

LOS ANGELES CONGRESS OF NEIGHBORHOODS,
September 25, 2021, 8:00 A.M.

Workshop: WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS HAVE DONE AND CAN DO REGARDING ANIMAL WELFARE

Los Angeles City Councilmember **Bob Blumenfield**

Council District 3

Former Member of the California State Assembly, Chair of the Budget Committee

<https://blumenfield.lacity.org/bbbio>

Dana Stangel

Former President of the Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council

Executive Director of the Teranga Ranch

Biology Teacher

<https://www.terangaranch.org/>

Moderator: Jeffrey Mausner

(For identification purposes)

Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils and Tarzana NC Liaison to Los Angeles Animal Services Department;

Board of Directors and 2nd Vice President, Tarzana Neighborhood Council;

Chairman, Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee;

Neighborhood Council Budget Representative;

Volunteer at the West Valley Animal Shelter;

Retired Attorney and Law Professor; Former Federal Prosecutor for the United States Department of Justice

www.MausnerLaw.com

Email: Jeff@MausnerLaw.com; J.Mausner@TarzanaNC.org

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SAVE THE WEST VALLEY ANIMAL SHELTER

TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BOARD MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday July 28, 2020
VIRTUAL TELEPHONIC MEETING

1. **Call to Order** by Len Shaffer at 7 p.m. **Roll Call:** All present except for Pam Blattner who arrived at 7:30 p.m. Esther Wieder left the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Quorum established with 19 board members. Welcoming Remarks by Len Shaffer.

2. **Remarks by representatives of public officials:**

Blake Clayson, Field Deputy for Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's office, reported that the rent moratorium has been extended until September 30, 2020. Hair salons, personal care establishments, gyms and barbers are only allowed to work outdoors. He reviewed the different telephonic calls that were to be scheduled for different parties.

Betty Wong Oyama, EmpowerLA, invited board members to attend a webinar with tools for Zooming. The department is reorganizing as they are down to 12 coordinators (about half of the norm). As a result, each will oversee 8 – 10 NCs. She asked each board member to update Len on their contact info. If you have not completed the Code of Conduct, you will get a letter from EmpowerLA. She talked about the rollover of monies that TNC will need to approve.

LAPD: Len announced that LAPD Officer Daryl Scoggins is distributing food on Covid-19 duty and that is why he couldn't make it on the call.

3. **Public Comments:**

Barbara Hadley – who works at the East Valley Animal Shelter is concerned about a lack of services being provided with GM Brenda Barnette's proposal to close the West Valley Animal Shelter as a cost saving measure. Ms. Hadley said there is a large population being served by only two shelters and this puts the animals at risk. She urges the Councilmember to look into this matter and oppose it. The community should not suffer by doctored reports by GM Barnette on lack of personnel.

Nicole Pletcher is very concerned about the West Valley shelter being closed. Many animal groups have been at odds with the GM, for many years, and it has gotten worse since Covid-19. She gave examples of Ms. Barnette's lack of leadership and ill-advised responses to stakeholders who found animals. She also spoke about Barnette's salary, which is more than a Supreme Court justice. The shelter is needed and people want to go back to work.

Courtney Mann, a rescue worker for animals, talked about the health hazard that will come with the shelter being closed. There are no facilities in that area and if the shelter is closed, it will create a huge hole from the surrounding area, especially in emergencies. She pointed out that this shelter is paid for by tax dollars. Ms. Mann stated that GM Barnette needs to be investigated and that her decisions are causing animals to suffer.

Mary Baratt stated that she has concerns about homeless housing. She heard that they will be sent to Tarzana Treatment Center which she says is adjacent to a condo complex and apartment complex.

Laura Libuda expressed concerns about the LA Animal Shelter and feels it serves an

important service. It's one of the few shelters that have air conditioning and she doesn't understand why it would be closed. With the Mayor's wish for L.A. to be a no kill city, this is not helping; it will make it worse.

Gail Rath, an East Valley resident, said the East Valley shelter will not hold all the animals who need help. Already, the North Valley shelter was given away by GM Barnette who said they couldn't afford to operate it. Another shelter in the East LA area was already closed. Animal rescues are already aware of her motives and she feels GM Barnette should be investigated. East Valley is always full. What will happen if West Valley is closed?

Jill Haber, on LA Equine Advisory Committee, said the West Valley is the only shelter that helps horses, chickens, sheep, and goats. Rescues of horses would be lost to the horse communities. There would be none left for agricultural animals in the City of L.A. Also, Best Friends shelter does not take strays.

Michelle Cornelius, a volunteer at the West L.A. Animal Shelter, opposes closing West Valley. Last year was one of the worst years for capacity overload. Animals were set up in the halls in temporary areas. It was overwhelming. She could not imagine what would have happened without the West Valley shelter.

Gabriel Hartel, an East Valley Animal Control Officer, who has worked for 13 years for the city shelters asked that the city not push these services over to a rescue. It is a busy shelter and needs to stay open.

4. **Speaker:** CM Bob Blumenfield spoke for about an hour addressing the different issues raised by callers. The councilman said the main focus during Covid-19 is on trying to keep the city functioning with all the essential services. He talked about the budgetary process for the City for dealing with the Covid crisis. The police department budget cut was part of that process due to the BLM demonstrations. \$150MM was cut from the LAPD budget. The Councilmember did research on Portland, Oregon's process of using unarmed interventionists in certain situations, instead of police and found it has been successful with homeless/mentally ill issues. This may help deescalate future confrontations. He said he supports LAPD very strongly.

Homeless encampments on Burbank Boulevard and Etiwanda – He is personally visiting the encampments to see who is there and what their issues are. He admitted that it is a major crisis driven by poverty and the lack of affordable housing. Drug issues and mental illness are the most vocal and visible. County Health has put a hold on moving homeless during Covid-19. Some are on the parking lot that is privately owned. There are processes for removing bulky items which require storage, which is costly. There are a lot of challenges with enforcement right now.

Tarzana Treatment Center – If they are not responding to complaints, call his office and they will work directly with them. He said there are not enough treatment centers so they are needed. Also, they have committed to dealing with people who are mentally ill in their treatment plans.

Homelessness – A lot of issues with enforcement are based on federal restrictions. The councilmember has written a few articles on this problem. There is hope on the horizon with Judge Carter who is trying to come up with a way to expand enforcement while also creating more shelters. CM talked about the high cost of bridge housing but there is another form of housing that Judge Carter is suggesting called Cabin Housing which is like a tiny home. On the cost front, CM initiated a mediation between the County and the City to promote payment for shelter beds,

expanding the number available from 600 to 6000. The City will pay for these. The judge said in this agreement that the first people to be given priority will be those over 65 and those more vulnerable. The councilmember is also looking into leasing or buying space for Cabin Housing.

West Valley Animal Shelter – The councilmember values the West Valley shelter. GM Barnette is giving the Councilmembers a different story than what the volunteers are saying. He said there will be a series of public hearings with rescue groups before they take a vote on whether to close the shelter. He was up in arms when he first heard about this proposal and said he would be concerned about losing this shelter, but GM Barnette is saying they would still operate a shelter but rescues would be onsite with a variety of new services in a public/private partnership. If this is the case and services are not lost, that would be good.

SB1120 – Atkins: CM gave a courtesy second on that motion just to move it forward but that does not mean he supports this bill. He has concerns about this bill which affects single family communities with more density requirements. There are other bills trying to push density as a result of the housing crisis. It has to be addressed as there is an affordability issue in L.A. but we need to be creative in the way that this happens.

(Unknown speaker) had concerns about homeless stealing animals or taking strays in and if the shelter is closed, this could create more health issues. The councilmember talked about how pets are a lifeline for many homeless and told a story demonstrating this. He has come across a lot of homeless who have pet companions. Sometimes this is a barrier for them finding a place to live but he added that the Canoga Park homeless shelter will be allowing pets.

Harvey asked if the schools, which are now closed, could be used to shelter people or have them located on the school grounds? Could Cabin Shelters be situated by Lake Balboa? The councilmember said it is always controversial, wherever you put them. There is always resistance to housing homeless near where people live. Safe Parking is an option, though. About 18 people sleep behind his Council office in a Safe Parking lot. He said that something as simple as having a safe place to park can be life saving for a person. As far as school properties, the councilman said some are looking into homeless housing – especially for homeless students and their families. With the HHH Bond measure, the monies have been allocated and you can track it on the city's website.

Scott asked about enforcement of non-mask wearing people at city parks. The councilmember has introduced a motion that relates to enforcement. There are penalties under the safer at home order, where city workers can fine people. Rec and Parks has oversight for this. His office has purchased 25,000 masks and is distributing them to anyone who needs them. He is also frustrated by people not wearing masks.

Terry spoke about a large parking area by Shoup north of Burbank for a future Safe Parking lot. The councilmember said it is on the Collins School property owned by LAUSD. Neighbors are opposed and it would have to go through the School Board. Question about Rockedyne: Councilmember said vapors come up from that site make it very hazardous. Terry also asked about a loud house party with no one wearing masks. Councilmember says it goes back to the party house ordinance. There is a website where you can report violations. Also, the councilmember said his office could help contact that property owner.

Question about why have laws if they can't be enforced? Councilmember said Prop 47 is part of the reason as well as changing laws. He has written an article about this issue. You can now live in your vehicle, you can live in a tent, shooting up is a misdemeanor (drug abuse),

so police don't want to spend the time on these minor offenses. 5611 is no longer enforceable – private property on the street. He is hopeful that Judge Carter's compromise will help with enforcement in the future.

5. Budget Advocate/Representative Report – Lee Blumenfield talked about a meeting that was held a few weeks prior. Instead of a White Paper, they will be breaking up their responses in smaller pieces. He said he is hoping to advocate for what TNC wants.

Glenn Bailey added that they are looking at doing quarterly Town Halls with the first, starting in September or October, to get input from stakeholders and board members.

6. Executive Secretary's Attendance Report – Max said one member has five absences and has been notified.

7. Minutes: (Heissler/Goldberg moved approval of the minutes of the June 23, 2020 meeting as corrected. The motion carried unanimously with 20-0-0.

8. Expenditures: (Goldberg/Schmaeff) moved approval of the June 2020 expenditures for submission to City Clerk (MER). The motion carried 19-0-0 (Yossi was ineligible).

9 Financial Statements: (Goldberg/Lord) moved approval of the Financial Statement as of June 30, 2020. The motion carried 19-0-0 (Yossi ineligible to vote).

10. Committee and other Reports:

Outreach – Terry thanked everyone who has sent her their bios and headshots and has given her input for the website.

Events - No report

Budget – Harvey submitted a status of community projects. He reviewed highlights of his report. He has received a new credit card that doesn't expire till 2023. August 12th is the end date for submitting budget items for his next meeting.

Transportation – Max will contact DOT about the Tampa/Hatteras intersection to ask what their plans are for installing a beacon for pedestrians. At Tampa/Collins, DOT has not done a traffic test yet to determine whether it should get a signal. Next meeting Aug. 19th.

Public Safety – No report.

Rules – No report.

Government Action – No report.

Animal Welfare – Jeff thanked everyone for listening to the comments on the proposal to close the West Valley Animal Shelter.

Beautification – Iris said they have changed vendors – not using Triple A anymore. They are still in the design phase for the banners. She thanked Terry for helping to create a tool kit for Green Initiatives that will be shared with other NCs throughout the city. The city is providing free trees to those who want to plant and maintain them.

Homelessness Committee – Susan Lord talked about Project Room Key which gets homeless into a hotel for 90-days while they are awaiting permanent housing. She said the system is working.

DWP MOU Report – Michael said there was no meeting in July.

VANC Report – Len talked about DWP GM Marty Adam's report. Mayor Garcetti is supposed to make an appearance at the August meeting of LANC and VANC. Raquel Beltrans, EmpowerLA GM, was also present. Anyone involved with the elections was told about the upcoming meeting. Harvey suggested creating an Ad Hoc Elections Committee.

COVID-19 Ad Hoc – No report.



VALLEY ALLIANCE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS (VANC) RESOLUTION REGARDING THE WEST VALLEY ANIMAL SHELTER, passed unanimously on September 10, 2020, amended unanimously on February 11, 2021.

Whereas the Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) Department has submitted a draft Proposal dated June 26, 2020 and a Proposal dated January 28, 2021, to turn the West Valley Animal Shelter into a privately run Community Resource Center; and

Whereas this draft Proposal would result in significant loss of City services for the people and animals of the West San Fernando Valley; and

Whereas it would result in overburdening the only other city animal shelter in the Valley, the East Valley Animal Shelter; and

Whereas it would be inequitable because the entire burden of the LAAS budget cut is being visited on one area of the City, the West Valley; and

Whereas the draft Proposal is overwhelmingly opposed by the residents of the West Valley and the City; and

Whereas there are alternatives to the draft Proposal that would maintain the West Valley Shelter as a fully functioning municipal shelter;

Now Therefore, the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC), representing all 34 Neighborhood Councils in the San Fernando Valley, opposes the LAAS draft Proposals for the West Valley Animal Shelter dated June 26, 2020 and January 28, 2021, demands that the West Valley Shelter remain open as a fully functioning municipal shelter, and urges Neighborhood Councils to file Community Impact Statements (CIS) in support of this position in City Council File 20-1114, entitled West Valley Animal Shelter Long Term Plan.

VANC wants to stress that its representatives have reviewed the January 28, 2021 LAAS Proposal and VANC reaffirms its opposition and objection to that Proposal; **VANC confirms its conclusion that the West Valley Animal Shelter is essential to the West Valley and must be reopened as a fully functioning municipal animal shelter.**

(Resolution unanimously passed by the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) on September 10, 2020, amended unanimously on February 11, 2021.)

<https://citywatchla.com/index.php/cw/los-angeles/20457-what-s-going-on-at-the-west-valley-animal-shelter-will-it-remain-a-city-run-shelter>



What's Going on At the West Valley Animal Shelter—Will It Remain a City-Run Shelter?

Jeffrey Mausner
24 September 2020



PERSPECTIVE--The City of Los Angeles is in dire financial condition. It was in bad condition before Covid 19; things have gotten worse since the pandemic.

All of the departments in the City are facing budget cuts. But will those budget cuts fall disproportionately on the people and animals of the San Fernando Valley?

The Current Status of the City Animal Shelters: When the pandemic hit, all six of the City Animal Shelters (West Valley, East Valley, West L.A., North Central, South/Chesterfield Square, and Harbor) were closed to the public. West Valley and North Central were completely closed; there are no animals or employees in them. The other four shelters continued to operate, with animals present and regular employees working. Volunteers were not allowed in any of the shelters; they are now allowed to perform limited functions outside the buildings. Members of the public can receive services in the parking lots at the four working shelters by appointment. Animal Care Technicians (ACTs) and Vets/Vet Techs care for the reduced number of animals in the four working shelters. In the absence of Volunteers being able to enter the buildings, ACTs perform enrichment and exercise activities with the animals on a limited basis, to the extent possible.

At the closed West Valley Shelter, a sign on the front door says:

CALL 1-888-452-7381 IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE

Have an animal emergency?

If you have an emergency with a sick or injured animal, call 1-888-452-7381 to find the nearest shelter. Let us know you are arriving and describe the emergency. We will get all the information we need and will be able to meet you in the parking lot of the nearest shelter that is open if no appointment is available.

Found a lost pet?

Can you help get that pet home? Post a photo and description of the found pet on LACityLost and Found Pets, Nextdoor, Pawboost, or Shadowapp and hang flyers in your neighborhood to help reunite the pet with his or her family.

Or consider our Shelter-at-Home program and we'll get the pet's picture on our website, too. Visit LAAnimalServices.com and click "Policies" in our main menu, and the "Shelter at Home" for more information.

If you cannot temporarily keep the pet, call 1-888-452-7381 and make an appointment to bring that pet to the closest Animal Services Center to you.

DO NOT abandon and leave your pet outside the Center. Pet abandonment is a violation of CA Penal Code 597.

The Problem: The budget for Los Angeles Animal Services Department (LAAS) is being cut by \$3,946,927. (Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget allocation was \$27,156,069 – less than one half of one percent of the City budget. This year's budget allocation is \$23,209,142. This is a 14.5% budget cut. These figures do not

include pension and benefit costs and other expenses that are separately funded in the City budget.) LAAS has determined that this will result in a reduction of personnel that makes it difficult for LAAS to operate all six City animal shelters.

The LAAS Draft Proposal: In order to deal with this budget cut, LAAS has written a draft proposal to turn the West Valley Animal Shelter, located at 20655 Plummer Street in Chatsworth, into a “Community Resource Center” which would be used by rescue organizations to house animals and provide certain limited services to the community. Under the current draft proposal, residents of the West Valley would not be able to bring stray animals or animals to be surrendered to the “Community Resource Center,” adopt animals from there, or have Animal Control Officers dispatched from there to deal with animal issues in the West Valley. That would all have to be done at the East Valley Shelter in Van Nuys, which is already normally (pre-Covid) at or over capacity. In addition, with the loss of the sheltering capacity of the West Valley Shelter, there would not be enough kennel space and other resources to deal with all of the stray, surrendered, and abused animals in the Valley, raising the possibility of animals having to be killed in the City shelters for lack of space. The Valley would be losing close to half of its animal resources; the West Valley would be losing almost all of its animal resources, hardly an equitable result.

Neighborhood Council members have noted that the West Valley Shelter was paid for by Measure F bonds, which are paid for by the taxpayers of the City, and their property should not be given to a rescue organization. The San Fernando Valley constitutes approximately 40% of the total geographic area of the City of Los Angeles and has a population of approximately 1.77 million. One animal shelter is not sufficient for such a large geographic area and population. The Valley was supposed to have 3 animal shelters; one was already given to a rescue organization, and if this proposed plan is carried out, the Valley will be left with only one animal shelter, even though the citizens of the Valley (and the rest of the City) have paid for three.

Meetings Regarding the Proposal: There have been several Zoom meetings regarding this Proposal. City Councilman Bob Blumenfield was the scheduled speaker at the Tarzana Neighborhood Council meeting on July 28, so many people (including at least two current Animal Control Officers) called in with comments and questions regarding the West Valley Shelter Proposal. Councilman Blumenfield appreciated the comments and spoke extensively in response. On August 10, there were two meetings with LAAS Management and Shelter Volunteers. More than 30 Volunteers and the entire LAAS Management (including the General Manager and Assistant GM) participated in the meetings. (I

participated in both meetings.) On August 10, 11, and 12, meetings were held with LAAS leadership and members of the Community. (I participated in the meetings on August 10 and 11.) LAAS leadership was open to input from Volunteers and the Community during these meetings.

Issues That Have Been Raised: *The overwhelming majority of people who have expressed a view on it much prefer that the West Valley Shelter remain a municipal shelter and operate the way it did prior to Covid. Over 8,000 people have already signed a petition against de-municipalizing the West Valley*

Shelter. Those opposing the Draft Proposal support additional funding for LAAS to be able to operate West Valley as a municipal shelter; raising funds from charitable organizations and individuals, to supplement what cannot be provided from the General Fund and other budget sources; giving Shelter Volunteers additional responsibility so that the current and projected number of regular employees can operate all six shelters. LAAS' response to this last suggestion is that the MOU (memorandum of understanding) with the unions prohibit non-union persons from performing jobs that union employees do. However, I think this may not apply to Volunteers performing additional work, especially during and after a pandemic, and that the unions may not object to Volunteers performing additional work if that could help to keep the West Valley Shelter open. All the regular employees I have spoken with want West Valley to remain open, and in the current situation Volunteers would not be displacing any regular employees. To the contrary, keeping West Valley open will secure the jobs of regular employees; their jobs are more secure with 6 shelters than with 5 shelters.

There has also been the suggestion that rather than having the entire budget cut fall on the West Valley Shelter and most municipal functions being shut down at that one shelter, that all six City Shelters should share in this burden. For example, a percentage of kennels (possibly 10 to 15% of kennels) at all six shelters could be turned over to rescues, rather than turning over 100% of the kennels at just one shelter, West Valley. This has been referred to by LAAS as a "share the pain" plan.

People have expressed the view that the City and LAAS have not done enough to explore ways that the West Valley Shelter can remain a fully functioning municipal shelter. Many people believe that the City and LAAS have immediately rushed to dump the Shelter onto rescue organizations and the Community to deal with, even though West Valley residents pay taxes to have a municipal animal shelter. There is a lot of anger regarding this.

I have put together a summary of the issues that have been raised at the meetings which have taken place so far, as well as from calls and emails I have gotten and my own comments, as follows:

1. Response time will increase for Animal Control Officers (ACOs) at East Valley to respond to emergencies in the West Valley. Response to incidents involving dangerous animals, wildlife, injured animals, strays, and other services ACOs provide, will be delayed. Will the number of ACOs at East Valley be increased to fully account for the loss of ACOs at West Valley? Will ACOs continue to be stationed at West Valley? This issue has been raised by several ACOs as well as community members.
2. As the Proposal is currently written, West Valley residents will not be able to turn in strays or surrender animals (intakes), redeem, foster, adopt, and get other services from the West Valley Shelter, and will have to go to East Valley. West Valley residents will be losing a valuable resource which they have paid for.
3. The East Valley Shelter does not have enough capacity to handle all the stray, surrendered, abandoned, and abused animals in the Valley. Animals will either be left on the street or killed. Losing the West Valley Shelter will set back No-Kill, an important policy of the City. The capacity of citizens to foster dogs and cats, in order to make up for this loss of kennel space, will be depleted, especially as people go back to work as the Covid safer at home requirements are eased.

The West Valley Shelter has about 90 general population cat cages; East Valley only has about 30. In 2019, 10,201 cats and kittens were taken in at these two shelters. The East Valley Shelter will be unable to handle anywhere near this volume of incoming cats. The West Valley shelter has about 152 dog kennels; East Valley shelter has about 165. In 2019, the intake of dogs at West Valley was 3,276; East Valley intake was 5,450, for a total of 8,726 dogs coming into the East and West Valley Shelters. LAAS has not explained how it can house such a large intake of dogs without the West Valley Shelter.

4. There is a health hazard for the West Valley because of more stray animals on the streets, including a health hazard for the homeless population.
5. West Valley is the only City shelter that takes large animals – horses, goats, sheep, etc. Where will those animals go?
6. West Valley takes in animals in emergencies, like fires and earthquakes. West Valley is closest to fire areas; where will those animals go?

7. West Valley takes overflow from other shelters when they are overcrowded and West Valley has room.
8. West Valley has air conditioning for the dog kennels while East Valley does not. The two exercise yards at West Valley have artificial turf, while the one at East Valley does not. Volunteers can walk dogs around the block at West Valley, while they cannot do so at East Valley because it is in a residential neighborhood. The dog kennels at West Valley have two sections separated by the “guillotine door,” while East Valley does not, making it harder to get some dogs out of the kennels at East Valley. West Valley is a better facility. Why give away the better shelter? If all West Valley Volunteers start going to East Valley, there will be nowhere for the larger number of Volunteers to take dogs since there is only one play yard and the dogs cannot be walked around the block at East Valley.

