

The background of the slide is a photograph of the Riverside County Civic Center. The building is a large, curved, tan-colored structure with a textured facade. In the foreground, there are several palm trees on the left and a large bush of bright pink bougainvillea on the right. The sky is a clear, light blue.

Riverside County Animal Services Contract

City Council Study Session
March 28, 2024

Riverside County Animal Services Contract

- Overview of Current Contract
- Cost comparison from 2015 – 2023
- Significant changes & increases in costs
- Trends
- Staffing Level & Cost Comparisons with CV Municipalities
- Staff Observations/Considerations
- Recommendation

Current Contract - Costs Breakdown

Item	FY 21 /22 Actuals	FY 22/23 Actuals	FY 23 /24 Budget	FY 23 Q1 & Q2 Actuals	
Animal Control Officer	\$ 209,496	\$ 273,125	\$ 273,125	\$136,562	- - - - -> +30%
Animal Control Officer (OT)	\$ 25,920	\$ 36,038	\$ 37,119	\$ 7,589	- - - - -> +43%
Sheltering Services	\$ 41,095	\$ 65,086	\$ 67,039	\$22,847	- - - - -> +63%
O&M Impounds	\$ 2,767	\$ 3,518	\$ 3,624	\$1,472	
Deceased Animals	\$ 4,060	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,210	\$ 3,080	
Wildlife	\$ 1,104	\$ 1,518	\$ 1,564	\$ 1,104	
License Admin Fee	\$ 20,399	\$ 21,080	\$ 21,712	\$ 7,309	
Licensing Credit	\$ (31,675)	\$ (36,767)	\$ (38,900)	\$ (12,560)	
Total	\$ 273,167	\$ 370,598	\$ 372,493	\$ 167,403	

Animal Services Total Costs FY 15/16 – FY 23/24

Contract Year	2015-2017*	2018-2020*	2021-2023*
Year 1	\$ 213,569	\$ 233,933	\$ 273,167
Year 2	\$ 233,468	\$ 221,008	\$ 370,598
Year 3	\$ 237,861	\$ 237,448	\$ 372,493**
Total	\$ 684,898	\$ 692,389	\$ 1,016,258
<p>* Actual Costs ** Budgeted Amount</p>			

Animal Services Contracts - Field Services (w/OT)

Contract YR	2015-2017	2018-2020	2021-2023
Year 1	\$ 146,027	\$ 141,171	\$ 235,920
Year 2	\$ 153,851	\$ 145,007	\$ 309,163
Year 3	\$ 145,777	\$ 143,101	\$ 310,244
Total	\$ 445,655	\$ 429,279	\$ 855,327

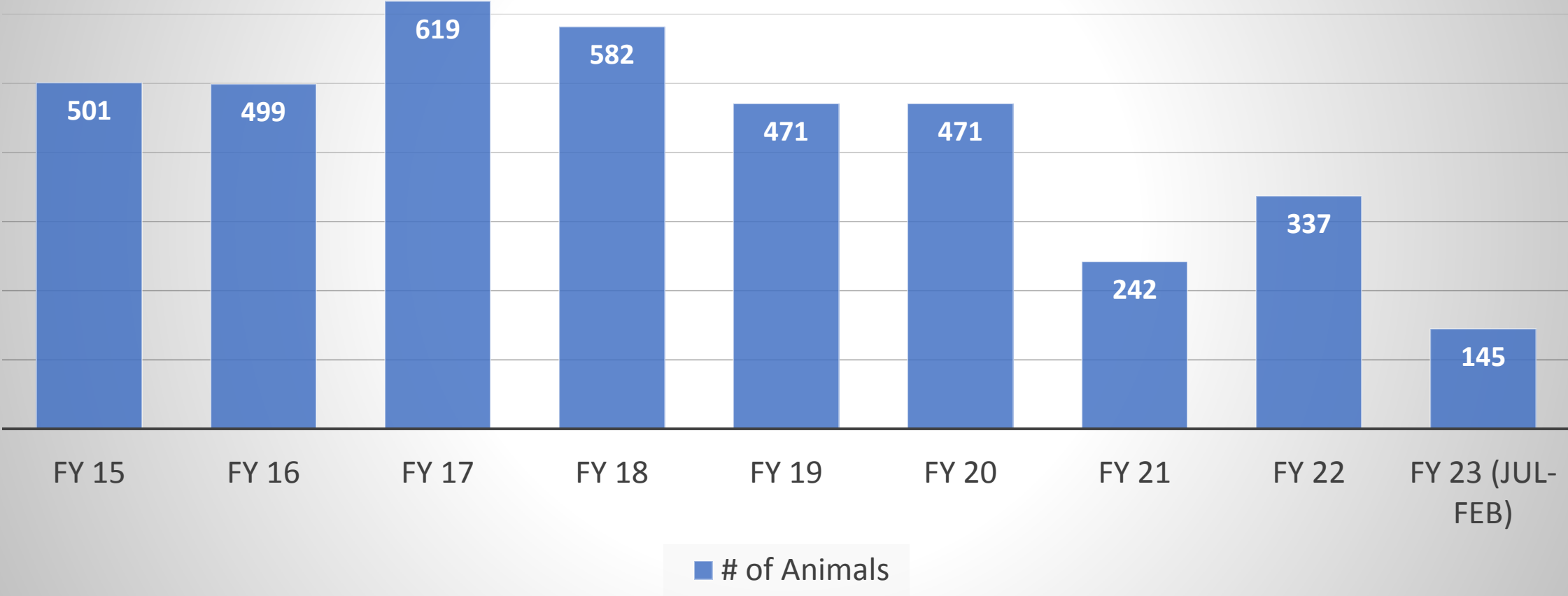
Animal Services - Sheltering Costs & No. Animals

