

## **Friends of Community Animal Services:**

### **County of Monterey Animal Services Proposal for Community Cats - Shelter Neuter Return (SNR) Program**

#### **Contacts**

Primary Contact Person For This Request

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#### **Proposal**

Project Title: Monterey County Animal Services Community Cats Shelter Neuter Return (SNR) Program, a.k.a "Community Cats."

#### **Total Estimated Project Cost :**

**The total project cost: \$1549.87-\$1590.01 per month for a maximum of 6 cats per week, 24 cats per month. (\$9,540.06 maximum for a six [6] month period). See Attachment A**  
\$5,000

#### **Project Description**

Monterey County Animal Services is requesting grant funds from Friends of Community Animal Services (FoCAS) to start our Community Cats Shelter Neuter Return (SNR) Program that has been in hiatus. The primary goal of the Community Cats program is to reduce the free-roaming cat population in the unincorporated areas of Monterey County/contracted municipalities without resorting to euthanasia. The secondary goal is to return healthy and sterilized free-roaming cats to the community.

When trapped feral cats from within the prescribed limits are brought to the County Shelter, they are placed in the feral cat holding rooms. Staff makes the determination as to whether the cat is a candidate for the program based on several factors including health, age, and location. All cats must present showing no physical ailments, be approximately four (4) months of age, and not be in a location that is unable to have them returned to. If they qualify, the cats are scheduled for surgery as soon as possible.

Animal Care Staff bring the feral cats into the clinic the morning of surgery. Cats are spayed/neutered, and vaccinated (Rabies and FVRCP). Additional medical care may be given depending on the veterinarian findings after the cats are anesthetized. While not all cats are tested for FIV/FelV, those that are will be humanely euthanized if they test positive. Cats then recover for 1-3 days at the County Shelter. The veterinarian, registered veterinary technician, and animal care technician address any post-operative pain at the time the animal is anesthetized. Medical staff utilizes pre-emptive pain medications for pain management. They provide more potent, longer lasting medications for females. Animals are monitored until sterile. They are judged in the postoperative period as being able to sit up, hold their head up, if they are resting, and if they are able to take food.

If animals experience difficulty or complications in the postoperative period, their temperature, mucous membranes, heart rate, and ability to oxygenate is monitored. Within three days of discharge, the doctor asks shelter staff to monitor each animal's food and water consumption, and ability to urinate and defecate. Males are held for 24 hours, females for 72. All animals can be held for longer if needed. After the cats have completed the post-operative period, a volunteer picks them up from the County Shelter and releases them within 300 feet of the location they were trapped. Feral cats that do not qualify for the program are humanely euthanized.

**Project Timeline and Evaluation**

The County would like to start with a 6-month pilot program; approximately August 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019:

June/July 2018: Present grant request to Friends of Community Animal Services

August 2018: Program begins

September: First invoices to FoCAS

January 2019: End of funding period with assessment/evaluation.

**Explain how you will measure the impact of the project:**

1. Feral cat intake at MCAS is subject to various variables: Trapping activities, other s/n programs, health of cats, seasonal weather, however MCAS will include feral cat intake as a statistic to monitor moving forward with this program. The intent is that intake in areas that have been bringing in the feral cats will begin to decline, although we may not see a reduction for several breeding cycles.
2. MCAS is currently not offering a community cats program to the public meaning that all feral cats that are accepted into the facility only have one outcome: euthanasia. To have this program in place will mean we are able to offer another resource, a non-lethal resource, for the issue of pet overpopulation and feral cats. Every cat altered is a positive outcome for this project and for the community and we will track this program as it grows.
3. Target number is 6 cats per week; meeting or exceeding that will contribute to the overall success in the larger context above.

## Attachment A

### Community Cat Program

Minimum age: about 4 months, 4 lbs.

Cats need to be in traps. 1cat per trap.

Pregnant cats are spayed.

FelV and/or FIV positive, severely sick, injured cats are humanely euthanized. Doctor will make the decision based on physical exam, test findings.