LAAS takes the position that because East Valley has misters for the dogs, it is not any hotter than West Valley. That simply is not correct. The misters at East Valley are not as effective as the air conditioning at West Valley. Furthermore, some dogs do not like the misters and try to stay out of the mist. There has been a great deal of concern expressed for the dogs this summer, with temperatures reaching 115 degrees at the East Valley Shelter in Van Nuys, while the West Valley Shelter with air conditioning remained closed.

9. Assuming there is no alternative to de-municipalizing the West Valley Shelter, if rescue organizations are running the West Valley Shelter, there must be direct community oversight.
10. If rescue organizations have facilities at the West Valley Shelter, will LAAS Volunteers be able to put in volunteer time caring for and walking the rescue animals that are housed there?
11. There should be community input into determining which rescues will get facilities at taxpayer paid for shelters. Rescues that have had disagreements with LAAS cannot be automatically excluded.
12. West Valley hoarder cases, abuse cases, barking dogs, administrative citations, and other animal matters have to be dealt with.
13. Classes are taught at the West Valley Shelter through the LAUSD Regional Occupational Program (ROP), for West Valley students. These classes are taught by West Valley Animal Care Technicians (ACTs) with West Valley Shelter animals. These classes should continue at the West Valley Shelter.

14. As noted above, serious consideration should be given to expanding the role of LAAS Volunteers, so as many municipal functions as possible can be maintained at the City animal shelters.

Neighborhood Council Opposition to the LAAS Draft Proposal

On August 25, 2020, the Tarzana Neighborhood Council passed the following resolution:

Whereas the Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) Department's draft Proposal dated June 26, 2020 to turn the West Valley Animal Shelter into a privately run Community Resource Center would result in significant loss of City services for the people and animals of the West San Fernando Valley; and

Whereas it would result in overburdening the only other city animal shelter in the Valley, the East Valley Animal Shelter; and

Whereas it would be inequitable because the entire burden of the LAAS budget cut is being visited on one area of the City, the West Valley; and is overwhelmingly opposed by the residents of the West Valley and the City; and

Whereas there are alternatives to the draft Proposal that would maintain the West Valley Shelter as a fully functioning municipal shelter.

Now Therefore, the Tarzana Neighborhood Council opposes the LAAS draft Proposal for the West Valley Animal Shelter dated June 26, 2020.

On September 2, Los Angeles City Councilmember John Lee introduced a resolution, seconded by City Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, which states:

In November 2000, Los Angeles voters overwhelmingly approved Measure F which provided nearly \$533 million in bond funding for a major upgrade of the City's fire stations and animal shelters. Over the course of the ensuing years, almost all of that funding has been expended on projects to modernize and expand the City's fire and animal care facilities. This General Obligation Bond provided the necessary \$154 million in financing for the construction and/or rehabilitation of 8 animal shelters, most notably the West Valley Animal Shelter.

In response to the City's current financial situation, due to the impacts of COVID-19, our City departments have had to make temporary changes to their operating budgets and that includes the Department of Animal

Services. However, it has come to the Council's attention that the once temporary plan to shutter City operations at the West Valley Animal Shelter, due to COVID-19, could now become permanent. With both valley shelters covering a geographic expanse that constitutes 40% of the total area of Los Angeles, with an estimated 1.77 million population, it is imperative that the City maintain its operations at the West Valley Animal Shelter. In 2019, the West Valley shelter impounded a total of 9,320 animals, while the East Valley shelter impounded 14,605. **The City would be negligent in their obligation to provide necessary services to all stray or lost animals if the West Valley shelter no longer operates as a city shelter and the burden to accommodate and care for an estimated 24,000 animals is left to only the East Valley shelter.**

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Animal Services be instructed to report immediately to this council on the long-term plan for the West Valley Animal Shelter.

As well as Tarzana, a number of other Neighborhood Councils have passed motions and/or filed Community Impact Statements in support of this resolution: Northridge East NC, President Glenn Bailey and Ken Ross, ("The Northridge East Neighborhood Council vehemently demands that Los Angeles City reopen the West Valley Animal Shelter permanently funded at least as before and that it not be given away to a non-profit organization.")

Porter Ranch NC.

Other Neighborhood Councils will be filing additional Community Impact Statements. In addition, many City residents have [filed comments](#) opposing the draft plan. See Additional comments can be submitted to the City Council [here](#):

On September 10, the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC, President Jill Banks Barad), representing all 34 Neighborhood Councils in the San Fernando Valley, passed a resolution very similar to the Tarzana NC resolution quoted above. VANC added the following to that resolution: VANC "demands that the West Valley Shelter remain open as a municipal shelter, and urges Neighborhood Councils to file Community Impact Statements (CIS) in support of this position in City Council File 20-1114, entitled West Valley Animal Shelter Long Term Plan."

The purpose of all this is to let the Animal Services Department, City Council, and Mayor Garcetti know that the current plan for the West Valley Shelter is unacceptable and they should work to come up with a more acceptable plan that deals with the objections that have been raised. There has been talk at LAAS that a

“share the pain” among the shelters plan for dealing with the budget cuts will not work. However, picking another shelter to turn over to rescue organizations will not be acceptable. The Neighborhood Councils and citizens of Los Angeles will not accept that. Instead, think about implementing some of the proposals set forth above. The people and animals of the City deserve that.

In closing, it should be noted that opposing turning over a City Animal Shelter to rescue organizations should not be viewed as in any way critical of rescue organizations. Rescues and the people who run and volunteer for them are among the most kind, generous, dedicated, and effective entities, and persons for helping animals. However, they operate in conjunction with the City sheltering system, and their efforts should not be a substitute or excuse for doing away with City services that the citizens have paid for.

([Jeffrey Mausner](#) is the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils Liaison to the Los Angeles Animal Services Department, 2nd Vice President of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council and Chair of its Animal Welfare Committee, and a Volunteer at the West Valley Animal Shelter. He was previously a Neighborhood Council Budget Advocate and is now a Budget Representative. He is a retired attorney and law school professor and was formerly a Federal Prosecutor for the U.S. Justice Department.)

Officers

Leonard J. Shaffer President
Eran Heissler 1st VP
Jeff Mausner 2nd VP
Harvey Goldberg Treasurer
Max Flehinger Exec. Secretary

CITY OF LOS ANGELES



**TARZANA
NEIGHBORHOOD
COUNCIL**
P.O. Box 571016
Tarzana, CA 91357
TELEPHONE
(818) 921-4992
tnc@tarzananc.org
www.tarzananc.org

Board Members

David Garfinkle
Esther Wieder
Joyce Greene
Kenneth Schwartz
Pam Blattner
Susan Lord
Terry Saucier
Iris Polonsky
Michael Povar
Barry Edelman
Susan Rogen
Scott Diamond
Bob Shmaeff
Mark Epstein
Devon Cromwell
Yossi Malka

TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BOARD MEETING AGENDA
Tuesday September 22, 2020 7:00 PM
VIRTUAL TELEPHONIC MEETING

How to Join the Virtual Telephonic Meeting

By Telephone: Dial 1-669-900-6833, enter 952 9558 2252, and Press #9

You may also call in using the following phone numbers:

833-548-0282, 888-475-4499, 877-853-5257, 833-548-0276

Online: Go to <https://zoom.us/j/95295582252> Passcode: 275580

or paste the address into the address bar on your browser and press Enter

Using the Zoom App: Join Meeting and enter ID: 952 9558 2252 Passcode: 275580

In conformity with the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, the Tarzana Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely telephonically.

Public Comment: Every person wishing to address the Board using a phone must call in using the information above to join the meeting. Instructions on how to sign up for public comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting. The public is requested to dial *9, when prompted by the presiding officer, to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Speakers shall limit their comments to matters relevant to the item on the agenda. The Chair may rule that the speaker is out of order if the comments are not germane to the item under consideration. If multiple speaker cards are submitted on one agenda item, preference will be granted to members of the public who have not spoken previously during the meeting, either during public comment or on another agenda item. Public comment will be limited to 2 minutes unless adjusted by the presiding officer

General Public Comment: Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment may be limited to two minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board

The American With Disability Act: As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by email: NCsupport@lacity.org or phone: (213) 978-1551.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Welcoming Remarks
2. Remarks by representatives of public officials
3. Public Comments – Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction. Public comments are limited to two minutes per speaker
5. Budget Advocate/Representative Report
6. Executive Secretary’s Attendance Report
7. Discussion and motion - Approval of minutes of August 25, 2020 meeting.
8. Discussion and motion: Approval of August 2020 expenditures for submission to City Clerk (MER)
9. Discussion and motion: Approval of Financial Statement as of August 31, 2020
Committee and other Reports (General committee reports will be limited to 3 minutes)
 - Budget
 - Land Use
 - Outreach
 - Events
 - Transportation
 - Public Safety
 - Rules
 - Government Action
 - Animal Welfare
 - Beautification
 - Homelessness
 - DWP MOU Report
 - VANC Report
 - COVID-19 Ad Hoc
10. Discussion and motion: Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Budget Committee’s recommendation supporting the request from YMCA of Metropolitan Los Angeles for a NPG for \$1,000 to support the West Valley Family YMCA Pop-up Food Pantry, Child Care and shower program.
11. Discussion and motion: Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Board’s recommendation to support the Sun Valley Area NC fireworks letter. ([LINK](#))
12. Discussion and motion: Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee’s recommendation to file a CIS supporting CF 20-1114 (CM Lee) by incorporating the language of agenda item 16 of the August 25, 2020 TNC Board meeting agenda. ([LINK](#)) Further, the TNC Board supports the position of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) demanding that the West Valley Shelter remain open as a municipal shelter.
13. Presentation: Should California change how property taxes are assessed against commercial properties by amending Proposition 13 (1978 Howard Jarvis property tax initiative)? See [2020 Proposition 15](#).
14. Board Business - Comment from Board members on subject matters within the Board’s jurisdiction.
 - a. Comment on Board members own activities/brief announcements.
 - b. Brief response to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their general public comment rights.

Your **Community Impact Statement** has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Tarzana Neighborhood Council

Name: Jeffrey Mausner

Phone Number: 310-617-8100

Email: j.mausner@tarzananc.org

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(15) Nay(0) Abstain(5) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 09/22/2020

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 10/05/2020

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-1114

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: Whereas the Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) Department's draft Proposal dated June 26, 2020 to turn the West Valley Animal Shelter into a privately run Community Resource Center would result in significant loss of City services for the people and animals of the West San Fernando Valley; and Whereas it would result in overburdening the only other city animal shelter in the Valley, the East Valley Animal Shelter; and Whereas it would be inequitable because the entire burden of the LAAS budget cut is being visited on one area of the City, the West Valley; and is overwhelmingly opposed by the residents of the West Valley and the City; and Whereas there are alternatives to the draft Proposal that would maintain the West Valley Shelter as a fully functioning municipal shelter. Now Therefore, the Tarzana Neighborhood Council opposes the LAAS draft Proposal for the West Valley Animal Shelter dated June 26, 2020. Further, the Tarzana Neighborhood Council Board supports the position of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) demanding that the West Valley Shelter remain open as a municipal shelter.

Council File: 20-1114

Title
COVID-19 / **West Valley Animal Shelter** / Long Term Plan

Date Received / Introduced
09/02/2020

Last Changed Date
03/24/2021

Expiration Date
03/22/2023

Council District
12

Mover
JOHN S. LEE

Second
BOB BLUMENFIELD

File Activities

Date	Activity	
03/24/2021	Council adopted item forthwith.	
03/22/2021	City Clerk scheduled item for Council on March 24, 2021.	
03/12/2021	Community Impact Statement submitted by Northridge West Neighborhood Council.	
03/03/2021	Personnel, Audits, and Animal Welfare Committee received and filed item(s).	
02/19/2021	Department of Animal Services document(s) referred to Personnel, Audits, and Animal Welfare Committee. Document(s) submitted by Department of Animal Services, as follows:	
02/18/2021	Department of Animal Services report, dated February 18, 2021, relative to an addendum to the long-term plan for the West Valley Animal Shelter.	
02/17/2021	Community Impact Statement submitted by Woodland Hills-Warner Center.	
01/29/2021	Department of Animal Services document(s) referred to Personnel, Audits, and Animal Welfare Committee.	
01/28/2021	Community Impact Statement submitted by Canoga Park Neighborhood Council. Document(s) submitted by Department of Animal Services, as follows:	
01/28/2021	Department of Animal Services report, dated January 28, 2021, relative to a long-term plan for the West Valley Animal Shelter.	
01/19/2021	Community Impact Statement submitted by Reseda Neighborhood Council.	
12/02/2020	Community Impact Statement submitted by West Hills Neighborhood Council.	
11/25/2020	Council action final.	
11/25/2020	Council adopted item, as amended, forthwith.	

11/20/2020	City Clerk scheduled item for Council on November 25, 2020.	
11/20/2020	Community Impact Statement submitted by Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council.	
11/11/2020	Community Impact Statement submitted by Encino Neighborhood Council.	
11/05/2020	Community Impact Statement submitted by Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council.	
11/04/2020	Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee approved as amended .	
10/30/2020	Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee scheduled item for committee meeting on November 4, 2020.	
10/24/2020	Community Impact Statement submitted by Northridge South.	
10/19/2020	Community Impact Statement submitted by Sherman Oaks NC.	
10/05/2020	Community Impact Statement submitted by Tarzana Neighborhood Council.	
09/11/2020	Community Impact Statement submitted by Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council.	
09/03/2020	Community Impact Statement submitted by Northridge East Neighborhood Council.	
09/02/2020	Motion document(s) referred to Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee.	

Online Documents (Doc)

Title	Doc Date
Mayor Concurrence/Council Action	04/01/2021
Mayor Concurrence/Council Action	03/31/2021
Community Impact Statement submitted by Northridge West Neighborhood Council	03/12/2021
Communication(s) from Public	03/09/2021
Report from Personnel, Audits, and Animal Welfare Committee	03/03/2021
Communication(s) from Public	02/22/2021
Communication(s) from Public	02/19/2021
Communication(s) from Public	02/18/2021
Report from Department of Animal Services	02/18/2021
Community Impact Statement submitted by Woodland Hills-Warner Center	02/17/2021
Communication(s) from Public	02/16/2021
Communication(s) from Public	02/15/2021
Communication(s) from Public	02/13/2021
Community Impact Statement submitted by Canoga Park Neighborhood Council	01/28/2021
Report from Department of Animal Services	01/28/2021
Communication(s) from Public	01/27/2021
Community Impact Statement submitted by Reseda Neighborhood Council	01/19/2021
Communication(s) from Public	12/05/2020

<u>Community Impact Statement submitted by West Hills Neighborhood Council</u>	12/02/2020
<u>Amending Motion (Blumenfield - Koretz - Lee)</u>	11/25/2020
<u>Council Action</u>	11/25/2020
<u>Community Impact Statement submitted by Sunland-Tujunga Neighborhood Council</u>	11/20/2020
<u>Community Impact Statement submitted by Encino Neighborhood Council</u>	11/11/2020
<u>Report from Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee</u>	11/10/2020
<u>Community Impact Statement submitted by Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council</u>	11/05/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	11/04/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	11/04/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	11/01/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/31/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/30/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/26/2020
<u>Community Impact Statement submitted by Northridge South</u>	10/24/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/21/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/19/2020
<u>Community Impact Statement submitted by Sherman Oaks NC</u>	10/19/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/18/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/15/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/14/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/13/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/12/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/11/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/10/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/07/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/06/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/05/2020
<u>Community Impact Statement submitted by Tarzana Neighborhood Council</u>	10/05/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/04/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	10/01/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	09/30/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	09/29/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	09/27/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	09/26/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	09/25/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	09/24/2020
<u>Communication(s) from Public</u>	09/23/2020

Communication(s) from Public	09/22/2020
Communication(s) from Public	09/21/2020
Communication(s) from Public	09/20/2020
Communication(s) from Public	09/17/2020
Communication(s) from Public	09/16/2020
Communication(s) from Public	09/15/2020
Communication(s) from Public	09/14/2020
Communication(s) from Public	09/13/2020
Communication(s) from Public	09/12/2020
Communication(s) from Public	09/11/2020
Community Impact Statement submitted by Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council	09/11/2020
Communication(s) from Public	09/10/2020
Communication(s) from Public	09/09/2020
Communication(s) from Public	09/08/2020
Communication(s) from Public	09/03/2020
Community Impact Statement submitted by Northridge East Neighborhood Council	09/03/2020
Motion	09/02/2020



Council Vote Information (4 Votes)



Meeting Date: 03/24/2021
Meeting Type: Regular
Vote Action: Adopted
Vote Given: (15 - 0 - 0)

Member Name	CD Vote
BOB BLUMENFIELD	3 YES
MIKE BONIN	11 YES
JOE BUSCAINO	15 YES
GILBERT A. CEDILLO	1 YES
KEVIN DE LEON	14 YES
MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON	8 YES
PAUL KORETZ	5 YES
PAUL KREKORIAN	2 YES
JOHN LEE	12 YES
NURY MARTINEZ	6 YES
MITCH O'FARRELL	13 YES
CURREN D. PRICE	9 YES
NITHYA RAMAN	4 YES
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS	10 YES
MONICA RODRIGUEZ	7 YES

STOP THE DOG AND CAT MEAT TRADE



December 14, 2018

Honorable Bob Blumenfield, Los Angeles City Councilmember
Los Angeles City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles CA 90012

Re: South Korean Dog Meat Trade

Dear Councilmember Blumenfield:

As you know, the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) consists of representatives of all 34 Neighborhood Councils in the San Fernando Valley, including Neighborhood Councils in your district. At its monthly meeting on August 9, 2018, VANC passed a resolution regarding the following:

Approximately one to two million dogs are killed for food every year in South Korea. Prior to their deaths, these dogs endure a lifetime of abuse and are often slaughtered in a completely inhumane and brutal manner. As stated by the Animal Welfare Institute: “From birth to slaughter, these dogs are kept in cramped, rusty cages stacked on top of each other. The method of slaughter is usually extremely (and even intentionally) brutal, and the dogs are often butchered in full view of the others.”

“Most horrifically—due to a traditional belief that high adrenaline levels will produce tender meat and increase the supposed health benefits—dogs who are killed may be intentionally subjected to extreme fear and suffering and be killed via bludgeoning, hanging, or electrocution. At the open-air markets, dogs are often electrocuted and their necks are broken—all in plain sight to passers-by and the other dogs.” Additional information regarding the South Korean Dog Meat Trade is attached.

The United States is spending billions of dollars, and our military personnel are putting their lives on the line, to assist our ally South Korea in deterring invasion or nuclear attack from the North. Tens of thousands of Americans died in the Korean War, and tens of thousands were wounded, protecting South Korea. Dogs serve in our armed forces and alongside our First Responders. Dogs are instrumental in working with returning Veterans with PTSD. We respectfully request that our ally South Korea stop killing and torturing dogs, a practice which is abhorrent to the vast majority of Americans.

Therefore, at its regular public monthly meeting on August 9, 2018, the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils passed a Resolution requesting that you and the other San Fernando Valley Councilmembers introduce a motion in the Los Angeles City Council opposing the South Korean dog meat trade and asking the South Korean government to ban the dog meat trade and enforce South Korea’s animal cruelty laws.

Sincerely, Jeffrey Mausner, VANC Liaison to L.A. Animal Services
Email: Jeff@MausnerLaw.com. Phone: 310-617-8100

cc: John Popoch, Svetlana Pravina, Andrew Pennington, Ali Pugash

Information Regarding the South Korean Dog Meat Trade

According to the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) and other sources, approximately one to two million dogs are killed for food every year in South Korea. Prior to their deaths, these dogs endure a lifetime of abuse and are often slaughtered in a completely inhumane and brutal manner. As stated by AWI: “From birth to slaughter, these dogs are kept in cramped, rusty cages stacked on top of each other. The method of slaughter is usually extremely (and even intentionally) brutal, and the dogs are often butchered in full view of the others.”

“Most horrifically—due to a traditional belief that high adrenaline levels will produce tender meat and increase the supposed health benefits—dogs who are killed may be intentionally subjected to extreme fear and suffering and be killed via bludgeoning, hanging, or electrocution. At the open-air markets, dogs are often electrocuted and their necks are broken—all in plain sight to passers-by and the other dogs.”

Please see <https://awionline.org/dogmeat> (Animal Welfare Institute)

The United States is spending billions of dollars, and our military personnel are putting their lives on the line, to assist our ally South Korea in deterring invasion or nuclear attack from the North. Tens of thousands of Americans died in the Korean War, and tens of thousands were wounded, protecting South Korea. Dogs serve in our armed forces and alongside our First Responders. Dogs are instrumental in working with returning Veterans with PTSD. We respectfully request that our ally South Korea stop killing and torturing dogs, a practice which is abhorrent to the vast majority of Americans.

Some videos of the South Korean dog meat trade (in increasing order of how graphic they are) are as follows:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goDx7_DdRiE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJnp870Sn58>

<https://fightdogmeat.com/videos-south-korea-graphic/>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZVQjgGb4RQ&has_verified=1 (Shocking Cruelty of South Korean Dog Meat Industry Part 1 of 2 – Requires Youtube age verification to view)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ivHffcM5B6w>

(Shocking Cruelty of South Korean Dog Meat Industry Part 2 of 2 – Requires Youtube age verification to view)

Jeffrey Mausner

Email: Jeff@MausnerLaw.com

Cell phone: (310) 617-8100



March 14, 2019

Honorable David Ryu

Los Angeles City Councilmember

Re: South Korean Dog Meat Trade

Dear Councilmember Ryu:

As you know, the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) consists of representatives of all 34 Neighborhood Councils in the San Fernando Valley, including neighborhoods in your district. At its monthly meeting on August 9, 2018, VANC passed a resolution regarding the following:

Approximately one to two million dogs are killed for food every year in South Korea. Prior to their deaths, these dogs endure a lifetime of abuse and are often slaughtered in a completely inhumane and brutal manner. As stated by the Animal Welfare Institute: "From birth to slaughter, these dogs are kept in cramped, rusty cages stacked on top of each other. The method of slaughter is usually extremely (and even intentionally) brutal, and the dogs are often butchered in full view of the others."

"Most horrifically—due to a traditional belief that high adrenaline levels will produce tender meat and increase the supposed health benefits—dogs who are killed may be intentionally subjected to extreme fear and suffering and be killed via bludgeoning, hanging, or electrocution. At the open-air markets, dogs are often electrocuted and their necks are broken—all in plain sight to passers-by and the other dogs." Additional information regarding the South Korean Dog Meat Trade is attached.

