

Councilman
TONY CARDENAS
6th Council District



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CARDENAS MAKING SURE LOW-INCOME FAMILIES DON'T GET LEFT BEHIND IN MANDATORY SPAY / NEUTER ORDINANCE

Los Angeles- Councilman Tony Cardenas is reminding lower-income families with pets that coupons are available from the city for free spay/neuter services. Today, the mandatory spay/neuter ordinance takes effect which requires pet owners to spay or neuter their cat or dog at four months of age with exemptions for licensed breeders or show pets. Cardenas and Councilmember Richard Alarcon co-authored the ordinance citing it as “an essential tool to curb the number of homeless pets that suffer on our streets.”

FREE CERTIFICATE/COUPON SPAY NEUTER PROGRAM

All families and individuals who qualify for the free service certificates can not exceed an annual income of \$40,000 per year. Senior citizens and permanently disabled persons also qualify for the free service certificates valued at \$70.00 each. They can be redeemed at participating veterinary hospitals listed on the Department of Animal Services' website.

DISCOUNT COUPON SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM

All families qualify for discounted coupons that have a value each of \$30.00 off the surgery. The coupon can be redeemed at participating vets.

HOW TO GET THE COUPONS

Spay/neuter discount coupons & free certificates are distributed at all of the city's animal care centers and at a number of partner organizations. Go to www.laanimalservices.com or call 1-888-452-7381. Individuals who receive the coupons will also get a list of participating veterinary hospitals. Pet owners then call the vet of their choice and set up an appointment.

“I'm committed to making Los Angeles a no-kill city and at the same time make sure this ordinance factors in families of all communities,” said Councilman Tony Cardenas. “Thanks to these discounted and free coupons, lower-income families and seniors don't have to worry about another costly hit to their budgets in this uncertain economic time.”

Spay/neuter surgeries at a private veterinary hospital can cost anywhere from \$80 to \$120 without discounted or free coupons.

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