

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lorelei Buda

**Date Submitted:** 11/09/2020 08:49 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1177

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear city council I oppose the use of donations for website design and marketing. These monies should be used to enhance our shelter dogs.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 11/09/2020 10:34 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1177

**Comments for Public Posting:** There is no excuse at all to ask for donated animal care funds to be used for administrative purposes. This city has behaved shamefully in recent years in its duty of care for shelter animals. Do not make it worse.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Cris  
**Date Submitted:** 11/09/2020 03:02 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-1177  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear City Council Member, I oppose the use of donations for website design, marketing, and public relations. Please open the West Valley Shelter. This part of the valley needs this shelter to open as it was. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lisa Doyle

**Date Submitted:** 11/09/2020 07:27 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1177

**Comments for Public Posting:** I do NOT want the donations that the public has made towards animal welfare to go towards website development. These funds were given to the animals by the public to better their welfare. To me that means spay/neuter programs, Blankets and supplies, community education, an intervention program to help low income pet guardians ( which some volunteer groups do but it would be great if this could be expanded, it ultimately helps animals stay out of the shelter system). Brenda Barnette has proven over and over again that she does not have the best interest of the animals in mind, nor does she care how the taxpayers/community want their funds to be spent.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Shari Streb  
**Date Submitted:** 11/09/2020 11:13 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-1177  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Please see the attached letter for my opposition to granting Brenda Barnette's request.

11/9/2020

Dear Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

I strongly oppose Brenda Barnette's request to use \$1.5 million from the Animal Trust fund to enter a three-year contract with The Glue consulting firm for marketing, fundraising, public relations and a new website. These funds were donated by the public with the specific intent to better the lives of the animals in Los Angeles Animal Services' (LAAS) care. The LAAS has demonstrated, and most recently during this pandemic, that the department has not utilized the resources already available to them in a fiscally responsible way. This request being granted would be very irresponsible. Ms. Barnette is spending her time devising plans to detract the spotlight on her negligent administration of LAAS. Instead of focusing on the proposal to reopen the two shelters closed during the pandemic, she is looking for more money to spend as she chooses, with no oversight, and this is completely unacceptable.

Since LAAS is a city department, the funds for marketing, public relations and a new website should come from the city budget. Since the city is experiencing severe cost cutting measures in the budget this year, why is this the time she is making this request? The immediate need might be the fundraising component, which should be handled internally with the LAAS Leadership team. They earn quite large salaries and this particular activity; I would think should fall under the General Manager responsibilities considering there are two Assistant General Manager positions to handle the operations of the department. Los Angeles also has access to many celebrities and sports teams who, I imagine would be willing to help with fundraising efforts. It seems that if work needs to be outsourced, a three-year contract seems disadvantages without benchmarks for return on investment. As for the fundraising request, I would only support this with proper oversight, transparency, and accountability. I have zero confidence in Ms. Barnette's ability to run this department. I certainly feel it would be remiss to give her more money when there have been calls to investigate and audit the financial statements of the department.

Using the requested funds would be inappropriate because the donations were acquired under tax deductible guidelines and would violate non-profit stipulations. The mission of this trust states, "Donations to the Animal Welfare Trust Fund enhance the quality of life for shelter and other animals by funding animal supplies, medical equipment, improvements to Animal Shelters and other animal welfare-related projects undertaken by the Department of Animal Services." Trying to slide a new website in as an "other animal welfare related projects" is quite a misrepresentation considering the intent is that the funds would be used directly for animal care. In addition, what "other animals" do these funds provide services for? Would that be more money spent for the benefit of Ms. Barnette's "Rescue Partners" that use city funded facilities without paying rent?

Please do not approve any projects or requests for money by LAAS. The focus of the department should be on reopening the two city shelters that were closed due to COVID-19.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shari Streb". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Shari Streb

## Communication from Public

**Name:** D.Oisboid

**Date Submitted:** 11/09/2020 06:48 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1177

**Comments for Public Posting:** I would like to State my objections to having fundraising used for a website. Especially after you closed the West Valley Animal Shelter, doesn't that mean you have just saved a bunch of money? Use that money for your website. Or else give us back our West Valley Animal shelter, and then use the money for your website.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sergio Davila

**Date Submitted:** 11/09/2020 01:36 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1177

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am opposed to the use of 1.5 million in donations for the use of marketing, public relations and a new website. These are administrative projects that have absolutely nothing to do with direct care of animals to which donors believed they were contributing.