

**MOTION**      AUDITS & GOVERNMENTAL EFFICIENCY

The Animal Facilities Bond Program (the Program), which voters in the City of Los Angeles approved in November 2000, was intended to replace, upgrade, and construct new animal shelters as well as increase the availability of spay-neuter services. Since the issuance of over \$150 million in bonds for that purpose, seven animal shelters have been constructed and one more facility is due to be completed in 2012.

On December 4, 2008, the City Controller released an audit of the Program that highlighted serious management problems within the Department of Animal Services that have delayed projects and negatively impacted the welfare of the City's animals. Among the audit's findings was that all Program projects were delayed by an average of two years, and that cost estimates were inaccurate and did not reflect market conditions. As a result, many project design features were changed or removed to the detriment of the animals in the Department's care.

Overall, the audit revealed a troubling lack of coordination between the Department of Animal Services and the Bureau of Engineering. Even more pressing is the Department of Animal Services' urgent need to develop clear policies and procedures relative to the Animal Facilities Bond Program. In order to safeguard public funds and to protect the City's animals, the Council should conduct a thorough review of the audit findings and direct the Department of Animal Services and the Bureau of Engineering to respond immediately to the Controller's recommendations.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Department of Animal Services and the Bureau of Engineering to report to the Audits and Governmental Efficiency Committee with a comprehensive response to the Controller's Audit of Proposition F Animal Facilities Bond Program, including a full accounting of all project design changes, an explanation of project delays, and an action plan to fully implement the audit recommendations before remaining Proposition F funds are expended.

PRESENTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dennis P. Zine  
Councilmember, 3<sup>rd</sup> District

SECONDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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