requiring the full evacuation of the Castaic Animal Care Center. In total, DACC provided emergency shelter for 473 animals, including 315 livestock that required specialized and costly care. So far, 398 animals have been reunited with their owners. While we submit reimbursement claims through the Office of Emergency Management, the process is slow, and any approved funds return to the General Fund—leaving us to cover emergency costs upfront. Requesting fire/emergency response funding (PFU) to cover operational expenditures when responding to fires. This includes an additional \$200,000 for staff overtime and an additional \$100,000 for supplies (total \$300,000).</p>
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