The United States is spending billions of dollars, and our military personnel are putting their lives on the line, to assist our ally South Korea in deterring invasion or nuclear attack from the North. Tens of thousands of Americans died in the Korean War, and tens of thousands were wounded, protecting South Korea. Dogs serve in our armed forces and alongside our First Responders. Dogs are instrumental in working with returning Veterans with PTSD. We respectfully request that our ally South Korea stop killing and torturing dogs, a practice which is abhorrent to the vast majority of Americans.

Therefore, at its regular public monthly meeting on August 9, 2018, the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils passed a Resolution requesting that you and the other San Fernando Valley Councilmembers introduce a motion in the Los Angeles City Council opposing the South Korean dog meat trade and asking the South Korean government to ban the dog meat trade and enforce South Korea's animal cruelty laws.

Sincerely, Jeffrey Mausner, VANC Liaison to L.A. Animal Services
Email: Jeff@MausnerLaw.com. Phone: 310-617-8100

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles, with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, in recent years the City of Los Angeles has been one of California's leaders in pursuing progressive animal welfare policies and practices; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 10 to 20 million dogs in China, 5 million dogs in Vietnam, and one million dogs each in South Korea, Indonesia, and Cambodia are killed for food each year; and

WHEREAS, dogs in these countries are kept in cramped, rusty cages stacked on top of each other, and slaughtered in brutal ways such as hanging or electrocution, due to an erroneous belief that high adrenaline levels will produce tender meat and increase the supposed health benefits of consuming dog; and

WHEREAS, the governments of some of these countries have passed laws regarding dog meat and animal cruelty: in China, the Food Safety Law of the People's Republic of China, and in South Korea, the Animal Protection Act; and

WHEREAS, despite laws regulating the sale of dog meat in these countries, dog farms continue to operate in brazen disregard of any established standards of animal cruelty, and continue to raise and slaughter dogs in inhumane ways;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes into its 2019-2020 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for legislation or administrative action that would request the governments of China, Vietnam, South Korea, Cambodia, and Indonesia to ban the sale of dog meat and to enforce their animal cruelty laws.

PRESENTED BY: Bob Blumenfeld
BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY: [Signature]

ORIGINAL

JUN 05 2019

tcjn

<https://citywatchla.com/index.php/cw/animal-watch/17877-help-stop-the-brutal-torture-and-killing-of-tens-of-millions-of-dogs-in-the-dog-meat-trade>



Help Stop the Brutal Torture and Killing of Tens of Millions of Dogs in the Dog Meat Trade

Jeffrey Mausner
17 June 2019



ANIMAL RIGHTS-On June 5, a resolution was introduced in the Los Angeles City Council, asking the governments of China, Vietnam, South Korea, Cambodia, and Indonesia to ban the sale of dog meat and to enforce their animal cruelty laws

The resolution was introduced by Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, a very strong advocate for animal welfare, and seconded by Councilmember David Ryu, one of the most influential Korean American office holders in the country.

The City Council resolution can be seen [here](#).

As stated in the resolution:

“[I]t is estimated that 10 to 20 million dogs in China, 5 million dogs in Vietnam, and one million dogs each in South Korea, Indonesia, and Cambodia are killed for food each year; ...

“[D]ogs in these countries are kept in cramped, rusty cages stacked on top of each other, and slaughtered in brutal ways such as hanging or electrocution, due to an erroneous belief that high adrenaline levels will produce tender meat and increase the supposed health benefits of consuming dog.”

This pending City Council resolution grew out of a resolution passed by the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC), which consists of representatives of all 34 Neighborhood Councils in the San Fernando Valley.

The VANC resolution can be seen [here](#).

The VANC resolution has additional information regarding the dog meat trade, including links to videos showing what happens to these poor dogs. (See addendum below for more information regarding the VANC Resolution. Warning: The videos are very graphic and disturbing.) The VANC resolution is focused on the South Korean dog meat trade because I think South Korea, which is a close friend and ally of the United States, will be most receptive to our pleas to save these dogs.

South Korea has very close ties to Los Angeles – there is a tremendous amount of trade and tourism between Los Angeles and South Korea; we have a sister city, Busan, and even a sister river, the Cheonggyecheon; and South Korea is a democracy that will listen to its citizens who are animal rights advocates. And we have Councilmember Ryu supporting this. In fact, South Korea's National Assembly (legislature) is currently considering this matter. South Korea can be the

leader in abolishing the dog meat trade in Asia. As stated in the VANC Resolution:

“The United States is spending billions of dollars, and our military personnel are putting their lives on the line, to assist our ally South Korea in deterring invasion or nuclear attack from the North. Tens of thousands of Americans died in the Korean War, and tens of thousands were wounded, protecting South Korea. Dogs serve in our armed forces and alongside our First Responders. Dogs are instrumental in working with returning Veterans with PTSD. We respectfully request that our ally South Korea stop killing and torturing dogs, a practice which is abhorrent to the vast majority of Americans.”

Please see VANC Letters and Resolution [here](#).

Thank you to VANC Chair and Founder Jill Banks Barad, the entire Executive Board of VANC, and VANC representatives for their strong support of this resolution. The resolution passed almost unanimously, with only one negative vote and one abstention.

What can we do now to help stop the dog meat trade?

- **This is the easiest and least time-consuming thing to do now to help stop the dog meat trade: Submit comments in support of the City Council Resolution.** The easiest way to do this is by going to this [website](#).

The website contains a form which allows you to type your comments to the City Council, which are then posted in the City Council File. The Council File number for this resolution is 19-0002-S101; make sure you include the Council File number when you fill out the on-line form.

Let the City Council know that you support the resolution asking the governments of China, Vietnam, South Korea, Cambodia, and Indonesia to ban the sale of dog meat and to enforce their animal cruelty laws. Submitting a comment on this website is the easiest way to convey your support of this resolution to all City Council Members; it will literally take less than five minutes. A day or two after you submit your comment, you will be able to see it [here](#) in the upper right corner.

- **Call City Councilmembers in support of the City Council Resolution, CF 19-0002-S101.**

- **Write letters to City Councilmembers in support of the City Council Resolution, CF 19-0002-S101. Contact information for City Councilmembers is [here](#).** _
- **Send letters to the consulates** of China, Vietnam, South Korea, Cambodia, and Indonesia asking them to stop the dog meat trade and enforce animal welfare laws. In your letter, note that the Los Angeles City Council is considering a resolution regarding the dog meat trade and the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils has already passed such a resolution. Attach copies of the resolutions. Addresses of the consulates are:

Honorable Consul General of the Republic of Korea
 Korean Consulate in Los Angeles
 3243 Wilshire Blvd
 Los Angeles, CA 90010

(If you only have time to send one letter, please send it to South Korea (Republic of Korea), since they are the most likely to listen to us, as discussed above. But if you have time, please send the letter to all 5 consulates. Include copies of the City Council and VANC Resolutions in your letters.)

Honorable Consul General of the People's Republic of China
 Chinese Consulate in Los Angeles
 443 Shatto Place
 Los Angeles, CA 90020

Honorable Consul General of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam
 Vietnamese Consulate in San Francisco
 1700 California Street, Suite 430
 San Francisco, CA 94109

Honorable Ambassador of Cambodia
 Royal Embassy of Cambodia
 4530 16th Street N.W.
 Washington D.C. 20011

Honorable Consul General of the Republic of Indonesia
 Indonesian Consulate in Los Angeles
 3457 Wilshire Boulevard
 Los Angeles, CA 90010

- **If you are a Neighborhood Council Board Member, please introduce a resolution** for your neighborhood council to file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in support of Council File 19-0002-S101. Or any stakeholder can ask their neighborhood council to pass a resolution for a CIS in support.

Animal activists in South Korea have been organizing against the dog meat trade for several years and have succeeded in getting this issue before the South Korean National Assembly (legislature). I'm sure they would very much appreciate our support, expressed through their Consulate, our City Council, and our Neighborhood Councils.

If you have limited time, please submit a comment on the City Council website, as set forth in paragraph 1 above; that will only take five minutes.

Thank you on behalf of the millions of dogs who are tortured, killed, and eaten each year in these countries. Thank you to Councilmembers Blumenfield and Ryu for introducing this resolution. Thank you to John Popoch, CM Blumenfield's Deputy Chief of Staff, and the entire Blumenfield Team, for your work on this resolution! Thank you to all the animal activists who have been working to abolish the dog meat trade for years!

Please forward this article to other people you know who care about dogs. This is taking place far away, but the number of dogs who are subjected to the dog meat trade, and the severe torture that they are subjected to, makes this so important to us here in Los Angeles. (For those of you who have been working on the LA City budget, note that this will not cost the City anything but can help save millions of dogs from terrible torture and death.)

Please keep pushing on this, and let's get the dog meat trade abolished!

Addendum:

According to the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) and other sources, approximately one to two million dogs are killed for food every year in South Korea. Prior to their deaths, these dogs endure a lifetime of abuse and are often slaughtered in a completely inhumane and brutal manner. As stated by AWI: "From birth to slaughter, these dogs are kept in cramped, rusty cages stacked on top of each other.

The method of slaughter is usually extremely (and even intentionally) brutal, and the dogs are often butchered in full view of the others.”

“Most horrifically—due to a traditional belief that high adrenaline levels will produce tender meat and increase the supposed health benefits—dogs who are killed may be intentionally subjected to extreme fear and suffering and be killed via bludgeoning, hanging, or electrocution. At the open-air markets, dogs are often electrocuted and their necks are broken—all in plain sight to passers-by and the other dogs.”

Please see <https://awionline.org/dogmeat> (Animal Welfare Institute)

Some videos of the dog meat trade in China, Vietnam, and South Korea (in increasing order of how graphic they are) are as follows:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goDx7_DdRiE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJnp87OSn58>

<https://fightdogmeat.com/videos-south-korea-graphic/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RMAbbFUiUTo> (Lisa Vanderpump and Dr. John Sessa, who have been fighting against the dog meat trade for years)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NjbWQAASPcs> (ABC News in China)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iLlzdY33tZc> (Marc Ching, who has been fighting against the dog meat trade for years/LA Weekly)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C406IVEPqF4&list=PLmrSN5nuJgSKE1RQzC2sjFKwggguCMDnFF> (Last Chance for Animals and South Korean Animal Liberation Wave)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GOMQf1nizSk> (Vietnamese Dog Slaughterhouse)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vc-Zo15BJFU> (Chinese Dog Slaughterhouse, Requires YouTube age verification to view)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZVQjgGb4RQ&has_verified=1 (South Korean Dog Meat Industry Part 1 of 2 – Requires YouTube age verification to view)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ivHffcM5B6w> (South Korean Dog Meat Industry Part 2 of 2 – Requires YouTube age verification to view)

(Jeffrey Mausner (see <https://mausnerlaw.com/>) is the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils Liaison to the Los Angeles Animal Services Department, a Neighborhood Council Budget Advocate, 2nd Vice President of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council and Chair of its Animal Welfare Committee, and a Volunteer at the West Valley Animal Shelter. He is a retired attorney and law school professor and was formerly a Federal Prosecutor for the U.S. Justice Department.) Prepped for CityWatch by Linda Abrams.

What do you think?

64 Responses 82 comments

To see the comments to this article, go to:

<https://citywatchla.com/index.php/cw/animal-watch/17877-help-stop-the-brutal-torture-and-killing-of-tens-of-millions-of-dogs-in-the-dog-meat-trade>

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URGENT CALL FOR ACTION!!! LA Council introduces a resolution asking South Korea to stop the dog meat trade!

posted by [KoreanDogs.org team](#) on [June 22,2019](#) in [Action Alert](#), [Campaign](#)

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[Update July 18, 2019] It's official! Los Angeles Mayor, Eric Garcetti, has approved the "Dog Meat Resolution".

Los Angeles Mayor, Eric Garcetti, has approved the [City Council Resolution](#) which requests that the governments of China, Vietnam, South Korea, Cambodia, and Indonesia ban the sale of dog meat and to enforce their animal cruelty laws! Now it's become the official position of the city of Los Angeles!!

This is a significant development because Los Angeles is a big trading partner with Korea and most likely, with the other countries named in this resolution. Los Angeles also has the largest population of Koreans in the United States.

A big thank you to Mr. Jeffrey Mausner and to all the members of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils for their efforts to make this possible. Also we thank the Mayor and the City Council members who have voted for this resolution and our supporters who have taken action to voice their support.

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT
CITY CLERK

SHANNON D. HOPPE
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

City of Los Angeles
CALIFORNIA



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK

Council and Public Services Division

200 N. SPRING STREET, ROOM 395
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
GENERAL INFORMATION - (213) 978-1133
FAX: (213) 978-1040

PATRICE Y. LATTIMORE
DIVISION MANAGER

CLERK.LACITY.ORG

When making inquiries relative to
this matter, please refer to the
Council File No.: 19-0002-S101

OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

July 5, 2019

Council File No.: 19-0002-S101

Council Meeting Date: July 03, 2019

Agenda Item No.: 46

Agenda Description: COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST (CLA) and
RESOLUTION (BLUMENFIELD - RYU) relative to establishing the City's
position regarding the sale of dog meat.

Council Action: COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST AND
RESOLUTION (BLUMENFIELD - RYU) - ADOPTED FORTHWITH

Council Vote:

YES	BLUMENFIELD	YES	HUIZAR	ABSENT	PRICE
YES	BONIN	YES	KORETZ	YES	RODRIGUEZ
ABSENT	BUSCAINO	YES	KREKORIAN	YES	RYU
YES	CEDILLO	YES	MARTINEZ	YES	SMITH
YES	HARRIS-DAWSON	YES	O'FARRELL	YES	WESSON

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT
CITY CLERK

Pursuant to Charter/Los Angeles Administrative Code Section(s): 231(h)

FILE SENT TO MAYOR: 07/05/2019

LAST DAY FOR MAYOR TO ACT: 07/15/2019

✓
APPROVED

*DISAPPROVED

*VETO

07/15/2019

DATE SIGNED

Adopted Report(s)

Title	Date
Report from Chief Legislative Analyst	06/17/2019
Resolution	06/05/2019

[Update July 3, 2019] The City Council of Los Angeles (LA) voted on this resolution today and they passed it unanimously.

YAY!!! We are so happy the resolution unanimously passed the City Council today (13 Yes, 0 No, and 2 absent). A big thank you goes out to Mr. Jeffrey Mausner for speaking at the council meeting today and to all the members of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils for their efforts to make this possible. Also we are grateful to all council members who voted for this important resolution.

Click [HERE](#) to watch the council meeting. Scroll down on the bottom of the video screen to Item 46.

ITEM NO. (46) – 19-0002-S101 COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST (CLA) and RESOLUTION (BLUMENFIELD – RYU) relative to establishing the City’s position regarding the sale of dog meat.

City of
LOS ANGELES
California

PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA ITEM [lacity.org](#)

ITEM 46 COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST (CLA) and RESOLUTION (BLUMENFIELD - RYU) relative to establishing the ...

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL MEETING JULY 3, 2019 WWW.LACITY.ORG SAP CC

City Council Meeting - Wednesday

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• ITEM NO. (46) - 19-0002-S101 COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST (CLA) and RESOLUTION (BLUMENFIELD - RYU) relative to establishing the City's position regarding the sale of dog meat.

As Mr. Mausner stated in the meeting, **more than 500 people submitted comments supporting the resolution.**

This resolution is subject to the concurrence of Mayor Eric Garcetti. Click [HERE](#) to watch the website and see when the Mayor approves the resolution and the City Council action becomes final.

In the column on the left, you'll first see: "City Clerk transmitted file to Mayor. Last day for Mayor to act is _____."

When the Mayor approves the resolution, the site will say: "Mayor transmitted Council File to City Clerk." Shortly after that you'll see the following: "Council action final."

We hope that Mayor Garcetti approves this resolution that will have tremendous impact on the millions of dogs in these dog eating countries.

It is our hope that other city governments will follow LA's example, and that the US government will speak out more forcefully against the cruelty of the dog meat trade.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more. "[LA Passes Anti-Dog Meat Resolution Saving Millions of Dogs from Brutal Torture and Death](#)"



Mr. Jeffrey Mausner (Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils Liaison to the Los Angeles Animal Services Department) has [reported on June 17, 2019](#): "On June 5, a resolution was introduced in the Los Angeles City Council, asking the governments of China, Vietnam, South Korea, Cambodia, and Indonesia to ban the sale of dog meat and to enforce their animal cruelty laws. The resolution was introduced by Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, a very strong advocate for animal welfare, and seconded by Councilmember David Ryu, one of the most influential Korean American office holders in the country."

Mr. Mausner reported that "This pending City Council resolution grew out of a [resolution passed by the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils \(VANC\)](#), which consists of representatives of all 34 Neighborhood Councils in the San Fernando Valley."

He also mentioned South Korea's "very close ties to Los Angeles" and the [Los Angeles sister city – Busan](#). We have campaigned to urge Los Angeles to speak out against the cruelty of its sister city and other friendship cities in Korea. Click [HERE](#) to see our campaigns.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more and take actions.

Call for Action

We are sharing the below call for action from the Mr. Mausner's article.

- Click [HERE](#) to Submit comments in support of the City Council Resolution.

Council File number: 19-0002-S101

Suggested message

I strongly support the resolution 19-0002-S101 asking the governments of China, Vietnam, South Korea, Cambodia, and Indonesia to ban the sale of dog meat and to enforce their animal protection laws. Thank you for working to stop this cruelty!

- Send emails to the City Council members in support of the City Council Resolution, CF 19-0002-S101.

mayor.garcetti@lacity.org; mayor.international@lacity.org; councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org; councilmember.Krekorian@lacity.org; councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org; david.ryu@lacity.org; paul.koretz@lacity.org; councilmember.martinez@lacity.org; Councilmember.Rodriguez@lacity.org; councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org; councilmember.price@lacity.org; councilmember.wesson@lacity.org; councilmember.bonin@lacity.org; councilmember.Smith@lacity.org; councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org; councilmember.huizar@lacity.org; councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org;

- Call City Council members in support of the City Council Resolution, CF 19-0002-S101. Click [HERE](#) for their phone numbers.

Mayor Eric Garcetti (213) 978-0600

1. Gilbert Cedillo (213) 473-7001
2. Paul Krekorian (213) 473-7002
3. Bob Blumenfield (213) 473-7003
4. David E. Ryu (213) 473-7004
5. Paul Koretz (213) 473-7005
6. Nury Martinez (213) 473-7006
7. Monica Rodriguez (213) 473-7007
8. Marqueece Harris-Dawson (213) 473-7008
9. Curren D. Price, Jr. (213) 473-7009
10. Herb J. Wesson, Jr. (213) 473-7010
11. Mike Bonin (213) 473-7011
12. Greig Smith (818) 882-1212
13. Mitch O'Farrell (213) 473-7013
14. Jose Huizar (213) 473-7014
15. Joe Buscaino (213) 473-7015

Suggested phone message

Hello,

I am calling to express my strong support for resolution 19-0002-S101 asking the governments of China, Vietnam, South Korea, Cambodia, and Indonesia to ban the sale of dog meat and to enforce their animal protection laws. Thank you for working to stop this cruelty!

- Write letters to City Councilmembers in support of the City Council Resolution, CF 19-0002-S101.

Click [HERE](#) for their addresses.

- Send letters to the consulates of China, Vietnam, South Korea, Cambodia, and Indonesia asking them to stop the dog meat trade and enforce animal welfare laws.

Honorable Consul General of the Republic of Korea

Korean Consulate in Los Angeles
3243 Wilshire Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90010

(If you only have time to send one letter, please send it to South Korea (Republic of Korea), since they are the most likely to listen to us, as discussed above. But if you have time, please send the letter to all 5 consulates. Include copies of the City Council and VANC Resolutions in your letters.)

 Click [HERE](#) for suggested message to the South Korean government. (English)

 Click [HERE](#) for suggested message to the South Korean government. (Korean)

Honorable Consul General of the People's Republic of China

Chinese Consulate in Los Angeles
443 Shatto Place
Los Angeles, CA 90020

 Click [HERE](#) for suggested message to the Chinese government.

Honorable Consul General of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Vietnamese Consulate in San Francisco
1700 California Street, Suite 430
San Francisco, CA 94109

 Click [HERE](#) for suggested message to the Vietnamese government.

Honorable Ambassador of Cambodia

Royal Embassy of Cambodia
4530 16th Street N.W.
Washington D.C. 20011

 Click [HERE](#) for suggested message to the Cambodian government.

Honorable Consul General of the Republic of Indonesia

Indonesian Consulate in Los Angeles
3457 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90010

 Click [HERE](#) for suggested message to the Indonesian government.

For CityWatch articles about subsequent developments regarding the Dog and Cat Meat Trade, please see:

LA Passes Anti-Dog Meat Resolution Saving Millions of Dogs from Brutal Torture and Death. July 8, 2019. <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/2016-01-01-13-17-00/los-angeles/18024-la-passes-anti-dog-meat-resolution-saving-millions-of-dogs-from-brutal-torture-and-death>

All Dog Meat Slaughterhouses in Seoul South Korea are Finally Shut Down. November 4, 2019. <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/2016-01-01-13-17-00/los-angeles/18780-all-dog-meat-slaughterhouses-in-seoul-south-korea-are-finally-shut-down>

Indonesian Province of Central Java Bans Dog Meat. December 9, 2019. <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/2016-01-01-13-17-00/los-angeles/18973-indonesian-province-of-central-java-bans-dog-meat>

Chinese City of Shenzhen Bans Eating Dog and Cat Meat, April 6, 2020, <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/cw/los-angeles/19559-chinese-city-of-shenzhen-bans-eating-dog-and-cat-meat>

Chinese May Declare Dogs Are Pets and Not for Eating – Let Them Know You Agree, April 13, 2020, <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/cw/animal-watch/19593-chinese-may-declare-dogs-are-pets-and-not-for-eating-let-them-know-you-agree>

Update: Chinese Ministry of Agriculture Bans Commercial Dog and Cat Meat – Focus Shifts to Enforcement, June 4, 2020, <https://citywatchla.com/index.php/cw/los-angeles/19882-update-chinese-ministry-of-agriculture-bans-commercial-dog-and-cat-meat-focus-shifts-to-enforcement>

Will the City of Yulin Hold the Infamous Dog Meat Festival on June 21-30, In Defiance of New Chinese Regulations Banning Commercial Dog Meat?, June 8, 2020, <https://citywatchla.com/index.php/cw/los-angeles/19888-will-the-city-of-yulin-hold-the-infamous-dog-meat-festival-on-june-21-30-in-defiance-of-new-chinese-regulations-banning-commercial-dog-meat>

Action Needed: Ask Pres Biden to Discuss the Fate of S. Korea's Animals When he Meets with President Moon, May 17, 2021, <https://citywatchla.com/index.php/cw/animal-watch/21770-action-needed-ask-pres-biden-to-discuss-the-fate-of-s-korea-s-animals-when-he-meets-with-president-moon>

Interview with Giny Woo, KoreanDogs.org Founder: Stopping Dog Meat Trade in S. Korea, <https://citywatchla.com/index.php/cw/animal-watch/22164-interview-with-giny-woo-koreandogs-org-founder-stopping-dog-meat-trade-in-s-korea>

SAVE ROCKIN' RESCUE

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

**TARZANA
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**
P.O. Box 571016
Tarzana, CA 91357



**TARZANA
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**
C/O Department of Neighborhood
Empowerment
200 N. Spring St. Suite 2005
Los Angeles, CA 90012
TELEPHONE (213) 978-1551
Fax (213) 978-1751

TELEPHONE (818) 921-4992
tnc@tarzananc.org
www.tarzananc.org

MINUTES of the TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at 7:00 pm
Tarzana Child Care Center
5700 Beckford Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356,
Chairman - Jeffrey Mausner

Minutes of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council (TNC) Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) meeting, October 13, 2015, at the Tarzana Child Care Center, 5700 Beckford Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356.

