



**General Services Agency
Parks & Recreation
COUNTY OF TULARE
AGENDA ITEM**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KUYLER CROCKER
District One
PETE VANDER POEL
District Two
AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three
EDDIE VALERO
District Four
DENNIS TOWNSEND
District Five

AGENDA DATE: March 3, 2020 - REVISED

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT PERSON: Maria Benavides PHONE: 205-1124

SUBJECT: Agreement with the Visalia Feral Cat Coalition

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Receive a presentation on the Visalia Feral Cat Coalition for a Trap, Neuter, and Return program at Mooney Grove Park.
2. Approve an Agreement with the Visalia Feral Cat Coalition for a three year term with an option to renew an additional year, up to two years upon approval.
3. Authorize the Chairman to sign the Agreement.

SUMMARY:

On May 10, 2016, the Board of Supervisors approved an agreement with the Visalia Feral Cat Coalition (VFCC) for the Trap, Neuter, and Return (TNR) pilot program at Mooney Grove Park. Since 2016, the VFCC has been responsible for all activities associated with the TNR program, including trapping, transportation, veterinarian services, sterilization, and flea abatement for feral cats at Mooney Grove Park.

In 2019, the County and VFCC resumed talks to renew the agreement for the TNR program in Mooney Grove Park. The following are changes in the proposed agreement:

Term: The term has changed from twelve months to three years, with an option for the General Services Agency (GSA) Director and the VFCC to renew an additional year, up to (2) two years. The revised agreement could potentially be active for five years upon approval by the Board of Supervisors.

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Program Scope and Protocols: In the previous agreement, program activities were to be kept at a minimum of thirty feet away from all museum grounds and structures. Any changes are subject to approval by the GSA Director and the VFCC. The locations will be in places that will not disturb normal park activities or pose a hazard to park visitors, County employees, or County property. This will allow for some flexibility for the pilot programs listed below.

Integration of New Feral Cat Colony Management Techniques: If mutually agreed upon in writing by both the GSA Director and VFCC, the following pilot programs may be initiated:

- **Housing Structure Pilot Program:** VFCC shall place cat housing structures in mutually agreed locations around the park. The structures will be away from areas of frequent public use, and camouflaged, hidden, or placed in such a way as to avoid being visible to a casual observer.
- **Relocation Pilot Program:** VFCC shall identify cats which reside inside or amongst museum structures or in unsafe location. If feasible, these cats will be relocated to another, mutually agreed-upon area in the park. Although the Housing Structure Pilot Program and the Relocation Pilot program are not interdependent, these programs may run simultaneously.
- **Deterrent Pilot Program:** If a humane cat deterrent method is identified by either party, GSA Director and VFCC may agree to test its use, subject to approval by County Risk Management, in areas of the Park where the cats either damage park resources or interfere with public enjoyment, such as on the Museum grounds.

The intention for testing pilot programs is an attempt to relocate feral cats away from the visitors and County facilities to reduce the chance of harm to park patrons and staff or destruction of County property.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

VFCC will incur all costs associated with the TNR program. There will be no Net County Cost to the General Fund. Continuing this program reduces overall cost to the County in both staff time and resources provided by Animal Services.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's Strategic Business Plan includes the Safety and Security Initiative. The consideration of this agreement will allow for greater safety and security of employees and park patrons by effectively managing the feral cat populations at Mooney Grove Park.

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ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:



Brooke Sisk
Assistant General Services Agency Director

cc: County Administrative Office

Attachment(s):

Agreement with VFCC
Exhibit A – Protocols and Points of Contact

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF AGREEMENT)
WITH THE VISALIA FERAL CAT) Resolution No. _____
COALITION) Agreement No. _____
)

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD _____
_____, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST: JASON T. BRITT
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

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