

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Colleen Smith

**Date Submitted:** 05/11/2021 11:21 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I would hope that banning certain devices used in rodeo would be the least of your concern. Given the absolutely abhorrent conditions that are currently plaguing your city and entire state, your efforts should be attempting to figure out your homeless problem!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 01:38 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please Do NOT Ban Rodeo and Bull Riding in Los Angeles! This ordinance is unnecessary – PBR already takes great care of the bulls!! - The health and safety of the animals in bull riding is paramount. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life – extending four to five times as long as the average bull. - PBR stock contractors make their living by breeding, training, and working with their animal athletes. They truly love these animal athletes, treat them as a member of their own family, and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. - The bulls in PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they’re bred and trained for their jobs. Bulls buck because of their genetics. They are not abused or coerced to compete. The flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. - In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Eric Grimes

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 01:38 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The bulls in PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they’re bred and trained for their jobs. Bulls buck because of their genetics. They are not abused or coerced to compete. The flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. This ordinance is unnecessary – PBR already takes great care of the bulls. PBR and all stock contractors make their living by breeding, training, and working with their animal athletes. They truly love these animal athletes, treat them as a member of their own family, and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. The health and safety of the animals in bull riding is paramount. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life – extending four to five times as long as the average bull. In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** JT

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 01:39 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Before you band the PBR, think about this. People who need the work, like my nephew and a few of his friends. They depend on this money to complete their education and living expenses. Not only does the whole family enjoy the event, they also know how these animals are treated. Like queens, these are very expensive animals. And they live a good life, especially if they do well in the ring. And we will vote, how this is handled. And will keep up on those who wanted this. I am pretty sure that you have bigger problems than a rodeo. And we all know it. It's obvious to any person that you need to focus on other problems. Thanks, JT



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Manuel

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 01:48 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not ban rodeos in the LA area! Rodeo is part of the American tradition. As a man who was raised on a ranch, I can tell that cowboys really love animals and treat animals with love and respect. I have been to many rodeos and it's amazing to see how well the animals are treated. Cowboys have an amazing value of love and respect towards animals.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 01:54 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 01:56 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Councilmembers, I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. I was born and raised in Los Angeles County and return annually with my family and friends specifically for the the Professional Bull Riders event. My husband was born and raised on a farm and we have a deep love for farm animals and our dogs. Bull riding and rodeo events are extremely important to our family. The rodeos and PBR have helped teach our family work ethic, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty for many generations. The sport promotes equality where everyone is welcome. These values and events are needed more now than ever. Our youth needs positive and inspirational people in the normal working class to look up to. As a owner through the years of animals, the rodeo and PBR animals are treated like royalty. The animals are trained athletes, just like any other athlete (football, baseball, boxer etc.). They are not hurt by flank straps and spurs. They are fed well, housed well and are treated like the member of a family. They die a natural death and are not killed for food. In closing, rodeo people make their living by breeding, training and working with the animals. They do not want to take away your job any more than they want you to take away their livelihood. Please do not pass the proposed ordinance. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Judy Schnerk

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 02:01 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please support the PBR and Rodeo. They do wonderful work in so many areas. Helping the world come together for peace among all people the way these organizations do. Please spend your time as these people do in getting youth involved. More teachers and lower class size. There is where your efforts belong.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Helene Bazaruto

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 02:14 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Helene Bazaruto, and I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. I have worked for the City of Los Angeles since 1982; my husband worked for the City of Los Angeles for 37yrs and has been retired for 13yrs now. We attended a bull riding event at Staples Center and enjoyed it immensely! We are animal lovers...we have owned many German Shepherds and many cats; if animals are ever mistreated ANYWHERE...we would be one of the first to boycott any entity that does!! We have watched and attended PBR events over the past 20yrs; the bulls are treated very good...some are bred just to be ridden by bullriders; we have never seen or heard of any bull that was mishandled or disrespected...the PBR treats these animals with only love and care, the bulls are never mistreated. PLEASE DO NOT BAN RODEO AND BULL RIDING IN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES...AS MUCH AS WE LOVE WATCHING AND ATTENDING THESE EVENTS, THERE ARE MANY, MANY PEOPLE & FAMILIES WHO DEPEND ON THESE EVENTS TO BE ABLE TO LIVE, PAY RENT/MORTGAGES, PAY BILLS AND EAT. THIS ORDINANCE IS NOT FAIR TO ANYONE OR TO THE BULLS/HORSES. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nancy Johnson

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 02:20 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Councilmember: My name is Nancy Johnson and I live Colorado. Learning of the above cited proposal in Los Angeles is greatly disturbing to me as it affects not only those invested in the sport and its many side supporting enterprises and jobs, but affects million and millions of people who love, enjoy, and treasure not only the sport itself, but the reminder of how we need to CARE for our animals. If you effect this proposal, you might as well cancel all horse racing as well. Together the financial impact on your city - area - and state would be profound. Those of us who grew up with horses and cattle enjoy the sports provided by them, but we also have respect for them that, unfortunately, people of "this age" can't fathom. The bulls are not hurt. They are treated as well as top people competitors who are many times abused by their own trainers and coaches. (Next? Cancel football? Olympic events?) Bucking bulls are bred from bucking stock, raised and cared for by their owners, stockmen, and veterinarians as carefully as a well bred competition show, sporting or ring dog. When you look at the athleticism of bucking bulls you understand why they are not often ridden! These are simply amazing animals. And with their beauty and athleticism, they take away the stress of your everyday life in 8 seconds or less. Who else can do that???? The men and women who raise bucking bulls often raise other cattle, animals, and crops thus supplying other contributions to their communities. The bucking bulls are raised and cared for by people who know how to work hard with their land and their animals and they teach honest values to their children and their communities. They work from before sun up to long after sun down. A book I recently read by Michael Crichton called State of Fear engages the reader with questions concerning the environment and how fear often overtakes reason and fact. I fear that in the case of your proposal, reason and fact are in question and I hope and pray (yes, pray) that you and your fellow councilmembers will re-study and reconsider their decision to ban the PBR from the LA area. Most sincerely, Nancy Johnson.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Winston Charles Gotte

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 02:27 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** - The health and safety of the animals in bull riding is paramount. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life – extending four to five times as long as the average bull. - PBR stock contractors make their living by breeding, training, and working with their animal athletes. They truly love these animal athletes, treat them as a member of their own family, and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. - The bulls in PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they’re bred and trained for their jobs. Bulls buck because of their genetics. They are not abused or coerced to compete. The flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. This ordinance is unnecessary – PBR already takes great care of the bulls. - In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles. i work at a LA county hospital for 15 years, as also volunteer at our local charity rodeo, as our hospital is the main sponsor.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 02:43 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** - The health and safety of the animals in bull riding is paramount. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life – extending four to five times as long as the average bull. - PBR stock contractors make their living by breeding, training, and working with their animal athletes. They truly love these animal athletes, treat them as a member of their own family, and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. - The bulls in PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they’re bred and trained for their jobs. Bulls buck because of their genetics. They are not abused or coerced to compete. The flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. This ordinance is unnecessary – PBR already takes great care of the bulls. - In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Yvonne M Guerra

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 04:15 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Councilmember Blumenfield et al.,, My name is Yvonne M. Guerra, and I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. Any bull riding fan knows the health and safety of the magnificent animals in these events is very important to all involved. Rodeo people make their living by breeding, training, and working with the animal athletes. They make sure these animals get the very best care. They give them a great life. The Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) has over 60 rules in place governing animal welfare and humane handling. There is always a licensed veterinarian on site at PRCA rodeos. All animals are inspected and evaluated for illness, weight, eyesight, and injury before the rodeo, and no animals that are sore, lame, sick, or injured are allowed to participate. These are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for rodeo. The bulls are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don't harm them. The bulls compete for a few years and go to stud. They are treated like a member of the family and die a natural death on a ranch. They do not enter the food supply like bulls not fortunate to compete in PBR. Bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. These values are needed today more than ever. Especially for our youth. These rodeo events are family oriented and if there's anything we need right now, post pandemic, is events for the family. If this ordinance goes forward, it will ban PBR and rodeo in Los Angeles. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles! I urge you to please not move forward with this proposal – it is unnecessary because PBR already protects its great animal athletes, and it would be detrimental to Los Angeles in many ways. Thank you for your consideration. Yvonne

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 04:23 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Councilmembers: My name is Michelle, and I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. Any bull riding fan knows the health and safety of the magnificent animals in these events is very important to all involved. Rodeo people make their living by breeding, training, and working with the animal athletes. They make sure these animals get the very best care. They give them a great life. These are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for rodeo. The bulls are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don't harm them. The bulls compete for a few years and go to stud. They are treated like a member of the family and die a natural death on a ranch. They do not enter the food supply like bulls not fortunate to compete in PBR. Bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. These values are needed today more than ever. Especially for our youth. If this ordinance goes forward, it will ban PBR and rodeo in Los Angeles. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles! I urge you to please not move forward with this proposal – it is unnecessary because PBR already protects its great animal athletes, and it would be detrimental to Los Angeles in many ways. - The health and safety of the animals in bull riding is paramount. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life – extending four to five times as long as the average bull. - PBR stock contractors make their living by breeding, training, and working with their animal athletes. They truly love these animal athletes, treat them as a member of their own family, and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. - The bulls in PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for their jobs. Bulls buck because of their genetics. They are not abused or coerced to compete. The flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. This ordinance is unnecessary – PBR already takes great care of the bulls. - In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to

celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles. ?Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** sonia yolanda christian

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 05:27 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** the only sport i watch is the PBR and rodeo please dont take it away in most sports they have some kind of risk

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Tia Bledsoe

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 05:37 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear City Council Members, It is my understanding that there is an ordinance that has the potential to cancel rodeo and bull riding events in Los Angeles. I respectfully ask that you reconsider this effort and withdraw the ordinance. I work in the western lifestyle industry and have attended many events around the country and specifically in the state of California and have seen first-hand the success of these events and the impact to the local communities and their economy. The sport of rodeo and bull riding is one of honor, respect and courage. The animal athletes are treated like family and cherished for their hard work and dedication to their job. We need to celebrate the cowboys and cowgirls and the animal athletes - their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles! Kind Regards, Tia Bledsoe

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Larry Benson

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 05:43 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. I live in the Southern California area since 2011 having moved from a midwestern state where I have a long past of working with farm animals. We, like the professionals that raise PBR bucking bulls, always took excellent care of our livestock. We were there when they were born and cared for them through their entire life span. These bulls are very valuable animals and just like us pet owners they take great care of them. Once you understand all the facts, I hope you make the decision of rejecting this potential harmful ordinance. Any bull riding fan knows the health and safety of the magnificent animals in these events is very important to all involved. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life – extending four to five times as long as the average bull. PBR stock contractors make their living by breeding, training, and working with their animal athletes. They truly love these animal athletes, treat them as a member of their own family, and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. The bulls in PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for their jobs. Bulls buck because of their genetics. They are not abused or coerced to compete. The flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. This ordinance is unnecessary – PBR already takes great care of the bulls. In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Janice

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 06:52 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not cancel the PBR event in LA. These animals are loved and treated like members of the family. They are not abused or mistreated in any way. Thank you for reconsidering.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 07:27 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** - The health and safety of the animals in bull riding is paramount. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life – extending four to five times as long as the average bull. - PBR stock contractors make their living by breeding, training, and working with their animal athletes. They truly love these animal athletes, treat them as a member of their own family, and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. - The bulls in PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they’re bred and trained for their jobs. Bulls buck because of their genetics. They are not abused or coerced to compete. The flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. This ordinance is unnecessary – PBR already takes great care of the bulls. - In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mike

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 07:27 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The health and safety of the animals in bull riding is paramount. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life – extending four to five times as long as the average bull. - PBR stock contractors make their living by breeding, training, and working with their animal athletes. They truly love these animal athletes, treat them as a member of their own family, and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. - The bulls in PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they’re bred and trained for their jobs. Bulls buck because of their genetics. They are not abused or coerced to compete. The flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. This ordinance is unnecessary – PBR already takes great care of the bulls. - In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/17/2021 10:57 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm an American citizen & a registered voter I believe our oldest American sport is rodeo & should be honored not deleated The animals are not only a valuable industry these animals receive the utmost care At best the animals work if you will 8 seconds a day during a rodeo. Between rodeos the livestock is feed , pampered & has regular veterinary care. We need to continue the sport of rodeo. Besides it's a tourist draw & good venue for the hosting city Thankyou

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Rod Moore

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:03 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I urge you to help save rodeo. Rodeo is an American lifestyle. Rodeo is a fun filled sport in which family and friends compete side by side. I have been involved in rodeo most of my life and have made countless lifetime friends through rodeo. My children rodeo and cherish the friendships they are making and the life skills and lessons that they are learning. Please save rodeo. It is one of the very few wholesome sports remaining.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Vanessa Porter

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 08:41 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The health and safety of the animals in bull riding is paramount. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life – extending four to five times as long as the average bull. - PBR stock contractors make their living by breeding, training, and working with their animal athletes. They truly love these animal athletes, treat them as a member of their own family, and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. - The bulls in PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they’re bred and trained for their jobs. Bulls buck because of their genetics. They are not abused or coerced to compete. The flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. This ordinance is unnecessary – PBR already takes great care of the bulls. - In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Vicki Montoya

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 09:06 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** - I urge you to reconsider this ordinance. Rodeo, bucking bulls and ranch life were the very beginnings of our country, and especially in California. Today's events like the PBR are a way of preserving the history, and values of our American past. The techniques have changed over the years in order to keep this preservation alive, and to protect the animals who work these events in order to keep them safe and thriving. - PBR stock contractors make their living by breeding, training, and working with their animal athletes. They truly love these animals, treat them as a member of their own family, and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. - The bulls in PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for their jobs. Bulls buck because of their genetics. They are not abused or coerced to compete. The flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. This ordinance is unnecessary – PBR already takes great care of the bulls. - In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Georgia Wilson

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 09:15 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The health and safety of the animals in bull riding is paramount. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life – extending four to five times as long as the average bull. PBR stock contractors make their living by breeding, training, and working with their animal athletes. They truly love these animal athletes, treat them as a member of their own family, and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. The bulls in PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they’re bred and trained for their jobs. Bulls buck because of their genetics. They are not abused or coerced to compete. The flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. This ordinance is unnecessary – PBR already takes great care of the bulls. In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles. I started to attend Rodeo and Bull Riding Events while on active duty at Ellsworth AFB in South Dakota. I have seen first hand how lovingly these beloved animal athletes are cared for, they are like family members to these contractors. I’d like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. Any bull riding fan knows the health and safety of the magnificent animals in these events is very important to all involved. Rodeo people make their living by breeding, training, and working with the animal athletes. They make sure these animals get the very best care. They give them a great life. These are not wild animals forced to compete – they’re bred and trained for rodeo. The bulls are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don’t harm them. The bulls compete for a few years and go to stud. They are treated like a member of the family and die a natural death on a ranch. They do not enter the food supply like bulls not fortunate to compete in PBR. Bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. These values are needed today more than ever. Especially for our youth. If this ordinance goes forward, it will ban PBR and rodeo in Los Angeles. We need to

celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles! I urge you to please not move forward with this proposal – it is unnecessary because PBR already protects its great animal athletes, and it would be detrimental to Los Angeles in many ways. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Duane Meek

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 09:40 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Duane Meek. I grew up in a rodeo town, Livermore, California in the 1950s. Our family interacted with local stock contractors who provided animal athletes to rodeos around Northern California. Even at a young age I could see how the ranchers cared for the health and safety of the animals they raised. Today, it is even more apparent that the health and safety of cattle and equestrian animals is paramount to the stock contractors. As animals cannot verbally communicate, the veterinarians and contractors have developed tools and equipment that can scan an animal and quickly alert the owners if there is any discomfort muscularly or if problems may exist in the skeletal parts of animals, which in turn can be treated and cared for immediately. There is nothing with the riding of a bucking bull or horse that hurts them in any way. The cowboys are required to have only smooth spurs to ride. The strap that goes around bulls is a tickling strap that promotes the bucking action and in no way causes any pain to the animal. I would ask that you and your fellow council members reach out to the veterinary profession to ask them what they think. Sincerely, Duane A. Meek



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dave Schildt

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:08 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo events do not intentionally injure or abuse animals of any size or weight. Rodeo is a sport that celebrates American western heritage. The animals are cared for with vets the same as any household pet. That is why it has a worldwide fan base. Things to stop are illegal reptile sales, American Mustangs being abused and slaughtered or the border abuse of Central American Immigrants. There's plenty of more serious things to attack. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Rey  
**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:10 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo has been a part of generations and generations you can't just end rodeo is just not not rodeo it's a way of life the horse and bulls and calves are way taken care of

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:19 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Anyone who wants to ban rodeo is truly ignorant of the love and care those animals receive. Do your research, and NOT with PETA and other extremist groups because it's all lies.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:22 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please become more informed before cancelling all rodeos and the PBR. Time to learn some facts.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Korki Havens

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:25 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Korki Havens and I oppose this proposition banning bull riding and rodeo in LA. This type of political overreach has to stop. The animals involved in these events are treated with top notch care, not even remotely close to being considered abuse.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nicole Anderson

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:27 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly discourage the cancelling of bull riding and rodeo within your area. This is a timeless family that sticks together and shows what compassion for animals is. The time and practice these athletes, both human and animal, put into this sport is absolutely something to be proud of and most of us could use a lesson in dedication like that!

