

ANALYSIS

This ordinance amends Title 10 - Animals, of the Los Angeles County Code to allow the department, in conjunction with the Auditor-Controller, to review its fees and costs for services annually to ensure that they accurately reflect the cost of the services. The ordinance also includes other technical non-substantive changes for clarification purposes.

RAYMOND G. FORTNER, JR.
County Counsel

By



DIANE C. REAGAN
Principal Deputy County Counsel
Health Services Division

DCR:ec

Requested 5/6/2008

Revised 7/22/08

ORDINANCE NO. 2009-0017

An ordinance amending Title 10 - Animals of the Los Angeles County Code, to allow the department, in conjunction with the Auditor-Controller, to review its fees annually, and to make other technical non-substantive changes.

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 10.04.065 is hereby added to read as follows:

10.04.065 Fees for Services. The fees and costs for animal-related services shall be determined annually by the Auditor-Controller, and posted in each shelter and on the department's website.

SECTION 2. Section 10.12.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.12.060 Public spay and neuter clinic -- Establishment -- Services and fees.

A. The director may establish a clinic, at which members of the public may have dogs and cats spayed or neutered in a humane manner upon payment of the applicable fees set forth in Section 10.90.010.

B. A person submitting a dog or cat for the above service shall sign a consent form certifying thereon under penalty of perjury that he is the owner of the animals, or setting forth facts showing that he is otherwise authorized to present the animal for the above operation and such person may be required to furnish proof of such ownership or authority. Such consent shall contain a waiver of any and all liability of the county, the department of animal care and control and any county employees for

any injury or death to an animal arising out of the aforementioned operation or any services provided incidental thereto.

C. The department shall establish a return date by which a person submitting an animal for the above operation shall pick up such animal or be subject to a reasonable board and care fee to commence the day after such return date. Failure to pick up an animal within 15 days of the return date shall be deemed abandonment of such animal, and the director may dispose of it by sale or destruction.

SECTION 3. Section 10.12.110 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.12.110 Fees for taking unwanted animals.

The department shall charge the fees prescribed in ~~Section 10.90.010~~ for the taking up or relinquishing of an unwanted animal when requested to do so by the animal's owner or other person having custody or control over said animal.

SECTION 4. Section 10.12.111 is hereby deleted in its entirety:

~~10.12.111 Traps for cats and dogs -- Rental conditions.~~

~~The director may permit members of the public to borrow animal traps to be used for the purpose of catching animals on their property. The director may collect a fee for the use of all animal traps as provided in Section 10.90.010. If the trap is lost or damaged beyond repair, the director shall collect the actual cost of the trap for its replacement.~~

SECTION 5. Section 10.12.130 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.12.130 Dead animals and dead livestock -- Pickup from public and private property -- Fee -- Exceptions.

The director shall pick up and dispose of all dead animals and livestock on public highways and on public and private property within the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, where the owner is unknown, or at the request of the animal's owner or other person having custody or control over the animal. The fees for such removal services shall be ~~as provided in Section 10.90.010~~ determined annually as provided in Section 10.04.065. The director shall not pick up any dead animals:

- A. In Garbage Disposal Districts where contractors are required to perform such service pursuant to contract;
- B. In beach areas which are maintained by the department of beaches and harbors.

SECTION 6. Section 10.12.140 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.12.140 Dead animals -- Pickup from businesses or other facilities.

For each pickup or receiving of dead animals from any animal-related business, such as a pet hospital, humane society, kennel, stable or veterinary establishment, or any commercial, industrial, educational, medical or other facility that deals with animals in connection with its operation, the director shall collect the fees determined annually as provided in Section. 10.04.065 ~~as set forth in Section 10.90.010~~.

SECTION 7. Section 10.20.270 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.20.270 ~~Applicability of Part 3 provisions.~~ Licensing of businesses using dogs for protection. ~~This Part 3 of Chapter 10.20 applies to every~~ Every business establishment that uses a dog or dogs to work without supervision to deter and protect the business from unauthorized persons entering said business, is required to obtain a business license under this part, other than sentry dog companies having dogs registered pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section ~~25980~~ 121910. Businesses registered under Health and Safety Code Section 121910 are also required to obtain an animal facility license under Section 10.28.060.

SECTION 8. Section 10.20.280 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.20.280 ~~Registration -- Required for business establishments~~ Licensing of dogs used by businesses for protection.

