

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO CONTRACT WITH UC DAVIS
KORET SHELTER MEDICINE PROGRAM (KSMP)


SOURCE: Police Department

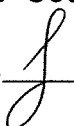
COMMENT: The Porterville Police Department Animal Control Unit currently operates an Animal Shelter located near Lindsay. Since this facility was constructed more than 20 years ago, staff desires to have it assessed to explore what is needed to bring it to current standards of sheltering. The City of Porterville is seeking an expert opinion of what changes might be required so the expense can be assessed to ensure the most cost-effective use of funds. This will enable the City to develop the best fiscal plan for shelter development. The options discussed have been to build a new shelter in Porterville or the modernization of the Lindsay shelter with a small auxiliary adoption center in Porterville. Staff located one entity to provide this professional service, which is the UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program.

UC Davis KSMP is a recognized leader in the field of shelter-based medicine programs. They provide consultations that focus on issues directly related to animal health, with "health" broadly defined to include all aspects of facility design and management that significantly impact mental and physical wellness of shelter animals. Consultations can be focused on only new shelter design recommendations, or can be customized to cover all areas of existing shelter operations, including a needs assessment, as well as shelter capacity and housing recommendations.

The approach of UC Davis KSMP is practical and flexible, having advised on projects with budgets ranging from less than \$50,000 to multi-million dollar facilities. Depending on the complexity of the project, the initial estimate could range from 30 to 200 hours for collection of preliminary information, review of plans, phone conferences to provide initial recommendations and follow up. Typically, charges for consultation run from \$5,000 to \$40,000, depending on the scope of the consultation. The goal of UC Davis KSMP is to provide suggestions which work for the organization, not that reflect a theoretical "Taj Mahal" standard of care.

Department staff reviewed past clients of UC Davis KSMP and found one fairly close to our city, which was Kings County Animal Control. Staff contacted Kings County Animal Control who contracted with UC Davis KSMP in 2006 for just such services. Staff was informed that UC Davis KSMP collected data from the Kings County Animal Shelter and also completed a two-day visit to the site. Upon completion of this visit, Kings County Animal Control was provided with a thirty (30) page

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Appropriated/Funded 

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document detailing the findings of the consultation group. According to the Kings County Animal Control Director, the report was detailed and provided valuable information to their program. The cost for their consultation and final report was less than \$15,000.

Police Department staff feels that while there will initially be a substantial fee involved with contracting for consultation with UC Davis KSMP, their assessment will be invaluable in helping define the needs of the Porterville Animal Control facility and result in cost savings as we decide how to move forward with this project.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council:

- 1) Authorize Police Staff to enter negotiations to contract with UC Davis Koret Shelter Medicine Program for a Needs Assessment, and Shelter Capacity and Housing Recommendations; and
- 2) Authorize payment as required per agreed upon contract.