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:28 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Don't take away a way of life or history of the country.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dorothy Dawson

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:28 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi, my name is Dorothy and I'm posting in regard to a proposed ban on Bull Riding in LA County. As a liberal minded citizen of California, I want to express how misguided this ban is. Unless Beef is outlawed first, this effort is disingenuous and arbitrary. I am a fan of bull riding and can say there is no sport better than bull riding. Cowboy culture in itself has its good points and it's bad, The PBR is at the top of the good. These animals are treated like the gold they are, loved by every fan and worker behind the scene. Bull riding is an industry that successfully navigated 2020 because of straight forward, can do-ism and wholesomeness. Let bull riding thrive in California



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dustin Ratchford

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:31 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello my name is dustin ratchford, 25. I am a active rodeo contestant and stock provider so I am writing this to stand up for both sides. Rodeo is how I make my living it's how I feed my family and my animals. I spend large amounts of money keeping my stock in the best shape and my family works tirelessly to give them the best care possible. If this passes and rodeos are no longer the slaughterhouses will be filled overwhelmingly. Most of us can't afford to feed and care for these animals unless we have rodeo and then we are left with no choice but to get rid of them. Because no matter what the bills keep coming. So taking away rodeo not only starves the families whom invest our whole earnings into this, it also kills our animals. What are we to do with them if they can't help provide feeding our families. Please do not ban rodeo.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Michael Tonne

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:34 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Bull Riding and Rodeo have been around since LA was a tiny village Many of your residents make a living in the sports, Bull riding/rodeo doesn't NOT hurt the animals and they are a better care taker of animals than many of your residents! This ordnance is foolish and a waste of time and money!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Terry Good  
**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:34 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575  
**Comments for Public Posting:** PBR is a professional sport and their bulls are athletes. It's an All-American sport

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Carrolyn Foster

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:39 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The PBR and rodeo have been around for years. These animals are better taken care of than most American people. The bulls are not hurt in any way. They are trained for this sport and they love competing. Rodeo is another sport that does no harm to the animals. These are animals that cost large sums of money and the owners aren't going to endanger any of them unnecessarily. People that have never lived around a ranch, dairy, or farm don't understand this. Not allowing for bull riding and rodeo to compete in the state of California will be a blow to the image of the American West as well as the cowboys and cowgirls.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Helen Valentine  
**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:40 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello , my name is Helen Valentine and I love Rodeo . I am a barrel racer and my husband a roper , we love the sport and know first hand that all these Animals are athletes and get the best care . There is always a vet on site just in case something does happen , just like there is ambulance on-sight for the contestants . People on the outside looking in don't really know or understand all that goes on behind the scenes. Our future generation depends on us to keep the rodeo going , where not only do we respect our animal athletes but also each other and our country . Please don't take that away from our future cowboys/cowgirls and all the rodeo fans . Thank you .

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dan Herzog

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:41 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please keep rodeo and bullriding I Los Angeles and California. The animals are well taken care of If I came back as an animal in my second life I would like to come back as a bucking bull .Would like working 32 seconds a week maximum. Hope you listen to everyone Thank You.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Chris spears

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:41 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose this due to I regularly travel to the west coast to enjoy PBR events and find it extremely sad that this is even an issue.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Bobbi

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:44 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** As an animal lover, animal rights advocate, and hobby farm owner, I want to express my sincere concern with proposed legislation that would in effect ban animal events such as hosted by the PBR rodeo series. PBR has initiated and continues to enforce safety and care initiatives for the welfare of all animals directly involved with their sport. Their leadership and in depth care in how the animal athletes are housed, trained, bred and retired should be not only supported, but looked at as a standard many animal facilities could hope to attain. The State of California and LA area should be looking to support and help solidify relationships with organizations like the PBR that not set a high standard of animal care, but also provide training and interpersonal growth to a multitude of people employed by and/or affiliated with PBR. It is my sincerest hope that in light of this sort of legislation being brought forth, it be used as an opportunity for learning and development of knowledge about these sports and supporting organizations to create an more unbiased and unique approach to any future legislation. Thank you so much for your time in reading this.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Tylane mclane

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:44 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, I would just like to say that rodeos and ranching date back a couple hundred years, it's the way of the wild west and to keep it continuing there are events held and some people may be offended by the use of animals but they don't understand that the bovine used in bull riding and the cattle and horses used in other events are well taken care of and their health is maintained to keep in the activities they take part in. I'm a bullrider myself and I know that the bulls are well taken care of and are possibly living a better life then most humans. They get exercised and are fed some of the top feed in the industry. If rodeo gets taken away that would be like taking away football or baseball. The people in the rodeo business make their living on rodeo and alot of them would be out of a job and they would not be able to do what they love doing. How can you take away something from someone who has a love and passion and drive to do it. It's not like football where you get paid for sitting on the bench. In rodeo you have to either win or lose. You don't get paid for losing. That is why their is a certain drive that alot of people would not understand. Many people see rodeo and think that it's a cruel thing. But if you look deep inside instead of looking from the outside you would understand how well taken care of these equine and bovine are taken care of. So concluding all of this I would love for my comment to be read. Thank you.

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:** Patricia A  
**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:47 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575  
**Comments for Public Posting:** DO NOT CANCEL PBR

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:** Hannah  
**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:50 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo needs to go on

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Will

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 10:52 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not ban rodeo and bull riding in your area. It's a long standing tradition and the state of California has produced some great cowboys and cowgirls. You will also be losing lots of money which cowboys pay to your area businesses. For once please use common sense LA

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Richard Green

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:06 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** What you guys are trying to do is sickening! I bet If more Pedophiles were involved in the sport, California would be a for it!!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ben Marquis

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:16 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello my name is Ben marquis. I am a stock contractor in the PBR and avid fan of the sport of rodeo and western lifestyle! I believe that so much is mis understood about western sports and it causes it to get a bad wrap! These animals are true athletes and deserve to showcase their ability in what is one of the oldest sports of all time dating back to gladiator times! The work and care it takes to keep these animals in top shape and health is something everyone takes seriously and the amount of attention to detail is imperative to maintain animal safety and health! This is how we make our living in the sport! Our animals have dietitians, masseuse, swim therapy. Chiropractors. We have weekly checkup and watch them closely with their daily happiness and well-being! We love the animal athletes as much as the contestants because they are the other half of the puzzle! I urge you to educate yourself and go see and take tours of the shows and experience the behind the scenes for yourself! And don't take from others what they enjoy that you don't understand!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dee

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:23 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** - Stock contractors make sure the health and safety of the animals in bull riding are first and foremost.. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life. They are treated like the owner's children and are not abused in any way. - PBR stock contractors make their living by breeding, training, and working with their animal athletes. They truly love these animal athletes, and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. - The bulls in PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for their jobs. Bulls buck because of their genetics. They are not abused or forced to compete. The flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. This ordinance is unnecessary – PBR already takes great care of the bulls. - In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles. If you would take the time to speak to any one associated with the Professional Bullriding Association you will find that what you "hear" is not the truth. Please learn about the animals and the people who own them before making any hasty decision.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Elizabeth Banks  
**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:25 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** hello I am Elizabeth Banks I am from illinois I watch many rodeos since i was a child. I am against this ordiance that is going to ban Rodeo and bull riding events in your area. I have been to may rodeos i would love to go watch one in your area i near future but if you ban it i wont be having a trip to your area as this would be only reason why i would go to your place. over the years i have watched this sport and have seen the animals before and after the rodeo none of them are hurt and in fact the spurs that are used are dull and the fleece strap does not go around their testicals where they put these things cause no harm to the livestock . I have a very big heart for animals love them very much if rodeo harmed them i would not watch it. I am asking you to reconsider your ordiance. Cowboy is a way of life that shows people the true america things such as morals respect and responsibility. They take care of these animals better then they do themselves so pleease reconsder this ordiance you all are passing and let the cowboy way of life contiue



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lluvia Saenz

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:29 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Bulls are treated very well & are not in any type of discomfort

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jorgy Lucas Totti

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:31 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, I'm Jorgy from Brazil. I'm here to stand for the great sport called Bull Riding in L.A. I'm a big fan of this sport and I'm a fan for years!!! These animals athletes are under good care and assistance all the time, being one the only animals with a retirement plan after they showlife. For the love in these brave and we'll treated animals, we have to maintain the sort alive! People that thinks different from this, feel welcome to make a visit behind the gates and comprove by themselves.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Susan Sjeklocha  
**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:33 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Bull riding is not animal cruelty. The animals are well cared for, their welfare is a top priority

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nancy Clifton

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:35 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am reaching to you regarding the proposed ban on bull riding and rodeos. I grew up around ranching and rodeos. Rodeo stock is well cared for and is in no way abused. All their physical and medical needs are taken care of and they live many years longer than ranch bulls and never become part of the food chain. There are pampered performers. Dull spurs and flank straps do not hurt them. These animals are carefully bred for the sport and are worth a great deal of money, too much to ever take an unwarranted risk with them. Although I live out of state now I lived in Ventura County for 30 years and attended many rodeo and PBR events. I still fly back for several a year. California has a rich tradition of ranching, rodeoing and a cowboy/girl life style. While I understand that this does not appeal to all California residents it does represent a significant part of the state and California history. I understand the concerns of animal lovers, I am one. I have dogs that are very large pampered babies. Please take everything into consideration. Thank you

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jason

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:35 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Jason and I would like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that would ban bull riding in Los Angeles. Bucking bulls are treated with the most care and consideration. The bulls are athletes who love to compete - not wild animals - and treated a big pets who receive a ton of "love" from their owners. Bull owners treat their bulls like their own children. They are feed the best feed rations with a complete diet, and receive the best medical care and vaccinations.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:36 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** As you address this issue may I ask that you reflect on the history of being a Cowboy. The cowboy is what settled the west! These Cowboys did not do it alone! No they had amazing animals that worked hard to help their owners. These animals are as vital to the lifestyle! The lifestyle is all inclusive! No one is discriminated against in any form or fashion! The animals are treated better than many that roam Free. This sport does not harm these animals in any form or fashion. Your animal shelters are full of cats and dogs who experience way more abuse and neglect run by your own city.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Stacey L Edmonds

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:52 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The sport of Rodeo and bull riding are beneficial to all of us. It teaches so many things that our current society and next generation are sincerely in need of. My husband rode bulls for many years, their care and welfare are of great concern to the ranchers, riders, cowboys, breeders, ETC., and if football, which is directly detrimental to a human being is still viable, then there is no reason to interfere with rodeo sports. The animals are treated even better than they treat themselves. This is becoming outrageous.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Michael Taylor

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:54 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo more specifically Bull Riding has been a big part of my life for 10 years. It is how I put food on the table and a roof over my head. The animals used in the sport have the greatest quality of life out of any cattle across the world. They receive premium food top level medical care and are truly loved and cared for by their owners. I think the misinterpretation of how they are treated is understandable but I believe with proper education we can show the people who just don't understand how great rodeo truly is for both man and animal. Thank you for your time



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mckayla

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:54 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Bull riding is not hurtful to the animals. They love what they do and are bred for that. Have you ever actually gone and watched this event or went to the bull owners land? Probably not because you know you will be proved wrong and that these animals are taken better care of then you are. Be educated before you pass a big law. Agriculture is what helps the economy and the world. It needs to be continued being shown and a sport. It also brings in money for your area. Do better and support those who are the reason you're still here today!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Heather Workman

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:58 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am opposed to this opposition of you canceling rodeos in bull riding in LA California bowl riding in rodeos is a way of life of the cowboy Cowboys of the west north east and south this is a cultural way of life that does not need to be canceled by a concrete wall and bands do to be an opposite of a culture that you're not used to I oppose your position.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Debby Cox

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:58 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not cancel PBR events. It's a great livelihood and sport.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:59 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** We need rodeo even though some claim it's unfair to the bulls they're treated really well and fed well and are very healthy. Please to cancel this great sport it does no harm

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Clif

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:00 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello my name is Clif Cooper, me and my family are in n the agricultural lifestyle and make our living by being professional rodeo athletes. Participating in rodeo event around the country and internationally also, We often travel to LA and surrounding counties with our family for events and rodeos. I believe the agenda to ban rodeo and bull riding events was made hastily and without any independent study to bring to light the true facts of the events. I encourage anyone that doesn't understand or wants knowledge about the lifestyle to reach out and gain understanding from a different viewpoint. Rodeo and Bullriding works extremely hard to be transparent about our events and treatment of our livestock athletes, I believe board members could understand our sincerity on how much we love our animals and take pride in producing the best show on dirt. Thank you, Clif C.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:00 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I love rodeo , and everything about it . These animals are 100,000\$ prize possessions and are treated like royalty . It is not just a cherished way of life but also what cowboys identify themselves as and who they are . Please do not jeopardize western culture an lifestyle that has been a part of America for 100s of years .

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Della J Rudolph  
**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:02 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575  
**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm a very avid fan of the rodeo and pbr activities. I've been a part of this sport all my life, I'm 70 yrs old. I grew up in the sport and the animals get better care than some of the people in the US. So please don't ban this as this is the only sport that honors the US flag.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Julian Tamayo

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:10 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello. My name is Julian Tamayo and I'd like to express an opinion about the proposed ordinance that will ban the sport of rodeo in Los Angeles. I would like to point out that I am speaking from personal experience. I have had the honor and privilege of attending a few different rodeos throughout my entire life, including two PBR events, and I've also had the honor of attending a bull riding school and going behind the scenes and seeing everything up close and in person. From what I can express regarding my personal experiences, there is absolutely nothing out there in the world of rodeo that is abusive or puts the animal's life at risk, and everything that I would like to get into regards animal safety. The number one most common misconception out there regarding the sport of rodeo is that a device, by the name of a flank strap, is put around the animals sensitive parts and tightened so much as to force the animal to buck and inflict pain. That misconception is not true at all. There's two different types of flank straps; a bronc riding flank strap meant to be used on bucking horses, and a bull riding flank strap meant to be used on bulls. The bronc riding flank strap is a leather strap that has padding underneath the buckle, and has soft wool/sheepskin that is meant to go on the horse's sensitive section. The padding and sheepskin is put there to prevent the risk of injury or burning on the horse. The bull riding flank strap, on the other hand, is just a rope that's made out of soft nylon cotton. In regards to both styles of flank straps, they go around the animals' hips in the exact same way a person puts on a belt, and it's only tight to the point where it's going to stay on and the animal knows it's there, but it's also loose enough to make the animal think it can kick it off. Even without the flank strap on the animals hips, it will still jump around The arena and throw a few kicks. The only purpose for the flank strap is to encourage the animal to jump higher, kick harder, and overall perform better. It is not designed to inflict pain on the animal in any way nor does it. In the sports of bronc riding and bull riding, Spurs are required to be used by the contestants. However, that's another misconception that exists in the sport of rodeo, and that is that Spurs dig into the animal skin and inflict pain on the animal's neck, shoulders, and ribs. I'm here to express that that's not true at all. In regards to bronc riding spurs, they help the rider gain better contact with the animal and they provide



some grip for the rider. Many bucking horses actually buck harder and perform better when riders use spurs. The rowels on bronc riding spurs are round, dull, and allow for a faster movement from rigging/saddle to front of shoulder. They are not designed to hurt the animal nor do they. They are designed to help the rider's feet move faster, create closer contact, and help the animal perform to the best of their ability. In regards to bull riding spurs, the only purpose of them is to help the rider get some grip on the animal and hold on to the animal with his feet and not just his hand.