	2015-2017*		2018-2020*		2021-2023**		
Contract Year	TTL Cost	# of Animals	TTL Cost	# of Animals	TTL Cost	# of Animals	# of Days
Year 1	\$ 62,808	501	\$ 73,006	582	\$ 43,862	242	1,525
Year 2	\$ 62,606	499	\$ 59,082	471	\$ 68,604	337	1,938
Year 3	\$ 77,647	619	\$ 59,082	471	\$ 67,039 (Budgeted)	145 (Jul-Feb)	670
Total	\$ 203,061	1,619	\$ 191,170	1,524	\$ 179,505	717	4,133

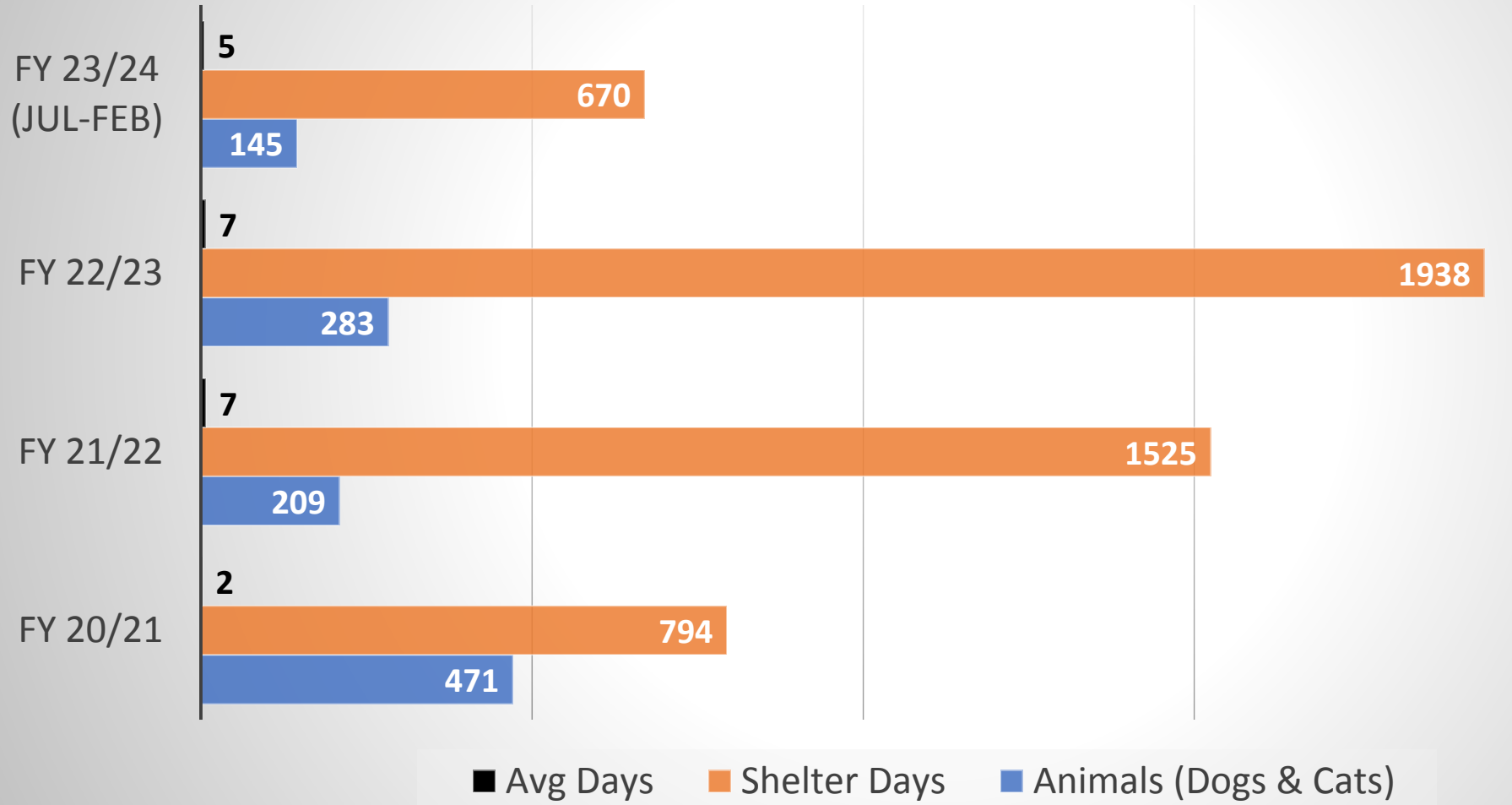
*Rate per animal

**Rate per day in shelter

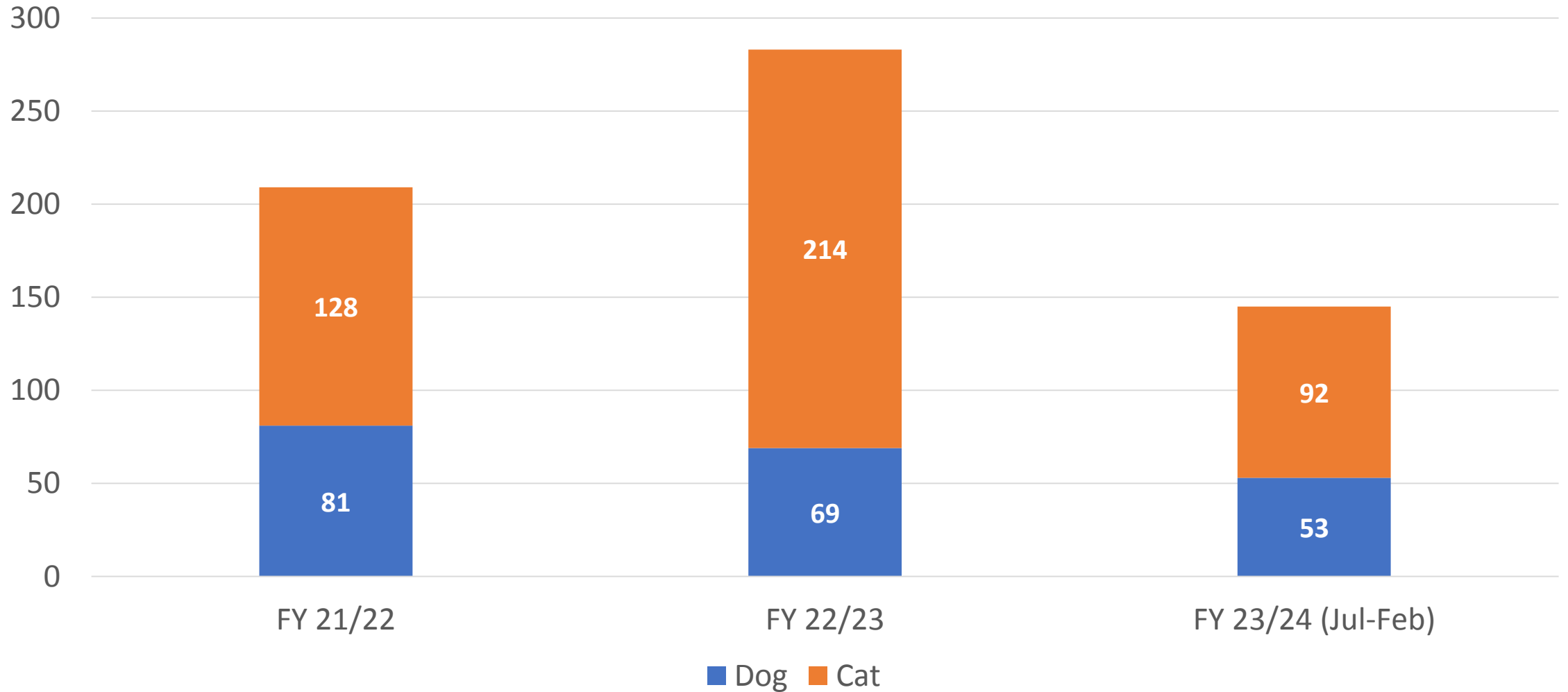
Number of Animals Annually Sheltered - FY 15/16 – FY 23/24



