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CLERK OF THE BOARD  
COUNTY OF ORANGE  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

*Doug Chaffee*

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Clerk of the Board

From: Supervisor Donald P. Wagner, Third District

Date: December 12, 2025

**RE: Supplemental Item for December 16, 2025 Board of Supervisors Meeting**

*5280*

Please add the following as a supplemental item to the December 16, 2025 Board of Supervisors meeting agenda:

Approve the allocation of \$75,000 from Third District discretionary funds to El Rodeo Rescue to support the establishment of the Orange County Animal Rescue Team (OCART), including costs related to insurance, training supplies, a rescue trailer, volunteer equipment, and other necessary materials. OCART will be a trained volunteer team dedicated to assisting with the rescue of large animals during emergencies, especially wildfires, throughout Orange County.

Over the past several months, I have been working closely with representatives of the large animal and equestrian communities across the county, as well as County staff, including the Orange County Sheriff's Department Emergency Management Division, OC Community Resources, OC Animal Care, the County Executive Office, and County Counsel. We have worked tirelessly to establish a County-supported program in partnership with these dedicated volunteers who are willing to assist during emergencies. Together, we have developed and agreed upon a Plan of Cooperation between the County and OCART to ensure this team can be safely and effectively deployed when needed.

The Plan of Cooperation will be activated for emergencies occurring in unincorporated areas or when two or more cities are impacted. The funds allocated by my office to stand up OCART will also help position the organization to secure agreements with incorporated cities. This will allow OCART to serve not only during County emergencies, but throughout the entire county for any jurisdiction that needs assistance.

Public safety is our top priority, and ensuring we have a robust, well-coordinated emergency response system is essential. This allocation is a meaningful step toward strengthening our preparedness and improving our capabilities each and every day.

I ask that the Board of Supervisors approve the following recommended actions at our December 16, 2025 meeting:

1. Approve the allocation of \$75,000 from Third District discretionary funds to El Rodeo Rescue.
2. Find under Government Code section 26227 that this expenditure is necessary to meet the social needs of County residents.

3. Authorize and direct the County Executive Officer, or designee, to negotiate and enter into an agreement with El Rodeo Rescue as necessary to effectuate the purposes of this allocation, including, but not limited to, the allocation of funds to El Rodeo Rescue.
4. Authorize and direct the Auditor-Controller, or designee, to make related payments as necessary to effectuate the purposes of this allocation, including, but not limited to Cal-Card, electronic fund transfers or check payments.