1. Call to Order & Welcoming Remarks. The meeting was called to order at 7:12 P.M. Attending were the following committee members: Deanna Dylan Scott, Mary Aratounian, Eva Brusa, Janet Mausner, and Jeffrey Mausner. Also attending were Volunteers from the West Valley Animal Shelter and Ady Gill, who runs Rockin' Rescue. The attached documents were distributed at the meeting.
2. Public Comments. The public comments related to the West Valley Shelter and Rockin' Rescue, so they were deferred to items 4 and 6 below.
3. Update and discussion on the killing of healthy adoptable animals at Los Angeles City animal shelters took place. Draft of the letter to Councilmen Blumenfield and Koretz regarding this was distributed for comment.
4. Update and discussion on other issues regarding the West Valley Animal Shelter took place: Lack of air conditioning in trucks used to transport animals was discussed. Michael Bell and his groups are dealing with this issue. We will assist in that matter if needed. Discussion of other matters regarding the West Valley Shelter took place.
5. Update and discussion on efforts to get the City to do a CEQA review in connection with the injunction against City participation in the Trap Neuter Release (TNR) program. Draft of the letter to Councilmen Blumenfield and Koretz regarding this was distributed for comment.
6. Update and discussion on the status of Rockin' Rescue's change of use/zoning change, warning to shut down; email from Brenda Barnette, General Manager of Los Angeles Animal Services, that Rockin' Rescue can continue to operate as long as they are still moving forward with their zoning request and the animals look well cared for.
7. Discussion and motion: **Resolved that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee recommends that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council assist Rockin' Rescue in obtaining the change of use/zoning necessary to obtain a kennel permit.**

Motion to adopt the resolution was made by Eva Brusa and seconded by Mary Aratounian. The motion to adopt the resolution passed unanimously, with Deanna Dylan Scott, Eva Brusa, Mary Aratounian, Janet Mausner, and Jeffrey Mausner voting in favor. No votes against or abstentions.

8. Update and discussion on the use of live chickens in religious observances.

9. Update and discussion on the status of panleukopenia (aka panleuk), a deadly cat disease.

10. Discussion of the possibility of implementing a program for nursing homes to adopt or foster dogs and/or cats.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M.



TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

**P.O. BOX 571016
TARZANA, CA 91357
(818) 921-4992
tnc@tarzananc.org**

2017 JAN 17 PM 12:31

LOS ANGELES
CITY OF

January 16, 2017

Mr. Steve Cochran, President
South Valley Area Planning Commission
200 N. Spring Street, Room 532
Los Angeles, CA 90012-4801

Re: Case No. ZA-2015-4447-ZV

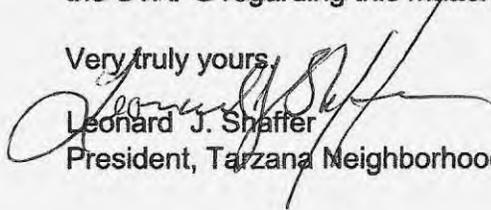
Dear President Cochran,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that on October 27, 2015 at its regularly scheduled public meeting the Tarzana Neighborhood Council by a unanimous vote adopted the following resolution:

“Resolved: The TNC approves the Animal Welfare Committee recommendation that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council assist Rockin’ Rescue in obtaining the change of use/zoning necessary to obtain a kennel permit.”

I have included a copy of the approved minutes recording the motion and vote on item 8 of the October 27, 2015 meeting agenda for the Tarzana Neighborhood Council. A Board member of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council will be present at the January 26, 2017 hearing to address the SVAPC regarding this matter.

Very truly yours,


Leonard J. Shaffer
President, Tarzana Neighborhood Council

**TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BOARD MEETING**

Tuesday, October 27, 2015 7:00 PM
Tarzana Elementary School Auditorium
5726 Topeka Dr., Tarzana, CA 91356

1. **Call to Order** by Len Shaffer at 7:10 p.m. with welcoming remarks and Pledge of Allegiance. **Roll Call by Eran Heissler:** Leonard J. Shaffer, Eran Heissler, Paul Lawler, Jon Reich, David Garfinkle, Esther Wieder, Joyce Greene, Robin Correll, Susan Weidman, Allan Wertheim and Jeff Mausner. (Syed Hussaini arrived at 7:30 p.m.) A quorum of 11 was established.
2. **Approval of minutes of September 29, 2015 meeting – (Heissler/Wertheim) moved to approve the minutes as amended.**
3. **Remarks by representatives of public officials** Arielle from Councilmember Bob Blumenfield's office announced two upcoming events.
4. **Public Comments:**
 - o Lillian Wall, a realtor and stakeholder, asked about film crews filming in residential neighborhoods of Tarzana.
 - o Varant Majarian expressed interest in a seat on the board.
 - o Robert Shmaeff, who serves on the Transportation & Budget Committees, offered his experience to be appointed to the board.
5. **Committee and other Reports**
 - Outreach** – Esther attended the Emergency Preparedness meeting saying it was a great event. She also attended Taste of Encino where TNC had a booth.
 - Land Use** – David said he would like to hold community meetings for better input on the Mansionization motion.
 - Transportation** – Eran read Max's report which included a proposal by DOT to make Nestle Ave one way, a relocated MBA bus stop, a proposal for a new bus stop, and a request for CalTrans to clean freeway signs.
 - Animal Welfare** – Jeff gave a report that highlighted the temperature in the back of city Animal Services trucks, which are not air conditioned. It was noted that temps reached over 100 degrees in that back area where animals are transported. A new rule has been put into effect in the shelters prohibiting visitors from using the play yards with dogs to be adopted. However, there are opportunities for volunteers to take the dogs out of their kennels to socialize them with other dogs.
 - DWP MOU** – Joyce attended the DWP MOU meeting and reported on it. She requested that letters be written to the GM of DWP, the Mayor, and Council President Herb Wesson asking that no action be taken on the rate proposal until Dr. Pickles has enough information to make an opinion. There is supposed to be a vote on the rate increase in early Dec.
6. **(Shaffer/Reich) moved that the TNC board approve the preliminary financial statements as of September 30, 2015. The motion carried unanimously.**
7. **(Shaffer/Heissler) moved approval of the September, 2015 expenditures for submission to DONE (MER). The motion carried unanimously.**
8. **(Mausner/Heissler) moved, "Resolved: The TNC approves the Animal Welfare Committee recommendation that the Tarzana Neighborhood Council assist Rockin' Rescue in obtaining the change of use/zoning necessary to obtain a kennel permit." The motion carried unanimously.**

(Shaffer/Garfinkle) moved, "Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee recommendation to the Board to waive the TNC standing rules so the Board can discuss and vote Agenda Item 10 requesting CM Blumenfield to introduce a motion for an ICO governing mansionization in Tarzana to include the language and intent of CF- 0656 introduced by CM Paul Animal Welfare Workshop 49

SAVE THE LIVES OF DOGS AND CATS IN LOS ANGELES - DON'T SHUT DOWN ROCKIN' RESCUE

by Jeffrey Mausner · 5,092 supporters

Petition update

**WE WON! SOUTH VALLEY AREA
PLANNING COMMISSION GRANTED
ROCKIN' RESCUE'S VARIANCES**



Jeffrey Mausner
Los Angeles, CA



Jan 27, 2017 — Hi Everyone. Last night, democracy prevailed in Los Angeles. The South Valley Area Planning Commission (SVAPC) unanimously voted to grant the variances necessary for Rockin' Rescue to continue to operate in its current location at 19855 Ventura Blvd., Woodland Hills, California.

This happened in large part because of your support. Over 5,500 people signed petitions in support of Rockin' Rescue. Many of you left very insightful and persuasive comments, which were submitted to the SVAPC.

And last night, approximately 100 Rockin' Rescue supporters attended the SVAPC meeting to show their support. About 40 of them addressed the SVAPC, providing moving stories of how Rockin' Rescue helps dogs, cats, and people. There were Volunteers and Employees from the City's West Valley Animal Shelter, Employees and Volunteers from Rockin' Rescue, people who adopted their dog or cat from Rockin' Rescue, Rockin' Rescue's neighbors, and good citizens who simply wanted to have such a great rescue in their neighborhood. The manager of the OSH (Orchard Supply Hardware) across the street even volunteered his parking lot if the lot at Rockin' Rescue is ever full. Businesses next door and across the

street from Rockin' Rescue submitted letters of support: Upholstery Zone, Excitement, Oak & Poppy, Bank of the West, and Wells Fargo.

The Commissioners listened. Thank you to:

Commission President Steve Cochran

Commission Vice President Lydia Drew Mather

Commissioner Rebecca Beatty

Commissioner Raymond Bishop. Commissioner Bishop stated the findings of the 5 elements which are necessary to approve a variance.

All of the Commissioners voted in favor of the variances.

We want to thank the following people, among many others, who helped in this matter:

Leonard (Len) Shaffer, President of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council and President of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners; the entire Tarzana Neighborhood Council.

The Woodland Hills Neighborhood Council, its President Joyce Fletcher, and its Secretary Linda Kouy-Ghadosh.

The Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council, its President Jill Banks Barad, and its Vice President and Land Use Chair Ron Ziff.

Other local Neighborhood Councils.

City Councilmember Bob Blumenfield and his staff:

Andrew Pennington, Senior Planning Deputy

Svetlana Pravina, Field Deputy

John Popoch, Deputy Chief of Staff.

Andrew Pennington and the others supported Rockin' Rescue throughout this process, from the Zoning Administrator hearing to the SVAPC. Andrew spoke in support of Rockin' Rescue at both hearings.

Councilmember Blumenfield has also introduced a resolution for the City Council, so that other Animal Rescues in Los Angeles will not have to go through this ordeal in the future.

For those of you who live in Canoga Park, Reseda, Tarzana, Winnetka, and Woodland Hills, please remember that Councilman Blumenfield is up for re-election this year. The primary is on March 7; the general election is on May 16. Please vote; we need people on the City Council, and their dedicated staff, who care about animals and will actually do something to help them.

Our new State Senator, Henry Stern, wrote a letter of support for Rockin' Rescue

which was submitted to the SVAPC. It is good to know that we have a strong supporter of animals in the State Legislature, as well as on the City Council.

Newscaster Jane Velez-Mitchell broadcast the entire hearing live. Video from the hearing is on her Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/janevelezmitchell>
The entire hearing is posted in several segments.

Thank you to:

Winston Stromberg, Shivaun Cooney, Rachel Stauber, Shannon Lankenau, Danny Aleshire, Daniel Green, and Linda Enriquez of the Law Firm of Latham & Watkins, who worked on this matter on a pro bono (free) basis.

Brad Rosenheim and Gary Werner of Rosenheim & Associates, who also worked on the appeal on a pro bono basis.

Rob Glushon of Luna & Glushon, who also consulted and appeared on a pro bono basis.

Beth Chrisman, Certified Forensic Document Examiner.

Southwestern Law School students Gloria Ramirez, Jeremy Lishman, and Sara Brown.

And of course Ady Gil, Bari Fiore, Fabienne Origer, and everyone at Rockin' Rescue -- please continue to save the lives of dogs and cats, and provide adoption services to the people of our community. Thank you to my family for their support.

Thank you again to all of you who supported Rockin' Rescue and the homeless dogs and cats of our community; your support really made a difference. I will keep you posted on any further developments; documents in the matter can be found at: http://mausnerlaw.com/save_rockin_rescue

Best regards, Jeff

-
- - [Tweet](#)
 -
 - [Email](#)

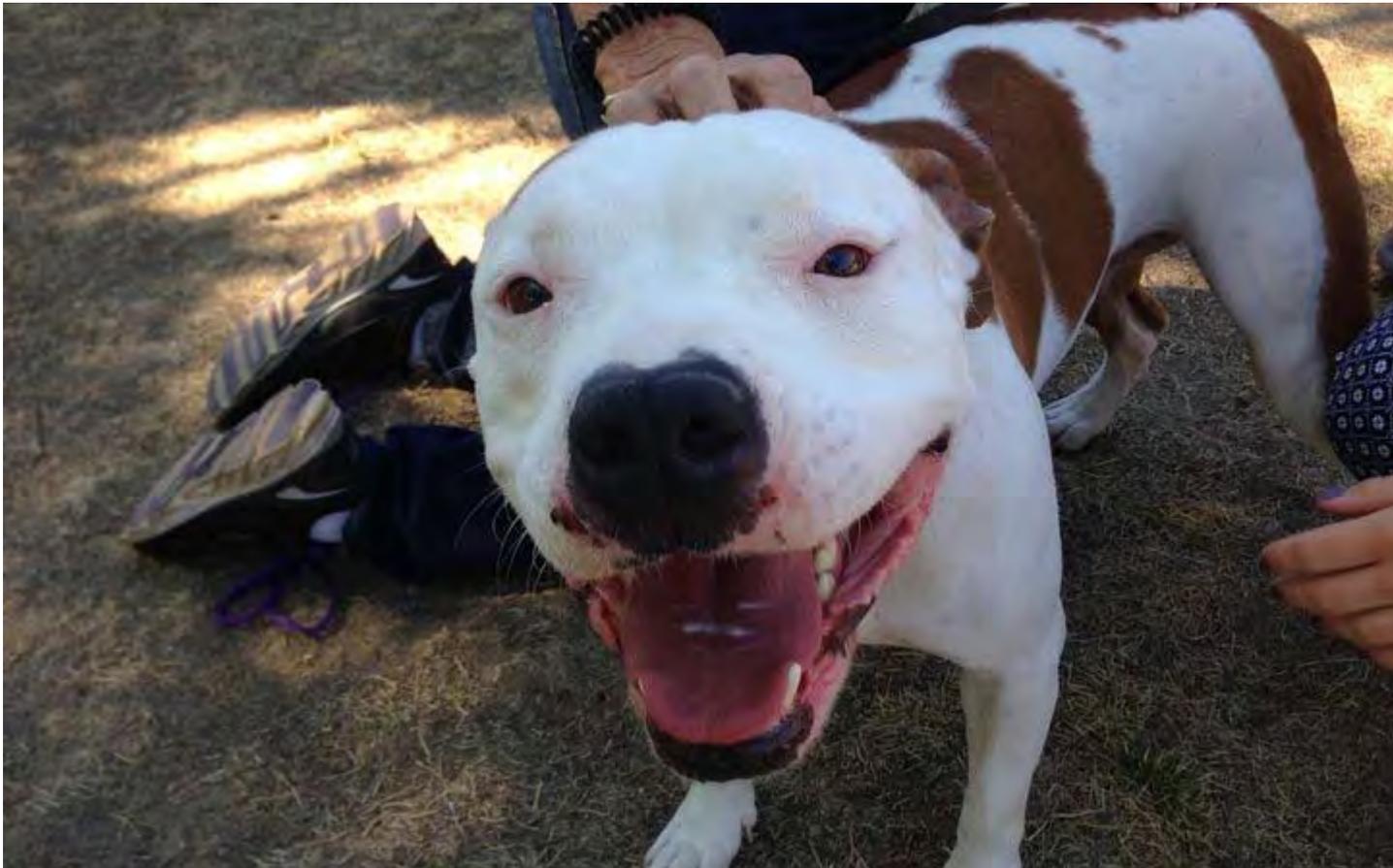
Discussion

Petitioning The City of Los Angeles

SAVE THE LIVES OF DOGS AND CATS IN LOS ANGELES - DON'T SHUT DOWN ROCKIN' RESCUE



Jeffrey Mausner [Los Angeles, CA](#)



TO THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES - PLEASE DO NOT CAUSE THE UNNECESSARY DEATHS OF DOGS AND CATS BY SHUTTING DOWN ROCKIN' RESCUE

Rockin' Rescue is an animal rescue for dogs and cats located in Woodland Hills, California, part of the City of Los Angeles. I know Rockin' Rescue from my work as a Volunteer at the City of Los Angeles West Valley Animal Shelter.

I believe Rockin' Rescue is the best animal rescue in the area. It is non-profit, and in fact costs the founder, Ady Gil, hundreds of thousands of dollars a year to operate. Rockin' Rescue has saved the lives of many dogs and cats who were about to be killed in City Shelters, and found them homes. It would be a tragedy if Rockin' Rescue is shut down. There are generally about 100 to 120 animals at Rockin' Rescue. If Rockin' Rescue had to close down, those animals would be brought to city shelters, where many of them could be killed; or other animals would be killed to make room for the animals coming from Rockin' Rescue. And of course, Rockin' Rescue would be unable to save the lives of hundreds of dogs and cats in the future. This would be completely counter to the goal of the City of Los Angeles to become a no kill city by 2017.

Rockin' Rescue has been fighting against being shut down by the City of Los Angeles because of a zoning issue. Rockin' Rescue is located in a Commercial Zone, rather than a Manufacturing Zone; it has requested a zoning variance from the City, so that it can continue to operate in a Commercial Zone.

Unfortunately, the Zoning Administrator denied the variance requested by Rockin' Rescue, even though both the Tarzana Neighborhood Council and the Woodland Hills Neighborhood Council unanimously supported granting the variance. City Councilman Bob Blumenfield also supported granting the variance. Nevertheless, the Zoning Administrator denied the variance, even though she specially found as follows:

"There is no dispute that the applicant [Rockin' Rescue] is providing a valuable and necessary service for the City. The proposed variances were supported by the Woodland Hills NC, Councilmember Blumenfield, the adjacent Tarzana NC, and hundreds of area residents." [Zoning Administrator Decision (ZA Decision) page 8 (emphasis added).]

Concern about the lives and well-being of animals, as well as respecting the will of the people and their elected representatives, didn't seem to count for much at that stage of the proceedings. The only thing the Zoning Administrator cared about

was that Rockin' Rescue is located in a Commercial Zone rather than a Manufacturing Zone. But a Manufacturing Zone is hardly a good place for an animal rescue.

The Zoning Administrator didn't think it mattered that hundreds of area residents supported Rockin' Rescue -- let's get thousands of signatures worldwide.

Documents regarding this matter can be found at the following webpage:
http://mausnerlaw.com/save_rockin_rescue

Please join in asking the City of Los Angeles to SAVE THE LIVES OF DOGS AND CATS BY KEEPING ROCKIN' RESCUE OPEN. DON'T SHUT DOWN ROCKIN' RESCUE. Please sign this petition.

Sincerely, Jeffrey Mausner

This petition will be delivered to:

- The City of Los Angeles

Jeffrey Mausner started this petition with a single signature, and now has 5,092 supporters. Start a petition today to change something you care about.

Updates

1. 6 months ago
5,000 supporters
 2. 6 months ago
Petition update
-

TODAY IS THE BIG DAY -- ROCKIN' RESCUE HEARING - JANUARY 26 AT 4:30 PM



Hi Everyone. THE APPEAL HEARING FOR ROCKIN' RESCUE IS TODAY, JANUARY 26, 2017 AT 4:30 P.M., AT...

3. 6 months ago

Petition update

TWO MORE DAYS -- ROCKIN' RESCUE HEARING -THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 AT 4:30 PM



[Hi Everyone. THE APPEAL HEARING FOR ROCKIN' RESCUE WILL TAKE PLACE ON THURSDAY JANUARY 26...](#)

4. 6 months ago

4,000 supporters

5. 6 months ago

Petition update

[**THREE MORE DAYS UNTIL THE ROCKIN' RESCUE HEARING - THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 AT 4:30 PM**](#)

[Hi Everyone. Thank you again for your support of Rockin' Rescue and the homeless dogs and cats of Los Angeles. Thanks to you, we have close to 5,000...](#)

- 6.
- 7. 6 months ago

Petition update

[THANK YOU! ROCKIN' RESCUE HEARING WILL BE THIS THURSDAY, JANUARY 26 AT 4:30 PM](#)



[Hi Everyone. Thank you so much for your support of Rockin' Rescue and the homeless dogs and cats of Los Angeles...](#)

MOTION

The City has made great strides to be a compassionate and humane place for all animals and pets. Part of that commitment is the laudable goal of becoming a No-Kill City for stray and neglected pets.

Meeting that goal will require a variety of legislative changes to allow for a network of animal rescue and adoption facilities to help ease the burden and demands on the Department of Animal Services.

The Los Angeles Municipal Code recognizes the important role that animal rescues play in supplementing the important work done by the City's Animal Services Department, however, one glaring hole remains in the Zoning Code (Municipal Code Chapter 1) which does not define or allow animal rescue/adoption facilities in a variety of zones beyond manufacturing/industrial zones.

In recent weeks, an animal rescue facility in Woodland Hills has gone through the current process to allow for an animal rescue to remain operational on the Ventura Boulevard commercial corridor through a land use variance. Unfortunately, this process is too burdensome and discretionary, and must be addressed.

For these animal rescue and adoption facilities to thrive, and meet the needs and desires of the community, they must be allowed within our commercial corridors with proper land use regulatory controls, performance standards, and protections for the community and small business.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Planning Department, in consultation with the City Attorney, to prepare and present an ordinance within 60 days that provides a definition of animal rescue and animal adoption facilities.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council instruct the Planning Department, in consultation with the City Attorney, to prepare and present an ordinance within 60 days that will allow animal rescue and animal adoption facilities in the C (Commercial) zones, and that includes performance standards and community protections that must be met through either an administrative or land use regulatory control process.

PRESENTED BY:


BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY: _____

ORDINANCE NO. 186372

An ordinance amending sections 12.03, 12.14.A.1(b), 12.17.6.A.2, and 12.24.X of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to exclude "Pet Shops" from the definition of "Kennel" in the Zoning Code and to establish development and operational requirements for pet shops in commercial zones.

THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 12.03 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to modify the definition of "Kennel" and to add, in alphabetical order, the definition of "Pet Shop" to read as follows:

KENNEL. Any lot, building, structure, enclosure or premises where four or more dogs that are each at least four months of age are kept or maintained, with the exception of a Pet Shop.