Every single rodeo association that exists out there, especially the state of California, has rules in place regarding the types of Spurs the rider can use. If the rider so much as even scratches the animal with his Spurs or is caught using sharp rowels on his Spurs, he will get either fined, disqualified, or even banned from performing at either that rodeo or at any rodeo sanctioned by that specific association. Many animal activists have shot video of people shocking horses and bulls with electric prods right as they're leaving the bucking chute, and those same people are saying it is done to abuse the animal and force it to act wild, rank, and mean. That is another misconception that's far from the truth. It may seem abusive and cruel, but shocking the animal actually does serve a purpose in regards to safety. Believe it or not, the bucking chute is actually the most dangerous place for both the animal and the rider, and that is because the risk of injury and death is actually higher inside the chute than in the arena.

Therefore, prods are used to get both the animal and the rider out of the chute as safely and quickly as possible, rather than the animal jumping up, hitting itself on all the steel, and getting both itself and the rider severely injured or even killed. I personally would rather get shocked by a prod than hit by something made of steel. Many people think that we are capturing these animals from the wild and forcing them to perform in rodeos, but these animals are domesticated and under the ownership of people, there's thousands of these animals out there that are loved by their owners, and they're bred and trained to buck in rodeos. Put an end to rodeo and that's an automatic death sentence for the animals. The reality of it is that the people who are against rodeo know absolutely nothing about it at all.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Chrysanthe

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:11 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** To Whom It May Concern. I would like to express my opposition to the ordinance banning Bull Riding in your city. I am a California resident born and raised. I am very concerned of the possibility that your county is even considering banning Bull Riding, and also possibly, any or all Rodeo Events in the future. I have attended Bull Riding and Rodeo events in San Francisco, Santa Rosa, Fresno, San Jose, Clovis, Bakersfield and Sacramento, to name a few. They are events that are social and family friendly and well organized in the care of the animals. If any of you have attended a Bull Riding or Rodeo event, you will easily have seen this. If you have read the laws regarding the treatment of the animals, will will know that they are not mistreated or abused. The animals in these events are bread and trained to compete. These events are a part of the fabric of our State and Country's history and should not be discarded or banned. Like any sporting event, such as baseball, football, boxing, equestrian etc, it should be left to the spectators if they wish to attend or not. Sincerely, Chrysanthe

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Bruce Wold

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:13 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Bruce Wold and I am sending you this to comment on LA county possibly not allowing Bull riding or rodeos in your county! I own equine, bulls and cows. Bulls in this business are treated and cared for as good or better than most people's pets! Like any other athlete you have to know they are healthy! If you are not feeling well you don't perform as well as a healthy person, same with these animals. So constant care and nutrition is a must for them to be competitive. Most are not mean, they just know what they are out there for! They are athletes and are bred to buck. They are not forced to do what they do! Please research information and know what you are trying to make decisions on! All these animals are as much a pet and part of our families as anyone's dog or cat! Please allow these sports continue to be a part of your community!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Thomas V Chase

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:14 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to express my opposition to pending legislation that would ban rodeo sports, including bull riding in the western city of Los Angeles. A life-long horseman and rodeo fan, it is quite disturbing to me that a city with a heritage like Los Angeles would give one bit of consideration to such an ill-advised piece of legislation that is being supported by PETA, supported by their paid participants posing as true believers. The same holds true for other animal husbandry activities including horse racing of all breeds. Rodeo stock contractors value their sport and their animals as much as any; in many instances, probably more. Regardless of where you live, animals used for legitimate sporting activities are prized and well cared for. They are bred to participate, not vegetate like lawn ornaments, which is the goal of the organizations pushing this legislation. Their efforts should be directed toward those in our community that cause pain and suffering to their animals via neglect and disregard. The tactics being employed relevant to horse sports are straight out of another group's playbook; one which poses as big a threat as any in our society today; the NRA. Misinformation is the life-blood of these groups. If you examine their activities and tactics for just 5 minutes, you will come to realize that their portrayal of how rodeo animals are treated is as inaccurate and unfairly portrayed as the benefits of the "armed citizen." The reason I draw the parallels here is because it allows one to recognize what's really going on here. Though I do not reside in Los Angeles, I have traveled there before to attend sporting events the involve rodeo, bull riding and horse racing not only in California but in adjacent states as well. The dollars I bring to your community as a tourist, especially post-pandemic will all be lost if this ill conceived legislation is passed. Thank you for "listening" to me and thank you for contributions to our society in your capacity as elected officials. Thomas V Chase 1400 North Market Street Frederick, Maryland 21701-4429 301-305-8917

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Charlotte Seago  
**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:15 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo is our way of life! We take care of our animals before we take care of ourselves!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kyle Osborne

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:17 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Kyle Osborne and I'm a professional bull rider! What your trying to do by taking away rodeo and bull riding is absolutely ridiculous. This is how we make a living. We don't throw a fit about the vegans or tree huggers so why should they throw a fit about us. These bucking bulls get treated better than most people treat their own kids!! They get the best medical attention and food and clean water and are not forced to buck. They are bred to buck. Also people that have never been around the sport, the flank strap is NOT around their private parts. How about I tie something around your balls and you tell me if you wanna move!! Think before you speak you in considerate POS! We will continue to rodeo and ride bulls to make our living even if y'all wanna throw a fit about it! Your life must really suck if your depressed and worried about others all the time. Stay in your lane and let us make our living! Maybe you should look into how bucking bulls are treated and see if you even treat your kids as good as we take care of our animal athletes! THINK BEFORE YOU SPEAK!!! It's not that hard to use your brain figure it out!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Grant Wolfe

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:20 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** This is Grant Wolfe. Rodeo has been a huge part of my family and although it is a sport that is often misunderstood, it is completely safe for the animals. Bulls that compete in the PBR are treated well and with respect. I think it would be a huge mistake to ban rodeos in the LA area

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sheryl Peterson

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:25 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** As an owner of all kinds of pets, including dogs, birds, fish and horses, I am an advocate for the loving treatment of animals. That being said, I am opposed to the proposed ban of bull riding or the prohibiting of any rodeo events. The animals used in rodeo are important to the owners as well as contestants, and they treat them like members of the family. Great care is taken to avoid injury to any rodeo animal - would you harm what is making your living? Of course not. These animals work for very short periods of time, and are pampered throughout their careers. When retired these animals are not slaughtered, but live out their lives in luxurious pastures, with veterinary and other professional care. I have attended more than 600 rodeos in my lifetime, and have not seen any cruelty to any rodeo animal. The animals always get rest, food, and attention, even before their owners do! When an animal athlete is accidentally hurt, I've seen their owners weep, and even known a few that don't want to go on without their animal partner. Such love for the stock proves that these animals are not mistreated. The people who want restrictions such as the ones proposed, do not understand the sport or the animals, if they believe the animals are harmed. Tourism, employment, livelihoods and entertainment would all be negatively affected by this unnecessary bill. Please do not pass this legislation. Respectfully, Sheri Peterson, animal lover and cowgirl.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Campbell Family

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:25 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The cowboys I know learn respect and hard work through bull riding. The bulls I know get more expensive and over-all healthier spa treatments than I could ever hope to afford. #savePBR

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:28 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** This is not just banning sports that bring a huge amount of money to LA but even worse, equestrian events and exhibitions here that change lives. Rodeo has changed my life and so many of the good things that I have are because of it. Rodeo is how many people make a living and provide for their families. We need to celebrate all cowboys and cowgirls, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Paige Thompson

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:30 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi my name is paige, Rodeo is the lifestyle I live. I make my money roping cattle to sustain a life for myself. Rodeos are such a huge lifestyle and part of so many people's lives you cannot take away the passion of these people and if you do there will most likely be retaliation in cities. Imagine taking away schools. They teach their students all over the country but only the main subjects. Rodeo teaches kids so much more in life for long term, if only larger amounts of kids were able to join and learn more. Rodeo has influenced lives young and old, teaching these young kids the values of hard manual work, compassion for the animals you are working with, and a new respect for the hard work and opportunities in this field of lifestyle. Please listen to the people telling you their stories like me who live this way and cannot afford to change, and will not give up our passion. Thank you

## Communication from Public

**Name:** JENNY KING

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:39 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Jenny King I'm concerned about the Bull riding and rodeo continuing. I'm part of the Utah rodeo family, moreso the Bull riding. The bulls are not wild and forced to compete. They are born and breed for competition. They are treated well and live longer and healthier than being portraye. I've seen and been part of many many rodeos and they are essential for our community and future. Please keep rodeo alive. Thank you for your time and attention

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jodie Walters

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:41 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, My name is Jodie Walters, and I'm writing with the concerns I have with the state of California, specifically LA county making the decision to stop rodeo/PBR from happening. It is sad to me that America's sport of rodeo is being rejected by people that don't understand the love for the sport. You are claiming the animals are being mistreated, but the reality is, they are treated very well. I personally have seen first hand how well the stock are cared for. Rodeo and the PBR have many fans that have a lot of love for the sport and the animals that are involved. Please reconsider having American's first form of entertainment continue. My family loves all forms of rodeo and the PBR! Thank you

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:51 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm writing about the ban of rodeo and bull riding events and how I am against this bill that will ban or restrict these events in LA. This is a sport that means a lot to so many people and provides a family friendly environment that brings many wonderful memories to me and so many families through out the years. I've been involved in bull riding and western sports and I attest to the animal care that goes into these bulls. They are bred and raised to do this job and are treated with the utmost respect and care. Not only because the contractors love these animals but they are very expensive and would never be allowed to be hurt. The flank strap does not touch the animals genitals or anything like that. That is a myth. Just as racing horses are raised and bred to run same with these rodeo livestock. I now live in LA and I would be sad to see this ban happen as I attend every event like this and love the memories and family fun that this sport provides. With thanks and love I plead you to reconsider and not put forth this ban. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Brenda West

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:53 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Councilmembers: My name is Brenda West, and I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. I don't live in LA however I have attended many rodeo events in California and am in fear that this will start the path to cancelling in multiple different areas. I'm a pet owner and have been around livestock and rodeo my entire life. I have had 1st hand experience on how these animals are treated. These animals are treated with extreme care, better than a lot of humans these days. To try and take this sport from the people that love it (livestock owners, competitors, and the fans) is absolutely absurd. Rodeo has been around for decades, why do you feel its your right to remove it? The values this sport teaches are more respected than what you see in the NFL, NBA, etc....This sport is responsible for binging millions of dollars to not only LA but all cities, including small cities where this is a key event. The sport promotes equality, everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles or anywhere else. These are dedicated men and woman who earn a living and support their families, why take that from them? ?Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. Brenda West

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:56 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo including bull riding is a way of life for many people. It is not harmful to the animals at all and precautions are taken by rodeo personnel. No one has the authority to take away anyone's livelihood. We are not a dictatorship government and a persons job is their choice. The animals are treated better than most household pets and are bred for this type of lifestyle.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** DJL

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:57 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Ladies/Gentlemen; As a life long Angeleno from birth, I am here to state my opposition to the proposed ban of Rodeo Events in Los Angeles. I am also a many decade fan of the Professional Bull Riders and have been behind the scenes as a spectator for many years in the past. I have never seen any animal receive better care then those of the Professional bull riders. I am a life long equestrian both as my avocation and my profession. I know what great animal care looks like. The health and safety of the animals in rodeo and bull riding is paramount. Rodeo people make their living by breeding, training and working with the animal athletes, who get the best care. They truly love these animal athletes and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. These are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for their jobs. They are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don't harm the animals. Rodeo teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. These values are needed now more than eve This ordinance will ban in Los Angeles rodeo, bull riding and various equestrian events– affecting the charros rodeo, the all-Black rodeo at STAPLES Center, PBR, any future PRCA rodeos, Compton Cowboys exhibitions, and even several Olympic equestrian sports. This is not just banning sports that bring economic impact to LA but even worse, equestrian events and exhibitions here that change lives. We need to celebrate all cowboys and cowgirls, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles! Please do not fall for the extremists who have put this resolution forward as they are trying to get a foot hold and eventually remove animals from our lives completely.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Erin Paige Tafoya

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:58 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Erin Tafoya and I have been a life long resident of Los Angeles County. My family has been involved in rodeo for my entire life and I was so proud that LA had decided to bring the historic PBR to its city; it allowed these amazing men and women to showcase their incredible talent, as well as allow people to experience the cowboy culture that has been missing from our county. These men and women devote their lives to the incredible care of these extraordinary animals. Those who don't understand rodeo have never taken the time to truly learn what it is all about. These animals are cared for with the utmost love and devotion. They spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to make sure that these animals are happy and healthy and have everything that they could ever need. It hurts to see such a large and diverse county reject a culture they know nothing about. Those involved with rodeo demonstrate the most patriotic and hardworking parts of this amazing country. I beg and implore you to allow PBR, and any other rodeo entity, to continue to showcase their amazing work and talent. Do not take this away from the citizens of Los Angeles County. Thank you. Sincerely, Erin Paige Tafoya

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alicia Sheppard

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 12:58 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, My name is Alicia Sheppard and I grew up in Southern California in the Downey and Norwalk area. I am writing to state that I believe banning rodeo and PBR is absolutely the wrong thing to do! Please do not ban these awesome sports. Do not let uninformed, rabid animal "activists" ruin this awesome tradition! Rodeo is a wonderful sport, the animals are lovingly handled and we cannot let these people who literally have zero clue what they are complaining about ruin this! It's so important! DO NOT BAN RODEO!!!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Brandi

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:00 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Brandi and I am writing to address the proposal of banning bull riding/rodeo events. As a person who was raised their whole live around livestock of all kinds, and one who has attended more rodeos/bull ridings than I can count, I can attest to the face that these animals are treated, BY FAR, better than most animals, (including dogs in your own city). These are animal ATHLETES...think about them like Michael Jordan or Drew Brees or any other famous athlete you choose. The amount of money, training, doctoring, and pampering they receive is the same-if not greater. They are NOT forced to compete. Have you ever tried to make a 3,000 pound animal do something it does not want to? I urge to you to meet with these owners and performers with an open mind and see just how well cared for these animals are. These animals EXCEED the normal life expectation in most cases BECAUSE of how well cared for and loved they are. They get to be studs for their retirement and die of old age/natural causes. (Too bad we aren't all as lucky as these animals.) We can learn a lot from these animal athletes, owners, caregivers, and even the athletes that perform with them. These events and athletes (both human and animal) teach us to be better HUMANS. An ordinance is unnecessary. Go see for yourselves and not just because "someone told me this is bad". Do your research-I promise any of these people will have open doors to you all. Thank you for your time.

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:03 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** PBR is a beloved sport of so many and should not be banned!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Staci Addison

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:03 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi! I lived in L.A. for a couple of years in the early 2000's. My youngest son lived there for a few years as well. So much to do and see! Gorgeous part of our great country! Very different from where I am. Now I live in Oklahoma on a beautiful ranch and raise rough stock (bucking bulls, bucking cows and their offspring). They are my babies! I name them, pet them, talk to them, hand feed them, buy the finest food available on the market for them as well as see to it that they are well cared for. In short, I spend every waking moment ensuring they are in the absolute best health and environment possible. Additionally, I train the bulls to compete. It all starts when they're one year old. They are introduced to the sights and sounds of the arena here at the ranch. They are walked through the alleyway and into the chute and let out to play in the arena. Once they're two they are introduced to the flank strap, which goes up and under the fleshy part of their back legs. When you see them buck they are merely kicking to remove it. It's a game to them! There is no pain. I was a skeptic myself when I first became involved until I saw operations firsthand. If you have not been to a ranch that specifically raises competitive bulls I implore you to go so you are truly informed! A few years back I was at a stock contractor's ranch while he was loading bulls on to the trailer to head to an event. It's crazy how they KNOW where they're going. I actually witnessed the bulls running, kicking up their back legs and jumping up into the trailer! And when the truck comes back to the ranch you should see the reunion as they all run to greet each other! I always imagine the bulls looking at their ranch-mates and saying, "I just got back from L.A. You are not going to believe everything I saw! Palm trees, high rise buildings, people everywhere, cheering for us and the beach too. I can't forget the beach!" And I venture to say the constituents you represent love the competition as well - tickets in L.A. are often hard to come by. Once the bulls arrive at an arena for an event they are unloaded, fresh cedar shavings are spread for them to lounge upon, they're fed and watered. And scratched. And petted. And bathed. And photographed. And loved! I have no doubt these bovine athletes know exactly what is going on...and they love it! They have their own fans who follow their careers and jump at the chance to meet them in person. It's so obvious they are well cared for when you spend a little time

with them on the ranch or in the back pens at an event. While I live a long way from you, I sincerely invite you and anyone else to come see us living the Western way! The Western Lifestyle teaches so many important lessons that I am sure you value; hard work, accountability, responsibility, financial management, pride in a job well done, self reliance and respect. Caring for animals is one of the ways we, as humans, fulfill our desire to show love and have an unconditional relationship. Raising rough stock is an honor and a pleasure. Sure, it's hard work! Staying up all night to make sure a momma cow delivers her calf safely. Hours and hours out in the field making sure every single cow, bull and calf are healthy - and even more hours when one is sick. Learning how to doctor a sick calf at birth and often times bottle feeding that calf every three hours...for four months! If that's not commitment to the well being of an animal I don't know what is! Sure, it's easy to issue a blanket statement negating the sport. It's easy to presume the animals are mistreated. But in reality, that makes no sense. Why would I mistreat something that I love and have invested deeply in? Trust me, if I purchase a momma cow or a bull (going price up to \$100,000+!) I'd have to be crazy to ever harm it. Please come visit. Or email me and let's set a time to chat. I really do want to help be part of the solution. I bet we can figure it out if we give ourselves the opportunity. Thanks for taking the time to read this. I look forward to hearing from you!