Every business establishment shall ~~register~~ license, with the Los Angeles County department of animal care and control, each and every dog subject to this Part 3.

SECTION 9. Section 10.20.290 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.20.290 Inspection of business premises required annually -- Fee.

Prior to the licensing ~~registration~~ of a dog, and business subject to this Part 3, the county shall inspect the business establishment premises so as to assure the adequate housing and care of the dog. ~~An initial inspection fee as specified under Chapter 10.90 Section VIII shall be charged to the business, and an annual inspection shall thereafter be~~

required. The inspection fee set forth in Sec. 10.90.010. II. C.3 shall be paid annually upon inspection.

SECTION 10. Section 10.20.300 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.20.300 ~~Registration~~ Licensing -- Information required.

The registration license issued to ~~of dogs~~ a business subject to this Part 3 shall include the following information:

- A. The name, address and telephone number of both the business establishment and the dog's responsible owner or handler;
- B. The name of the dog;
- C. The license identification number of the dog;
- D. The time at which the owner or handler shall inspect the dog's physical condition, its surroundings, and to assure its food and water supply are adequate. Said inspection shall be twice in any 24-hour period, with each inspection no more than 15 hours from the previous inspection.

SECTION 11. Section 10.20.310 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.20.310 Sign required on premises -- Contents.

Clear and legible signs shall be posted at each of the entrances to the business establishment having dogs ~~registered~~ licensed pursuant to this Part 3, which shall state that the dog and the business are licensed ~~is registered~~ with the Los Angeles County

department of animal care and control and the location and telephone number of the nearest county animal shelter.

SECTION 12. Section 10.20.385 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.20.385 Allocation of fees and fines collected.

All costs and fines collected under this part and the fees collected under Section 10.90.010(VI)(A) shall be paid to the department for the purpose of defraying the cost of the implementation and enforcement of this Part 4.

SECTION 13. Section 10.28.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.28.020 Initial license -- Application required.

Every person desiring a license to operate an animal facility or to keep a wild animal under Section 10.28.060, shall file an application with the department upon a form to be provided by the department, and at such time pay the required fee and any applicable penalty as set forth in Section ~~10.90.010.VII~~ 10.90.010. II. A person who possessed or owned a wild animal or who operated an animal facility without the required license, shall pay the penalty set forth in Section ~~10.90.010.VII.C.4~~ 10.90.010. II.C.4, in addition to the license fee. When a person applies for ~~more than one license~~ licenses for different purposes for animals at the same premises at the same time, the cost of the licenses shall be reduced by the amount set forth in Section ~~10.90.010.VII.A.1.k~~ 10.90.010. II.A.1.k.

SECTION 14. Section 10.28.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.28.060 License -- Required for certain activities and animals -- certain animals exempt.

A. Any person, including a new owner of an existing organization or business, shall not conduct or operate any animal facility listed in Section ~~10.90.010.VII.~~ 10.90.010. II, or keep any wild animal, within the unincorporated area of Los Angeles, without first obtaining a license from the department, except as otherwise provided in this Section 10.28.060. Any person who has not applied for a license within 30 days after the expiration date of a license must obtain a new license, in place of a renewal license. A license is not required for the keeping of the following animals for personal use:

1. Canaries;
2. Chinchillas;
3. Chipmunks;
4. Finches;
5. Gopher snakes;
6. Guinea pigs;
7. Hamsters;
8. Hawks;
9. King snakes;
10. Marmoset monkeys;
11. Mynah birds;

12. Parrots, parakeets, amazons, cockatiels, cockatoos, lories, lorikeets, love birds, macaws, and similar birds of the psittacine family;
13. Pigeons;
14. Ravens;
15. Squirrel monkeys;
16. Steppe eagles;
17. Toucans;
18. Turtles;
19. White doves;
20. Tropical fish excluding caribe;
21. Domesticated mice and rats.

B. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Division 1, the director shall waive the license requirement for a cat kennel (as defined in Section 10.08.090) or dog kennel (as defined in Section 10.08.130) when an animal permit has been obtained pursuant to Ordinance 1494, the Zoning Ordinance, (Los Angeles County Code Sections 22.52.330 and 22.56.420 through 22.56.530).

SECTION 15. Section 10.28.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.28.160 Renewal procedure.