PET SHOP. Any retail or commercial establishment, store or department of any store, or any place of business open to the public where dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, reptiles or any other animals are kept and offered for adoption or sale, for hire, or sold, irrespective of the age of the animals, provided that the facility operates pursuant to a pet shop permit issued by the Department of Animal Services, and is not used for the breeding of dogs, cats or rabbits or the commercial boarding of animals. The term "Pet Shop" shall include "Pet Store" and "Animal Adoption Facility."

Sec. 2. A new Subparagraph (4) is added to Section 12.14.A.1(b) of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to read as follows:

(4) Any Pet Shop where four or more dogs that are each at least four months of age are kept or maintained shall comply with the following:

(i) Development Standards:

a. The total number of adult dogs and/or cats in a Pet Shop shall not exceed one for every 45 square feet of floor area of the facility, rounded up to the nearest whole number, up to a maximum of 40 adult dogs and/or cats.

b. Animal boarding areas shall not occupy the first 25 percent of the depth of the portion of the building used as a Pet Shop, or the first 25 feet, whichever is less, as measured from the front of the shop; and animal boarding areas shall be separated

from retail, grooming, or food storage areas. This limitation shall not apply to animal display areas.

c. Onsite activities related to keeping or maintaining animals, including, but not limited to, grooming or feeding, shall be conducted wholly within an enclosed building.

d. Outdoor dog runs and training activities are not permitted.

(ii) Operation Standards:

a. Animals shall not be left outside at any time. This shall not preclude dogs being brought in and out for walks.

b. Where a Pet Shop has an entrance on any side that abuts, has a common corner with, or is across a public right-of-way from any residentially zoned land, pets can only be brought through that entrance between 7am to 9pm daily.

c. The operator shall submit the proposed dog walking route(s) to the Department of Animal Services for review and approval.

d. The maximum number of dogs to be walked by one caretaker at the same time shall be limited to the number that can be safely controlled by the caretaker, not to exceed three dogs at one time. Any dog defecation generated during dog walking shall be removed immediately and disposed of properly.

e. No unreasonable noise or odor shall be detectible beyond the property line. Sound proofing material and/ or air filtration systems shall be used when such measures are deemed necessary by the Department of Animal Services.

Sec. 3. Section 12.17.6.A.2 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

2. Any commercial use permitted in the C2 Zone except sanitariums and hospitals, provided that these uses are conducted in accordance with all building enclosure and fence enclosure limitations of the C2 Zone. Pet Shops in the M1 Zone or less restrictive zones are not required to comply with the standards listed in Section 12.14 A1(b)(4).

Sec. 4. A new Subdivision 31 is added to Subsection X of Section 12.24 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code to read as follows:

31. Pet Shops.

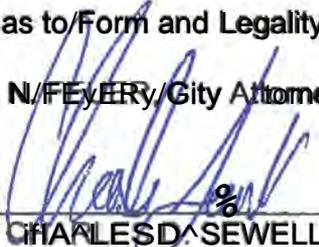
(a) A Zoning Administrator, upon application, may permit Pet Shops in the CR, C1, and C1.5 Zones; or Pet Shops in the C2, C4, C5, or CM Zones that do not meet the development and operation standards in Section 12.14 A.1(b)(4) of this Code.

(b) Procedures. An application pursuant to this subdivision shall follow the procedures for adjustments set forth in Section 12.28 C.1, 2, and 3 of this Code. A hearing is not required if the applicant submits with the application the written approval of the owners of all properties abutting, across the street or alley from, or having a common corner with the subject property.

Sec. 5. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

Approved as to Form and Legality

MICHAEL N. FEYERY, City Attorney

By 
CHARLES D. SEWELL
Deputy City Attorney

Date MAR 06 2019

File No. 11-0754-S2& 17-0079

Pursuant to Charter Section 559, I
approve this ordinance on behalf of the
City Planning Commission and
recommend that it be adopted . . .

March 3 2019

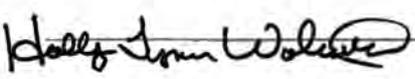

Vincent P. Benoni, AICP
Director of Planning

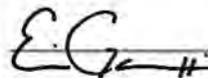
m:\real prop_env\land use\land use\charles sewell\Nu - ordinance\kennel ordinance\pet shop ordinance(cds)(final).docx

The Clerk of the City of Los Angeles hereby certifies that the foregoing ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR





Ordinance Passed
10/15/2019

Approved
10/29/2019

Ordinance Effective Date: 12/10/2019
Council File No.: 11-0754-S2,17-0079

Increased Funding for the Animal Services Department and Spay/Neuter

*Jeffrey Mausner
Tarzana, CA*

April 28, 2018

**Honorable Members of the City Council
Budget and Finance Committee**

Re: **Council File 18-0600, 2018-2019 Budget for the Department of Animal Services; Please Maintain Funds Necessary to Prevent Killing of Healthy Adoptable Animals**

I am submitting this letter in support of increasing the budget of the Los Angeles Animal Services Department for fiscal year 2018-2019. The proposed Animal Services budget is somewhere around \$24.5 million, out of an approximately \$9.8 billion City budget, (around one quarter of one percent) to care for all of the animals in the City, including 6 Animal Shelters.

As set forth in the letter from the Animal Services Department to the Committee dated April 23, 2018, it is projected that the Animal Sterilization Fund will run out of money during FY 2018-19, eliminating spay/neuter services for low-income pet owners in the City of Los Angeles.

This would be tragic. After many years in which thousands of animals were killed in our Shelters for lack of space, the City of Los Angeles has finally reached No-Kill for dogs. In February 2018, the live save rate for dogs at Los Angeles City Shelters was 93.6%; for March 95.3%. This is a monumental achievement, for which Animal Services, City Council, and the entire City can be very proud. But this will be jeopardized if the Animal Sterilization Fund is depleted. **Decreasing the numbers of dogs and cats who are born is the basis for maintaining No-Kill. If spays and neuters decrease, in a few years, the Shelters will be killing dogs and cats again for lack of space.**

I've been a Volunteer at the West Valley Shelter since 2013. In the past years, hundreds of healthy, adoptable, lovable dogs and cats were killed simply because there was not enough space for them at our Shelters. It is absolutely heartbreaking to see that happen. For those of you who have dogs or cats, the animals killed in our Shelters were no different than our pets.

If spay/neutering decreases, the Shelters will become overcrowded, and we will be faced with that slaughter again. Housing and killing those animals will cost the City much more than the additional funds for the Animal Sterilization Fund.

Furthermore, it will be highly embarrassing for the City to have achieved No-Kill for dogs, and then lose that status simply because of lack of funding for spay/neuter.

If you have any doubts regarding the importance of maintaining the Animal Sterilization Fund, please view the following 3 ½ minute BBC video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kHXF1cmX4KU>



[Dog Euthanasia - Louis Theroux's LA Stories: City of Dogs - BBC](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kHXF1cmX4KU)

www.youtube.com

Louis visits the Animal Services Center, where they have to perform the difficult task of euthanasia. Subscribe to the BBC Studios channel: <http://www.youtube.com>

Attached hereto is a Resolution passed by the Tarzana Neighborhood Council (TNC) on September 26, 2017, which reads as follows:

14. Council File 17-0170 - Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Animal Welfare Committee's request to file a CIS in support of Council File 17-0170 re-affirming the City Council's goal to make Los Angeles a "no kill" city for all healthy adoptable shelter animals by December 31, 2017. The Animal Welfare Committee Chair is authorized to communicate this resolution to Brenda Barnette, Dana Brown and Louis Dedeaux of the Animal Services Dept., the Board of Animal Services Commissioners, and Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield.

The Animal Sterilization Fund is an essential element of attaining and maintaining No-Kill. I urge you to please replenish the Animal Sterilization Fund.

Also attached hereto are photos of some of the beloved dogs who were killed over the past few years at the West Valley Shelter for lack of space. Please do not allow this to happen again; please fully fund the Animal Sterilization Fund.

I also urge you to provide funding for the Animal Control Officers (ACOs), as set forth in the Department's letter of April 23. In my positions with the Tarzana Neighborhood Council and Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils, I am *constantly* receiving complaints from fellow Neighborhood Council Members and Residents about their inability to get animal control services (regarding coyotes, stray dogs and cats, animals in their yards, rat poison, injured animals, etc.). I know that the existing ACOs are mostly very hard working, and that the inability to provide services is because of the shortage of officers. Additional officers would provide essential services to the people and animals of the City.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters and helping to make Los Angeles No-Kill.

Sincerely, Jeffrey Mausner, Tarzana, CA

Jeffrey Mausner

(For identification Purposes)

Board of Directors and 2nd Vice President, Tarzana Neighborhood Council

Chairman, Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee

Tarzana Neighborhood Council and Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils Liaison to Los Angeles Animal Services Department

Volunteer, West Valley Animal Shelter

Email: Jeff@MausnerLaw.com; J.Mausner@TarzanaNC.org

Cell phone: (310) 617-8100



Cleo, killed for lack of space, 2015



King, killed for lack of space, 2017



TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. BOX 571016
TARZANA, CA 91357
(818) 921-4992
tnc@tarzananc.org

TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday September 26, 2017

Tarzana Elementary School Auditorium
5726 Topeka Dr., Tarzana, CA 91356

1. Call to Order by Len Shaffer, president of TNC at 7:15 p.m. Welcoming Remarks and Pledge.

Roll Call: David Garfinkle, Harvey Goldberg, Eran Heissler, Susan Lord, Jeff Mausner, Iris Polonsky, Terry Saucier, Ken Schwartz, Len Shaffer, Richard Silverman, Jennifer Varela (left at 10:23 p.m.), and Esther Wieder. (Six absent: Pam Blattner, Elliot Durant, Barry Edelman, Max Flehinger, Joyce Greene, and Bob Schmaeff). Quorum established with 12 members.

2. Remarks by representatives of public officials:

Assembly Member Matt Dababneh thanked the neighborhood council for providing him with information on what's happening in the 45th Assembly District. Upcoming events: Oct. 5th, Senior Town Hall open to all ages at One Generation Senior Center on Victory Blvd. There will be speakers, health screenings, public preparedness updates and legislation that affects seniors. November 8, 2017, there will be a General Town Hall meeting with State Attorney General Buscera. His office will be hosting open office hours for anyone to meet him and talk about issues. He promised to always be accessible to stakeholders. He gave an update on the funding that was granted to Tarzana/Providence Hospital for seismic retrofitting and improvements to make it a state-of-the-art hospital. He is interested in making healthcare more affordable and accessible for all Californians. He discussed different legislation he's worked on to protect the environment, protect consumers from financial abuse, and to prevent puppy mills from operating within the state (AB485).

Svetlana Pravina from Councilman Bob Blumenfield's office gave a report: Sepulveda Basin will be sprayed for West Nile Virus on Sept. 27th, there will be a meeting on Oct. 12 for the improvements to the L.A. River bike path by the Department of Engineering. She gave an update on the Northridge power outage in July and how the Councilmember has asked LADOT to provide updates via text to customers when there

are power outages. She also talked about updates to the Ventura Blvd./Cahuenga Specific Plan.

LAPD Senior Lead Officer Daryl Scoggins announced the open house on 10/28/17 West Valley Division. He gave crime stats for the previous month: 5 robberies, 2 aggravated assaults due to road rage, 5 motor vehicles stolen and 18 broken into, 12 thefts along the boulevard and 40 home break-ins. He then provided information on how thieves have been scoping out neighborhoods and the cars they use for burglaries.

Raffi Assadorian from the L.A. City Attorney's Office talked about a draft ordinance to regulate legalized marijuana stores. The ordinance would regulate taxing and other regulations on use.

3. Public Comments: Jasmine Barbery, DONE Rep. spoke about the 2018 election procedures.

4. Budget Advocate Report, Brian Allen (stood in for the regular Budget Advocate) saying they are developing committees to talk with individual departments and addressing a number of issues.

5. Presentation: Walter Foley of Food & Water Watch – (Jeff Mausner recused himself). This proposal would ban drilling and other oil field activities within 2500 feet of residential properties and other specified, high density locations in Los Angeles. He talked about the increase in malignant cancers in the Aliso Canyon area with two teachers there passing away. He pointed out that the toxic chemical used in these drilling operations damage the nervous system, endocrine and reproductive systems. People are getting sick and currently, regulations don't protect homeowners or residents in these areas. By having a setback distance it will avert some of the largest health impacts in high density areas.

6. (Heissler/Weider) moved approval of the minutes of August 22, 2017 meeting as revised. The motion carried.

7. (Goldberg/Lord) moved approval of August 2017 expenditures for submission to DONE (MER). The motion carried.

8. (Goldberg/Polonsky) moved approval of Financial Statements as of August 31, 2017. The motion carried.

9. (Heissler/Goldberg) moved, the TNC Board approves the Executive Committee's recommendation to appoint Susan Rogen to the open South Area Representative board position. The motion carried.

10. (Heissler/Wieder) moved, "Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Budget Committee's recommendation regarding the request from the Animal Welfare Committee to purchase a "Bone Pool," a wading pool for dogs, for the use by the Volunteers at the West Valley Shelter for to not exceed \$325." The motion carried unanimously.

11. (Goldberg/Silverman) moved, “Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Budget Committee’s recommendation regarding the request from the Animal Welfare Committee to purchase a canopy for use of the Volunteers at the West Valley Shelter, in the backyard, for not to exceed \$325.” The motion carried unanimously.

12. (Goldberg/Polonsky) moved, “Resolved: Based on approval of the above agenda items 10 and 11 the TNC Board approves a revised budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018 as follows: General and Operational Expenditures \$10,080.00, Neighborhood Purpose Grants \$550 and Community Improvement Projects \$8,928.57, for a total budget of \$19,558.57.” The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Calendar: 13 – 16 & 18 & 20: The board voted to vote on these motions as a group (Susan Lord abstaining):

13. Council File 17-0002-S66 - Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Animal Welfare Committee’s request to file a CIS supporting Council File 17-0002-S66 regarding AB 1199 (the Pet Canine Encounters Protection Act), which will provide training to California peace officers about how to both quickly and safely respond to unexpected situations when encountering a dog, which invaluable training will give them the tools to protect themselves as well as the life of a treasured canine family member. The Animal Welfare Committee Chair is authorized to send a letter to Assemblymember Nazarian informing him of our support for the city’s position.

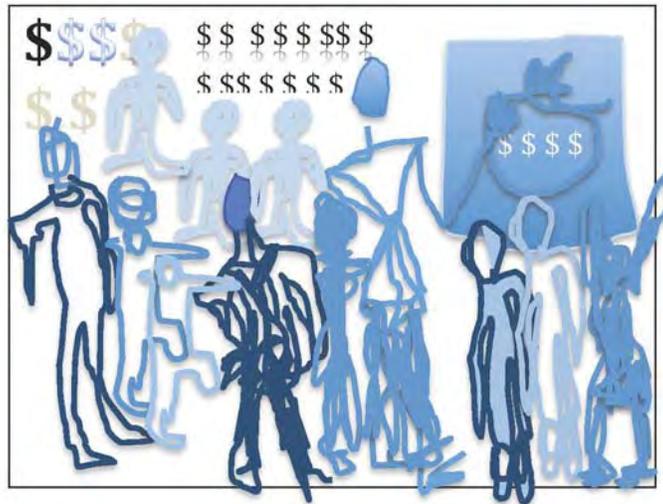
14. Council File 17-0170 - Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Animal Welfare Committee’s request to file a CIS in support of Council File 17-0170 re-affirming the city council’s goal to make Los Angeles a “no kill” city for all healthy adoptable shelter animals by December 31, 2017. The Animal Welfare Committee Chair is authorized to communicate this resolution to Brenda Barnette, Dana Brown and Louis Dedeaux of the Animal Services Dept., the Board of Animal Services Commissioners, and Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield.

15. Council File 17-0413 Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Animal Welfare Committee’s request to file a CIS in support of Council File 17-0413 directing the appropriate city departments to prepare an EIR to allow reconsideration of a proposed Citywide Cat Program that applies to all “free roaming cats” including feral cats and stray cats, utilizing the Project Description as detailed in the April 11, 2017 Department of Animal Services (DAS) report. The Animal Welfare Committee Chair is authorized to communicate this resolution to Brenda Barnette, Dana Brown and Louis Dedeaux of the Animal Services Dept., the Board of Animal Services Commissioners, Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield, and at public meetings for the scoping process.

16. Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Animal Welfare Committee’s request to support the use of all kennels at the West Valley Shelter, including the Training Kennels, Puppy Kennels, and kennels in the Grooming Room, before any healthy, adoptable animals are killed for lack of space at any of the City Shelters. The

The Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

White Paper 2019



One Solution

A City Manager

ANIMAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (LAAS)

Date of Meeting: November 2, 2018

ATTENDEES

Department: Brenda Barnette, General Manager; Tammy Watson, Assistant General Manager; Melissa Webber, Assistant General Manager of Lifesaving; Catherine Garcia, Financial Manager, Los Angeles Animal Services Department.

Budget Advocates: Melanie Labrecque, Jeffrey Mausner

RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Recommendations to Help Achieve and Maintain No-Kill

- **Fund the Animal Sterilization Fund in the amount of \$1.1 million, to save the City tens of millions of dollars in the future**
- Determine if funding is available to LAAS for spay/neuter and veterinary for dogs and cats of homeless people, from already approved funds for homelessness such as HHH and other sources
- Fund \$250,000 to provide support for foster homes and other programs to deal with the temporary influx of dogs around the 4th of July and influx of cats and dogs during other periods, so healthy adoptable dogs and cats do not have to be euthanized for lack of kennel space during these periods
- Fund approximately \$100,000 to hire two clerical assistants for the Life Saving Liaisons at the 6 City Shelters (2 clerical assistants for all 6 Life Saving Liaisons)

B. Recommendations to Increase Volunteer Support for the Shelters

- Fund approximately \$100,000 to hire two full-time clerical assistants for the Volunteer Liaisons at the 6 City Shelters (two clerical assistants for all 6 Volunteer Liaisons) and \$25,000 for supplies for the Volunteers at the 6 City Shelters
- Make the position of Director of Volunteer Programs, who oversees all 6 City Shelters, a permanent position
- Fund 12 new Animal Control Technician (ACT) positions to replace the 6 ACTs who are currently acting as the Volunteer Liaisons and the 6 ACTs who are currently acting as the Life Saving Liaisons.

C. Recommendations Regarding Staffing

- Fund positions for a Data Analyst and a Public Information Director, to increase spay/neuters, adoptions, and donations to the Department
- Fund 10 full-time canvassers, who go out into the neighborhoods to make sure dogs are licensed and neutered, for safety purposes and to produce revenue.
- Fund the 8 unfunded Animal Control Officer (ACO) positions, a safety issue.
- The Personnel Department should give priority to and expedite hiring for LAAS positions.

DISCUSSION

The Animal Services budget is approximately \$24.5 million, out of an approximately \$9.8 billion City budget. This comes to about one-quarter of one percent of the budget to care for all of the animals in the City, including those in the six City animal shelters.

No-Kill Recommendations

Both the Mayor and the City Council have made the achievement and maintenance of No-Kill a high priority for the City. For an example, see Council File 17-0170. No healthy adoptable animals should be killed in our City shelters, for lack of kennel space. In order to achieve that goal, the budget for the Animal Services Department should be modestly increased to include the items above.

Regarding the recommendations to help achieve and maintain No-Kill, spay/neuter is the key to reaching and maintaining No-Kill. Spay/neuter also saves the City a tremendous amount of money in the long run. It is much cheaper to spay/neuter dogs, cats, and rabbits than it is to care for the generations of offspring of those animals at the City shelters and ultimately have to put them to death when the shelters run out of space for them.

Prior to 2015, \$1.1 million was transferred annually from the General Fund to the Animal Sterilization Fund. This was decreased to \$500,000 in 2015-16, and then no transfer was made in 2016-17 and 2017-18. The Animal Sterilization Fund was about to run out of money, which would have eliminated spay/neuter services for low-income pet owners, until the City Council provided \$850,000 in May 2018.

The full annual transfer of \$1.1 million from the General Fund to the Animal Sterilization Fund should be reinstated.

After many years in which thousands of animals were killed in the City shelters for lack of space, the City has finally achieved No-Kill for dogs. (Over a 90% live save rate is considered No-Kill; the 10% consists of animals who are too sick or injured to be saved, or too aggressive to be adopted.) This is a monumental achievement, for which Animal Services, the City Council, the Mayor, and the entire City can be very proud. But this will be jeopardized if the Animal Sterilization Fund is depleted. Decreasing the numbers of dogs and cats who are born is the basis for maintaining No-Kill. If spays/neuters decrease, in a few years, the shelters will be killing dogs and cats again for lack of space.

Housing and killing those animals will cost the City much more than the additional funds for the Animal Sterilization Fund. Furthermore, it will be highly embarrassing for the City to have achieved No-Kill for dogs, and then lose that status simply because of lack of funding for spay/neuter. (The City has not yet achieved No-Kill for cats because of the injunction against Trap, Neuter, Return (TNR). TNR is the program for controlling feral cats by trapping them, neutering them, and returning them to the place where they were trapped, to live out their lives but not produce additional offspring. Organizations that want to round up and exterminate feral cats have obtained an injunction against the City participating in TNR. The City is currently working to overturn the injunction.)

Regarding the \$250,000 recommendation, around the 4th of July (June-August) each year, the City Shelters become over-crowded with dogs. Dogs are very fearful of fireworks and many run away when they hear them. Many of these runaway dogs end up in the City shelters. Though

most of these dogs are reunited with their owners within several weeks, overcrowding in shelters, even temporarily, may cause other dogs to be put down due to lack of space.

This \$250,000 fund would be used to support fosters and other programs so that dogs would not have to be killed to make space. It would also be used for kitten and cat fosters when there is overcrowding during other times of the year. This fund could also be used if necessary for the influx of dogs and cats during emergencies, such as the recent fires.

Regarding the Animal Care Technician (ACT) recommendations, over the past year, each of the 6 City shelters has designated an ACT to serve as the Life Saving Liaison for that shelter. These Life Saving Liaisons work to increase placements with private rescue organizations, increase fosters and, ultimately, increase adoptions. These positions are essential to achieving and maintaining No-Kill and should be made permanent full-time positions. Six ACTs should be hired to replace the ACTs serving as Life Saving Liaisons. There is a shortage of ACTs at all of the shelters – patrons often have to wait to adopt animals, the front desk is unmanned because ACTs are doing other tasks, and there is other work that volunteers cannot perform that goes undone because there are not enough ACTs to supervise. Two full-time clerical assistants should also be hired to assist the 6 Life Saving Liaisons with social media outreach for the animals and other tasks.