Warmly, Staci Addison Stock Contractor Proud American

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Brittney Fernandez

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:07 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello my name is Brittney Fernandez, and I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban bull riding in Los Angeles. I travel to LA and have been to and enjoy the rodeo events in our state. I am a bull rider and this would hurt the community of people that make a living, keeping kids in rodeo and off of drugs. I, and everyone in our community Love all the animals involved. The health and safety of all the animals, including Bulls, is paramount. The Bulls are taken care of and after competing for a few years, they go to a ranch instead of entering the food supply. Bulls are not abused, the dull spurs do not hurt the animal AT ALL. The PBR has rules in places to protect the animals and the bulls in PBR are well taken care of. Bull riding teaches important vales liek hard work, charity, respect, respect for animals, responsibility, and honesty- values needed now more than ever. This sport promotes equality, where everyone is welcome. We should celebrate all cowboys/cowgirls, their values, and all the great things they stand for , not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles. Thank you for your time. God Bless.



## **Communication from Public**

**Name:** Robert Spencer  
**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:07 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Please save our Rodeo and Bull riding

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Bill Filiowich

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:07 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello city council, I am asking you to consider the potential banning of rodeo type events and bull riding in your city. Rodeo is one of the few non political sports left in the US. The animals are not hurt and are bred specifically for their type of work. They are not hurt or abused and every effort goes into their well being. They are not a wild or threatened animal and I would challenge you to look at this issue with facts and not just feelings. Learn about how the animals are cared for and how they are cared about. There is no gain and no tolerance for a stock breeder who does not supply the utmost care for these animals. Attend a rodeo or watch one on TV. Talk to riders. Talk to the stock suppliers. Make your decision based on your own thinking and your own research. Do not bow to those who skip the facts and those who go with feelings based on nothing but myths and mistruths. Rodeo of any kind is a partnership between the human rider and the animal. Even in Bull riding. If you think the Bull is just a dumb beast being abused you are wrong. They know their job and a good one feels every slight shift the rider makes. At the buzzer most know they are done and trot off to their corral. Don't kill one of the last remaining non political sports there is.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jamss

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:09 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Cancelling the rodeo is a mistake. I've learned more about rodeo animals, ie horses, cows, goats etc. from the rodeo than from anything else. This is a family involved sport that includes children and man and woman also. Canceling the rodeo because a weak minded fool things it's violent is ridiculous.

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:09 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** save our bull riding and Rodeo

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mrs. Krepps

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:11 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Thank you for the opportunity to express my feelings in regard to the proposed ordinance to ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. My son is a professional bullfighter. His highly skilled job is to protect the cowboys who are bull riders in the PBR, PRCA, and other rodeo associations. I am a Yoga Therapist, certified by the International Association of Yoga Therapy. My life's work is service to others in an ethical, life-affirming manner. I am against the mistreatment of animals, as I am of people. I am not in conflict with my son's chosen profession because I have firsthand witness to the relationship of rodeo participants and the animals involved. These animals are athletes, competitors, bred for their sport. They love what they do. It is apparent. They are not harmed in the process. Their safety and well-being are of utmost importance. They receive the highest attention in regards to their nutrition, transport, accommodations, and daily care. They are treated like a family member. Not something to conquer and dominate through violent means. I understand how these activities could be misunderstood by the misinformed who cast judgment from an outsider's perspective. The rodeo lifestyle is one of a giant family. It teaches and holds the cowboys and cowgirls competing accountable for standards of ethics, values, respect, honesty, and hard work. These attributes should be supported by our communities. By passing this ordinance you will be doing an incredible disservice to so many who love their sport, profession, lifestyle, and means of livelihood. With respect, HAKrepps

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:32 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo should be allowed there is no harm to the animals. These animals are taken care better than some children in this country. They have responsible people taking care making sure their vet checked. City people have no idea how ranchers and contractors truly love and care for these animals.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** hanna

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:33 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Hanna Elliott and I would like to express my concern about the banning of The PBR and other Rodeo Events in Los Angeles and surrounding cities. I would like express my opposition to this proposal. LA is an amazing city and The PBR is an amazing organization. Allowing the sport to stay in and around the area will bring new people and tourist to the city helping businesses and other organizations. The health and safety of the bulls is remarkable. 95% of Bucking Livestock are taken better care of then most human beings. The Bulls that are apart of this are not sent off to a food supply company after there years working in the PBR. They are retired to stud and pass of natural causes. These athletes live 4x longer than your average care because of all the attention they receive, proper nutrients in there diet and exercise to keep them strong. Bulls in the PBR are not captured from the wild and brought over to be rode out of nowhere. They are raised around human being and other live stock receiving training to do something they love that is in there blood lines. Any type of bull rider equipment doesn't produce harm or fowl to the animals. Also, the PBR has more solitary rules for the stock contractor providing the bulls for the event than the rider. These bulls show no neglect in any aspect of the PBR. Bull riding is fundamentally one of the greatest sports out there. The knowledge you learn and receive in this sport is amazing. It promotes honest, reliable and hard work. So i am asking you respectfully, please do not prevent The PBR and other Rodeos from showcasing there skills in Los Angeles.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Regan

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:34 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi I love bull riding and have been around it my whole life I have seen this sport give many lost kids some hope and more importantly a way of keeping them out of trouble. As for the care of the bulls that is the most important thing in the sport they are fed 3 times a day washed exercised and trained to perform at the highest level. Once there careers are finished they are taken sent to stud where they live out the rest of there lives happily. Please don't enforce a ban on the sport that I and so many people love. Cause I know for certain a ban will only mean these bulls will no longer have a job and therefore will become worthless to there owners resulting in them being sent to slaughter.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alfredo  
**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:36 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Queremos rodeo, no aceptamos la nueva leyes de prohibición de rodeo

## Communication from Public

**Name:** JL

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:38 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello my name is JL and I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban bull riding in Los Angeles. I have been attending rodeos my whole life and the PBR is an event that I never miss. It is always a great time and especially when your with family. The Health and safety of the animals is paramount. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life, four to five times as long as an average bull. After competing a few years they are retired to stud and pass of natural causes on a ranch, instead of entering the food supply. The bulls of the PBR are not wild animals forced to compete. They are bred and trained for their jobs. They are not abused the equipment used such as flank straps and dull spurs do not harm them. This ordinance is unnecessary. The PBR has rules that protects their animal athletes. Bull riding is a sport that teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. Values that are needed now more than ever. This sport is inclusive and promotes equality, everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their values and all the great things they stand for. Not to prevent them for showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles. That is why this ordinance is unnecessary. Rodeo is the last true sport and canceling it is like erasing history. It is our culture and we should embrace it , not to be put away to just forget about it.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:40 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not ban rodeo! This is an amazing family friendly, outdoor event. These animals are athletes. They are trained to perform, they love it. As ranchers, the health and safety of our animals is paramount. We are constantly checking on them, feeding them, and giving medical care as needed. The ranch and rodeo lifestyle teaches hard work, teamwork, and respect for others/animals. Banning rodeo would destroy so many livelihoods for millions of Ag families.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** janice miner

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:42 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I very much enjoy PBR and appreciate the care that goes into the animals

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Michelle

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:45 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello my name is Michelle and I just want you to know that I oppose the ban on the PBR (Professional Bull Riding). These animal athletes are treat wonderful and are not harmed during and outside of the events. They are treat very well and are bred to do what they do and they love it!!! I have been to some of these events and it is a wonderful time. PLEASE DO NOT BAN THIS SPORT!!! The bull riders and owners of these athletes love them!!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Meg Mobley

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:49 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello my name is Meg Mobley! I'm from Kennett, MO, by I love California. I love nature and the cities, and most importantly, the animals. It is so great that there is so much care for these animals in rodeo and the PBR! I think that we could go about caring for these animals in a different way. I would recommend watching some videos of the Hart Cattle Company's that can be found on the Instagram page "jwandlee" and watching a few videos from cavenders about Hailey Kinsel. These videos may help you see into the rodeo/PBR fan outlook. I know that you all love these animals and as a rodeo fan, I hope that you see that we love them too! They are well taken care of. Thank you for your time and consideration, Meg Mobley.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Earl Hood

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:50 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Leave rodeo alone these are the best treated animals you will find  
, the sport of rodeo has been a great part of America for a lot  
longer than any of you have been alive.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lane Byrne

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:51 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Lane Byrne. I have been involved in the rodeo industry my whole life and I am 23 years of age. I have never attended a rodeo event in your state but my father who was a professional bull fighter for over 20 years worked in California many times over his career. Rodeo isn't just an entertaining event, it is how many people make their living. I know there is a lot of skepticism around the treatment of rodeo stock. I have been around rodeo stock my whole life and I have never witnessed any wrong doing to any animal. In fact I see more rodeo stock pampered and taken very good care of. There is a lot of care that goes on behind the scenes with regular check ups and health screening for animals before and after they arrive to rodeos. I would encourage any people who are opposed to the rodeo events to reach out to a rodeo stock contractor and let them show and explain the care and what goes into rodeo stock. Thank you for taking the time to read my perspective on this matter.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Earl Hood

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:52 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I support rodeo in every form these are the best taken care of animals you will find.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:54 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I do not understand why you would want to ban something that families have looked forward to seeing. Rodeos have been going on for many many years. It's something the whole family can enjoy together. I am totally against banning this!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ben Robbins

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 01:55 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I would like to voice my support for rodeo and all other western sports that this proposal would ban. These sports have been a part of our nations heritage, and deserve the same respect offered other sports.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** DONALD G AYRES, JR

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:00 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Don Ayres, Jr. and I would like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that would ban bull riding in Los Angeles. Although, I do not reside in LA, I am there often for business reasons, including several bull riding events, for the last 20 years. I am a 3rd generation ranch owner, raising cattle, horses, and cow-dogs. My two grandsons are heavily involved in the rodeo/PBR events, many of them held in California and would affect them finically if this ordinance were to be passed. The health and safety of all the animals involved in bull riding are paramount to me and my family. These animal athletes get the best care possible and they live a great life, four to five times as long as the average bull. After competing for a few years, they are retired to stud and pass of natural causes, instead of being shipped off to a feed lot and/or a slaughter house. Bulls in rodeo/PBR are not wild animals forced to compete, they are bred and trained for their job. They are not abused in any way, the flanks and bull ropes do not harm these bulls in at all. This ordinance is totally unnecessary. The PBR has rules to protect the animals and the bulls of the PBR are very well taken care of. The PBR teaches important values including hard work, charity, respect, responsibly, and honesty. Important values that are needed more now than ever. This sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everybody is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their values and all the good things that they stand for.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dj Miller

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:03 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hey y'all, my name is Dj Miller and I come from a small town in LA. I have been living in LA all my life and I completely love the sport of bull riding. I'm 15 now and I've been riding for a while. After going behind the scenes and seeing the bulls and when they are raised. I got to help feed, water, and out right ranch the bulls for a few days and I came to realize that they don't hurt the bulls at all. Bull riding has helped me become a better leader, Tougher cowboy, a stronger young man, and a stronger faithful follower of Jesus Christ. Bull riding has brought my family closer together and I couldn't be more thankful for it. It's my all time dream to go to PBR and ride the rankest bulls for 8 seconds. I text on here today to kindly ask you "please, please, please, don't take away my dream". I always grew up being told "follow your dreams and fallow your heart and the lord will help you through it all". I would love to respectfully ask y'all "how can I fallow my dream if it gets taken away from me before I get the chance to capture my moment?" I really do hope y'all consider keeping bull riding and rodeos. And seeing it through a different point of view. God bless all of y'all, have an amazing day. Sincerely, Dj Miller

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:05 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The health and safety of the animals in rodeo and bull riding is paramount. Rodeo people make their living by breeding, training and working with the animal athletes, who get the best care. They truly love these animal athletes and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. - These are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for their jobs. They are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don't harm the animals. - Rodeo teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. These values are needed now more than ever. - This ordinance will ban in Los Angeles rodeo, bull riding and various equestrian events– affecting the charros rodeo, the all-Black rodeo at STAPLES Center, PBR, any future PRCA rodeos, Compton Cowboys exhibitions, and even several Olympic equestrian sports. - This is not just banning sports that bring economic impact to LA but even worse, equestrian events and exhibitions here that change lives. We need to celebrate all cowboys and cowgirls, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Wayne chausse

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:10 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Wayne Chausse I'm not from Los Angeles. I think it's important to keep rodeo. I've been part of the this culture ever since I can remember. It's a good way of life. Especially for kids. People need to take the time and get educated about rodeo. Thank you Wayne Chausse

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Brian A Manson

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:11 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm asking that you please re-consider your effective ban of rodeo in Los Angeles. California has a very very rich history of the western lifestyle, a large part of which revolves around livestock. The claims of animal abuse and animal cruelty just aren't true. I've witnessed first hand the way these stock contractors, event producers and competitors treat these animals and it is always with care and respect. In most cases these people's livelihood revolves around livestock, so there is no reason or basis for them to mis-treat the animals. Flank straps do not and have not ever been used to cause pain to an animal. They are not placed near or on the testicles of bulls or horses, this is simply a myth that has been exploited by activists. Besides the economic harm that banning these activities will do, it will also insult the way of life for an entire segment of the population. A part of the population that has been in California for many many years before Los Angeles became the 2nd biggest city in the country.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jason Hendrix

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:16 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** This is another ploy by the cancel culture who doesn't understand or have any concept of rodeo life. Unacceptable.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Monty Risenhoover

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:16 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo is a legitimate sport, and very important to the communities they are held in. The animals are well cared for. Please do not cancel rodeos in your community.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** carolyn provencio

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:20 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** BOILERPLATE NOTE FOR ALL SUPPORTERS OF COALITION My name is Carolyn Provencio, and I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles." -I live and work in LA County for 40 years. I live the western lifestyle and own horses. My family has loved and volunteered at many rodeos over the years. The animals in the rodeo get treated like royalty! treatment Anyone who is a fan of western sports knows that the health and safety of the animals in these events is very important to all involved. Rodeo people make their living by breeding, training and working with the animal athletes. They make sure these animals get the best care. These are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for rodeo. They are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don't harm the animals, who are actually treated very well. Rodeo teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. These values are needed today more than ever. Especially for our youth. If this ordinance goes forward, it will ban in Los Angeles rodeo, bull riding and various equestrian events– affecting the charros rodeo, the all-Black rodeo planned for STAPLES Center, PBR, any future PRCA rodeos, Compton Cowboys exhibitions, and even several Olympic equestrian sports. This is not just banning sports that bring economic impact to LA but even worse, equestrian events and exhibitions here that change lives. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles! I urge you to please not move forward with this proposal – it's unnecessary for a sport that already protects its animal athletes as a model steward in caring and treating for these animals, and it would be a disservice to vendors and ranchers and western heritage and history to ban PBR/ Rodeo events. Thank you, Carolyn Provencio

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jeff Betts

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:27 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear L.A. City Council Members, My name is Jeff Betts and I work and play in almost all Los Angeles areas. I contribute my taxes and fee's to the City of Loa Angeles yearly without fail. I believe that animals should be well taken care and have horses myself. I am completely against any ban on rodeo events. I have grown up in the sport and have first hand knowledge of the excellent care given to all of the animals. The sport of rodeo is a national sport and is held in every State. To take away the rights of the people that enjoy the sport will only be another reason to further alienate our culture and drive us into another State that welcomes everyone no matter what their culture and beliefs may be.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Chelsea A Norvell

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:34 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The health and safety of the animals in rodeo and bull riding is paramount. Rodeo people make their living by breeding, training and working with the animal athletes, who get the best care. They truly love these animal athletes and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. - These are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for their jobs. They are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don't harm the animals. - Rodeo teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. These values are needed now more than ever. - This ordinance will ban in Los Angeles rodeo, bull riding and various equestrian events– affecting the charros rodeo, the all-Black rodeo at STAPLES Center, PBR, any future PRCA rodeos, Compton Cowboys exhibitions, and even several Olympic equestrian sports. - This is not just banning sports that bring economic impact to LA but even worse, equestrian events and exhibitions here that change lives. We need to celebrate all cowboys and cowgirls, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Edit Guzman