#### **Estimated total monthly cost: \$1549.87-1590.01**

24 cats per month. 12 males=\$438.36. 12 females=\$1046.88. 50%

female 12 cats per month 2-3 cats would be pregnant (\$15-30) 50%

male 12 cats per month 1-2 cats would be FIV + (\$8.31-16.62) Up to

2-3 cats would receive Convenia injections (\$26-39)

Cats that have evidence of tapeworms are treated. Estimate 20% = 4-5 cats (\$15.32-19.15)

DTK for 10 lb cat: \$2.10 without reversal. \$3.83 with reversal.

### **ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON OVERALL PROGRAM COSTS**

#### **INJECTABLES**

Telazol 5 ml bottle \$65.35 {\$13.07 per ml) Average 10 lb cat can dose 0.15 ml{\$1.97)

Meloxicam 20 ml bottle \$133.95 {\$6.70 per ml) Average 10 lb cat dose 0.17 ml{\$1.14)

Buprenorphine 5 ml \$64.53 {\$12.91 per ml) Average 10 lb cat spay dose 0.3 ml{\$3.92)

Pen G 100 ml \$5.08 {\$0.05 per ml) Average 10 lb cat dose 0.5 ml{\$0.03)

Rabies Vaccine Box of 50 \$51.50 {\$1.03 per vaccine)

FVRCP Box of 25 \$40.25 {\$1.61 per vaccine)

Syringes Box of 100 \$21.31 (\$0.22 per syringe) Up to 6 syringes used per cat (\$1.32)

Needles Box of 100 \$8.38 {\$0.084 per needle) Up to 6 needles used per cat (\$0.51)

#### **TOTAL INJECTABLE COST: \$9.92**

#### **TESTING**

FelV/FIV test \$13.00 per test

#### **TOTAL TESTING COST: \$13.00**

#### **FLEA PREVENTION (Ear mite treatment as well)**

Revolution \$5.17 per ml Average large cat dose 0.35 mL(\$1.81)

#### **TOTAL FLEA PREVENTION (Ear Mite Treatment): \$1.81**

#### **GAS ANESTHESIA (Estimate based on about 30 surgeries per month)**

O2 tank \$55.61 per month \$2.00 per feline surgery

Isoflurane gas anesthesia \$22.61 per bottle (using about 1 bottle per month) \$2.00 per feline surgery

Anesthesia gas scavenging \$5.97 per canister on each machine X 3 machines \$0.50 per feline surgery

CO2 absorbent for anesthetic machines \$87.67 per 5 gallons (lasts 2 months) \$1.50 per feline surgery

#### **TOTAL ANESTHESIA COST \$6.00**

#### **SURGICAL EXPENSES**

Monomend suture \$65.14 per box of 12 (\$5.43 per suture pack) For feline spays \$5.43

Scalpel blade \$0.30 per surgery

Tissue glue \$14.86 per 3 ml bottle (\$4.96 per ml) 0.1 ml used per feline spay \$0.50  
Miscellaneous overhead (cautery to tip the ear, electricity, maintenance, autoclave costs, washing costs)  
s2.00 per surgery  
Biohazardous waste (Scalpel blade, needle disposal, etc.) \$1.25 per cat  
**TOTAL SURGICAL COST: \$9.48**

**Feline Neuter ""10 minutes \$16.67**

**Feline Spay ""35 minutes \$58.45**

#### **Occasional Expenses**

+/-Euthanasia and Disposal of the FeLV/FIV positive cats and fetuses \$8.31 per cat (It is not uncommon for intact male cats to be FIV positive, perhaps up to 10%. In the spring/summer 20-30% of cat spays are pregnant at time of spay.)

+/-Convenia 10 ml bottle \$288.70 (\$28.87 per ml) Average 10 lb sick cat dose 0.45 ml (\$13.00)

Approximately 5 to 10% of feral cats have infected wounds or signs of URI and would receive this long acting antibiotic injection.

+/- Tapeworm treatment \$9.57 per ml Average 10 lb cat dose 0.4 ml (\$3.83)

#### **Feline Neuter**

**TOTAL Feline Neuter: \$36.53**

#### **Feline Spay**

**TOTAL Feline Spay: \$87.24**