



City of Carson

Report to Mayor and City Council

October 4, 2011
New Business Consent

**SUBJECT: CONSIDER SOLICITATION OF BIDS TO INITIATE THE TRAPPING OF COYOTES
IN THE SPRING OF 2012**

Submitted by Raymond R. Cruz
Public Services General Manager

Approved by David C. Biggs
City Manager

I. SUMMARY

This past summer there was a significant increase in the number of reported sightings of coyotes within the city of Carson. The city initiated a public information campaign to increase public awareness on ways to make one's property less attractive to coyotes. At the September 6, 2011 Council meeting, representatives from the County Department of Agriculture and the State Department of Fish and Game gave a presentation to City Council on this issue. Mayor *Pro Tem* Ruiz-Raber suggested that staff look into buying coyote traps. Staff is seeking direction on whether or not to solicit bids from qualified vendors for coyote trapping.

II. RECOMMENDATION

DIRECT staff to solicit bids for trapping coyotes.

III. ALTERNATIVES

TAKE another action that the City Council deems appropriate.

IV. BACKGROUND

During the past few months there was an increase in sightings of coyotes within the city of Carson. The highly adaptable coyote is flourishing in populated areas, mostly because of the availability of food in the form of handouts, dog and cat food, or easy-to-open garbage cans. Coyotes can survive on whatever food is available, including rodents, trash, insects and fruit. They can also be a threat to family pets, and, in isolated but tragic cases, have attacked small children. Essentially unimpeded by control measures, abundant food has encouraged coyotes to become accustomed to the sight and sounds of humans. Consequently, coyote populations and their range have expanded enormously in recent years.

The city initiated a public information campaign for residents on how to best make one's property less attractive to coyotes. The City Council also heard an informative presentation from officials from the County Department of Agriculture and the State Department of Fish and Game on the issue. Within that presentation, Council learned that the city could hire a state licensed vendor to trap

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and dispose of coyotes. If the City Council so directs, Public Safety staff will seek bids from qualified vendors to provide coyote trapping services.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact is dependent upon the bids received for trapping and the length of time that the trapping will be in place. It is anticipated that the length of time will be between one and six months and the monthly cost will be between \$1,500.00 and \$2,500.00, or up to \$15,000.00 per year. The length of time will be based upon the results of the trapping and the information that is gathered as a result. There are no funds appropriated for this possible cost and if a contract were approved, following the receipt of bids, a supplemental appropriation from the General Fund reserve would have to be made.

VI. EXHIBITS

None.

Prepared by: Brent Gesch, Public Safety Administrative Analyst.
TO:Rev091911

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Development Services
Economic Development	Public Services

Action taken by City Council

Date _____ Action _____