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:48 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello my name is Edit Guzmán. My family and I love attending rodeo shows all over California. The bulls are given the best treatment and the business gives plenty of people jobs. Please do not get rid of these traditions.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Gypsy Heritage Horse Rescue and Rehabilitation  
**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:50 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575  
**Comments for Public Posting:** The PBR has never and will never abuse neglect or abandon any of its animals. The bovine and equine they use are well cared for by vets of the highest caliber and standards. There is zero room in PBR for abuse or neglect of any animal. As a 501c3 non-profit horse rescue we SUPPORT the PBR.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Karen

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:53 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi, My name is Karen and I have lived in the LA area for 64 years. My favorite event is watching the Bull Riding in Los Angeles as well as Anaheim. There is a little bit of misinformation going out, the animals are not abused in any way! Have you ever watched the event, they are very well taken care of and live longer then the average bull. Please do not stop this event, we need this for Los Angeles. Thank you for your time.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jessica

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 02:57 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello my name is jessica and I am writing on the behalf of the pbr sport. I am a big fan and I support the pbr completely i have been to many of them in the Sacramento area and i would be greatly saded if they remove pbr from California and I will have to take my business to another area where pbr is appreciated. This is a long time sport that many people enjoy and respect. I really hope to see pbr in California for many many more years and for the men and women involved in the sport to be able to continue to go and enjoy it. Please don't take it a way from the people.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Cash Toews

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 03:19 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Cash Toews and I am a professional rodeo contestant (bull rider). Hearing about the imposed ban of rodeo in your county deeply saddens me, I feel like those that speak for the ban truly lack a lot of knowledge about our sport. All our animals are treated with love and respect, for they are the means by which we make our living, and without them our dreams would not be possible. I understand that there are injuries in our sport, just as there are in every other professional sport. When you have athletes laying it all on the line there will always be injuries involved. In recent history there has been a lot of measures put into place to limit the injuries of our animal athletes, such as the jerk down rule in the calf roping and thorough gear checks in the rough stock events. The statement that rodeo is an abusive sport is built upon mounds of misinformation, I see examples of this every day on social media where misinformed commenters speak up about abuse in rodeo with statements that are far from the truth. In conclusion Rodeo contestants care dearly for their animal athletes and their sport, which by many, is considered a livelihood and means of living. I hope that this statement finds its way to an open mind and that this proposed ban can be reversed or at least reviewed with the input of people with experience in the world of rodeo and those who care for and maintain rodeo livestock. If any action is to be taken I think that a campaign to teach the misinformed about what really goes on at a rodeo and the love for the game that both competitors and animal athletes have would be extremely helpful. I would also like to thank those that have given their time to review the issue rather than immediately passing the proposed ban, it is greatly appreciated. Sincerely, Professional Bull Rider, Cash Toews

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Genevieve

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 03:21 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi, I'm Genevieve, I'm a Texan, and I am a 19-year old amateur barrel racer working on going pro. I'm writing in support of rodeos and against the proposed ban that would ban rodeos and rodeo-like events from LA. Cowpokes and cattle ranches are largely responsible for building all of the states west of the Mississippi and giving states their first bite of infrastructure. Modern day practices have changed ranching and the role of the cowpoke on those ranches but the spirit of the old west lives on in rodeos. They are an essential part of our history and banning the main way we remember them is not a wise step; forgetting history is never a good idea. I understand that to the uninitiated or uninformed, a lot of rodeo practices look like animal cruelty whether that is a barrel racer using their hands and legs too push their horse on or a bull rider's spurs repeatedly hitting the bull. But what spectators do not see is all the preparation and aftercare rodeo contestants do. All of the cattle and horses in rodeos are elite athletes who get cared for as such. As elite athletes, hours of training happen before they ever see an arena; even after retirement, these animals are almost never sent to slaughterhouses; additionally, rodeo animals live significantly longer than their non-rodeo counterparts due to the care they are given. Rodeo competitors are cowboys and cowgirls, the first and last thing we think about is the safety and welfare of our animals because they are an essential part of our team. As teammates, we always seek to take care of them to the best of our ability. LA and California are home to some iconic rodeos that have been held for many years. As a future pro-barrel racer, it is my dream and the dream of many others to compete at some of these rodeos. Please do not take this irreplaceable experience from us.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** James Hensley

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 03:30 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I highly encourage you to not out any restraint on rodeo and like events in LA or anywhere else. These are very important to the athletes and their families as well as those of us who enjoy the sport. The animals are cared for like no other getting the best food and care daily. Please help save these events and don't ban or hold them back.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lisa Laliberte

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 03:34 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Council Members, I am certain you wonder why someone in Montana would care about what you do in LA and the truth is my opinion probably doesn't matter as much as it would if I were a constituent. I feel compelled to write to you out of love for Western Sports. I wonder, do any of you have pets? Do you think they are enslaved, forced to live their lives at your pleasure? If you do have pets, you know this isn't true. People who say Rodeo and bull riding are cruel sports know very little about the care and concern these professional men and women have for these animals. The average life span of a bovine is measured in months, while bulls used in bull riding live long, healthy lives measured in years. The idea that Rodeo and bull riding abuse animals is simply not true. I wonder, do you plan to end dog agility competitions or horse racing? These sports, like bull riding, have animals who are bred to work and appear to love their chance to shine. Please, before you take a vote, think about this carefully and maybe visit a rodeo or two. Sincerely, Lisa Laliberte

## Communication from Public

**Name:** David Gray

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 03:42 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** To whom this may concern. My name is David Gray from Florence,AL. I have been an avid PBR,Bull Riding,Rideo fan for over 20 yrs. It is a great sport and continues to rise in popularity. I also am a true animal lover and I have NEVER seen animals that are taken care of better than rodeo animals. Many of these bulls and horses are worth hundreds of thousands of dollars. They have special diets and are treated like royalty by their owners. PBR and all the rodeos show tremendous respect for family, God and this beautiful country we live in. Please continue to allow the PBR and Rodeos to perform in your area. It would be a tremendous loss to millions of people if this wonderful institution would not be allowed to continue. Thank you, have a great day. Sincerely David Gray

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Chris Kirby

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 03:46 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Go spend some time with those that raise and care for these animals. You will quickly see that they are not mistreated in any way. Example, if you spent a lot of money on your business or livelihood, would you not keep it in tip top shape to make a living? Know what you are protesting about before you pass judgment.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Gustavo Carvalho

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 03:57 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name's Gustavo, and I would like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban bull riding in Los Angeles. I have been to California, on Salinas Rodeo Grounds, and on many occasions, I went to Professional Bull Riders events across the United States and also in Brazil. Also, I have friends that exclusively make a living from rodeo and help their families as well. The health and safety of animals in bull riding is paramount. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life - four to five times as long as the average bull. After competing for a few years, they retire to stud and pass of natural causes on a ranch instead of entering the food supply. Bulls in the PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for their jobs. They are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don't harm the animals at all. This ordinance is totally unnecessary – The PBR has rules to protect the animals, and the bulls in the PBR are very well taken care of. Bull Riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty – values needed now more than ever. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We should celebrate all cowboys, their values and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Carol Knight

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 04:02 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear all Please do not stop the Rodeo from happening we have been attending for 25 years. I have a son who was starting to head down the wrong road we made a deal with him he could get a horse and do Rodeo events if he keep his grades up and stayed out of trouble. He has been so commented to this he is now 33 still has his beloved horse . I believe that without this sport for my son he would not be the man he is today. Please stop taking all the events away from our young people it is time you put some thought in to their needs. Thanks Carol Knight

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Albert G Eastmond Jr

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 04:09 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The PBR and Rodeo are a means of survival for many individuals. It is a way of life (lifestyle) a means of supporting family and supports rural America. Maybe your city council and state governing bodies don't realize the importance of these issues. As for the reply back on this if ever there is a response will be all about animal cruelty. I call Bullcorn and horsepocky on this claim. If there was legitimate animal cruelty PETA would be at every event in full force. Nobody involved in these events from fan, competitors, event organizers or stock contractors wish harm on any animal. I have attended many PBR events and local rodeo in my home state of New Jersey and have never witnessed and such deeds. I urge your city council to get more involved and gather the crucial information required to make an educated decision on this very important topic.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 04:09 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please don't take rodeo out of California. This is peoples livelihoods, hobbies, dreams. Rodeo animals are treated better than you think.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Audrey Rannebarger

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 04:13 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My family I enjoy the PBR and other western events and feel the enactment of a law to ban it is crazy. Please do NOT enact the law.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 04:15 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am contacting you to show my opposition to your proposed ban of rodeo events. I believe this proposed ban is based on ignorance of the sport and ignorance about the care of the involved animals. The health and safety of the animals in rodeo and bull riding is paramount. Rodeo people make their living by breeding, training and working with the animal athletes, who get the best care. They truly love these animal athletes and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. These are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for their jobs. They are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don't harm the animals. Rodeo teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. These values are needed now more than ever. I have had the honor over the course of many years of meeting and becoming great friends with numerous people involved in western sports, including breeders, livestock caretakers, production staff, management, bull riders, protection teams, and security personnel. This is a fantastic industry with great values and true American patriotism. Please let these comments serve as my stark opposition to your proposed ban of western sports.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nicole Welsh

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 04:22 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Nicole Welsh and I live in Wisconsin. Please do not ban bull riding. My 16 year old son took up bull riding one year ago and it has significantly helped his psychological, emotional, and physical development. Although I'm sure no mother wants to see their child on the back of a bull, I am so thankful we found this sport. - rodeo is a family. Much like any other sport. And these individuals are very supportive of one another. They are willing to help anyone at any time. Individuals are competitive but unlike traditional sports i have witnessed how everyone cheers on, supports, and helps their competition. - I have been witness to the care that the stock animals receive. These animals are trained well and very much respected by the contractors, participants, and fans. They lead a very good life. - my son is looking to becoming a stock contractor after school. He has done so much research and informs me regularly on how he would care for his bulls. It's amazing the level of care that is taken! - Unfortunate events happen. These events happen in all aspects of life, naturally, freak accident, etc. I was witness to a horse death at a rodeo and the level of care, concern, and respect taken for that horse was inspiring. It was a tragic freak accident but you could tell that everyone was deeply hurting for the horse. Everyone cared. Not one person treated that animal poorly or disrespect. It was an unfortunate but also good learning experience for the kids in attendance. - bucking dummies are not electrically charged. They are weights that are used to have the bull feel weight on their back. The remote control used is to release the clasp for the dummy to fall off so the bull understands that it has a short job to do and is then rewarded with the removal of the weight. - at our little britches and high school rodeos, electric prods are onsite but are reserved only for certain circumstances. The rough stock is trained to perform and in routines so often little guidance is needed to get them where they want to go. They are however animals and at times may need to be brought under control. However I have never seen an electric prod being used yet, and we rodeo weekly, and station in the rough stock area. - rodeo is historical. It is as much of a sport as basketball or football. Can you imagine the uproar if we wanted to ban either of those sports? Rodeo contestants are athletes too. Please don't ban their sport. - Action in one area undeniable results in action elsewhere. I fear

that if a city like yours bans bull riding and/or rodeo, others will follow. This would be an extremely unfortunately event as so many people base their livelihood on this sport, and so many athletes would be impacted. - we see often how a small group of individuals can impact the opportunities for others. Please understand that these animals are taken care of better than a majority of household pets. They are not in danger or being abused in the slightest bit. Others may perceive differently but until they spend time with them and witness the process, without predisposed opinions, they just don't have the right to strip this opportunity from those who love the sport and love their bulls. Thank you Nicole

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lois Ekstedt

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 04:27 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I have attended these events for many years. These animals are better cared for than many household pets. These animals are well fed, rested and safely transported. The owners and the contestants are respectful and caring about the animals. The sport of rodeo and the PBR make the animal safety a priority.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jay Quintana

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 04:30 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** As a professional bull rider from California I have some insight to what is being proposed with the ban of bull riding and rodeo. I don't believe in reincarnation but if there was such a thing I would want to come back as a bucking horse or bull. They are treated so well and only perform seconds a year. Even with travel you and I would do anything for that work schedule. Rodeo was once the biggest sport in the United States. The LA coliseum held one of the biggest rodeos of the year and LA also held the national finals at one time. This sport has passion and is very family oriented. I hope the powers that be can see value in this. Thank you for your time.

<https://calisphere.org/clip/500x500/78d0434f1e7827cc8188eee7bafc06b0>  
It's history, great history!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Heather

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 04:55 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not cancel PBR in L.A.! If the reasoning behind cancellation is because of harm it may cause the bulls, you must know it does no harm! PBR has very STRICT rules when it comes to their bulls! Bull riding is a loved and cherished sport in so many states! The Cowboys who risk it all for this sport are people who love what they do! They love the people who work these bulls and know how the bulls are important! When these bulls retire they have specific spots they go to so they can live out their lives LONG AND HEALTHY! If this was not a safe sport for the bulls then cowboys wouldn't do it to them! Most of these bulls live better lives than people! The same as the horses who race in the Kentucky derby! The bulls for the PBR are expensive so they are treated like royalty. Please do not cancel the PBR in L.A. this Is a beautiful sport that should be everywhere!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Troy lequerica

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 04:58 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Howdy all, as you are aware western sports, especially rodeo has been attacked by special interest groups. Please allow Rodeo to continue in such a great setting and venue as you all provide.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 05:32 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Growing up, I have always admired and dreamed of bull riding. The rodeo has always been something I've looked forward to year after year. It pains me to even hear that it's up for debate to ban bull riding in LA. The rodeo attracts hundreds of people to LA boosting the economy. Not only that but the bulls and other animals are well taken care of and maintained properly. Do not ban bull riding and/or the rodeo

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sue Zeider

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 05:44 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo animals are very well taken care of. They become part of the family. Please don't take away these historic events that have been enjoyed for years by both participants and spectators alike.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Tom Almand

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 05:49 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo and PBR are events which are for entertainment. The livestock in these events is the most protected for treatment and well-being of anything going down the road. They are trained to perform and not abused in anyway. Please don't consider abolish this sport!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Loreen A Ervin

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 05:58 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I write to to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that would ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. While I no longer living in California I have many family members who do and I travel to your state to attend PBR events annually. I used to attend the Redding Roundup and Red Bluff Rodeo with my family when I was growing up as a resident of Anderson, California. It was always a wonderful family time for me. I have been a pet owner for most of my life and while I don't own rodeo stock, I have had the pleasure to meeting and visiting with many of the stock contractors from the Anderson area and some of the contractor and cowboys associated with the PBR. I can tell you as a pet lover that I have never witnessed or heard of any cruel behavior being place on the animal athletes (bulls and the like) that are used for these events. I have had attended some behind the chutes events at PBR and seen the care that these wonderful athletes receive. Many of them are truly pets to their owners and receive the best of loving care. They truly have a wonderful life. Bulls are not abused animals or mistreated. They are bred and trained to be animal athletes. I have felt the softness of the flank straps used on them and witness how they are applied and it is not cruel and does not harm them. The dull spurs the riders wear are the same. I have actually run them over my hand and cheek and not found them to be a source of abuse at all to the animals. These bulls are actually quite lucky and live as a member of the family and when their time comes to pass they are mourned by their families. The sport of bull riding is amazing. I am 58 years old and I can tell you that I am not the only member of my household who love this sport. My 87 year old Aunt is a tremendous PBR fan and has asked to attend the world finals as a sort of bucket list experience before she passes. We will be doing that with her as a family this November and she has mentioned she would like to travel to California next year to attend more events like the Los Angeles event held each year. If this ordinance goes forward, it would ban PRB and rodeo from Los Angeles. More than ever we need to celebrate cowboys and all they stand for in our country and around the world. They have amazingly strong values and provide positive role models to youths all over the country. Please don't stop them from sharing their skills in Los Angeles! Please do not move forward with this proposal. It is very unnecessary as PBR

already protects it's animal athletes. This proposal would be detrimental to PBR, cowboys, stock contractors, fans and the city of Los Angeles. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my story and concerns. I would urge each of you to visit a PBR event or a stock contractor's facility near you before you make a decision that could harm so many people, animals and city economics.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sadie Henn