Within 30 days after the expiration of any license or prior to the expiration of the license, the licensee shall apply for a renewal of the license and, with his application, pay the required fee set forth in Section ~~10.90.010.VII.B.~~ 10.90.010.II.B. When a person

applies for more than one renewal, for animals at the same premises at the same time, the cost of the renewals shall be reduced by the amount set forth in Section ~~10.90.010.VII.B.1.i~~ 10.90.010.II.B.1.j. An animal facility which has not applied for a renewal within the 30 day grace period must obtain a new license in place of a renewal license, and pay the fees applicable to an initial license. If the applicant has not applied for a renewal within six months after the expiration date, the penalty provided in Section ~~10.90.010.C.4~~ 10.90.010.II.C.4 must also be paid.

SECTION 16. Section 10.28.175 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.28.175 Reinspection.

When a reinspection of the premises is necessary to determine compliance with all licensing requirements, or when a person requests a reinspection in order to improve a grade, or for any reason, he shall pay the reinspection fee set forth in Section ~~10.90.010.VII.C.1~~ 10.90.010.II.C.1, provided that any applicable initial license fee or renewal fee has been already paid within the preceding twelve months.

SECTION 17. Section 10.36.190 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.36.190 Impounding Fees –Veterinary care ~~Costs of Veterinarian's care~~ authorized.

A. The director may employ a private veterinarian ~~if whenever he deems it~~ necessary in order to properly care for and maintain any animal, ~~pursuant to Section 597(f) of the California Penal Code, and the cost thereof shall be a county charge not to~~

~~exceed the amount of \$50.00 per treatment unless an additional amount is approved by the director.~~

B. When a veterinarian's fee has been paid or incurred for the care or treatment of an ~~any~~ animal, such animal shall not thereafter be redeemed without payment by the owner of all fees and costs. ~~such fee, in addition to any and all other fees, including vaccine, so as to reimburse the county for its cost for veterinarian service for such animal.~~

SECTION 18. Section 10.90.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10.90.010 Fee schedule.

The fees required to be paid for all services and activities set forth in Title 10 are as follows, except that the director may waive any fees in cases of undue hardship:

~~I. Spaying and Neutering.~~

Fees

~~All dogs and cats sold by the department are required to be spayed or neutered as a condition of sale. The fee for any such services performed by the department shall be paid at the time of purchase. Except that, for such animals purchased under the age of four months, the department shall collect a trust deposit, redeemable to the purchaser upon proof that spay/neuter services have been performed by a licensed veterinarian after such animal has reached the age of four months.~~

~~A. Female Dogs:~~

1. One to 25 pounds	\$ 35.00
2. 26 to 50 pounds	45.00
3. 51 to 70 pounds	55.00
4. Over 70 pounds	75.00—
	100.00
(Price to be determined by veterinarian)	
5. Additional charge for in heat or pregnant female dog	10.00—20.00

~~(Price to be determined by veterinarian)~~

~~B. Male Dogs:~~

1. One to 25 pounds	30.00
2. 26 to 50 pounds	40.00
3. 51 to 70 pounds	50.00
4. Over 70 pounds	70.00—90.00

~~(Price to be determined by veterinarian)~~

~~C. Cats:~~

1. Female cats	25.00
2. Additional charge if in heat or pregnant female cats	10.00
3. Male cats	20.00
4. Purchased at shelter, male or female	20.00

II. Disposal of Dead Animals. Fees

~~A. Dead animals picked up by department at request of owner or custodian (per animal):~~

1. Small animal	\$10.00
2. Large animal	250.00
3. Special handling fee for large animals or animal pickups requiring more than one animal control officer and/or special transportation equipment (per hour)	40.00

~~B. Dead animals delivered by owner or
custodian to department centers (per animal):~~

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Small animals | No charge |
| 2. Large animals | 200.00 |

~~C. Dead animals delivered by business or
other facility~~

(per animal):	5.00
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**III. Live Animals Voluntarily Relinquished Fees
to Department.**

~~A handling fee shall be charged for each live
animal voluntarily relinquished to the custody
of the department by the owner or custodian.~~

~~A. Animals picked up by the department at
the request of owner or custodian (per
animal):~~

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. Single small animal | \$ 10.00 |
| 2. Single small animal litter | |
| (Under four months) | 10.00 |
| 3. Single small livestock animal | 25.00 |
| 4. Single large animal | 100.00 |

