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County of Santa Cruz

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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SUSAN A. MAURIELLO, J.D., COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

April 10, 2002

Agenda: April 16, 2002

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

DISCUSSION ON ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES AGREEMENT

Dear Members of the Board:

On March 19, 2002 your Board considered a report on the status of the current Animal Control Agreement between the County of Santa Cruz, the cities of Capitola, Santa Cruz and Scotts Valley and UCSC, and scheduled a discussion of the issues contained in the report by our office and the Santa Cruz SPCA for the April 16, 2002 regular agenda. Since March 19th our office has conducted extensive research on the issues contained in the report, worked with the Auditor Controller's office, who has assigned an audit team to review the SPCA's records, and consulted with County Counsel on various remedies to the SPCA's retention of fees which belong to the public entities. The Auditor's office is expected to complete their field work shortly.

Our office has scheduled a meeting with the public entities for Thursday, April 11th to discuss the materials collected, and to consider related issues. On March 29th, the SPCA provided the County a proposed budget for fiscal year 2002-03. Their preliminary proposal requests an approximate 56% increase, or about \$850,000 over the 2001-02 contract amount of about \$1.5 million to provide animal control and shelter services. Clearly, a restructuring of our existing arrangements will be necessary.

In order to confer with the public partners with whom we share animal control and shelter services, it is recommended that your Board defer the discussion on the animal control services agreement to the regular agenda of April 23, 2002, at the time of 9:00 a.m. or thereafter.

Very truly yours,

SUSAN A. MAURIELLO
County Administrative Officer

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cc: Santa Cruz SPCA
City Managers
UCSC Chief of Police

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