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 05:59 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My names is Sadie Henn and I am writing to you out of concern in regards to your banning of PBR events in Los Angeles. As someone who has participated in rodeo and been apart of the western industry my entire life, I would like to explain to you the reality of this industry. The health and safety of bulls (and all rodeo animal athletes) is paramount. The animal athletes are taken care of in the highest standard and live a life four to five times longer than the average bull. Bulls in the PBR are not wild animals forced to compete, but rather are bred and raised to be buckers. Essentially it would make no sense what so ever for us to harm the animals who help us make a living- if they were in pain they would not preform. If they don't preform, we don't get paid. Keeping them comfortable and in good shape helps all of us- but harming these animals would ruin our industry. With that being said, the PBR has rules to protect the animals as well. Once again, if these rules are broken- disciplinary action is taken which therefor prevents the said person from making a living. The ideology you guys have prevented is not logical. Please consider this while making your decision.... the animal athletes of rodeo out the human athletes pride and joy; their partners; their team mates. We love and care about these animals more than anything- and it is a great offense for anyone to tell us differently.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** James

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 06:18 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is James and I am a former bull rider. I live in North Carolina but I travel all over the nation to attend rodeos. I was never a member of the PBR but I have several friends that did go pro. I never left the amateur circuit but always supported my friends in the pro circuits. I started riding bulls in 1997 and then started raising and supplying bulls. A few of them ended up in the Bull Riders Only (B.R.O) circuit. I can assure you from personal experience that my Bulls were treated like royalty. All of my bulls were gentle in the pasture and were stabled at night. They were checked before and after rodeos by a veterinarian. If there was any issue prior to the rodeo the Bull did not go. None of my bulls were ever injured during a rodeo. However, I can remember a rodeo in North Carolina in 2000 where a rider had illegal spurs. The Bull was not mine but it did have some scratches from the spurs that did not require stitches. The owner of the Bull reported it to judges and the cowboy was disqualified, fined, and removed from the circuit. We (rodeo personnel) take animal cruelty very seriously and measures have been taken to help insure this type of injury never happens again. We have at times tens of thousands of dollars or more invested in any one of our bulls. Our bulls are investments and we expect a good return in our investment. Any type of injury cuts into our profits on multiple levels. When a bull ages out we still keep them and care for them the same way because we use them to sire more bulls. As to the sport it's self, I learned more about respect, honor, teamwork, integrity, and even humility than anything I did in my young adult life. There's more to the rodeo then what you see on TV. There's a level of trust and respect between the Cowboys too. A bull can be dangerous and even deadly. We work diligently to watch out for each other to ensure we can stay safe and that the bulls are ok. I would urge you to help keep the sport alive. Before you make a decision, put on a Cowboy hat and go to a rodeo. Don't tell anyone who you are and ask questions. Talk to the cowboy, the judges, the livestock owners, and the fans. Who knows, you might find out for yourself how well the bulls are treated and realize you like rodeos too.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Brian Larson

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 06:32 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, My name is Brian Larson and I am writing to ask that you oppose the proposed ban on bull riding in the City of LA. Bull riding and rodeo in general is one of the few remaining sports that welcomes everyone. Each event is exciting and entertaining for people of all ages. I understand the concern regarding the treatment of the bulls. It concerned me as well when I first began exploring the sport. What I discovered is the bulls are actually treated like royalty and live far longer than bulls in agricultural settings. They are talked about as athletes; which they certainly are. If you watch the sport you will quickly see the bull athletes are as excited to go to work as the riders are. I am an animal lover and animal rights activist in every sense and I fully support the respect for animals taught in the sport of bull riding.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 07:14 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Pbr and rodeo are the best thing that has happened in my life and millions of other people across the world. Rodeo and bull riding has taught me many lessons and instilled many values such as resilience, hard work, determination, bravery and respect for other people and and livestock. These bull are absolute professionals they know what there job is. They are extremely well looked after with specific feed programs, exercising and training they love what they do and they LOVE to perform. This sport is the most important thing in mine and millions of other people's lives. This is our lifestyle.

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:** Henley Sears  
**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 07:33 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575  
**Comments for Public Posting:** ...

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Becky Mapston

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 07:40 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am opposed to any legislation that would ban a sport that has been around longer than those trying to ban it. Most of these topics are based upon lack of education and knowledge on the subject matter. Your vote I'm for of banning rodeo would cause the ruin of thousands of good people and their family livelihood and ruin a culture that goes back hundred of years. Our industry has extremely high standards for the care of all animal athletes and many have invested a deep amount of money time and love into these animals that is generation in nature. Rodeos and animal use in arena should not be banned. I stand with those who vote down any legislation that try to take it away.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Savannah Shumpert

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 07:49 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, I'm Savannah Shumpert, a rodeo lover and competitor. The PBR is a great event and it brings it a lot of money for the city of Los Angeles. The bulls are so well cared for and are not in any way harmed by the sport of bull riding! This ordinance is unnecessary and will harm the sport of rodeo and Los Angeles. Please consider this petition, and have a nice day!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Maria J Schafer

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 07:59 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello dear sirs or madams, my name is Maria Schafer a midwestern century farm family girl, I have grown up raising beef cattle on our century farm for the last 51 years of my life....I have known nothing different...and Id like to express my opposition towards your proposed ordinance that will ban bull riding in your beautiful city of Los Angeles. I have raised and bred these rodeo animals myself and to think that these animals are mistreated in ANYWAY possible is beyond absurd...they are treated better than some peoples kids...lol...but seriously my bulls were given the best feeds naturally possible, had regular dental and physical checkups and also a couple of my best bulls seen a massage therapist. These bulls are bred and trained to be the best athlete they can be...just like any other national athlete from the NBA to the NFL...bull riding is a special sport that draws VERY LARGE CROWDS to provide good family entertainment, promotes equality and a sport where EVERYONE is welcome. We should be proud of our ancestors heritage and celebrate cowboys/cowgirls, their values and everything they stand for and let them be the bright shining stars they are and allow them to show their skills to everyone in Los Angeles, CA. and bring a good number of people to your amazing city. Thank you for your time in this matter and I hope that you will look at every aspect of this and see that its a beautiful thing for your city to keep on doing! I have tried to attached a couple photos of my PBR bull, #530 Electric Slide...you can see he was my pride and joy and will be deeply missed by ANYONE who knew, rode or been around him, including my two children but for some reason your system isn't allowing me to...so if you would like to see him in his prime feel free to msg me back and I will gladly share any photos of him you would like to see! Thanks again Maria Schafer Bad Girl Bucking Bulls



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kaijah Bell

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 08:26 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, Hearing of this news saddens my heart to the very core, the rodeo is a major part of my life . Being a military brat it's been the one thing that brings a sense of home whenever I was at a new duty station. Taking the rodeo out of LA will not only end the presence of a long standing sport, but it will end the presence of a place for others like me to call home when we are away. Moving onto the athletes involved, you feel the passion and respect they have for the sport and their other highly trained team members being the bulls themselves, both parties involved play significant roles and are treated with the highest standard of care. Seeing how a rodeo is ran made me eager to pursue a professional career being a veterinarian. In closing, ending the rodeo in LA will end Tradition, Family and the sport itself . Please consider what is at stake . Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Bonnie Wheatley

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 08:32 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, I'm writing to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban bull riding in Los Angeles. The health and safety of the animals in rodeo and bull riding is paramount. Rodeo people make their living by raising, training and caring for animal athletes. Showcasing these animal athletes to their full potential requires that there are many safeguards in place to ensure their care. A few cognizant points to consider: - These are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for their jobs. They are not abused. Flank straps and dull spurs don't harm the animals. - Rodeo teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. These values are needed now more than ever. - This ordinance will ban in Los Angeles rodeo, bull riding and various equestrian events— affecting the charros rodeo, the all-Black rodeo at STAPLES Center, PBR, any future PRCA rodeos, Compton Cowboys exhibitions, and even several Olympic equestrian sports. Rodeo and equestrian competitions are part of California's history, a history as diverse as its population. - This is not just banning sports that bring economic impact to LA but even worse, equestrian events and exhibitions here that change lives. We need to celebrate all cowboys and cowgirls, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Tim Vaesen

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 08:35 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Sir / Madam, This is to respond to the current push to ban bull riding and rodeo from the city of Los Angeles. In times where we sometimes struggle with our identity as a nation, a city or as Americans - I find it incredible that the greatest city on the West coast would not be a host to one of the purest American traditions: American Rodeo. Yours sincerely, Tim Vaesen and Vaesen Family

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nick Henry

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 08:51 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** As a horse enthusiast and post rancher, I love being able to watch pro rodeo any chance I can. It's the only %100 proveable non biased sport with a huge diverse group of people

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Marisa P.

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 08:57 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. I may not live in LA but I have been to PBR events in LA, Anaheim, Las Vegas, Texas, and Bakersfield for more than two decades. In fact, bull riding is my favorite sport because of the cowboys AND THE BULLS! Any bull riding fan knows the health and safety of the magnificent animals in these events is very important to all involved. Rodeo people make their living by breeding, training, and working with the animal athletes. They make sure these animals get the very best care. They give them a great life. They are super stars in their own rites. These are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for rodeo. The bulls are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don't harm them. The bulls compete for a few years and go to stud. They are treated like a member of the family and die a natural death on a ranch. They do not enter the food supply like bulls not fortunate to compete in PBR. Bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. These values are needed today more than ever. Especially for our youth. If this ordinance goes forward, it will ban PBR and rodeo in Los Angeles. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles! I urge you to please not move forward with this proposal – it is unnecessary because PBR already protects its great animal athletes, and it would be detrimental to Los Angeles in many ways.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 08:58 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, I would like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban bull riding in Los Angeles. I live in Orange County and I've been to the San Juan Capistrano rodeo plenty of times. I understand that people are worried about the bulls health. I would like to make the point that these animals are athletes just like you and me, they have a job and they have a job they enjoy. These animal athletes live long and happy lives even after they've finished their tours (4-5 years after). It's fairly similar to the horse world. I am also an equestrian, and FEI and USEF have rules for the horse world like certain bits, spurs, and what is identified as abuse. PBR has the same set of rules. The bulls at PBR are well taken care of and they insure that they are safe and healthy. The bulls are treated like humans and they are, as you can say, spoiled. They are very friendly and enjoy doing what they do. Not only does bull riding create character, it creates jobs for cowboys all over the world. This sport promotes equality and that is one of the most important things in this day and age. We should celebrate cowboys and their values for showing us something fascinating that connects us to each other and the past. Thank you for your time and I hope you take this into consideration to not ban rodeo and PBR in the Los Angeles area.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Eric Seehafer

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 09:01 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Bull riding is a great sport and the bulls are taken great care of the world need to learn that hard work is important and this country doesn't have the work ethic anymore. These bulls that compete are the greatest athletes in the world and don't get the recognition that they deserve. Thanks for your time please keep this support alive.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Linda Elliott

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 09:36 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi, my name is Linda Elliott. I have been around rodeo all my life. My son is the PRCA 2004 World Champion Bull Rider. I have spent a lot of time around these animals. They are so well taking care of. The animals are loved & well taken care of. They have daily check ups, animal chirpractors, the best feed, vitamins. You name it. They get pampered, bathed, brushed. Most of them are like pets & then they know when it is time to go to work. The flank strap does not hurt the. The riders spurs are dull, they do not hurt them. The sport of rodeo is a sport that is such an awesome sport. Please keep this American sport of rodeo alive. Thank you for letting me post my thoughts & cares in this rodeo & bull riding ordinance you are proposing. Linda Elliott



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lynn Culp

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 09:59 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Lynn Culp. I would like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance to ban bull riding, rodeo events and some equestrian events in Los Angeles. I am a bull contractor providing bucking bulls to rodeo and bull riding events in the western states. I have provided stock to events in LA and surrounding areas. Bucking bulls are some of the best cared for performance animals. Bucking bulls have a much longer life than beef cattle. They are fed the best hay and grain. They are bred to buck and that's what they do well. Their job is 8 seconds in the arena every couple of weeks, maybe 20 times a year. Bucking bulls are not hurt by the bull flank. The flank does not touch or squeeze the testicles. Rodeos and the PBR have rules for the welfare of the animal competitors. LA has a long history of western sports including rodeos and bull riding. I encourage you to continue to support these events that promote respect, honor, hard work and competition. Please oppose this ordinance and support the western life LA was built on. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ruby Mejia

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:17 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am speaking up to fight for rodeos to continue being legal. Rodeos are great family and friend activities to do for fun. Also rodeos are tradition for generations and those who have family or know those who participate on this sport would be crushed. I grew up going to rodeos and it would be taking a major part of my life. This not only applies to my life but to many others as well. Rodeos should continue to be open!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Gladwin Ensz

**Date Submitted:** 05/18/2021 11:20 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** STOP trying to change AMERICA!!! YOU LIBERALS think you know more than us " smelly walmart shoppers " who " cling to our Bibles and guns!! News flash.... you dont!! I have 0 respect for you in promoting the release of murderers, 0 bail, not prosecuting thefs under \$900 , siding with RACIST BLM !!!! ON and on and on.... stop trying to change AMERICA!!! WE ARE NOT CHANGING!! DO YOU UNDERSTAND!!! YOU HAVE DESTROYED THE GOLDEN STATE !!!Totally destroyed it , turned it into the shopping cart state. Hundreds of thousands of homeless its sickning!!! You know nothing about horses so don't try and tell us what to do !!!! We will not be changed!!! 75 million strong, you are the minority and you know it !!! We will fight to defend our GOD given constitution!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 02:37 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo teaches our youth about hard work, commitment and effort. Young men and women work tirelessly protecting their techniques and studying the sport. It is a lifestyle for many and also what feeds their families.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Barbara Whitlatch

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 04:13 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I urge that you do not enact a law forbidding bull riding as a sporting event in Los Angeles. This sport is not harmful to the animal, is wonderful to witness the athleticism of both bull and rider, and draws monies via ticket sales and vendors at these events. Thank you for your consideration, Barbara Whitlatch

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Larry Sampson

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 04:19 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** As a young boys, my two brothers and I, growing up without a father, in south central Los Angeles in the early 1960's & 70's going to the horse stables on Figueroa st saved me from the pitfalls of crime, gangs and drugs! I was taught to care for, ride and work around the stables after school, by the positive influences that I met! These men and women took me under their tutelage and an instilled in me a foundation to be the responsible man I am today! Also, my older Brother, Charles went on to become the only African American World Champion Bull Rider! He has received numerous awards, and accolades. He's received a key to the city by long time LA mayor Tom Bradley! We still have a connection to younger boys and girls in the area, and eagerly pass along our love and passion for animals! It would be a major detriment to remove an outlet that provides an alternative to the negative influences of crime that are still deeply rooted in communities throughout LA county. I know that the care of of animals are and should be of utmost importance! I see firsthand the responsible care they receive. I KNOW personally disallowing rodeos would do far more harm to the young boys and girls that enjoy the healthy western lifestyle! Please feel free to contact me anytime to hear more of my and my brothers story, and how rodeos changed our lives for the better! Sincerely, Larry Sampson Charles Sampson 206-930-8032

## Communication from Public

**Name:** GiniGail Thompson

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 04:24 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** PLEASE Don't vote out our much needed American Western Heritage! Cowboys and Cowgirls have been around since the beginning of time, and we are still here! I've lived in California my entire life, and I've spent numerous years of my life riding Rodeo, performing in LA along with all the other cities and towns throughout California. Santa Barbara is one of the most relished Rodeos in California who support our Western and Hispanic heritage, and the City of Los Angeles, PBR and Rodeos are absolutely needed for the children and their families who are growing up in that city without any understanding of what it is to be a Cowboy or Cowgirl, and teach them the handling and respect of these magnificent animals including horses. The spurs that you've mentioned, have zero effect on a bull. They are for show! A bulls hide is thicker and tougher than any spur on the market today. They feel a tickle if they feel it at all. As for electric prodders, the handling of these bulls require some finesse considering a bull could take down an entire city if not trained to respect its handler. The prodders are NOT harmful to the bull, nor does the bull feel anything close to pain. It's another buzzer upon their skin to keep them moving forward, which not unlike a spur, feels only a vibration or tickle. Your council members need to actually attend a rodeo and see how your own children respond to the Wild West Shows in America, instilling respect, and the western way of life which is NOT leaving our planet anytime soon. The absolute joy a child feels at a rodeo is unsurpassed and the expression on his or her face tells the entire story, and children NEED RODEO. We're bringing Rodeo Cowboys and Cowgirls to YOUR city so these families can have a way "out of the city" for a day. If YOU take that away from them, then you've removed any chance for these children to experience another REAL way of life, instead of just living and breathing the city atmosphere, where crime is at an all time high. We've never harmed the animals, we respect them! They get to retire after their show years, (which are extremely short) to pasture and breeding and sunning under the trees. Humans have to work for 70 years of their lives, a bull works no more than 3 years, then retirement! Your ideas of cruelty are unfounded and uneducated, and maybe you need to get off your rears, out of the chairs and come see a rodeo for yourself! We welcome all walks of life, providing the

folks in and around our Rodeos are respectful to our way of life, and our animals we raise with our hearts. These bulls and horses are our families, and we treat our families with kindness, love and respect, unlike the numerous families we've seen within city limits treating their families pretty unspeakable. Have a heart! Let the inner city children have fun for a day while the rodeo is in town! What else do you want to take away from them? As I've said, I was born and raised in California and I'm a Cowgirl, with my Cowgirl values my father raised me with. I still live on the High Desert on my own ranch, and our way of life is chosen and the alternative is absolutely frightening. City kids are much more likely to get into drugs and even prescription drugs which in the end completely destroy ones life. I am a healthy well rounded, happy woman today well into my 60's and I still appreciate the western way of life. Don't take Rodeo or Bull riding away, your city needs us, and again, our animals are treated better than most children within your own city. Spurs, prodders and the like, are NOT harming these bulls one tiny bit! As for wire restraints, that's just not done, and a bull can run through a wire at any given moment with the immense power and strength they carry. Please consider, don't remove California's heritage, honor it for all to enjoy.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Gini Thompson