No. Animals, Days in Shelter, & Average Day/Animal



Number of Dogs & Cats Sheltered Annually



Animal Services – Staffing Levels & Costs

Riverside County Contract

Municipality	Animal Control Officer FTE	FY 23/24 TTL Budgeted Cost
Palm Desert	1	\$ 372,493
Cathedral City	.5	\$ 335,000
Coachella	1	\$ 490,000
Indian Wells	On-Call	\$ 10,886
Indio	3	\$ 1,280,000
La Quinta	1	\$ 370,000
Rancho Mirage	On-Call	\$ 50,000

Operates Shelter

Municipality	Operations	Salaries	Total
Desert Hot Springs	\$356,755	\$580,802	\$ 937,557
Palm Springs	\$1,192,128	\$516,854	\$1,708,982

Dog License Fees

County issues license and collects fees on behalf of the City.

- County retains processing fee of \$11.35 per license
 - Remainder is credited to the City
- PDMC Sec. 6.08.040 establishes that if a fee is not adopted, it should be the same amount *for similar dog licensing in unincorporated areas of the county.*
 - Fee established in 1998, no fee has been adopted.
- City subsidizes 1-Year Licenses Fee
 - \$3.35 for altered dogs
 - \$5.35 for altered dogs owned by Seniors Citizens 60+

Palm Desert Dog License Fees est. 1998

Type of License	1 Year	2 Year	3 Year
Altered Dogs	\$8	\$15	\$19
Unaltered Dogs	\$50	\$100	\$150
Altered Dog, owned by Senior Citizen 60+	\$6	\$7	\$8

Dog License Fee - Municipality Comparison

Type of License	1 Year	2 Year	3 Year
Altered Dogs (Palm Desert & Rancho Mirage)	\$8	\$15	\$19
Indio	\$17	\$26	\$36
Cathedral City & Unincorporated	\$25	\$50	\$75
LaQuinta & Coachella	\$17	\$34	\$49
Unaltered Dogs (Palm Desert & Rancho Mirage)	\$50	\$100	\$150
Indio	\$100	\$175	\$225
Cathedral City & Unincorporated	\$120	\$240	\$360
LaQuinta & Coachella	\$100	\$200	\$300
Altered Dog, owned by Senior Citizen 60+ (Palm Desert & Rancho Mirage)	\$6	\$7	\$8
Indio	\$10	\$15	\$20
Cathedral City & Unincorporated	\$12	\$24	\$36
LaQuinta & Coachella	\$12	\$24	\$36

