



Citizens Humane Commission

CONSENT CALENDAR

November 18, 2008

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Citizens Humane Commission  
Submitted by: Kate O'Connor, Secretary, Citizens Humane Commission  
Subject: Naming the New Animal Shelter in honor of Councilmember Dona Spring

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution naming the New Animal Shelter in honor of Councilmember Dona Spring.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

None

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley is in the process of purchasing 1 Bolivar Drive as the site for the new animal shelter. BurkesToma Architects are contracted to design the new shelter with Rene Cardinaux as the contracted project manager.

BACKGROUND

In November 2002, the residents of Berkeley voted for and approved Ballot Measure I, in the sum of \$7.2 million of General Obligation Bonds to acquire property, if necessary, and to construct or rehabilitate a building for an animal shelter that meets the requirements of state law.

Councilmember Dona Spring was instrumental in highlighting animal welfare problems in Berkeley and was central in solving them. She urged the council to make animal research organizations operating in Berkeley accountable for the humane treatment of animals. She was one of the people in Berkeley that demanded a new concept of an animal shelter to be led by an experienced civilian in animal welfare. She championed the council decision to create the new position of volunteer coordinator in the shelter that oversees the loads of volunteers who come to the animal shelter to socialize pets and make them much more adoptable. She fought for new Berkeley laws affecting animal welfare, such as the spay and neuter of animals and providing money for animal rescue groups, that reduced the number of homeless animals in Berkeley. She demanded that Berkeley's adoptable animals not be euthanized, which led to a change in the way homeless animals are treated. She assisted the Humane Commission in developing proposals for new animal welfare laws. She spoke out on animal welfare in

various venues in the Bay Area and throughout the U.S. Councilmember Spring fostered a new favorable appreciation in the bond between humans and pets.

Her unlimited compassion led her to make many positive differences for beings, be they human or animal.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Councilmember Dona Spring's generous and compassionate spirit for the under-represented be it human or animal, is a role model for Berkeley citizens. Naming our animal shelter in honor of her is just fitting.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None

CITY MANAGER

The City Manager concurs with the content and recommendations of the Commission's Report.

CONTACT PERSON

Kate O'Connor, Manager, Animal Care Services, 981 6601

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. -N.S.

NAME THE NEW ANIMAL SHELTER IN HONOR OF COUNCILMEMBER DONA SPRING

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley is in the process of purchasing 1 Bolivar Drive as the site for the new animal shelter; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Dona Spring was instrumental in highlighting animal welfare problems in Berkeley and was central in solving them; and

WHEREAS, she championed the council decision to create the new position of volunteer coordinator in the shelter; and

WHEREAS, she fought for new Berkeley laws affecting animal welfare, such as the spay and neuter of animals; and

WHEREAS, she demanded that Berkeley's adoptable animals not be euthanized; and

WHEREAS, she spoke out on animal welfare and fostered a new favorable appreciation in the bond between humans and pets; and

WHEREAS, her unlimited compassion led her to make many positive differences for beings, be they human or animal.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley hereby approves the naming of the new Animal Shelter in honor of Councilmember Dona Spring.