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 04:28 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** PLEASE Don't vote out our much needed American Western Heritage! Cowboys and Cowgirls have been around since the beginning of time, and we are still here! I've lived in California my entire life, and I've spent numerous years of my life riding Rodeo, performing in LA along with all the other cities and towns throughout California. Santa Barbara is one of the most relished Rodeos in California who support our Western and Hispanic heritage, and the City of Los Angeles, PBR and Rodeos are absolutely needed for the children and their families who are growing up in that city without any understanding of what it is to be a Cowboy or Cowgirl, and teach them the handling and respect of these magnificent animals including horses. The spurs that you've mentioned, have zero effect on a bull. They are for show! A bulls hide is thicker and tougher than any spur on the market today. They feel a tickle if they feel it at all. As for electric prodders, the handling of these bulls require some finesse considering a bull could take down an entire city if not trained to respect its handler. The prodders are NOT harmful to the bull, nor does the bull feel anything close to pain. It's another buzzer upon their skin to keep them moving forward, which not unlike a spur, feels only a vibration or tickle. Your council members need to actually attend a rodeo and see how your own children respond to the Wild West Shows in America, instilling respect, and the western way of life which is NOT leaving our planet anytime soon. The absolute joy a child feels at a rodeo is unsurpassed and the expression on his or her face tells the entire story, and children NEED RODEO. We're bringing Rodeo Cowboys and Cowgirls to YOUR city so these families can have a way "out of the city" for a day. If YOU take that away from them, then you've removed any chance for these children to experience another REAL way of life, instead of just living and breathing the city atmosphere, where crime is at an all time high. We've never harmed the animals, we respect them! They get to retire after their show years, (which are extremely short) to pasture and breeding and sunning under the trees. Humans have to work for 70 years of their lives, a bull works no more than 3 years, then retirement! Your ideas of cruelty are unfounded and uneducated, and maybe you need to get off your rears, out of the chairs and come see a rodeo for yourself! We welcome all walks of life, providing the

folks in and around our Rodeos are respectful to our way of life, and our animals we raise with our hearts. These bulls and horses are our families, and we treat our families with kindness, love and respect, unlike the numerous families we've seen within city limits treating their families pretty unspeakable. Have a heart! Let the inner city children have fun for a day while the rodeo is in town! What else do you want to take away from them? As I've said, I was born and raised in California and I'm a Cowgirl, with my Cowgirl values my father raised me with. I still live on the High Desert on my own ranch, and our way of life is chosen and the alternative is absolutely frightening. City kids are much more likely to get into drugs and even prescription drugs which in the end completely destroy ones life. I am a healthy well rounded, happy woman today well into my 60's and I still appreciate the western way of life. Don't take Rodeo or Bull riding away, your city needs us, and again, our animals are treated better than most children within your own city. Spurs, prodders and the like, are NOT harming these bulls one tiny bit! As for wire restraints, that's just not done, and a bull can run through a wire at any given moment with the immense power and strength they carry. Please consider, don't remove California's heritage, honor it for all to enjoy.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** LaShae Jarbison

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 04:39 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello LA City Council, I reject and disagree with your proposal to ban bull riding and rodeo-like sports in LA. The sport is not harmful to the animals who participate. These animals are taken care of to the utmost precautions and protections to their health and well being. If you have any doubt see the amount of time these animals spend with massage therapist, veterinary chiropractics, and Heath management professionals. These animals are not wild, they are not vicious, they are not abused. These bulls and other rodeo animals are athletes just as Mike Tyson and George Foreman. The bulls who are trained to buck live four to five years longer than the average bull in any other circumstance and when they retire they retire to a life of stud bull. The flank straps and dull spurs do not harm the bulls at all! Do not ban bull riding and rodeo-like sports!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Linda Awtrey

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 04:55 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Greetings, my name is Linda Awtrey and my entire life has been around rodeos. I grew up in a family that "rodeos" were my families entertainment. My father was a steer roper and President of the Rodeo Association for twenty plus years. Having animals that one rodeos with gives a great lesson in responsibility and pride. Those animals are treated just like the "house pet"! Professional Bull Riding has taken that care to a whole new level. Those bulls are raised to do just what they do and are highly respected by the Owners and Riders. In most sports there is little attention to America or their fans. One will NEVER see a Cowboy, very young or older, not take off their hat and put it over their heart for the National Anthem. These Cowboys train their entire life to compete, please don't take this away from them. And rodeos and particular the Professional Bull Riders have a tremendous fan level. Those fans are just as loyal as the Cowboys! I appeal to your sense of honor. This type of competition is clean, family oriented, and entertainment for families all over the United States. Your attention to this matter will be greatly appreciated. Please, please think about this with an open mind. Again, thanks, Sincerely, Linda Awtrey

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Deantra Guyton  
**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 05:10 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Please don't band this sport it was the only thing that keep me out of trouble as a kid, and now my 10 yr old son rides and it's doing the same for him he always days dad I don't know what I would be doing if I hadn't found bull riding, so please consider all the young men that would be desimatied if you took this sport away.  
Thank you

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 06:08 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** We oppose 20-1575. ProRodeo supports positive animal welfare and has an outstanding track record of excellence in animal care. Please support the continued support and growth of the western way of life. Its important to California and its citizens.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kirsten Turner

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 06:46 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** To remove PBR for whatever reason, I imagine it's mostly because of the uneducated people on this sport that don't realize how amazing this sport is and how well the animals are treated! In other sports and recreation, Horses have people riding them and have spurs. Bulls have people riding on them and they naturally buck. They are not being poked, prodded by any electrical device or ropes wrapped around their balls. That is a false rumor. These bull are taken care of better than most animals. PBR is a patriotic, charitable and amazing event that should be continued as part of our great American culture. Our family and millions of families enjoy going out and Watching this sport. The bull riders love the animals and have a great respect for them. This is a sport that contributes so much to our country. I was born and raised in California. Please do not make a decision because of what Miss informed peoples "feelings" are.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Douglas Cleghorn

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 06:53 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Councilmembers: My name is Douglas Cleghorn, and I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. I am President of Boxer Rescue of Albuquerque and I can tell you first hand that these bulls are treated much better than many of our rescued Boxers that we take in every year. I have observed the bulls at events and they are calm and totally approachable by the attendees. I have also witnessed the families that raise and care for these bulls. Often times the bulls are not only treated like family members by the kids and adults, but are truly family members and are emotionally invested in these animals. ??I urge you to please NOT move forward with this proposal – it is unnecessary because PBR already protects its great animal athletes, and it would be detrimental to Los Angeles in many ways.??Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. Doug Cleghorn



## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 07:05 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Honorable LA City Council members my name is James McDonald and I have been a avid fan of the professional bull riding Association for over 50 years. I am a small time cow calf beef producer and deal with caring for animals every day And I know firsthand what it takes to responsibly take care of my animals and know if other animals are being taken care of properly by just watching them. it has been brought to my attention there is a proposal being presented to you that would prohibit professional bull riding and or rodeos within your jurisdiction. I pray and plead with you to please not approve this proposal. The care and training the PBR livestock receives are not detrimental to them in fact they are given special attention to their health, through established nutrition and veterinary care. Their breeding gives them the natural instinct to perform for the eight seconds they are inside an arena. The cowboy athletes that perform on these animals have trained most of their life to be in healthy top shape and realize the importance of taking care of themselves as well as the animals they perform with I. Please please do not give consideration for approval of the ban on the PBR or other rodeo events and allow us the fans to also have a wholesome family environment to attend, watch and show our appreciation for the training and abilities we are able to observe at a professional bull riders/rodeo Performance. Respectfully, and best regards, James E McDonald/fan

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Darleen Wheelington

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 07:49 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi my name is Darleen Wheelington and I live in South Arkansas. I am respectfully asking you to reconsider the ordinance to ban bull riding and or rodeos in Los Angeles. I have grown up in the western lifestyle and I can tell you first hand these animal athletes are treated the best in the world. The cowboys love and respect all the animals in their life. This world would be a better place if we had more cowboys and the western lifestyle in our world. People who depend on animals are the ones who take the best care of them. Go meet these people and bulls and other livestock and see for yourself. Please don't make a decision from a board room make your decision from first hand knowledge. Thank you for your time. God Bless Darleen

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Serg Contreras

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 08:02 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello LA City Council.. Im writing these few lines to respectfully request that these new proposed laws be stopped and are very much unfounded..these animals are ridden and used very little. And are very much protected and not abused..they are well feed and kept. At at sanctioned rodeo they are never abused and taken care. The Rodeos and Charreadas have a long History in California...from the. very beginning of this fine state...Ranchos were already competing against other ranches..some of these rodeos kept cowboys busy in their off time and with some proper training the days were always safe for all. Please help us on keeping events safe...and organized these laws that are pending are not good for us California Horse Rodeo people and for people that love rodeos. Thank you. SC.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Travis Meadows

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 08:17 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I grew up going to rodeos. I can not imagine life without them. I learned so much from just watching cowboy behavior. And the way they talk. Life is just better with rodeo in it.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lorna Yarbrough

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 08:25 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** In response to the proposed ordinance to discontinue the PBR in Los Angeles ; my question is a very misunderstood why? The lively hood of all of the individuals concerned starting with the riders , employment to the owners of the animals, the grounds keepers , the health officials involved, the arenas that thrive on such events , the fans , concessions , so many more ways to promote income to the individuals plus to the city of LA . In the time of despair that the entire world is facing, the challenges of daily living, why would eliminating an event that brings people together and allows individuals to prosper with something they love to do , be challenged and prohibited? Please consider this letter as opposing the move to promote this ordinance. Lorna Yarbrough

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sara P.

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 08:49 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Councilmember Blumenfield and City Councilmembers: I am writing to urge the council not to pass restrictions on rodeo events in Los Angeles. First, animal welfare rules and policies are already in place by these organizations and much of the misinformation circulating on the internet and from animal activist groups is outdated and inaccurate. In Rodeo activities are already subject to laws in California, specific to the rodeo and generally through the animal cruelty laws. Your ordinance would also ban great and wonderful activities that support cultural traditions and diversity, empower youth to participate in confidence-building, positive activities, and employ many men and women during events in your state and districts. Also, this would ban multiple Olympic events involving horses! Of course Olympic athletes are not providing their horses with poor welfare either! This ordinance would do great harm and I urge you to abandon it in favor of other pressing and necessary legislative needs. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Katelyn Davis

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 09:15 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello my name is Katelyn Davis, and I would like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban bull riding in Los Angeles. What most people don't understand is that the rodeo industry actually benefits the livestock as well as the individuals that are involved in this industry. The animals life expectancy is increased 4 to 5 times as long as the average bull. After the bull and other animals retire, they are kept on a ranch where they won't be sent to a slaughterhouse. So if you are protesting to end rodeoing by "helping the animals", your actually hurting them more. There is also a big misunderstanding of the use of Spurs; they do not harm any animal whatsoever. They are used as a tool to direct the animal to do what it needs to do. Bulls and other livestock are born into this industry to accomplish what they were born to do; they weren't forced into it after they were born. Taking the bull riding sport away will leave many people jobless and unable to do what they love. Believe it or not, these individuals who take care of their animal(s), really do care greatly for their well being as if it was their own pet, such as a dog or a cat. Overall these animals are provided greatly with care and love by the livestock family. This loved sport and industry is something that can not be banned for the well being of the animals and workers.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Cheryl Riis

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 09:32 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am deeply concerned about the proposed ban on rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. I am a fan of the sport and a bucking bull owner. This is an industry that takes pride in the care and well being of all animals used in the arena. They are athletes in their own right and receive the very best care and are treated like family members. Bucking bulls are bred and trained to correctly and safely use their genetic ability to perform their jobs. Western sports teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. Please do not ban an industry that exemplifies strong values and promotes equality. It would be an economic detriment to the city of LA and a sad day for western sports if they were not allowed to continue to showcase their stories and skills to the fabulous fans of California.



## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 10:19 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** PBR is a wonderful event me and my family enjoy every year. The Cowboys are kind and this is an incredibly professional association. It saddens me that in a free country events like this would be banned.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** COLLEEN C McGuire Norris

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 10:36 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am retired now but was a humane officer for many years in California. Professional Bull Riding (PBR) and Professional Rodeo, in general, are very humane sports. Most infractions I found were in Mexican rodeo with horse tripping which is now banned. Rodeo and animal husbandry including equine sports TEACHES compassion for animals and good care of animals. Rodeo bulls are valuable animals, bred and trained for the sport. The equipment used is humane equipment. I suggest if you want to make an ordinance, where a watchful eye is on the sport, require the AMERICAN HUMANE ASSOCIATION, be present as they are required to be on movie sets. I served in this capacity as well. The industry, itself monitors and upgrades standards in this area. bucking stock (horses, bulls, etc) are very valuable and the owners DO NOT mistreat them. This type of sport is promoted by animal husbandry activities at the local level which teach hard work, humane care, ethics and honesty. These activities keep children off drugs and promote family values and racial equality.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Casey Greer

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 10:57 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The people who can be found in the sport of rodeo and the western industry understand, better than any outside onlooker, the importance of the health and safety of both livestock and competitors. The animal athletes are treated just as such. Any competitor who has created a long lasting career in this industry understands that treating the animals with the utmost care and respect is essential. The better the animals exhibit their talents, the more successful the team becomes. Secondly, rodeo and a western lifestyle provides its members with a way of life that **REQUIRES** hard work, responsibility, respect, good sportsmanship, teamwork, compassion, and truthfulness. Many values that are necessary for our country to survive without internal combustion and, quite frankly, values that are lost in other sports and entertainment avenues that shape today's youth. Please consider these statements and the detriment that would be inflicted if you decided to ban such lifestyle exhibitions. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** KIM KNIGHT

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 11:25 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello I'm Kim Knight. I STRONGLY OPPOSE the proposed ordinance to BAN bull riding in Los Angeles. I am a cattle rancher from NW Nevada. I am a have been a fan of the PBR since 1992 & LIFETIME fan of rodeo. I've attended MANY events throughout California and in Los Angels. You NEED to understand 1. They are not wild animals! A proven bucking bull can be worth as much as \$500,000. 2. These animals are treated like ATHLETES and considered to be part of the family they belong to. NO ONE is going to ABUSE a bull that has that kind of loving family tie and is worth that much. Stock contractors and the PBR and other rodeo events have regulations in place to assure the livestock is healthy and treated humanely. 3. They receive top-notch care which even includes acupuncture, chiropractic, specialized diets and premium pastures. 4. I encourage ANYONE voting on this measure to attend a PBR event & talk with the stock contractors, visit the bull pens and see how much care and pampering these bulls receive! INSPECT at the flank straps & spurs used in the arena. They DO NOT injure or harm the animals! Bulls wear a flank strap that sits over their hips. Its role is to increase the tendency to kick out. This doesn't hinder the bull in any way and is not tied tight. Stand behind the chutes and watch for yourself how the bull is treated in the chutes. 5. Rodeo and Bull riding teach VALUABLE life lessons RESPONSIBILITY, Hard Work, CHARITY, Respect and HONESTY to both the young riders just starting out in high school to the big leagues like the PBR. These are values we need to instill now more than ever. It also PRESERVES the legacy of these values of the American West that have been told through films from Hollywood. The PBR and other rodeo circuits welcomes people from all ethnicities eg., Native Americans, Latinos, African-Americans, genders & sexual orientation are HONORED EQUALLY! Thank you for your thoughtful investigation & consideration on this proposal.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Tara Powers

