

## Communication from Public

**Name:** S shiver

**Date Submitted:** 09/27/2020 06:44 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** Leave the West Valley Shelter Open. The community on the west side of the valley needs a place to care for lost pets until they are found or adopted by a responsible caring family. I have personally adopted or encouraged others to adopt from this shelter for the past 30 years. It is a vital part of the community. S Shiver

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Phyllis M Daugherty

**Date Submitted:** 09/27/2020 04:09 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** Honorable Council RE Closing of West Valley Shelter and Proposed "Reconstitution" to Community Services Center In that late 1990's much of the city of Los Angeles, and especially West Valley (and South L.A.), lived in terror of even going out their own doors for fear of encountering a pack of hungry, aggressive, unaltered dogs, which had at some point been pets but later just released and abandoned. LA Animal Services had to create a special unit to pick them up--sometimes 35 to 40 a day--to keep them from starving or fighting to death and attacking children and adults, potentially spread diseases to animals and humans (including the deadly rabies virus--which is ALWAYS fatal in humans if not treated immediately. And it is fatal to all animals believed to have even come in contact with a rabid animal, because they have to be decapitated in order to detect the virus by testing. Many people had no problem just dumping dogs, cats and other animals near freeways and highways, causing a perilous number of them to be in rush- hour traffic and killed by vehicles or causing serious accidents in which humans were injured or killed and people lost the use of badly needed transportation, which affected the ability to even feed their families. The property owners and other residents of the City, voted to pay for Prop. F Bonds to create an additional shelter in the Valley and increase the size of existing shelters and also provide amenities like air conditioning, water and misting systems and other badly needed items for the humane care of these unwanted--and often dangerous--animals. Now, 20 years later, and while the Bonds are still being paid for, General Manager Brenda Barnette's (and possibly certain politicians) believe it would be more lucrative and in line with the plans of large humane groups which are heavy campaign donors to just give away these badly needed facilities to private rescue groups as favors. Los Angeles is not for sale--outside of City Hall, at least--and the people who love animals (or fear them roaming in the streets for many reasons) do not agree with this obvious pay-to-play plan, which--along with the laws passed in the last decade by Councilmember Paul Koretz (who dictates policy through the Personnel and Animal Welfare Committee) and former dog breeder Brenda Barnette's failure to address backyard or professional breeding--will allow totally uncontrolled breeding and undoubtedly be supported by Koretz'

friends in the breeding industry, such as Louis Krokover. (No, Paul, we have not forgotten him reminding you and your deputy, Jeremy Oberstein, who is now running for your seat and could really use "support," in an e-mail that wasn't supposed to get into the City Clerk's file, that the breeders were counting on you and he was your longtime "supporter." No matter how much lipstick is put on a pig, it doesn't change it to a swan. No matter what kind of excuses are contrived (by Brenda Barnette and Larry Gross, who will undoubtedly love the rental-advocacy office that is proposed) this Community Center is not needed and it is not more important than the public animal shelter it was meant to be and for which it is being funded. It will set animal welfare back in Los Angeles to the 1980's-90's, when the streets were strewn with dog feces and cats were dying under cars and in alleys all over the city. There is NO WAY to justify this blatant lack of concern for public/animal health and safety and the lack of license enforcement that will result from Banette's permissive approach and a direct violation to ENFORCE of CA State rabies laws, which is a mandate. Shelters and animal-control agencies are designed for a purpose. Beyond the walls of your condominium and comfortable office, there is reality and it is not pretty for animals--unless we care for them, give them shelter and keep them safe. The City will never forget each of you, Mayor Eric Garcetti and Brenda Barnette if this change to the West Valley Shelter is approved--and it will never forgive. As a Council, for once, listen to the people who live in the West Valley about what THEIR community needs. Next...it may be your council district and your animal shelter that becomes a political pawn and your voters will be reminded of this betrayal of those who can multiply and suffer but cannot speak. Phyllis M Daugherty