5. Special handling fee for large animals or animal pickups requiring more than one animal control officer and/or special transportation equipment (per hour)	40.00
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B. Animals delivered to the department by the owner or custodian:

1. Single small animal	No charge
2. Single small animal litter (Under four months)	No charge
3. Single small livestock animal	25.00
4. Single large animal	50.00

C. Live animals for which the owner requests euthanasia.

1. Cat	15.00
2. Dog	20.00
3. Small livestock animal	25.00
4. Large animal	250.00

IV. Daily Care and Impound Fees.	Fees
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~~Animals found at large and impounded by the department shall be redeemed only upon the payment of all applicable impound fees, and fees for daily care and feeding and veterinary services fees. Additionally, all fees for veterinary care services for animals handled by the department shall be recovered as follows:~~

~~A. Animal Impound Fees.~~

~~1. Small animals (other than dogs and cats) \$ 2.00~~

~~2. Dogs and cats:~~

~~a. First impoundment 10.00~~

~~b. Second impoundment within one year 20.00~~

~~c. Third impoundment within one year 30.00~~

~~3. Special handling fee for large animals or~~

~~animal pickups requiring more than one~~

~~animal control officer and/or special~~

~~transportation equipment (per hour) 40.00~~

~~B. Care and Feeding (Daily)~~

~~1. Large animals 10.00~~

~~2. Small animals (other than dogs and cats) 2.00~~

~~3. Dogs and cats 7.50~~

C. Veterinary Services Performed During
Impound.

1. Vaccinations:

a. Rabies (cats and dogs) 5.00

b. Distemper canine, hepatitis, leptospirosis,
parainfluenza and parvovirus 10.00

c. Feline rhinotracheitis, calici and
anleukopenia and chlamydia 10.00

2. Emergency and health maintenance
services:

a. Emergency services (per treatment) 50.00

b. Health maintenance services performed by
department veterinarian (per hour) 55.00

c. Health maintenance services performed by
department animal health technician (per
hour) 35.00

D. Veterinary Services Performed at Spay
and Neuter Clinics.

1. Vaccinations 10.00—20.00

2. Elective surgical procedures 10.00—30.00

3. Prescriptions 5.00—10.00

V. Animal Purchases.	Fees
A. Animal purchase fees (purchase price excludes required veterinary services and spay/neuter fees unless otherwise provided):	
1. Dogs and cats	\$ 10.00
2. Small animals (other than dogs and cats)	5.00
3. Large animals (other than dogs or cats)	50.00
B. Approved nonprofit humane organization (purchase price includes veterinary services and spay/neuter fees)	
1. Dogs	35.00
2. Cats	25.00

VI. I. Individual Animal Licenses.

Fees

Every person owning a dog or cat over the age of four months shall obtain an annual license and tag for each such dog or cat; except, there shall be a one-time-only fee for registration of discharged military dogs, for guide dogs or Seeing Eye dogs, for signal dogs trained to assist the hearing impaired, and for service dogs trained to perform tasks to assist the physically handicapped, upon payment of the following fees:

A. Dog license and tag fees:

Dogs over four months:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Unaltered (Unspayed/unneutered) | \$ 60.00 |
| (\$5 of each fee received is designated for low cost spay/neuter program) | |
| 2. Altered (Spayed/neutered) | 20.00 |
| (\$5 of each fee received is designated for low cost spay/neuter program) | |
| 3. Senior citizen— Spayed/neutered dog | 7.50 |

4. Delinquency charge for annual license renewal not obtained on or before date of expiration	20.00
5. Replacement of tag or official license receipt	5.00
6. Transfer of ownership	5.00
7. Discharged military dogs (one-time registration fee)	5.00
8. Guide dogs or Seeing Eye dogs, signal dogs, and service dogs (one-time registration fee)	5.00
B. Cat license fees:	
1. Unspayed/unneutered	10.00
2. Spayed/neutered	5.00
3. Replacement cat tag	5.00
4. Transfer of ownership	5.00

C. Cat licensing, kennel exception:

Up to five cats may be kept at any residence without a kennel license, provided the cats' owner or custodian licenses each individual animal, has each animal spayed or neutered and keeps all cats primarily indoors.

