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News

Five cities to consolidate animal control into one shelter

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SOUTHGATE — Working in conjunction with other Downriver communities, the city was awarded a grant to consolidate animal control services with Allen Park, Melvindale, Lincoln Park and Wyandotte.

The grant, for \$235,000, will go toward either renovating one of the cities' current facilities or constructing a new one. Currently, Allen Park, Southgate and Wyandotte have animal shelters.

Lincoln Park and Melvindale use Allen Park's shelter, which is behind City Hall, 16850 Southfield Road.

Southgate City Administrator Brandon Fournier said several city officials, some not in office anymore, helped secure the grant from the state Economic Vitality Incentive Program.

Preliminary discussions have hinted at either renovating the Wyandotte shelter, 1170 Grove St., or building a new one, Fournier said.

With the grant, the cities will have a facility that can be used six to seven days a week, Fournier said. The cost of operating the shelter would be shared by the five cities.

The shelters have reached capacity, Fournier said, and they cannot hold more animals.

"We now have the ability to renovate or construct a facility that will," he said.

Southgate and Wyandotte each have one employee at their shelters. Those jobs would not be eliminated, Fournier said, and while he said he doesn't know the specifics yet, there is no intention to eliminate any positions from the Allen Park shelter.

Check [TheNewsHerald.com](#) and future editions of The News-Herald Newspapers for more on this story.

Another grant recently was awarded to Southgate. Under the state's S2 grant program, the city will receive \$266,049 by April for studying, planning and designing replacement sewer lines.

Relief sewers in the city south of Eureka Road will be examined, and a determination will be made as to what needs to be replaced, Fournier said. Relief sewers hold and funnel runoff during downpours.

The sewers were built in the 1950s and with the change in weather patterns and the increasing frequency of large