



# CITY OF POMONA COUNCIL REPORT

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December 4, 2017

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Linda Lowry, City Manager

Submitted by: Mark J. Gluba, Deputy City Manager

Subject: **Introduction and First Reading of Proposed Amendments to Section 6-42 of the Pomona City Code Pertaining to Dog/Cat Licenses and Tags**

## ***OVERVIEW***

**Recommendation** – That the City Council introduce, for first reading, proposed amendments amending Chapter 6 of the Pomona City Code pertaining to animals by authorizing Inland Valley Humane Society (IVHS) and S.P.C.A. representatives, also referred to as “Animal Control Agency” or “Shelter Manager” to issue permanent dog/cat license tags.

**Fiscal Impact** –Advancement to a permanent tag system will lead to cost savings on production and mailing of tags. The estimated savings is not available at this time.

**Previous Related Action** – On September 21, 2009, the City Council approved an agreement with IVHS to provide animal care and control services. This agreement automatically renews annually unless either party provides advanced notice in writing their intent to withdraw.

## ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

Section 6-42 the Pomona City Code Pertaining to dog/cat licensing, requires that: “All dog and cat licenses shall be numbered and shall expire at the end of the 12th month or 24th month after their issuance. The license collector shall give a numbered tag that corresponds with each dog or cat license.” IVHS has requested that all service cities, including Pomona, adopt amended ordinances providing for the issuance of permanent dog/cat license tags. Currently, license tags are constructed of aluminum, which wears out over a 1-2 years period. IVHS has proposed to replace these tags with high grade stainless steel permanent tags. This change will eliminate unnecessary expenses associated with the annual/biannual production and mailing of new license tags.

## DISCUSSION

The City of Pomona has contracted for animal control services with IVHS since the non-profit agency's establishment in 1949. One of IVHS' primary responsibilities is rabies control, which involves issuing dog/cat license tags. Last year, IVHS issued over 70,000 animal licenses, with numbers expected to climb in the coming years.

Existing language in the Pomona City Code requires that:

*All dog and cat licenses shall be numbered and shall expire at the end of the 12th month or 24th month after their issuance. The license collector shall give a numbered tag that corresponds with each dog or cat license.*

As applied, this language requires IVHS to issue new physical dog/cat license tags upon license expiration and renewal. The proposed permanent license tags are constructed of durable stainless steel and will remain legible, with a useful life extending well beyond existing 1-2 year licensing periods. The frequent replacement of these tags under existing code creates unnecessary expenses associated with tag purchasing/engraving and mailing which are ultimately passed on to IVHS service cities, including Pomona. Advancement to a permanent tag system will save costs on production and mailing of tags in addition to eliminating pet owner inconvenience associated with repeated replacement of expiring dog or cat license tags.

Attachments: 1 – Proposed Ordinance  
2 – Letter from IVHS with Attachment