D. Other animals— Licenses required:

1. Pygmy pigs	50.00
2. Wild animals	100.00

E. Voluntary identification and registration:

Any dog or cat may be registered in the department's Voluntary Identification Program. Such animal shall be assigned an identification number by tattoo, microchip or other available means of identification, at the owner's request, upon the payment of the following fees:

1. Initial identification and registration	20.00
2. Annual renewal	10.00
3. Transfer of ownership	5.00

II VII. Animal Facility Licenses. **Fees**

Licenses for the animal facilities listed below are required to be obtained annually.

A. Initial animal facility license fees (including inspection):

1. All animal facilities except for dog and cat kennels:

a. Pet shop	\$ 250.00
b. Grooming parlor/mobile	250.00
c. Animal menagerie	250.00
d. Wholesale wild animal dealer	250.00
e. Stables	250.00
f. Hobby breeder (Defined in Section 10.20.045)	250.00
g. Rodeo (first day or one day event)	250.00
(i) Each additional day	25.00
h. Animal exhibition (first day or one day event)	250.00
(i) Each additional day	25.00
i. Pygmy pig breeder	250.00
j. Non-profit humane organization	250.00
k. Fee reduction for each additional animal care facility Application <u>application</u> made at same location at the same time	125.00

2. Dog and cat kennels:

For purposes of license fee computation, fee is based on 75 percent of the total capacity of the kennel or the actual animal population housed at the time of the inspection, whichever is greater.

4-20 dogs or cats	300.00
21-50 dogs or cats	350.00
51-75 dogs or cats	400.00
76-100 dogs or cats	450.00
Over 100 dogs or cats	525.00
Penalty for operation of kennel without license	100.00

B. Renewal animal facility license fees

(including inspection):

1. All animal facilities except for dog and cat kennels:

a. Pet shop	175.00
b. Grooming parlor/mobile	175.00
c. Animal menagerie	175.00
d. Wholesale wild animal dealer	175.00
e. Stables	175.00
f. Hobby breeder (defined in Section 10.20.045)	175.00

g. Pygmy pig breeder	175.00
h. Non-profit humane organization	175.00
i. Fee reduction for each additional animal care facility application made at same location at the same time	50.00

2. Dog and cat kennels:

For purposes of license fee computation, fee is based on 75 percent of the total capacity of the kennel or the actual animal population housed at the time of the inspection, whichever is greater.

4-20 dogs or cats	225.00
21-50 dogs or cats	275.00
51-75 dogs or cats	325.00
76-100 dogs or cats	375.00
over 100 dogs or cats	450.00

C. Miscellaneous fee provisions:

1. Reinspection	40.00
2. Inspection fee for animal permits under Los Angeles County Code Sections 22.52.330 and 22.56.420 - 22.56.530	50.00

3. Guard dogs <u>Businesses using dogs for protection</u> (Sections 10.20.280 and 10.20.290)	50.00
4. Penalty for <u>ownership of wild animal or</u> operation of animal facility without license	100.00

~~VIII. Animal Trap Rentals.~~

Fees

A. Weekly rental fee (all traps)	\$ 20.00
B. Replacement fee for animal traps lost or damaged beyond repair:	
1. Dog trap	132.00
2. Cat trap	35.00
3. Raccoon trap	45.00

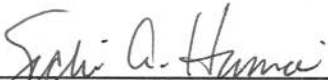
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SECTION 19. This ordinance shall be published in The Daily Commerce a newspaper printed and published in the County of Los Angeles.




Chairman

ATTEST:


Sachi A. Hamai
Executive Officer -
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles

I hereby certify that at its meeting of June 2, 2009 the foregoing ordinance was adopted by the Board of Supervisors of said County of Los Angeles by the following vote, to wit:

Ayes

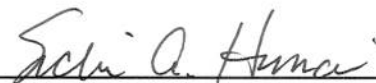
Supervisors Gloria Molina
Zev Yaroslavsky
Michael D. Antonovich
Don Knabe

Noes

Supervisors None

Effective Date: July 2, 2009

Operative Date: _____


Sachi A. Hamai
Executive Officer -
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles

I hereby certify that pursuant to Section 25103 of the Government Code, delivery of this document has been made.

SACHI A. HAMAI
Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By 
Deputy



APPROVED AS TO FORM:
ROBERT KALUNIAN
Acting County Counsel

By 
Leela Kapur
Chief Deputy County Counsel