Reimbursement Program

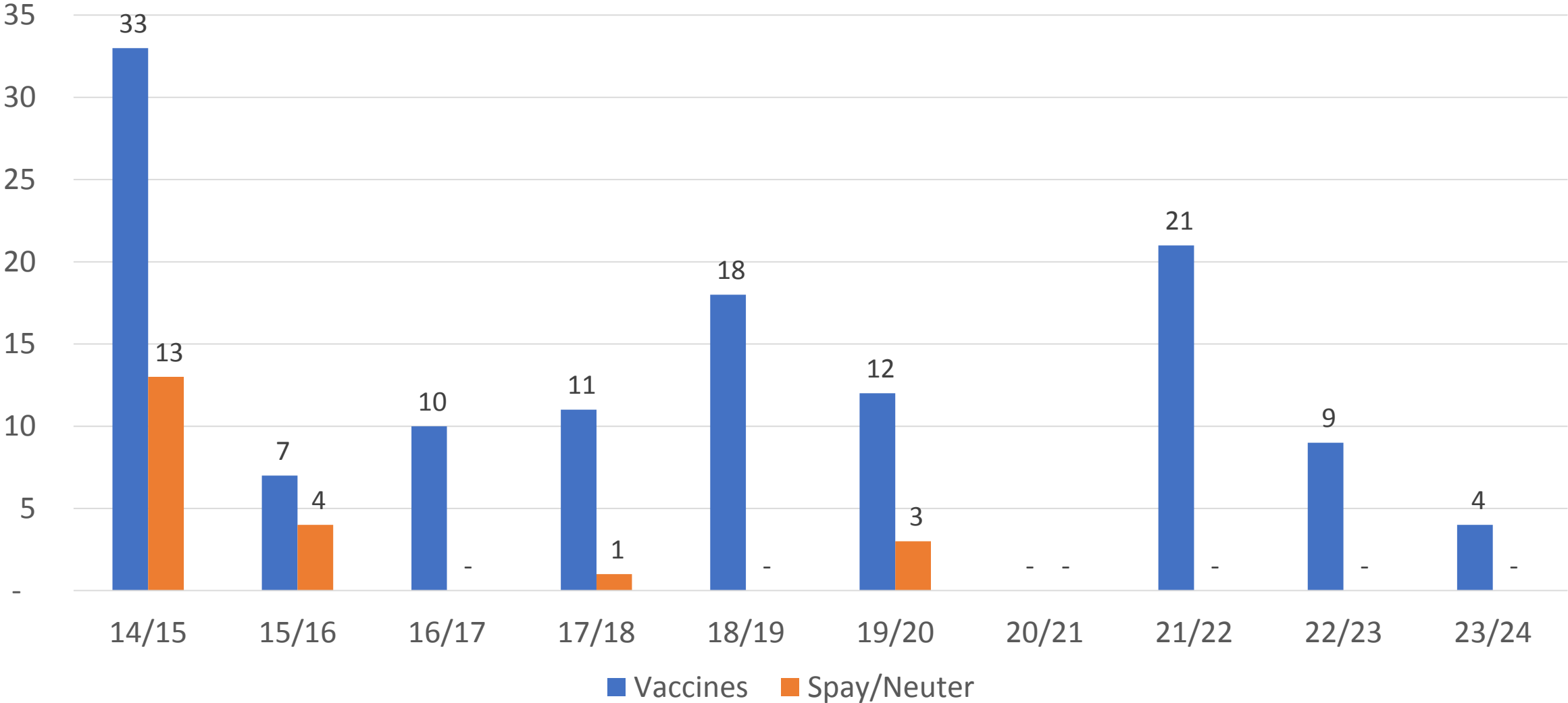
Mobile Clinic - 2013/2014 last clinic at Civic Center Park

- Cost approximately \$11,400/year for 2 clinics
- Discontinued due to low turn out, targeted to Palm Desert residents, but no one turned away