Volunteer Recommendations

LAAS volunteers provide thousands of hours of free work to the Department. Without the volunteers, it would cost the City millions of dollars more to run the animal shelters. The volunteers greatly improve the quality of life of the animals in the shelters, taking them for walks, providing training, bringing dogs into play groups, caring for the animals, and assisting with adoptions. Because of the shortage of ACTs, the animals would receive very little of this care if it weren't for the volunteers. Increased numbers of volunteers and efficient utilization of volunteers has markedly improved over the last year, with the hiring of the Director of Volunteer Programs and a Volunteer Liaison at each shelter. However, there are still many people who would like to become volunteers, and volunteers are dropping out and/or not completing training. The City and the animals are still losing out on thousands of free volunteer hours. At some point, hiring a second Volunteer Liaison at each shelter might be considered, but at this time, two full-time clerical assistants should be hired for the 6 Volunteer Liaisons. This would free the Liaisons from some of the paperwork, so they could spend more time working directly with the volunteers. If this results in an additional 25 volunteers at each shelter, the cost is negligible compared to the benefit. Anything that increases the number of volunteers or volunteer hours provides an exponential benefit of free labor to the City and improvement of quality of life for the animals.

The Volunteer Liaison positions are essential to attracting, maintaining, and training volunteers; these positions should be made permanent full-time positions. Six additional ACTs should be hired to replace the ACTs serving as Volunteer Liaisons. As noted above, there is a shortage of ACTs at all of the shelters.

An additional \$25,000 should be funded for supplies for the volunteers. Currently, the volunteers buy their own supplies such as leashes, gloves, treats for the animals, etc.

The position of Director of Volunteer Programs, who oversees all 6 City shelters, should be changed from Resolution Position Authority (a position funded in the budget and approved for

filling by a Council resolution; the need for the position is expected to be temporary) to Regular Position Authority (a position funded in the budget and approved for filling by ordinance; the need for this position is permanent), to make the position permanent. The Director of Volunteer Programs has done an excellent job of supervising the Volunteer Liaisons, helping to computerize data entry about the animals coming from the volunteers, and working to get and maintain more volunteers.

Staffing Recommendations

A Data Analyst and Public Information Director are positions that would contribute to No-Kill and general Department operations. In particular, a Public Information Director should be hired to increase spay/neuter, adoptions, and donations to the Department. A Data Analyst should be hired to support statistics for No-Kill, WoofStat (the LAAS database that shows the fate of animals taken in by the shelters), and other statistics.

Ten full-time Canvasser positions should be funded. Canvassers go out into the neighborhoods to make sure dogs are licensed and neutered. These Canvassers will be a revenue producer for the City, as well as contributing to No-Kill and public safety.

Funding should be provided for the 8 unfunded Animal Control Officer (ACO) positions. The County has more than twice as many ACOs as the City, even though it serves fewer people. The shortage of City ACOs greatly affects dealing with stray animals, injured animals, wildlife, animal abusers, and other matters. This is a public safety matter.

The Personnel Department should give priority to and expedite hiring for LAAS positions. The Department has been unable to fill some authorized positions.

CONCLUSION

The above items are necessary to humanely and properly care for the animals of our City and to achieve and maintain No-Kill. They will result in only a slight increase to a budget that is about a quarter of a percent of the City budget.

Possible sources of revenue and cost savings:

- Fully fund the Animal Sterilization Fund; this will save the City tens of millions of dollars in the future.
- Increase donations through the hiring of a Public Information Director.
- Produce a weekly commercial television show about the exploits of Animal Control Officers (ACOs), and caring for and getting animals adopted.
- Increase collections of licensing fees through hiring canvassers.

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: April 30, 2019

CAO File No. 0220-05158-0003

Council File No. 19-0600

Council District: All

To: The Budget and Finance Committee

From: Richard H. Llewellyn, Jr., Interim City Administrative Officer

Reference: Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates White Paper, 2019

Subject: **CAO REVIEW OF PROPOSALS INCLUDED IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BUDGET ADVOCATES 2019 WHITE PAPER**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee use the budget memo process for any requested reports on individual Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates White Paper recommendations during its consideration of the 2019-20 Proposed Budget.

SUMMARY

On March 13, 2019, the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates released a White Paper titled "One Solution – A City Manager." The Budget Advocates are scheduled to present the White Paper to the Budget and Finance Committee on May 6, 2019 as part of the Committee's consideration of the 2019-20 Proposed Budget.

This report provides brief comments on the White Paper's 231 recommendations. Many of the recommendations may require more thorough review of feasibility, costs, and benefits. The comments are presented by department or area of concern as organized in the White Paper. In addition, this Office assigned the recommendations to the following categories:

1. **Proposals Considered in Past but not Adopted:** Proposals that have been considered in the past, but are not currently under consideration.
2. **Proposals Currently Underway:** Proposals that have been or are currently being implemented in some form.
3. **Proposals Pending in Budget:** Proposals that have been submitted by departments for consideration in the 2019-20 Budget and are either included or not included in the Proposed Budget.
4. **Proposals Pending in Council:** Proposals that are currently under consideration by the Council through an existing motion or other pending actions.

ATTACHMENT

No.	2019 White Paper Recommendation	Category	Submitted with 2019-20 Budget Request	Status of 2019-20 Budget Request	CAO Feedback
1	Creation of a City Manager position.	5 - New Proposal	No	NOT included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	The City Charter designates the Mayor as the executive officer of the City. Changing to a city manager system of government would require a Charter change.
AGING					
2	Continue support of the "Good Food Policy" to improve the health and wellbeing of elderly residents, particularly in disadvantaged communities, develop a thriving "Good Food" economy, and strengthen agricultural and environmental stewardship throughout the region.	2 - Currently Underway (department is working to implement proposal)	No	N/A - department did not submit budget request	The Department has reported that Morrison's, the Department's largest meals distributor, is in compliance with the Good Food Purchasing Policy. However, small, non-profit production kitchens and ethnic caterers do not have the financial resources to provide information regarding compliance to the Good Food Purchasing Policy Council on the dollar volume of food purchased and contact information for the names of food suppliers and distributors.
3	Continue support of the "older workers employment program" that provides part-time work-based training opportunities at local community service agencies for older adults who have poor employment prospects and are unemployed.	3 - Pending in Budget (department submitted proposal in 2019-20 budget request)	Yes	Included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	The Proposed Budget continues funding for the Older Worker Employment Program (OWEP), and includes additional funding for staff support.
4	Continue support of caregivers and the need for respite care services.	2 - Currently Underway (department is working to implement proposal)	No	N/A - department did not submit budget request	The Proposed Budget includes funding for senior and family caregiver service provider contracts in the Department's baseline budget.
5	Support the Department through additional funding for the hiring of additional administrative staff.	3 - Pending in Budget (department submitted proposal in 2019-20 budget request)	Yes	Included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	The Proposed Budget includes additional positions to provide administrative support for the Older Workers Employment Program.
6	Support the hiring of case worker/social worker for the Department.	3 - Pending in Budget (department submitted proposal in 2019-20 budget request)	Yes	Included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	The Proposed Budget includes as-needed hiring authority for the Social Worker I classification for current and future family caregiver projects requiring additional part-time staff, where social work experience is needed.
7	Eliminate generic job classification for the Department so that the hiring for the Department can be more sustainable.	5 - New Proposal	No	N/A - department did not submit budget request	Discussions between the Department and the Personnel Department are necessary to identify and explain how the current job classification system, which serves all City departments, is insufficient to address the Department's hiring needs.
ANIMAL SERVICES					
8	Fund the Animal Sterilization Fund in the amount of \$1.1 million, to save the City tens of millions of dollars in the future.	3 - Pending in Budget (department submitted proposal in 2019-20 budget request)	Yes	Included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	The Proposed Budget includes funding in the amount of \$400,000 for the Animal Sterilization Trust Fund. The provided funding amount was based upon projected revenue and expenditures in 2019-20.

ATTACHMENT

No.	2019 White Paper Recommendation	Category	Submitted with 2019-20 Budget Request	Status of 2019-20 Budget Request	CAO Feedback
9	Determine if funding is available to Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) for spay/neuter and veterinary for dogs and cats of homeless people, from already approved funds for homelessness such as HHH and other sources.	5 - New Proposal	No	NOT included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	Funding from the HHH program can only be utilized for capital expenditures. Services such as veterinary care for animals owned by the homeless population would not be an eligible expense.
10	Fund \$250,000 to provide support for foster homes and other programs to deal with the temporary influx of dogs around the 4th of July and influx of cats and dogs during other periods, so healthy adoptable dogs and cats do not have to be euthanized for lack of kennel space during these periods.	5 - New Proposal	No	NOT included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	The Department holds discount events, such as 4DAYS4LIFE, that encourage additional adoptions to address the influx of dogs and cats around the 4th of July. The Department also promotes a strong campaign for fostering and adoptions across all its social media platforms during this period of time as well.
11	Fund approximately \$100,000 to hire two clerical assistants for the Life Saving Liaisons at the 6 City Shelters (2 clerical assistants for all 6 Life Saving Liaisons).	5 - New Proposal	No	NOT included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	The Department currently employs six Animal Care Technicians that serve as Life Saving Liaisons. The Department did not request additional support for these services.
12	Fund approximately \$100,000 to hire two full-time clerical assistants at the 6 City Shelters (two clerical assistants for all 6 Volunteer Liaisons) and \$25,000 for supplies for the Volunteers at the 6 City Shelters.	5 - New Proposal	No	NOT included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	The Proposed Budget does not include funding for supplies for volunteers or funding for two new administrative positions to support volunteer liaisons. The Proposed Budget, however, includes funding for a Volunteer Coordinator that will be responsible for recruitment, management, training, and tracking the Department's volunteers.
13	Make the position of Director of Volunteer Programs, who oversees all 6 City Shelters, a permanent position.	3 - Pending in Budget (department submitted proposal in 2019-20 budget request)	Yes	Included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	The Proposed Budget includes funding and regular authority for one Volunteer Coordinator position.
14	Fund 12 new Animal Control Technician (ACT) positions to replace the 6 ACTs who are currently acting as the Volunteer Liaisons and the 6 ACTs who are currently acting as the Life Saving Liaisons.	5 - New Proposal	No	NOT included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	The Department currently has 10 vacant ACT position authorities. It is recommended that the Department fill its vacancies before requesting additional authorities.
15	Fund positions for a Data Analyst and a Public Information Director, to increase spay/neuters, adoptions, and donations to the Department.	3 - Pending in Budget (department submitted proposal in 2019-20 budget request)	Yes	NOT included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	The Department submitted a request for one Public Information Director and one Management Analyst, but it was not included in the Proposed Budget. Currently, the Department has a Public Relations Specialist II that performs public relations duties and data analysis can be performed by existing staff.
16	Fund 10 full-time canvassers, who go out into the neighborhoods to make sure dogs are licensed and neutered, for safety purposes and to produce revenue.	3 - Pending in Budget (department submitted proposal in 2019-20 budget request)	Yes	Included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	The Department submitted a request for eight full-time Animal License Canvassers as a part of its 2019-20 budget requests. The Proposed Budget includes funding for four full-time Animal License Canvassers.
17	Fund the 8 unfunded Animal Control Officer (ACO) positions, a safety issue.	2 - Currently Underway (department is working to implement proposal)	No	Included in 2019-20 Proposed Budget	The Department has 54 ACO I positions and 29 ACO II positions included in the Proposed Budget. None of these ACO positions are unfunded.

WHAT'S NEXT?



NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BUDGET ADVOCATES

WHITE PAPER 2020

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES

Date of Meeting: October 11, 2019

ATTENDEES

Department of Animal Services (LAAS): Tammy Watson, Assistant General Manager; Melissa Webber, Assistant General Manager of Lifesaving; Catherine Chico, Senior Management Analyst II, Financial Management Division
Budget Advocates: Jeffrey Mausner, Melanie Labrecque

RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Recommendations to Help Achieve and Maintain No-Kill

- Fund the Animal Sterilization Fund in the amount of \$2.75 million to save the City tens of millions of dollars in the future.
- Explore funding for spay/neuter and veterinary services from special funds such as homeless funds.
- Fund \$250,000 to deal with the temporary influxes of animals during peak periods.
- Fund a position for a clerical assistant for the Life Saving Liaisons who work at the 6 City shelters (1 clerical assistant for all 6 Life Saving Liaisons).
- Additional work with State Fish and Wildlife Department regarding coyotes.

B. Recommendations to Increase Volunteer Support for the Shelters

- Investigate the retention rate for shelter volunteers and the termination of volunteer status of the most experienced volunteers.
- Fund supplies for the volunteers at the 6 City shelters.
- Fund 12 new Animal Care Technician (ACT) positions. Replace the 6 ACTs who are currently acting as the Volunteer Liaisons after volunteer retention issues are resolved. Replace the 6 ACTs who are currently acting as the Life Saving Liaisons.

C. Recommendations Regarding Staffing

- Fund the hiring of 45 new Animal Care Technicians (ACTs) (which includes the 12 noted above) over the next 3 years.
- Fund a position for a Data Analyst.

DISCUSSION

Los Angeles Department of Animal Services (LAAS) is one of the largest municipal animal shelter systems in the United States with 6 shelters serving approximately 60,000 animals annually, 20,000 of which are emergencies. LAAS promotes and protects the health, safety, and welfare of animals and people.

For fiscal year 2019-2020, the Department of Animal Services costs are approximately \$48.68 million, less than one-half of one percent of the City's \$10.7 billion budget. That small share of the City budget has to cover the care for all of the animals in the City including those in the 6 City animal shelters.

The Department's funding comes from the General Fund and Special Funds.

No-Kill

In 2017 the City Council passed, and the Mayor signed, City Council File 17-0170 to make the achievement and maintenance of No-Kill a high priority for the City. The City should not kill healthy, adoptable animals due to lack of kennel space. In order to achieve that goal, the budget for the Department of Animal Services should be modestly increased to include the recommendations set forth in this report.

Spay/neuter is the key to reaching and maintaining No-Kill. Spay/neuter also saves the City money in the long run. It is less expensive to spay/neuter dogs, cats, and rabbits than it is to care for generations of their offspring at the City shelters and ultimately have to put them to death when the shelters run out of space.

According to the Humane Society (<https://www.humane.org/services/no-birth-campaign-spay-neuter/>), female cats can breed three times a year and have an average of 4 kittens per litter. Dogs can breed twice a year with litters of 6-10 puppies. In 7 years, 1 unspayed female cat and her offspring can produce 420,000 cats and one unspayed female dog and her offspring can produce 99,000 dogs. While this is just the statistical possibilities and the numbers would be much less in the real world, it is clear that failure to spay/neuter just a few dogs and cats will lead to the birth of hundreds, if not thousands, of homeless dogs and cats over several years. Failure to provide adequate funding for spay/neuter of thousands of animals is penny wise and "pound" foolish.

Prior to 2015, \$1.1 million was transferred annually from the General Fund to the Animal Sterilization Fund. This was decreased to \$500,000 in fiscal year 2015-2016 and then no transfers were made in fiscal years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. The Animal Sterilization Fund was about to run out of money which would have eliminated spay/neuter services for low-income pet owners. The City Council stepped in to provide \$850,000 in May 2018. The City Council provided \$400,000 in the fiscal year 2018-2019 budget pursuant to the recommendation of the City Administrative Officer (CAO). In May 2019 they appropriated an additional \$498,000 pursuant to the recommendation of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates. See http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2019/19-0600_pc_5-7-19.pdf page 5 and http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2018/18-0600_pc_4-28-18.pdf.

The full annual transfer of \$1.1 million from the General Fund to the Animal Sterilization Fund should be reinstated. Additional funds of \$1.65 million are needed this year to make up for years in which there was no funding or reduced funding because there is an increase in the numbers of dogs, cats, and rabbits that need to be spayed/neutered.

After many years in which thousands of animals were killed in the City shelters for lack of space,

the City has finally achieved No-Kill for dogs. (Over a 90% live save rate is considered No-Kill. The remaining 10% consists of animals who are too sick or injured to be saved or too aggressive to be adopted.) This is a monumental achievement for which the Department of Animal Services, the City Council, the Mayor, Rescue Organizations, and the entire City can be proud. This accomplishment will be jeopardized if the Animal Sterilization Fund is depleted. Decreasing the numbers of dogs and cats who are born is the basis for maintaining No-Kill. If spays/neuters decrease, in a few years the shelters will be killing dogs and cats again for lack of space.

Housing and killing animals cost the City much more than the additional funds for the Animal Sterilization Fund.

The City has not yet achieved No-Kill for cats because of the injunction against Trap, Neuter, Return (TNR). TNR is the program for controlling free roaming cats by trapping them, neutering them, and returning them to the place where they were trapped to live out their lives and not produce additional offspring. Organizations that want to round up and exterminate free roaming cats have obtained an injunction against the City's participation in TNR. The City is currently working to overturn the injunction. A draft Environmental Impact Report to do so was released on August 29, 2019. Once that becomes final, the City Attorney's Office will go back to court to attempt to lift the injunction.

\$250,000 is needed around the 4th of July (June-August) each year when the City Shelters become over-crowded with dogs. Dogs are afraid of fireworks and many run away when they hear them. Many of these runaway dogs end up in the City shelters. Though most of these dogs are reunited with their owners within several weeks, overcrowding in shelters, even temporarily, may cause other dogs to be put down due to lack of space. This Fund would be used to support fosters and other programs so dogs would not have to be killed to make space for the holiday influx. It would also be used for kitten and cat fosters when there is overcrowding during other times of the year, including emergencies.

In fiscal year 2017-2018, each of the 6 City shelters designated an Animal Care Technician (ACT) to serve as the Life Saving Liaison for that shelter. These Life Saving Liaisons work to increase placements with private rescue organizations, increase fosters, and ultimately increase adoptions. These positions are essential to achieving and maintaining No-Kill and should be made permanent full-time positions. Six ACTs should be hired to replace the ACTs serving as Life Saving Liaisons. There is a shortage of ACTs at all of the shelters – patrons often have to wait to adopt animals (and some patrons leave without adopting because they cannot get help), the front desk is unstaffed because ACTs are doing other tasks, and there is other work that goes undone because there are not enough ACTs. A full-time clerical assistant with experience in social media should also be hired to assist the 6 Life Saving Liaisons with social media outreach for the animals and other tasks.

The Department should think about other avenues to increase adoption. One idea is to produce a weekly commercial television show about the exploits of Animal Care Officers (ACOs), Animal Care Technicians (ACTs), and Volunteers caring for and aiding the adoption of animals. Additionally, there might be a revenue opportunity here.

Coyotes

A common issue Neighborhood Council representatives hear from stakeholders is coyotes roaming the neighborhoods. The citizens of many neighborhoods are afraid, both for their pets and their families, including their children. Coyotes are not the responsibility of LAAS, but of the State Fish and Wildlife Department. In fact, under State Law, LAAS cannot trap wildlife. Because this has become such a significant problem in some neighborhoods, it is recommended that LAAS increase its work with the State Fish and Wildlife Department to come up with an effective and humane way to deal with coyotes. For every coyote that is trapped and removed to a safe location, one or two new coyotes take its place. LAAS should explore whether a Trap, Neuter, Return (TNR) program managed by State Fish and Wildlife with assistance from LAAS would be effective. If not, what other programs might work? Determine whether a humane and effective solution to this could be funded under the City's Innovation Fund.

Volunteers

LAAS volunteers provide tens of thousands of hours of free labor to the Department. Without the volunteers, it would cost the City millions of dollars more to run the animal shelters. The volunteers greatly improve the quality of life of the animals in the shelters, taking them for walks, providing training, bringing dogs into play groups, caring for the animals, assisting with adoptions, cleaning kennels, etc. The animals would receive very little of this care if it weren't for the volunteers. To the credit of LAAS, the recruitment of new volunteers has increased over the last two-year period. There are still many people who would like to become volunteers and existing volunteers are dropping out. The City and the animals are losing out on thousands of free volunteer hours. While LAAS compiles statistics on the number of new volunteers and total volunteer hours, it does not compile statistics on volunteer retention and experience levels of volunteers. Volunteer retention appears to be low. Statistics should be compiled and if, in fact, retention is low, the reasons for that should be determined.

The Department is terminating, suspending, or pressuring into quitting some of the most experienced and dedicated volunteers. These volunteers have, over the years, raised concerns about shelter conditions, treatment of the animals, and/or the killing of animals. An investigation should be conducted to determine whether the exercise of First Amendment rights by these volunteers contributed to their terminations and whether these volunteers were afforded due process prior to termination. Such an investigation is necessary because terminating, suspending, and/or driving away experienced volunteers because they complain about shelter conditions or denying these volunteers due process would be a terrible mistake for many reasons including:

- The shelters are losing their best, most experienced, and most devoted volunteers (in terms of time they spend and their ability to deal with the animals), which is a waste of City resources.
- Important information may not reach Department management.

- These terminations may create a climate of fear and intimidation among the remaining volunteers.
- It may result in liability for the City as a result of lawsuits for suppression of First Amendment rights and violation of due process.
- The loss of experienced volunteers has a detrimental effect on the animals. The dogs that these volunteers take out for walks will not have that necessary exercise and care, because the new volunteers are not experienced enough to handle many of these dogs. The mental, physical, and behavioral condition of these dogs will deteriorate. The dogs will sit locked in their kennels 24/7 until they are adopted or put to death. These dogs will not be photographed, videotaped, and networked, decreasing their chances of adoption. The same is true of cats and rabbits.

Last year, the Budget Advocates recommended that the Volunteer Liaison positions be made permanent full-time positions. The Budget Advocates still support that in concept. The issues regarding volunteer retention and the termination of some of the most experienced volunteers should be resolved before this is done. An investigation of the volunteer program, volunteer retention, and termination of shelter volunteers should be undertaken by an entity outside LAAS, such as the City Controller's Office and/or the City Attorney's Office. After these matters have been investigated and resolved, six additional ACTs should be hired to replace the ACTs serving as Volunteer Liaisons.

Last year, the Budget Advocates recommended that the position of Director of Volunteer Programs, who oversees all 6 City shelters, should be changed from Resolution Position Authority to Regular Position Authority to make the position permanent. That was done in last year's budget. The Director of Volunteer Programs should resolve the issue of the most experienced volunteers being terminated.

The City Council should fund an additional \$25,000 for supplies for the volunteers. Currently, the volunteers provide their own supplies such as leashes, gloves, treats for the animals. As noted above, the volunteers save the City millions of dollars each year. The City should provide volunteers (especially those with limited income) the necessary tools so they can donate their time.

Staffing

The Budget Advocates support the Department's request for funding to hire 45 new Animal Care Technicians (ACTs), which includes the 12 noted above, over the next 3 years. There is a severe shortage of ACTs at all the shelters.

Hire a Data Analyst to support statistics for No-Kill, WoofStat (the LAAS database that shows the fate of animals taken in by the shelters), and other statistics. This hire contributes to No-Kill and general Department operations.

