

June 26, 2024

WHEREAS, the City seeks to achieve greater economic equity for all its residents, as economic stability has been identified as one of five social determinants of health; and

WHEREAS, in alignment with the City of Dallas' Racial Equity Plan, the City of Dallas' application was selected by the National League of Cities (NLC) to be a part of the Cities Addressing Fines and Fees Equitably (CAFFE) Initiative Grant Fund, which aims to strengthen the financial security for families by improving the financial stability of residents who are at risk of losing income and assets due to legal fines and fees; and

WHEREAS, as an NLC Cohort member, the City of Dallas, Office of Equity and Inclusion in partnership with Dallas Animal Services and the Office of Community Care, is implementing a pilot program focused on reducing unpaid pet fines and fees for its residents, and has been awarded the NLC CAFFE Initiative Grant Fund plan and implementation grant to aid the City with this pilot program; and

WHEREAS, the NLC CAFFE Initiative Grant Fund seeks to increase racial equity and economic mobility for residents by helping cities mitigate the often-harmful impacts of fines and fees on residents' financial health; and

WHEREAS, City provides financial coaching through its Financial Empowerment Centers to help residents achieve and improve household financial stability while mitigating drivers of poverty, and if an eligible resident completes financial coaching requirements, he/she/they are considered for a grant that offsets the fines and fees for certain animal-related citations under the Dallas City Code, Chapter 7; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to ensure that eligible residents, particularly those in equity priority areas, are aware of benefits and services and connected with resources to help them and will use these grant funds to support outreach and awareness.

Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:

SECTION 1. That the City Manager is hereby authorized to: **(1)** approve the People and Pets Assistance Program (Program), as shown in **Exhibit A**, to provide financial support in the form of grants to Dallas Animal Services' People and Pets Assistance Program for eligible recipients related to animal unpaid fines and fees without compromising public safety; **(2)** accept a grant from the NLC Cities Addressing Fines and Fees Equitably (CAFFE) Initiative Grant Fund in the amount of \$10,000.00 to acquire consulting services to address fines and fees review with an equity-informed lens; **(3)** accept a grant from the CAFFE Initiative in the amount of \$30,000.00 to award grants for the Program for the purpose of offsetting "animal at large" fines and fees on eligible recipients for the period February 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024 – not to exceed \$40,000.00 – Financing: NLC Cities Addressing Fines and Fees Equitably (CAFFE) Initiative Grant Fun; **(4)** execute a grant agreement and required documents with the NLC Cohort, each approved as to form by the City Attorney.

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SECTION 2. That the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to receive and deposit grant funds in the amounts of \$10,000.00 and \$30,000.00, respectively, not to exceed an overall amount of \$40,000.00 in the NLC Cities Addressing Fines and Fees Equitably (CAFFE) Initiative Grant Fund, Fund P173, Department MGT, Unit 679L, Revenue Code 8411.

SECTION 3. That the City Manager is hereby authorized to establish appropriations in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 in the NLC Cities Addressing Fines and Fees Equitably (CAFFE) Initiative Grant Fund, Fund P173, Department MGT, Unit 679L, Object 3099.

SECTION 4. That the Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized to disburse funds in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 from the NLC Cities Addressing Fines and Fees Equitably (CAFFE) Initiative Grant Fund, Fund P173, Department MGT, Unit 679L, Object 3099.

SECTION 5. That the City Manager is hereby authorized to reimburse the granting agency any expenditures identified as ineligible, if any, and notify the appropriate City Council Committee of expenditures identified as ineligible not later than 30 days after the reimbursement.

SECTION 6. That the City Manager shall keep the appropriate City Council Committee informed of all final granting agency monitoring reports not later than 30 days after the receipt of the report.

SECTION 7. That the City Manager or his designee is authorized to provide additional information, make adjustments to the Program, amend the Program statement, and take other actions related to the implementation of the grant as may be necessary to satisfy the NLC.

SECTION 8. That the CAFFE Initiative consultant contract be designated as Contract No. FHO-2024-00023652; and the CAFFE Initiative grant contract(s) be designated as Contract No. FHO-2024-00024907.

SECTION 9. That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so resolved.