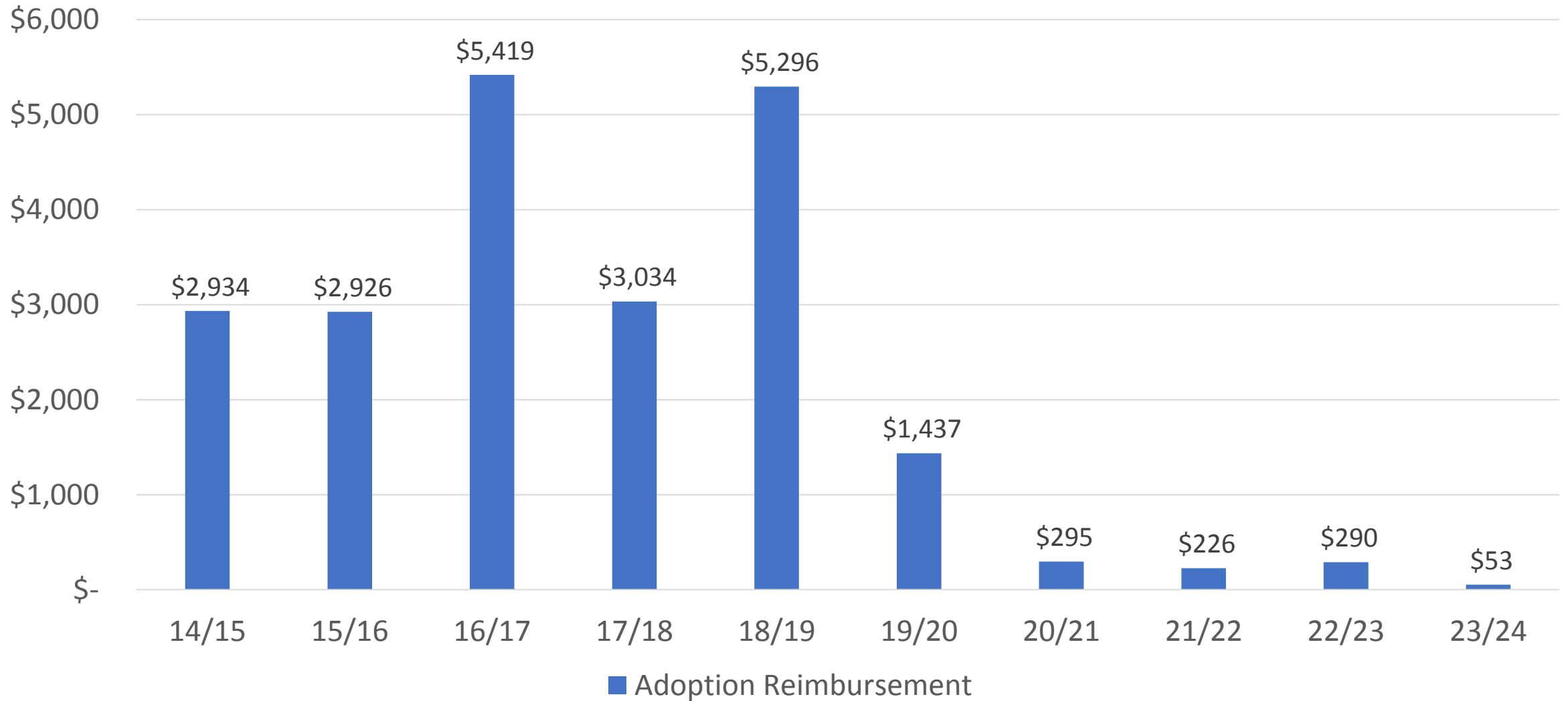
Reimbursement Program implemented in FY 14/15.

- \$25 reimbursement for vaccination
- \$50 reimbursement for spay/neutering
- Full cost reimbursement for adoption (excludes medication)

Reimbursements - # of Animals Treated



Reimbursements Amounts – Animal Adoptions



Staff Observations & Considerations

Reimbursement Program

- Consider including reimbursement for microchipping
 - One-time cost of \$21 vs. \$34.10 for daily sheltering
- Consider increasing reimburse amounts for Spay/Neutering:
 - \$100 for cats and \$150 for dogs (approximately 50% of cost through Animal Samaritans SPCA)
 - Riverside County Animal Services does not offer public Spay/Neutering at the Shelter
- Improve outreach and marketing of program (Brightside)
 - Include signage/QR Code about Reimbursement Programs in the dog parks

Staff Observations & Considerations

Dog License Fee

- Consider adding a dog license fee in FY 24/25
Fee Schedule as follows:

3-Year License vs. 1-Year over 3 Years
Revenue: \$10.65 same
Expense: \$22.70 reduction

Type of License	1 Year	2 Year	3 Year	Note
Altered Dogs	\$8	\$15	\$19	Will be lowest for Contract Cities, Except RM
	\$15	\$20	\$22	
Unaltered Dogs	\$50	\$100	\$150	Same as unincorporated Riverside County
	\$120	\$240	\$360	
Altered Dog, owned by Senior Citizen 60+	\$6	\$7	\$8	Will be lowest for Contract Cities, Except RM
	\$12	\$13	\$14	

Staff Observations & Considerations

Animal Control Officer – Field Services

- Dedicated Officer to Palm Desert
- Responsive
 - All current Code Officers were former Animal Control Officers
- Constant communication with staff
- Assists with homeless outreach when animals are involved

Recommendation

Renew and monitor another 3-year contract with Riverside County for Animal Services with the following:

- Include daily activity logs from the assigned Animal Control Officer to ensure contract compliance.
- Include address/location of where strays are picked up.
- Include address/location of individuals surrendering animals.
- Request annual rates/changes in March/April.