

20. Approve the Proposed 2025-26 Budget for Animal Control Services, including any supplemental materials, as outlined in the referenced budget documents, and as recommended by the County Executive Officer ( )



## County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

### Agenda Item Submittal

**From:** County Executive Office

**Subject:** Proposed 2025-26 Budget for Animal Control Services

**Meeting Date:** June 4, 2025

**Formal Title:** Approve the Proposed 2025-26 Budget for Animal Control Services, including any supplemental materials, as outlined in the referenced budget documents, and as recommended by the County Executive Officer

### Recommended Action

Approve the Proposed 2025-26 Budget for Animal Control Services, including any supplemental materials, as provided in the referenced budget documents:

- [Proposed Budget](#)
- [Unified Fee Schedule](#)

### Executive Summary

The Proposed 2025-26 Budget for Animal Control Services provides funding for the County's contribution to the Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter (SCCAS), also known as the Santa Cruz County Animal Services Authority.

### Discussion

The SCCAS is a joint powers authority formed in June 2002 that includes the County of Santa Cruz, and the cities of Capitola, Santa Cruz, Scotts Valley, and Watsonville. The SCCAS is governed by a Board of Directors that has representatives from each of the participating jurisdictions.

The SCCAS provides 24-hour animal rescue and is Santa Cruz County's only full service, open-admission animal shelter. SCCAS has two locations in the Live Oak area and the City of Watsonville where people can find and recover lost pets and adopt new animal companions. SCCAS's mission is to rescue and assure temporary shelter, veterinary and humane care for approximately 5,000 stray, unwanted, abandoned, mistreated, neglected and injured animals every year.

Budgeted funding will continue to support ongoing SCCAS work in pet owner education and animal services to the community. The department Proposed 2025-26 Budget document is available online at: [www.SCCVision.us](http://www.SCCVision.us)

### Financial Impact

The Animal Control Services Proposed Budget includes \$2,232,645 in expenditures with \$1,232,645 in General Fund contribution and \$1,000,000 in District Sales Tax contribution, reflecting no change from the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 Adopted Budget.

The SCCAS Board of Directors considered the FY 2025-26 on April 14, 2025 and will approve it on June 10, 2025. Should the County's contribution change, the change will be included in the June 10, 2025, last day or concluding budget actions, with a coinciding reduction of General Fund Contingencies.

### Strategic Initiatives

Equity Framework - Plans, Policies & Budgets

**Submitted By:**

Carlos J. Palacios, County Executive Officer

**Recommended By:**

Carlos J. Palacios, County Executive Officer

**Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) did not significantly contribute to the development of this agenda item.