Change the following positions from Resolution Position Authority to Regular Position

Authority, to make these positions permanent: 6 Veterinary Technicians, 8 Canvassers, 1 Public Information Director, 2 Administrative Clerks.

Consider hiring contractors to do kennel cleaning to free up ACTs to perform other tasks.

Technology Systems: Fund software, Wi-Fi, My311 Interface as necessary.

Medical: Increase funding for blood testing and medicines to the extent necessary.

CONCLUSION

The above items, and in particular full funding of the Animal Sterilization Fund, are necessary to humanely and properly care for the animals of our City and to achieve and maintain No-Kill. They will result in only a slight increase to a budget that is one half of a percent of the City budget.

For CityWatch articles about the budget for the Animal Services Department and Spay/Neuter, please see:

Crucial City Funding: Spay and Neuter Saves Money and Lives. December 2, 2019. <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/budget-advocates/18933-crucial-city-funding-spay-and-neuter-saves-money-and-lives>

LA Animal Services Dept: Is Its Budget Sufficient to Carry Out Its Responsibilities? March 28, 2019. <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/budget-advocates/17371-la-animal-services-dept-is-it-s-budget-sufficient-to-carry-out-it-s-responsibilities>

LA Animal Services Department Budget Report, Part 2: LAAS Officials Meet with Budget Advocates. April 1, 2019. <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/budget-advocates/17395-la-animal-services-department-budget-report-part-2-laas-officials-meet-with-budget-advocates>

LA Animal Services, Part 3: Budget Proposals to Achieve and Maintain ‘No-Kill’ in the City Animal Shelters. April 8, 2019. <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/budget-advocates/17438-la-animal-services-part-3-budget-proposals-to-achieve-and-maintain-no-kill-in-the-city-animal-shelters>

LAAS Dept: Budget Proposals Increase Volunteer Support for the City Animal Shelters and Adequate Staffing. April 15, 2019. <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/budget-advocates/17486-laas-dept-budget-proposals-increase-volunteer-support-for-the-city-animal-shelters-and-adequate-staffing>

LA Animal Services in Desperate Need of Funding ... the Lives of Dogs Like Cleo and King (above) are at Stake. April 25, 2019. <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/budget-advocates/17548-la-animal-services-in-desperate-need-of-funding-the-lives-of-dogs-like-cleo-and-king-above-are-at-stake>

LA Animal Services’ New Budget Must Address No-Kill for Cats. May 2, 2019. <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/2016-01-01-13-17-00/los-angeles/17588-la-animal-services-new-budget-must-address-no-kill-for-cats>

New LAAS Budget Must Ensure That No Healthy Adoptable Animal is Killed for Lack of Space. May 13, 2019. <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/budget-advocates/17663-new-laas-budget-must-ensure-that-no-healthy-adoptable-animal-is-killed-for-lack-of-space>

Animal Lovers Find Your Voice: More Funds Needed for Volunteer Support, Adequate Staff at LA Animal Shelters! June 3, 2019. <https://www.citywatchla.com/index.php/budget-advocates/17789-animal-lovers-find-your-voice-more-funds-needed-for-volunteer-support-adequate-staff-at-la-animal-shelters>

Rehabbing and Repurposing the Jefferson Park Animal Shelter

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

**TARZANA
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**
P.O. Box 571016
Tarzana, CA 91357

TELEPHONE (818) 921-4992

tnc@tarzananc.org

www.tarzananc.org



**TARZANA
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

C/O Department of Neighborhood
Empowerment
200 N. Spring St. Suite 2005
Los Angeles, CA 90012
TELEPHONE (213) 978-1551
Fax (213) 978-1751

TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) Report to the Tarzana Neighborhood Council (TNC), September 27, 2016, by Jeffrey Mausner, Animal Welfare Committee Chairman.

1. The Temporary Animal Foster Parent Program and the other measures that were instituted at the West Valley Shelter over the 4th of July period, to decrease overcrowding, worked very well. The West Valley Shelter is still crowded, because we got 68 dogs from the Lucky Puppy Rescue in May, and then on top of that the July 4th influx. Then in August, an additional 100 animals were brought into the Shelter from another seizure by Animal Services, from a hoarder. But we are working through it, trying to get dogs and cats adopted, rescued, or temporarily fostered. Sergio, the West Valley Supervisor, has told me that no healthy adoptable dogs have been killed or will be killed. We're definitely past the worst of it, and the Shelter is getting less crowded. The Temporary Foster Program, as well as other measures that were taken at the West Valley Shelter, like use of temporary kennels and doubling up some dogs in kennels, **literally saved the lives of dozens of dogs**. The Tarzana Neighborhood Council, as well as the West Valley Volunteers, Supervisors, and Employees, Len Shaffer, and Councilman Blumenfield were all instrumental in that. So I think that's something we can all feel really good about. The Temporary Foster Program is still available to people who want to foster a dog or cat for a few weeks. An explanation of the program, as well as the application, are on our website at:

http://tarzananc.org/committees.php?committee_id=25

<http://tarzananc.org/docs/1307-1082.pdf>, and in the attached documents at pages 2-9.

2. We've received the schedule for delivery of the Animal Control trucks that have air conditioning for the animals. The trucks were ordered late last year, but have not been delivered yet. Most of the trucks in service now have forced air in the animal compartments, which is not sufficient on very hot days. The delivery schedule and specifications for the new trucks with the air conditioning are shown in the attached documents, pages 10-15, Specification G. We weren't able to get the trucks delivered this summer, but delivery of the trucks will start in October and all of the trucks will be delivered by next summer.

3. Rockin' Rescue. We're still waiting for the Zoning Administrator to make her decision on the zoning variance. But Rockin' Rescue has not been bothered in the last few months while we are awaiting the ruling. As you know, both the Tarzana Neighborhood Council and Woodland Hills Neighborhood Council strongly support the work Rockin' Rescue does to save homeless animals and provide the people of our communities with wonderful rescue dogs and cats. Both neighborhood councils have strongly supported Rockin' Rescue's application for zoning variance. Some of the dogs from Rockin' Rescue will be available for adoption at the Melody Acres Block Party on October 23.

4. At a recent Animal Welfare Committee meeting, one of the attendees, Paul Darrigo, came up with a great idea to help alleviate overcrowding at the City Animal Shelters -- rescue organizations taking over an abandoned former City animal shelter. It is the former South Los Angeles Shelter, located at 3612 West 11th Ave (or 3612 11th Ave). The building has been closed and unused for several years. (Please go to www.bing.com/maps and input the address: 3612 West 11th Ave, Los Angeles CA; click on Birds Eye view, and you can see the street view. Same with Google maps.) Some pictures of the facility are attached as pp. 20-22.

My understanding is that this facility can hold hundreds of dogs and cats. It seems like a terrible waste for it just to be sitting there abandoned for years, when there are times when dogs and cats are killed because of lack of space in the City Shelters.

I discussed this with Len, who suggested that I speak with Svetlana Pravina, who you know is our liaison with Councilman Blumenfield. She suggested that I contact Jordan Beroukhim, who is City Council President Herb Wesson's Planning

and Land Use Deputy, since the building is located in Councilman Wesson's district.

On September 1, we met with Council President Wesson's staff (Jordan Beroukhim and Deron Williams, his Chief Deputy). Councilman Wesson came into the meeting for a few minutes. They were very interested in pursuing this project and will be working with the General Services Department to see if it can be done. Emails regarding this project are attached as pages 16-19; pictures of the abandoned South Shelter are attached as pages 20-22. Thank you to Council President Wesson, Jordan Beroukhim, and Deron Williams for pursuing this life-saving project.

If we are able to get the abandoned South Animal Shelter re-opened with a rescue group or groups, it will literally save the lives of hundreds of animals each year.

5. Speaking of saving animals:

a. Axel, a 10 year old Staffordshire/Mastiff mix, was adopted this month. Pictures of Axel are attached as pages 23-25. Axel had been at the Shelter for almost a year, since November 2015. He was an older dog with some medical issues. Nevertheless, he was adopted even after all that time. And the person who adopted him is very happy with him. This is another case of never giving up on these wonderful dogs, and why we need to do everything to make sure that none of these animals are killed.

b. Then there is Oscar the WonderDog. Oscar helped to save the lives of 7 young kittens. The story is on our website at:

http://tarzananc.org/committees.php?committee_id=25, also attached as pages 1-2. Oscar has been at the Shelter for over a year now, since July 22, 2015. As it turned out, there was a reason he has been at the Shelter all this time, so he could help save the lives of these 7 kittens. But now it's Oscar's time. This hero deserves a loving home. Let's go all out to get Oscar the home he deserves.

Oscar, A1526691. 8 year old neutered male, black and white Staffordshire Bull Terrier.

c. Nikko, the Tarzana Great Dane/Pitbull mix, and Sparky, the Tarzana Cat, have been adopted. See page 27, attached.

Jeffrey Mausner

Subject: FW: Use of the Abandoned South Los Angeles Animal Shelter by Rescue Organizations

From: Jordan Beroukhim [mailto:jordan.beroukhim@lacity.org]

Sent: Thursday, September 15, 2016 12:13 PM

To: Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com>

Cc: Paul Darrigo <fedguy2@pacbell.net>; Svetlana Pravina <Svetlana.Pravina@lacity.org>; Leonard Shaffer <l.shaffer@tarzananc.org>; Deron Williams <deron.williams@lacity.org>

Subject: Re: Use of the Abandoned South Los Angeles Animal Shelter by Rescue Organizations

Hi Jeff,

We will be working with General Services to discuss the potential for an RFQ/RFP here

We will need some time on our end.

Thank you

--

Jordan Beroukhim
Planning & Land Use Deputy
Council President Herb Wesson's Office
200 N. Spring Street, Room 430
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: (213) 473-7010
Fax: (213) 485-9829
www.herbwesson.com



On Fri, Sep 9, 2016 at 2:33 PM, Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com> wrote:

Hi Deron and Jordan. I hope you are doing well. Has there been any progress regarding the abandoned South Los Angeles Animal Shelter? Were you able to speak with anyone at General Services about the feasibility of this project? Best regards, Jeff

From: Paul Darrigo [mailto:fedguy2@pacbell.net]

Sent: Friday, September 02, 2016 1:51 PM

To: Jordan Beroukhim <jordan.beroukhim@lacity.org>; Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com>

Cc: Svetlana Pravina <Svetlana.Pravina@lacity.org>; Leonard Shaffer <l.shaffer@tarzananc.org>; Deron Williams <deron.williams@lacity.org>

Subject: Best Friends Contract attached Re: Use of the Abandoned South Los Angeles Animal Shelter by Rescue Organizations

Hi Deron and Jordan,

Great meeting yesterday... We appreciate your openness with us to work together.

Please find attached the Best Friends Contract as discussed. It's a good reference point... we may suggest some changes to it. There is a RFI that went out for this that we should look at again too.

Also attached is the Mission Hills expenses from the CAO.

Next week, I will continue to reach out to bigger rescue organizations to generate interest in the bid contract.

If you can arrange for a walk through, that would be great.

Thanks

Paul

CHULA - Citizens for a Humane Los Angeles
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/773416409436730/>
[323-244-8020](tel:323-244-8020)

From: Jordan Beroukhim <jordan.beroukhim@lacity.org>
To: Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com>; fedguy2@pacbell.net
Cc: Svetlana Pravina <Svetlana.Pravina@lacity.org>; Leonard Shaffer <l.shaffer@tarzananc.org>;
Deron Williams <deron.williams@lacity.org>
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2016 5:41 PM
Subject: Re: Use of the Abandoned South Los Angeles Animal Shelter by Rescue Organizations

Hello,

We are confirmed for this Thursday, September 1 at 10:30am to meet in our District Office located at 1819 S Western Ave Los Angeles CA 90006. Parking lot is accessed via Manhattan Pl which is 1 block west of Western Ave

Thank you

--

Jordan Beroukhim

*Planning & Land Use Deputy
Council President Herb Wesson's Office
200 N. Spring Street, Room 430
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: [\(213\) 473-7010](tel:(213)473-7010)
Fax: [\(213\) 485-9829](tel:(213)485-9829)*

www.herbwesson.com



On Thu, Aug 25, 2016 at 2:22 PM, Jeffrey Mausner <jeff@mausnerlaw.com> wrote:

To Jordan Beroukhim
Planning Deputy
Office of City Council President Herb Wesson
jordan.beroukhim@lacity.org

Hi Jordan. My name is Jeffrey Mausner. I'm a Board Member of the Tarzana Neighborhood Council (TNC), and Chair of the TNC Animal Welfare Committee.

At a recent meeting of the TNC Animal Welfare Committee, one of the attendees raised the possibility of rescue organizations taking over an abandoned former City animal shelter. It is the former South Los Angeles Shelter, located at 3612 West 11th Ave (or 3612 11th Ave). It says on the LA Animal Services website that this shelter was damaged in the Northridge earthquake: <http://www.laanimalservices.com/shelters/south-los-angeles/>, see attachment 1. However, I have spoken with Animal Services employees who worked in that building well after the Northridge Earthquake (1994), so it is not clear whether it was closed because of earthquake damage or for other reasons.

In any case, the building has been closed for some time. It appears that the facility is just sitting there, closed, with a notice of closure posted. (Please go to www.bing.com/maps and input the address: 3612 West 11th Ave, Los Angeles CA; click on Birds Eye view, and you can see the street view. Same with Google maps; and please see attachment number 2.) Some pictures of the facility are attached as attachments number 3-6.

It seemed like a good idea to me to see if something can be done with this facility, to help alleviate overcrowding at the City Animal Shelters. (The idea for this at the Animal Welfare Committee meeting came from Paul Darrigo, who is an actor and animal welfare activist.) My understanding is that this facility can hold hundreds of dogs and cats. It seems like a terrible waste for it just to be sitting there abandoned for years, when there are times when dogs and cats are killed because of lack of space in the City Shelters.

I spoke with Svetlana Pravina, who is Councilman Blumenfield's liaison with the Tarzana Neighborhood Council, and who has been involved in matters involving animal welfare. She suggested that I contact you, since the building is located in Councilman Wesson's district.

I don't know whether a project like this would be doable. I don't know if there are rescues that would be able to take on a project of this magnitude. Best Friends Animal Society took over what was built as a City Shelter in Mission Hills when Los Angeles Animal Services wasn't going to be able to run the facility. I don't know whether Best Friends, or other rescue

organizations, would be able to do the same with the old South Shelter. But I think it is worth looking into the possibility of this, because of the large numbers of dogs and cats who could be saved if something like this happened. My guess is that the first step would be to see if General Services thinks the building is usable and if they would be amenable to rescue organizations using the building to house animals.

Please let me know if you and Councilman Wesson are interested in exploring the possibilities here. I would be happy to help in any way I can, and I'm sure that hundreds of people who are involved in animal welfare in Los Angeles would as well. This could greatly contribute to the goal of making Los Angeles a No Kill city by 2017. Please see <http://nkla.org/about>.

I look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely, Jeff Mausner

Jeffrey Mausner

Chair, Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee

Email: Jeff@MausnerLaw.com; j.mausner@tarzananc.org

Cell phone: [\(310\) 617-8100](tel:(310)617-8100)



CLOSED:

The shelter has moved four miles south,
off Western Avenue, to:

1850 West 60th Street
Los Angeles 90047

Abandoning animals is inhumane, against the law,
and violators will be prosecuted.

CA PENAL CODE 597s

For more information on adoptions, licensing, spay/neuter services,
or stray animals,
contact:

(889) 452-7381

www.laanimalservices.com

CERRADO:

El refugio ha movido cuatro millas al sur,
frente a Western Avenue, a:





CITY OF LOS ANGELES

**TARZANA
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Tarzana, CA 91357

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TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE

Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) Report to the Tarzana Neighborhood Council (TNC), February 28, 2017, by Jeffrey Mausner, Animal Welfare Committee Chairman.

This has been a really good month for the dogs and cats of Los Angeles:

1. On January 26, 2017, **the South Valley Area Planning Commission (SVAPC) unanimously voted to grant the variances necessary for Rockin' Rescue to continue to operate** in its current location at 19855 Ventura Blvd., Woodland Hills, California. **Over 5,500 people signed petitions** in support of Rockin' Rescue. Many of them left very insightful and persuasive comments, which were submitted to the SVAPC. **At the SVAPC hearing, approximately 100 Rockin' Rescue supporters attended** to show their support. About 40 of them addressed the SVAPC, providing moving stories of how Rockin' Rescue helps dogs, cats, and people. There were Volunteers and Employees from the City's West Valley Animal Shelter, Employees and Volunteers from Rockin' Rescue, people who adopted their dog or cat from Rockin' Rescue, Rockin' Rescue's neighbors, and good citizens who simply wanted to have such a great rescue in their neighborhood. The manager of the OSH (Orchard Supply Hardware) across the street even volunteered his parking lot if the lot at Rockin' Rescue is ever full. Businesses next door and across the street from Rockin' Rescue submitted letters of support: Upholstery Zone, Excitement, Oak & Poppy, Bank of the West, and Wells Fargo.

Thank you to Len Shaffer, the entire Tarzana Neighborhood Council and Animal Welfare Committee; the Woodland Hills Neighborhood Council, its President Joyce Fletcher, and its Secretary Linda Kouy-Ghadosh; the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council, its President Jill Banks Barad, and its Vice President and

Land Use Chair Ron Ziff; and other local Neighborhood Councils for their support. See pages 1-7 of the attached, which are print-outs from the following webpages, for further details:

<https://www.change.org/p/save-the-lives-of-dogs-and-cats-in-los-angeles-don-t-shut-down-rockin-rescue/u/19200134>

https://www.change.org/p/save-the-lives-of-dogs-and-cats-in-los-angeles-don-t-shut-down-rockin-rescue?source_location=minibar

2. To make sure that no other Animal Rescue Organizations have to go through a similar zoning ordeal, the TNC/AWC suggested that the Los Angeles Municipal Code be amended to specifically allow Animal Rescues to operate in Commercial Zones, without the necessity of a variance. On January 19, Councilmember Blumenfield introduced a Motion to that effect. See attachment pages 8-11.

3. On February 2, the **City of Los Angeles issued an RFP (Request for Proposals) for a Rescue Organization to run the abandoned South Shelter (now called the Jefferson Park Animal Shelter)**, which as you know is a project we have been working on for some time. This is an **UNBELIEVABLE OPPORTUNITY** for a Rescue or consortium of Rescues to use a beautiful multi-million dollar building at practically no cost, and partner with the City in helping to save the lives of dogs, cats, and other animals, while helping people of the City to adopt them and learn about animals. The City has done its part, now it is time for a Rescue to step up and do its part. The RFP is here:

http://www.labavn.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=contract.opportunity_view&recordid=29344&eml=1 The first 3 pages of the RFP are attached (see pages 12-14 of the attachments.)

We need to get a Rescue or group of Rescues to submit proposals to run the abandoned South Shelter, or this great opportunity will go to waste. Please tell any Rescues that you are involved with or know of about this opportunity. **The Jefferson Park Animal Shelter, if implemented, will save the lives of hundreds of dogs, cats, and other animals each year.**

Thank you to: Paul Darrigo for coming up with this idea and working to get it implemented; Jordan Beroukhim, Planning Deputy in the Office of City Council President Herb Wesson for getting this approved and working on the RFP; Deron

Williams, Chief of Staff, for his support; City Council President Herb Wesson for making this happen; and Los Angeles Animal Services for their contribution.

4. Oscar the Wonderdog was rescued from the West Valley Animal Shelter on January 29, after being there for more than a year and a half. Oscar was a hero, helping to save the lives of 7 kittens. The story of how Oscar saved the lives of these kittens is attached (pages 15-16) and here:

http://tarzananc.org/committees.php?committee_id=25

Pictures of Oscar at the Rescue in Oregon are here:

<https://www.facebook.com/jeremy.doguc?pnref=story> and attached pages 17-21.

5. Los Angeles Animal Services Department has formed a subcommittee consisting of Department Managers, Employees, Andrew Brown (a Volunteer at the East Valley Shelter), and myself (as both the Neighborhood Council and West Valley Shelter Volunteer representative) to work on **implementing No-Kill by the end of the year**. A meeting was held on January 31 at LAAS Headquarters to discuss implementing specific proposals for achieving No-Kill. See attached page 22. Specific proposals and Action Items were decided on at the meeting. The report for the meeting is still being reviewed and worked on. Attachment page 23 is a summary of proposals that I brought to the meeting to serve as starting discussion points. I think implementation of No-Kill is the most important thing that Los Angeles Animal Services has to do at this time.

6. We held an Animal Welfare Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 21. The Agenda is posted on the website.

Best regards, Jeff



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**To Provide Programs and Services at the
Jefferson Park Animal Shelter**

For the

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Issued By

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES

February 2, 2017

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

- DATE ISSUED:** February 2, 2017
- TITLE:** To Provide Programs and Services at the Jefferson Park Animal Shelter
- DESCRIPTION:** The City of Los Angeles (“City”) is seeking proposals from experienced animal welfare organizations interested in providing programs and services at the Animal Shelter.
- DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS:** Proposals must be received at the address shown below by **Tuesday, April 4, 2017** at **3:00 p.m.** (Pacific Standard Time).
- PROPOSAL DELIVERY ADDRESS:** Office of the City Administrative Officer
200 N. Main Street, Room 1500
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Attention: Bernyce Hollins
- QUESTIONS REGARDING THE RFP PROCESS:** Submit in writing via email to cao.RFPresponse@lacity.org no later than 12:00 p.m. (PST), Tuesday, February 28, 2017. Responses to questions will be published on BAVN by Thursday, March 9, 2017.
- TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:** All potential proposers are strongly encouraged to attend the **Technical Assistance Seminar** scheduled for **11:00 a.m.** on **February 23, 2017** at the Jefferson Park Animal Shelter, located at 3612 11th Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90018.
- Bonus points will be given to those in attendance (refer to page 19).

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Council File: 15-1041-S4

Title
 3612 11th Avenue / Southwest Los Angeles Animal Services / Jefferson Park Shelter

Date Received / Introduced
 09/30/2016

Last Changed Date
 02/02/2018

Expiration Date
 01/31/2020

Reference Numbers
 Related Council File: 11-1680

Council District
 10

Mover
 HERB WESSON, JR.

Second
 MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON

File Activities

Date	Activity
02/02/2018	Council action final.
01/31/2018	Council adopted item, subject to reconsideration, pursuant to Council Rule 51.
01/30/2018	Community Impact Statement submitted by Tarzana Neighborhood Council.
01/24/2018	City Clerk scheduled item for Council on January 31, 2018.
01/23/2018	Information, Technology, and General Services Committee approved item(s) .
01/19/2018	Information, Technology, and General Services Committee scheduled item for committee meeting on January 23, 2018.
01/04/2018	Municipal Facilities Committee document(s) referred to Information, Technology, and General Services Committee.

