



Animal Care Services
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Date: November 4, 2025
To: Board of Supervisors
From: Amy Campbell, Shelter Director
Subject: December Fee Hearing

The purpose of this memorandum is to present proposed updates to the fee schedule for Mendocino County Animal Care Services and to seek approval from the Board of Supervisors. These adjustments aim to ensure fiscal sustainability, align fees with actual service costs, and support the department's mission to provide humane, effective, and accessible animal care throughout the county. The proposed changes reflect current operational realities, including increased veterinary costs and staffing needs, and are designed to minimally impact the public while maintaining essential services.

The current fee schedule for Mendocino County Animal Care Services was last updated in 2023. Since that time, the department has experienced increased costs related to veterinary care, staffing, and service delivery. A modest adjustment to fees is now proposed to better reflect actual expenses while continuing to support accessible and high-quality animal care for the community.

Proposed Action is to Approve the minimal fee increases recommended by the recent time study for Mendocino County Animal Care Services. These changes, supported by staff, reflect the actual cost of services and include both modest increases and decreases to ensure fairness and accuracy. The updated schedule maintains affordability and access for the public while supporting operational sustainability.

The proposed fee increases are modest, data-driven, and necessary to sustain core services amid rising operational costs. By aligning fees with service delivery time and resource use, the department can continue providing humane, effective care while remaining fiscally responsible and transparent to the community.