Online Documents (Doc)

Title	Doc Date
Council Action	02/02/2018
Speaker Card(s)	01/31/2018
Community Impact Statement submitted by Tarzana Neighborhood Council	01/30/2018

Council Vote Information (2 Votes)

Meeting Date: 01/31/2018
 Meeting Type: Regular
 Vote Action: Adopted
Vote Given: (13 - 0 - 2)

Member Name	CD	Vote
BOB BLUMENFIELD	3	YES
MIKE BONIN	11	YES
JOE BUSCAINO	15	YES
GILBERT A. CEDILLO	1	YES
MITCHELL ENGLANDER	12	YES
MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON	8	YES
JOSE HUIZAR	14	ABSENT
PAUL KORETZ	5	YES
PAUL KREKORIAN	2	ABSENT
NURY MARTINEZ	6	YES
MITCH O'FARRELL	13	YES
CURREN D. PRICE	9	YES
MONICA RODRIGUEZ	7	YES
DAVID RYU	4	YES
HERB WESSON	10	YES

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<http://www.angelcitypits.org/blog/exciting-news-a-new-home-for-acpb-and-low-cost-vet-care>

“For several years, the old South LA animal shelter in Jefferson Park has stood unused. Through a partnership of NKLA Coalition members, the former shelter has reopened as a community pet resource center. Currently, the center has a few main focuses:

SNPLA is operating a new low cost spay/neuter and veterinary wellness clinic ...

Best Friends and Stray Cat Alliance will be utilizing space to care for ringworm cats and kittens ...

Angel City Pit Bulls will also increase our lifesaving capacity as we use the kennel space to transition more dogs from the shelter into our foster program (kittens, too!). ...

... ”

CITYWIDE CAT
PROGRAM FOR
FREE ROAMING
CATS, SET ASIDE
INJUNCTION
AGAINST TNR



Resolution Passed by the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils

(VANC) December 14, 2017

RE: CF 17-0413

The Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC), consisting of representatives of all 34 Neighborhood Councils in the SFV, **SUPPORTS City Council File 17-0413**, directing the appropriate City departments to prepare an Environmental Impact Report to allow reconsideration of a proposed Citywide Cat Program that applies to all “free roaming cats” including feral cats and stray cats, utilizing the Project Description as detailed in the April 11, 2017 Department of Animal Services (DAS) report.

VANC supports Trap, Neuter, Return as the humane way to deal with free roaming cats, rather than mass extermination.

VANC requests that the EIR include consideration of the morality of the proposed Citywide Cat Program utilizing Trap Neuter Return, as opposed to the alternative. This should include consideration of the damage to the reputation of Los Angeles and potential resulting loss of revenue if the City engages in the extermination of free roaming cats.

VANC Liaison to the Department of Animal Services, **Jeffrey Mausner**, is authorized to communicate this resolution to Brenda Barnette, Dana Brown and William Tranzow of the Animal Services Dept., the Board of Animal Services Commissioners, and Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield, and to the persons conducting the scoping process.

We hope that you will give our Resolution every consideration.

Jill Banks Barad

Founder and Chair VANC

Jeffrey Mausner
Phone: 310-617-8100
Email: Jeff@MausnerLaw.com

October 7, 2017

Dr. Jan Green Rebstock, Environmental Supervisor II
Christopher Adams
Bureau of Engineering
Department of Public Works
City of Los Angeles

Gilberto Ruiz, Senior Project Manager
Tanvi Lal, Project Manager
ICF

Re: Los Angeles Citywide Cat Program

Dear Dr. Rebstock, Mr. Ruiz, Ms. Lal, and Mr. Adams:

I am writing this letter on my own behalf, not on behalf of the Neighborhood Council.

It was good meeting you at the Scoping meeting at the East Valley Animal Shelter on September 28. Thank you for speaking with me and the others at the meeting, and taking our input, regarding the scoping process for the Citywide Cat Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

I believe that Trap Neuter Return (TNR) is the humane and civilized way to deal with free roaming cats. The way that the Urban Wildlands Group, Audubon Society, and the other plaintiffs in the lawsuit want to do it, by mass slaughtering of free roaming cats, is horrific, inhumane, and contrary to a civilized society.

I am absolutely astounded that so-called environmental groups would advocate the wholesale killing of thousands of cats. But of course, that is exactly what the

entire lawsuit and injunction is about. Urban Wildlands, along with the Audubon Society and other plaintiffs, should be ashamed of the position they have taken in support of killing animals. They and their injunction are responsible for the death of thousands of cats.

Urban Wildlands, Audubon Society, and the other plaintiffs are costing the City hundreds of thousands of dollars, by requiring this EIR, money that could be used to spay/neuter thousands of cats, which would deal with this issue.

I request that the Environmental Impact Report consider the morality of the alternative solution for free roaming cats proposed by Urban Wildlands and Audubon. While mass extermination may be more efficient or cost less (and of course that isn't a given -- hence the reason for the EIR), the inhumanity of that, and the effect it will have on millions of citizens of our City and throughout the world, should be considered. How will it look if Los Angeles deals with free roaming cats by killing them all rather than using a civilized method. Also consider the impact of having to kill these cats on the employees of Los Angeles Animal Services Department who have to carry out this edict. The City provides counseling for employees of LAAS who carry out killings of animals at the Shelters; how much more will this cost if they have to unnecessarily kill tens of thousands of cats.

The opponents of Trap, Neuter Return (TNR) make much of their claim that a certain percentage of free roaming cats would have to be spay/neutered to have an impact on the population. This is a red herring. Even if true, wouldn't the same be true for the percentage of free roaming cats that have to be killed? Isn't it better to spay/neuter them rather than kill them?

A possible suggestion for the scope of the EIR: A person at the Animal Welfare Committee meeting suggested that the EIR could include a study of the impact on the number of rats in the City if free roaming cats are killed rather than neutered and returned.

I would also like to respond to several things that Travis Longcore of the Urban Wildlands Group said in his letter to David Zaft, President of the Board of Animal Services Commissioners at the time, dated November 7, 2016.

Longcore's criticism of the goal of reducing "euthanasia" of cats in City Shelters (page 3) is perverse. (His use of the term "euthanasia" is incorrect. Euthanasia is defined as: killing or permitting the death of hopelessly sick or injured animals in a relatively painless way for reasons of mercy. See Merriam Webster.) What he is advocating is actually the killing of cats, not euthanasia. That is, in particular, the case when there is a readily available alternative to the killing, like TNR. Contrary

to what Longcore says, the City of Los Angeles, City Council, L.A. Animal Services, and the Board of Animal Services Commissioners should be commended for wanting to reduce the killing of cats in the City Animal Shelters.

Longcore's criticism of Brenda Barnette for not immediately killing cats at the end of the minimum hold period, possibly to explore alternatives to killing them such as adoption or rescue, is also perverse. Not only does Longcore want more cats killed at the City Shelters, he wants them killed more quickly. The reason to kill them more quickly? To save a little money. How about withdrawing the lawsuit and injunction -- that will save the City \$800,000, the expected cost of the EIR.

Longcore concludes: "The primary goal of any stray/feral cat program, both from an environmental perspective and a humane perspective, should be to reduce the number of unowned cats in the most efficient way. TNR programs simply have not been shown to do that. They can reduce the number of cats that are euthanized at shelters, because those cats are released outside, shifting the burden onto the environment and residents of the community. But sterilization of a tiny fraction of outdoor cats does not reduce the overall impact of unowned free-roaming cats on the environment." Longcore letter, page 8.

What Longcore overlooks is that the specific cats that are spay/neutered, living-breathing animals, aren't killed, and they won't produce any more feral cats because they are neutered. That is what should be done from a "humane perspective."

And if it is true, as Longcore states, that spay/neutering the small percentage of cats that are brought in to the Shelters will have no effect on the overall feral cat population, why will killing the same number of cats have such an effect?

What Longcore and these "environmental" groups are advocating is not in any way humane. It is completely inhumane. Furthermore, by pursuing the lawsuit and injunction, they are requiring the City to expend \$800,000 to conduct the EIR. Because of their unreasonable position, it has to be done. I certainly hope the City will never provide any funding or benefits to the plaintiffs in the lawsuit after requiring the City to spend this money.

Once again, thank you to the City of Los Angeles, the City Council, Los Angeles Animal Services Department, the Board of Animal Services Commissioners, and the Department of Public Works for your work on this important project.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey N. Mausner

Jeffrey N. Mausner

cc: Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

Svetlana Pravina

John Popoch

Councilmember Paul Koretz

James Bickhart

Elaine De Leon

Brenda Barnette, General Manager

Dana Brown, Assistant General Manager

Louis Dedeaux, Acting Assistant General Manager

Los Angeles Animal Services Department

Commission President Larry Gross

Commission Vice President Olivia Garcia

Commissioner Layne David Dicker

Commissioner Alisa Finsten

Commissioner Roger Wolfson

Los Angeles Board of Animal Services Commissioners



TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. BOX 571016
TARZANA, CA 91357
(818) 921-4992
tnc@tarzananc.org

October 7, 2017

Dr. Jan Green Rebstock, Environmental Supervisor II
Christopher Adams
Bureau of Engineering
Department of Public Works
City of Los Angeles

Gilberto Ruiz, Senior Project Manager
Tanvi Lal, Project Manager
ICF

Re: Los Angeles Citywide Cat Program

Dear Dr. Rebstock, Mr. Ruiz, Ms. Lal, and Mr. Adams:

It was nice meeting you at the Scoping meeting at the East Valley Animal Shelter on September 28. Thank you for speaking with me and the others at the meeting, and taking our input, regarding the scoping process for the Citywide Cat Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

As I advised you at the Scoping meeting, on September 26, 2017, at its regularly scheduled public meeting, the Tarzana Neighborhood Council (TNC) Board passed the following motion:

Council File 17-0413 Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Animal Welfare Committee's request to file a CIS in support of Council File 17-0413 directing the appropriate city departments to prepare an EIR to allow reconsideration of a proposed Citywide Cat Program that applies to all "free roaming cats" including feral cats and stray cats, utilizing the Project Description as detailed in the

April 11, 2017 Department of Animal Services (DAS) report. The Animal Welfare Committee Chair is authorized to communicate this resolution to Brenda Barnette, Dana Brown and Louis Dedeaux of the Animal Services Dept., the Board of Animal Services Commissioners, Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield, and at public meetings for the scoping process.

The agenda containing this resolution is attached. (Please see page 5 of the attachments, paragraph 15.) This resolution was passed unanimously, with only 1 abstention by a new Board Member who was not familiar with the issues. This resolution was previously passed unanimously by the TNC Animal Welfare Committee. (Please see page 9 of the attachments.)

Thank you to all of you for your work on this EIR.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey N. Mausner

Jeffrey Mausner
Board of Directors and 2nd Vice President,
Tarzana Neighborhood Council (TNC)
Chair, TNC Animal Welfare Committee
TNC and Valley Alliance of Neighborhood
Councils (VANC) Liaison to Los Angeles Animal
Services Dept
Volunteer, West Valley Animal Shelter

cc: Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

Svetlana Pravina

John Popoch

Councilmember Paul Koretz

James Bickhart

Elaine De Leon

Brenda Barnette, General Manager

Dana Brown, Assistant General Manager

Louis Dedeaux, Acting Assistant General Manager

Los Angeles Animal Services Department

Officers

Leonard J. Shaffer President
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Max Flehinger Exec. Secretary

CITY OF LOS ANGELES



**TARZANA
NEIGHBORHOOD
COUNCIL**
P.O. Box 571016
Tarzana, CA 91357

TELEPHONE (818) 921-4992

tnc@tarzananc.org
www.tarzananc.org

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Iris Polonsky
Jeff Mausner
Elliot Durant
Barry Edelman

**TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BOARD MEETING AGENDA**
Tuesday September 26, 2017 7:00 PM
Tarzana Elementary School Auditorium
5726 Topeka Dr
Tarzana, CA 91356

The public is requested to fill out a “**Speaker Card**” to address the Board on any item of the agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered unless a board member requests that it be called out of order. Speakers shall limit their comments to matters relevant to the item on the agenda. The Chair may rule that the speaker is out of order if the comments are not germane to the item under consideration. If multiple speaker cards are submitted on one agenda item, preference will be granted to members of the public who have not spoken previously during the meeting, either during public comment or on another agenda item.

Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that are within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board.

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1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Welcoming Remarks and Pledge
2. Remarks by representatives of public officials
3. Public Comments – Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction. Public comments are limited to two minutes per speaker.
4. Budget Advocate Report
5. Presentation: Food & Water Watch – Proposal to ban drilling and other oil field activities within 2500 feet of residential properties and other specified locations in Los Angeles
6. Discussion and motion - Approval of minutes of **August 22, 2017** meeting.
7. Discussion and motion: Approval of August 2017 expenditures for submission to DONE (MER)
8. Discussion and motion: Approval of Financial Statements as of August 31, 2017
9. Discussion and motion: The TNC Board approves the Executive Committee’s recommendation to appoint Susan Rogen to the open South Area Representative board position.
10. Discussion and motion: Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Budget Committee’s recommendation regarding the request from the Animal Welfare Committee to purchase a "Bone Pool," a wading pool for dogs, for the use of the Volunteers at the West Valley Shelter for not to exceed \$325.00.
11. Discussion and motion: Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Budget Committee’s recommendation regarding the request from the Animal Welfare Committee to purchase a canopy for use of the Volunteers at the West Valley Shelter, in the backyard, for not to exceed \$325.00.

12. Discussion and motion: Resolved: Based on approval of the above agenda items 10 and 11 above the TNC Board approves a revised budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018 as follows: General and Operational Expenditures \$10,080.00, Neighborhood Purpose Grants \$550 and Community Improvement Projects \$8,928.57, for a total budget of \$19,558.57.

Consent Calendar Items; The following items will be passed by consent unless a board member request the item to be pulled for discussion or a member of the public wishes to address the item: 13,14, 15, 16, 18 and 20

13. Discussion and motion: **Council File 17-0002-S66** - Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Animal Welfare Committee's request to file a CIS supporting Council File 17-0002-S66 regarding AB1199 (the Pet Canine Encounters Protection Act), which will provide training to California peace officers about how to both quickly and safely respond to unexpected situations when encountering a dog, which invaluable training will give them the tools to protect themselves as well as the life of a treasured canine family member. The Animal Welfare Committee Chair is authorized to send a letter to Assemblymember Nazarian informing him of our support for the city's position
14. Discussion and motion: **Council File 17-0170** - Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Animal Welfare Committee's request to file a CIS in support of Council File 17-0170 re-affirming the city council's goal to make Los Angeles a "no kill" city for all healthy adoptable shelter animals by December 31, 2017. The Animal Welfare Committee Chair is authorized to communicate this resolution to Brenda Barnette, Dana Brown and Louis Dedeaux of the Animal Services Dept., the Board of Animal Services Commissioners, and Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield.
15. Discussion and Motion: **Council File 17-0413** Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Animal Welfare Committee's request to file a CIS in support of Council File 17-0413 directing the appropriate city departments to prepare an EIR to allow reconsideration of a proposed Citywide Cat Program that applies to all "free roaming cats" including feral cats and stray cats, utilizing the Project Description as detailed in the April 11, 2017 Department of Animal Services (DAS) report. The Animal Welfare Committee Chair is authorized to communicate this resolution to Brenda Barnette, Dana Brown and Louis Dedeaux of the Animal Services Dept., the Board of Animal Services Commissioners, Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield, and at public meetings for the scoping process.
16. Discussion and motion: Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Animal Welfare Committee's request to support the use of all kennels at the West Valley Shelter, including the Training Kennels, Puppy Kennels, and kennels in the Grooming Room, before any healthy, adoptable animals are killed for lack of space at any of the City Shelters. The Animal Welfare Committee Chair is authorized to communicate this resolution to Brenda Barnette, Dana Brown and Louis Dedeaux of the Animal Services Dept., the Board of Animal Services Commissioners, and Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield.
17. Discussion and motion: Resolved: The TNC Board approves the Land Use Committee's recommendations regarding the Encino-Tarzana Community Plan update as follows:
1. **Zoning:** Retain the existing zoning throughout the community. Except that properties on the full extent the south side of Ventura Boulevard be zoned commercial.
 2. **Mixed Use:** Encourage mixed use along Ventura and Reseda Boulevards, but require a 16 foot height for first story commercial and retail use.. If so, the allowable building height to be increased to 36 feet except that for properties between Etiwanda Avenue and Wilbur Avenue on the north side of the Ventura Boulevard the allowable height be increased to 51 feet.
 3. **Boundary:** Include the portion of Tarzana north of Topham Street/Oxnard Street and south of Victory Boulevard in the Encino-Tarzana Community Plan.
 4. **Population Increase:** Recognizing the need to accommodate increased population, allow an additional story in height and increased FAR in the multi-family zoned portion of Tarzana for properties that require a portion of each new construction or major remodel to include very low income, low income, and moderate income units.
 5. **Orange Line Stations:** Upgrade the existing Orange Line stations, particularly the station at Reseda/Oxnard, to provide restrooms and other amenities such as snack bars.
 6. **Parks:** Explore the possibility of designating the space under the power lines along Crebs Avenue for parks.
 7. **Major commercial street upgrades:** Upgrade the commercial, retail, and office spaces along Ventura and Reseda Boulevards to require increased setback and wider sidewalks to increase pedestrian friendliness for all new construction or major remodel. Install X crosswalks (pedestrian scramble) on Ventura Boulevard at Yolanda Avenue, and at Reseda Boulevard at Burbank. Increase the allowable building height to 36 feet except that for properties between Etiwanda Avenue and Wilbur Avenue on the north side of the boulevard, the allowable height to be increased to 51 feet.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

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TELEPHONE (818) 921-4992

tnc@tarzananc.org

www.tarzananc.org



TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

C/O Department of Neighborhood
Empowerment
200 N. Spring St. Suite 2005
Los Angeles, CA 90012
TELEPHONE (213) 978-1551
Fax (213) 978-1751

TARZANA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ANIMAL WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

September 11, 2017 at 7:00 pm

Tarzana Child Care Center

5700 Beckford Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356,

Chairman - Jeffrey Mausner

Committee members

Mary Aratounian, Eva Brusa, Lynn Davis, Michael Gross, Shelley Gross, Janet Mausner,
Deanna Dylan Scott, Renee Shamloo, and Jennifer Varela

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1. Call to Order and Welcoming Remarks.
2. Approval of Minutes of the May 9, 2017 meeting - *Action Item*.
3. Discussion and possible motion: **Resolved: The Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee (TNC AWC) requests that the TNC Board pass a resolution of support for AB 1199, the Pet Canine Encounters Protection Act, send a letter to Assembly Member Nazarian informing him of its support and thanking him for his work on the bill, and file a Community Impact Statement supporting the City Council Resolution supporting this bill, Council File No. 17-0002-S66.**
4. Discussion and possible motion: **Resolved: The Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee (TNC AWC) requests that the TNC Board pass a resolution supporting the use of all kennels at the West Valley Animal Shelter, including the Training Kennels, Puppy Kennels, and kennels in the Grooming Room, before any healthy adoptable animals are killed for lack of space at any of the City Shelters, and communicate its support of this use to Brenda Barnette, General Manager of Los Angeles Animal Services, Dana Brown and Louis Dedeaux, Assistant General Managers, and Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield.**

5. Discussion and possible motion: **Resolved: The Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee (TNC AWC) requests that the TNC Board pass a resolution of support for the implementation of No-Kill of healthy adoptable dogs, cats, and rabbits at the City Animal Shelters by December 31, 2017, communicate its support of this to Brenda Barnette, General Manager of Los Angeles Animal Services, Dana Brown and Louis Dedeaux, Assistant General Managers, and Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield, and file a Community Impact Statement in support of the City Council’s reaffirmance of this goal, Council File No. 17-0170.**

6. Discussion and possible motion: Resolved: The Tarzana Neighborhood Council Animal Welfare Committee (TNC AWC) requests that the TNC Board pass a resolution and file a Community Impact Statement in support of City Council File 17-0413, relative to the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in connection with the proposed Citywide Cat Program, which directs appropriate City Departments to prepare an EIR pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act utilizing the Project Description as detailed in the April 11, 2017 Department of Animal Services (DAS) report; communicate its support of this to Brenda Barnette, General Manager of Los Angeles Animal Services, Dana Brown, Assistant General Manager, Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield, and the City Attorney’s Office; and thank them for their continued support.

7. Discussion and possible motion regarding **submission of a request to the Budget Committee to purchase a “Bone Pool,” a wading pool for dogs, for the use of the Volunteers at the West Valley Shelter, for an amount not to exceed \$300.00.** This will allow the dogs to cool off on hot days on the exercise yard.

8. Discussion and possible motion regarding **submission of a request to the Budget Committee to purchase an approximately 12 x 20 foot canopy for the use of the Volunteers at the West Valley Shelter, in the back yard, for an amount not to exceed \$300.00.** This will provide shade for the Volunteers when they take the dogs into the back yard. The previous canopy we purchased was for the exercise yard and has proven to be very popular with the Volunteers, shielding them from the sun and providing some relief from the high temperatures.

9. Discussion regarding the killing of dogs, cats, and other animals at the City Animal Shelters.

10. Comments by the Chair and discussion regarding:

- a. RFP (Request for Proposals) for the Jefferson Park Animal Shelter.
- b. Toffy, dog who was transferred from the West Valley Shelter to the South L.A. Shelter, who has now been rescued.
- c. Volunteers at the West Valley Animal Shelter.
- d. AB 485, the Pet Rescue and Adoption Act.

11. Public Comments – Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Committee’s subject matter jurisdiction. Public comments are limited to two minutes per speaker.

Your **Community Impact Statement** has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: **Tarzana Neighborhood Council**

Name: Jeffrey Mausner

Phone Number: 310-617-8100

Email: j.mausner@tarzananc.org

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(12) Nay(0) Abstain(1) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 09/26/2017

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 08/30/2018

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 17-0413

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: Resolved: The Tarzana Neighborhood Council Board approves the Animal Welfare Committee's request to file a Community Impact Statement in support of Council File 17-0413 directing the appropriate city departments to **prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to allow reconsideration of a proposed Citywide Cat Program** that applies to all "free roaming cats" including feral cats and stray cats, utilizing the Project Description as detailed in the April 11, 2017 Department of Animal Services (DAS) report. The Animal Welfare Committee Chair is authorized to communicate this resolution to Brenda Barnette, Dana Brown and Louis Dedeaux of the Animal Services Dept., the Board of Animal Services Commissioners, Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield, and at public meetings for the scoping process.

LINKS TO TERANGA RANCH WEBSITE

Links to Teranga Ranch website:

https://www.terangaranch.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Teranga_Ranch_brochure.pdf

https://www.terangaranch.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Teranga_Ranch_coexisting_with_coyotes_2021.pdf