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 11:46 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm usually good with words, but this topic has my brain and fingers not working together. I can think of hundreds if not thousands of ways in which rodeo and other animal related sporting type events have positively impacted my life. However, this is bigger than just me. The sport of rodeo can be hard for some people to understand. Especially in today's time where depending on your location you can go a lifetime without ever coming into contact with large animals such as horses and cattle. To people who have grown in that lifestyle rodeo isn't going to be viewed the same. That's why it is so important that people such as myself work to educate and advocate for the sport and lifestyle that we know and love. A huge concern is animal welfare. From the outside looking in rodeo looks rough to some. Those of us who have been close know that things aren't always as they appear. The animals used in rodeo love their job. Yes, I said it, job. These animals have rodeo in their blood. The bucking stock, both horses and cattle are bred for purpose. They are genetically predispositioned to want to buck- with or without the human interference of having someone on their back. It is a strong desire they each carry naturally. We use tools that help signal to the bulls and Broncs that it is time to work. One of these tools are a flank strap. This is a small strap that goes around the animal's flank, an area behind the belly and in front of the rear legs. It does not cause any pain, and it pops loose during the animals bucking or is removed by cowboys working the event known as pick up men. This helps to signal to the animal that the work is over. While watching these events you will often see the animal looking for the "out" gate to return to the back pens full of other livestock and food. The animals quickly learn the routine. This also allows for them to be easier to handle for routine care and transportation because they know when it's time to put on a show. Bucking stock get some of the top care out of any animal, from special diets to exercise and care routines. The horse is an essential part of rodeo. They are not only a cowboy or cowgirl's tool, but a partner. They are fine tuned athletes. While the events in rodeo were developed based on real life ranch skills, they have been designed to showcase both human and equine athletes. While times and technology have made an impact on ranching, many ranchers still rely on the skills seen in a rodeo performance to safely handle

cattle to provide medicine and care they need. Rodeo animals are more than just an animal to the people in the industry. In many cases they become family. From the horse who has been passed down from a parent to their child learning how to ride, to the bucking stock who each get names and sometimes snuck an extra treat or two, each of these animals are loved. There's another critter in which rodeo directly impacts; humans. I can think of no other sport that instills so many lifelong skill sets as that of rodeo. There is a culture among the rodeo crowd. It's more than just being good at your event. It's about honesty and fairness. Losing with grace and being humble when you win. Encouraging those around you and knowing a helping hand will always reach out if you are down. They teach the pillars of character in school, but you live it in rodeo. I'm sure there's plenty of bad propaganda about rodeo and this lifestyle. But passing a ban such as this one is only the beginning of the end to an American lifestyle that has been passed through many generations. A lifestyle that relies heavily on animal husbandry, ethical character and most importantly a love and passion for the sport. I hope that my words, along with the words of others help to show you a bit of our world as you make this decision. Thinking about a sport that has impacted so many coming to an end makes my heart ache, and tears well up as I write this. While I am sure you've seen some examples of a few rotten apples, don't let it spoil the whole bunch. Many of us are tied strongly to this industry and life would not be the same without it. I am just a small town girl, nobody special, but the lessons I've learned through rodeo are countless. I can't imagine a life without it.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Faith

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 12:26 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo is a thing a lot of people enjoy and it doesn't hurt me animals. It is in no way animal abuse. The animals love it and they get adrenaline from all the people. There is no reason to ban it. It may look brutal but it isn't. I have spent my whole life loving rodeo and enjoying some amazing memories with family and friends. I truly feel that you do not have a good argument for wanting to ban rodeo. But I also trust that you will think about how many people you will hurt by taking away a huge portion of their happiness. Thank you for reading this if you did.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 01:35 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am in favor of letting the PBR continue to have rodeos. These animals are well cared for. They have the best life a bull could have. The bulls and horses are top athletes and worth a lot of money. So the people that own them want them to have the best care.



## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 02:26 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi my name is Elizabeth Molden and I would like to state my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban bull riding in Los Angeles. I would like to start off by saying the events of bull riding is take seriously by all who watch and take part in it. The bull that are used have never been treated with any harm. As you might say "well the Spurs used cause damage and pain to the bull" that isn't true at all. The use of a spur it to put little pressure to encourage the animal to move in a certain way, and Spurs are not sharp at all they a dulled down and you can take and roll them across you body with the same pressure used an a bull;getting no pain or damage to your self. The health and safety of the PBR bulls is important as well. These animal athletes get the best care and life they can possibly get. The bull live four to five times as long as a average bull. Once they are no longer in competition the animals get retired or a ranch and live the rest of their lives in pastures instead of going to the food supply. Once again bulls are not just some wild animals forced to compete, they are trained in the best of ways. The ordinance is completely unnecessary, PBR has many rules to protect their animals. Bulls are treated and taken very well care of. In my opinion bull riding teaches this like respect, responsibility, hard work, charity, honesty; which in this world today is lacking more than ever. It needs to stay around for a better world. The sport is inclusive and promotes total equality anyone can join and get trading if they just ask. We should celebrate all cowboys, their values, and great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skill in Los Angles. I grew up in this world of bull riding and rodeo. For many gene for many generations we were taught to take care of our animals and treat them with upmost responsibility and never ever to abuse them. As Cowboys is our duty to carry on these traditions and show them for future generations and kids that deserved something that needs to stay around. Rodeo is a big part of my life and it taught me many things like responsibility in the showing of compassion and I got many friends through this and I can't picture of world we're bull riding isn't a sport anymore. If you take away board riding you're taking away a Cowboys lifeline and a history that is going on for hundreds of years is something that we take dear and near to our hearts and there is no way that these animals are being abused or treated wrong I don't

see why it Hass to be bad and this is why I believe that you  
should pass his audience of banning Bull riding on Los Angeles  
thank you for reading this this.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Isaias bravo

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 03:37 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi my name is Isaias Bravo and I am against the banning of bull riding and rodeo in Los Angeles. I have grown up around the rodeo and such activities and have never seen or experienced anything that would be a good reason to rid of it . I know that there are stereotypes that such activities inflict animal abuse but that is far from the truth these animals are trained for this and treated with the highest quality and for many of the animals the rodeo lets animals live out there lives after there days of performing where if the were not they would be on a dinner plate . Please reconsider your proposition thank you for your time.  
Isaias Bravo

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Anthony Guevara

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 04:40 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Don't ban the pbr its the best sport there is around... bull riding  
been around longer than u guys have

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Adam Baker

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 05:00 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, my name is Adam Baker and I am commenting on behalf of the ordinance for banning such sports as the PBR. Sports such as these are vital to the economy of LA and play a vital part of our history as a nation. Rules are in place to protect the animals in the PBR's care and I can attest to the fact that they live with more comfort and with more care than the average livestock. The livelihood of these livestock owners and the riders themselves rests upon your shoulders. I hope that you will make the right decision in continuing this sport in which so many cherish. With the COVID lock down we have been under for the past year plus, let the people get back out and enjoy each other's company while enjoying the support so many have come to love. If you discontinue sports such as these, you kill a part of history, a part of us. If these animals were in any such peril I would 100% support the ban. But as these animals live great lives and are naturally born to be in this sport, you're not only hurting the people involved, but hurting the animals as well. I ask that you reconsider your ban. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Patricia Wang

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 05:08 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Council Members, The city of Los Angeles is an important one because, as you know, what LA does, much of the rest of the state, nation, and world follows. As a former resident of the State of California, I urge you to vote to continue to allow the historic sport of Rodeo in your city. Let me explain why this is important. I grew up with rodeos. I went to school with rodeo competitors. As a young girl, the rodeo was \*the\* event in my town (Fortuna) and it caused a great deal of excitement. The rodeo brought me closer to nature. Seeing the might of the bulls, the loyalty and intelligence of the horses, and tying the events to our California history gave me an understanding of what California really was; where it came from, and how it grew strong. As an adult, rodeos have given me an appreciation of my neighbors South of the boarder. I see some of them riding their horses, so proud, so strong; that I understand how close we are in many of our values and priorities. What we share in our love of ranches and horses, gave me a curiosity of their culture and a respect for what was important to them. I am, like most people, a meat eater. But at the same time, I have a deep respect for the animals that give their lives so that I can thrive. Rodeos are often the only time that massive numbers of people can see the majesty of those animals that contribute to our lifestyle. Learning to balance a love of nature with my choice to eat meat can only be honestly done by really understanding the relationship between cattle, horses, and me. Rodeos help bridge that understanding. And, last, rodeos are a glimpse into the past. It isn't a made-up sport, like football or basketball, it is a real-life practice of survival. Rodeo events were expressions of what real cowboys did, and still do, to bring food to our tables. It is rooted in American history. It is based on a respect for the animals, and the skills it takes to bring us food to our tables. Please. Please, don't give in to the pressure to erase our heritage. California is so much more than a series of mindless cities whose priorities are vapid. We have a history and a camaraderie with cowboys of all backgrounds-- rodeos tie our heritage with many different ethnic groups who based their livelihood on cattle. In the arena, the color of skin doesn't matter, skill does. I sincerely hope that you will stand strong for the history of California, and vote to hold rodeos sacred as expressions of respect for our history and livestock. Patricia Wang



## Communication from Public

**Name:** VALERIE WILSON

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 05:18 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi my name is Valerie Wilson. I am asking that the PBR & Rodeos in Los Angeles be saved. I have grown up around rodeos and the PBR and enjoy them just as lots and lots of other people do. The animals are all treated better than most people.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Bruce

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 05:28 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** This is not appropriate legislation agriculture rodeo animal events are Vidal to some communities but most important these animals are very well taken care of I have over 50 years experience in these matters. You need to be educated. Thank you

## Communication from Public

**Name:** D.P. Whitcher

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 05:32 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I would like to add my name to those OPPOSED to the proposed BAN ON RODEO! As a California Native born in Southern CA I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. I have been, and continue to be, heavily involved in the Western Lifestyle both in Northern CA and Southern CA and enjoy traveling to, and supporting rodeo events up and down the Golden State and visiting and spending money in the communities that support the Western Way of Life! Animals, and the love that we have for ALL animals, is a key component to a functional western lifestyle and has been for well over 200 years. Anyone who is a fan of western sports knows that the health and safety of our animals before, during, and after these rodeo events is very important to all involved in the outdoor lifestyle. Californians of all gender, creed, and color make their living by breeding, training and working with these incredible animal athletes; they make sure these animals get the best feed, the best care, and the best living conditions possible. These are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for rodeo. They are not abused. They are celebrated, valued, and important members of our families! Rodeo teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty - traits sadly lacking in much of our society today. The sport of rodeo is inclusive and promotes equality; everyone is welcome. These important values are needed today more than ever - especially for our youth, who have been hard hit by the COVID restrictions that have inhibited their ability to socialize with other living breathing humans. We desperately need to get more children to experience the outdoor recreational environment - not RESTRICT their ability to enjoy the great outdoors! If this ordinance goes forward, it will place a ban in Los Angeles that not only affects rodeo, but also bull riding and virtually all equestrian events – including gatherings important to many communities striving to maintain a cultural identity - such as the Hispanic charros rodeo, the all-Black rodeo planned for STAPLES Center, the PBR tour which is incredibly important to many Angelenos with South American ancestry, as well as any future PRCA rodeos, Compton Cowboy exhibitions, or even future Olympic equestrian sporting events. This proposal will not just ban sports events that bring economic impact to LA but even

worse, equestrian events and exhibitions here that change lives. We should celebrate all cowboys and cowgirls, showcase their strong ethical and moral values, and reward personal responsibility in our children, as caring for others - both animal as well as human - teaches all of these important values. I urge you to please not move forward with this proposal – it's unnecessary for a sport that already values and protects its animal athletes. This proposed Ban on Rodeo would be detrimental to Los Angeles in many ways, and is seen by many as yet another attempt to erase the Western Lifestyle that is so valued worldwide. California and Cowboys (and Cowgirls) are synonymous; let us celebrate our heritage and find ways to protect and preserve the history that makes California the worldwide leader that it has been forever. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns. ?

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Military Rodeo Cowboys Association

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 06:13 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The Armed Forces and Rodeo are two great American traditions. The Military Rodeo Cowboys Association has been a part of rodeos all over Southern California and the nation. We were headquartered out of Camp Pendleton for many years and held rodeos in the Los Angeles area many times. We urge you to not take any step that would deny our military members the opportunity to compete in a sport that they love. We are convinced that this sport is safe for the livestock and in fact is more dangerous to the cowboys and cowgirls who compete in rodeo. Our rule book is very specific regarding the care and treatment of all livestock used in our events and we do everything we can to ensure our animal athletes are well treated. Rodeo and other western lifestyle type events are a heritage of the LA area dating back to the years before CA became a state. It would just be wrong to now change what is allowed in LA with regards to these type of events. We stand with many thousands of people who urge you to not take this away from us.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jim Sowle

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 08:32 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo is a sport that involves humans and animals. Neither are forced to perform, any more than your dog is forced to play fetch. Animals love to play, just like people. The animals in rodeo are well cared for, as any animal that is valued would be.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Matthew Bowles

**Date Submitted:** 05/19/2021 11:34 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Council Members, My name is Matthew and I am a bucking bull breeder, raiser and trainer from Texas. I have recently become aware of the ordinance that will effectively ban all rodeo or western sport events. I would like to tell you why I think this ordinance is not good. Being a cowboy is more than wearing a hat. Or owning a horse or some cattle. It's a sense of truth, honesty, integrity. A cowboy is upright in all dealings. That's why I can say with full conviction that the animals involved in western sports or rodeo are treated better than most domesticated animals. They come first for us. They get fed the best grain, the best choice hay. They get regular vet care and are doted on like they are our children. We love these animals more than can be expressed in this small space. The people who are employees of the ranches and companies that put on the rodeos, events, etc are going to affect them in ways that they will have to completely change their way of life in order to survive. After a pandemic and fighting to have in-person events for so long, to deny them of the chance to earn a living is very unfortunate and will undoubtedly put added strain on many families. Furthermore, I submit that the idea that electric prods, Spurs, flanks, or restraining straps do no harm to the animals. They are used infrequently and with restraint, caution and care. The care, time and money that goes into these animals is at a level that no contractor or owner would want to see harm come to their animal. The people involved in the western sports industry have a vested interest in making sure that these animals are well cared for. Just like in 1966 when the Animal Welfare Act was signed. I personally disagree with this ordinance and ask you to please consider the producer and competitors side to this issue. I appreciate the councils time and attention to this matter.  
Matthew Bowles

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jonathan

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 03:50 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm from South Carolina, I've been dreaming since I was five to become a PBR bull rider Y'all need to not go through with this ban of Bull riding and other Rodeo sports because it'll destroy mine and so many others dreams. What would MLKJ think?

## Communication from Public

**Name:** DeBoraha

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 04:59 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am deeply concerned over the motion I read about the could potentially ban the sport of rodeo in Los Angeles county. As both a participant and spectator of rodeo I can attest to the fact that our animals are treated humanely, as they are the core of our existence. Please further research before acting on such a measure



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ashlyn Salvo

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 05:22 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not take away our rodeo! Some of us this is how we make a living. It is our sport and home. What if we decided to take away football or any other major sport? How is this fair? And how would this affect our economy most dont know but it will be a major impact.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 08:45 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not support the ordinance to ban rodeo in Los Angeles. For generations, California has been a home to rodeo and Western culture. From the California Gold Rush to the PRCA California Circuit, cowboys and rodeo have found a home in not only California, but Los Angeles. The modern Compton Cowboys are the preeminent example in the Greater Los Angeles area, and there are many others as well. As a bull rider, cowboy, pet owner and animal lover, I can assure you that the health and welfare of these animals is at the forefront of the minds of stock contractors and rodeo athletes alike. In contrast with abusive practices such as factory farming, rodeo animals are free, loved, and receive the best care of any animals I've known. I look forward to passing along the tradition of rodeo when I can no longer ride, and I want the next generation of cowboys and cowgirls to have the opportunity to compete in the City of Angels. Again, I respectfully ask that you do not support the ordinance to ban rodeo, and I hope that you will look into rodeo for yourselves and see what is happening behind the scenes and in the arena. Rodeo people are great people, rodeo animals are great animals, and I'm sure you will agree once you meet them for yourselves. We are a hospitable bunch and I'm sure I speak for my counterparts in Los Angeles and the State of California when I invite you to come enjoy a day with your family at the rodeo. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sarah

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 08:53 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not ban bull riding or other rodeo events. These animals are very well cared for and allow people the chance to interact with animals, which is so important for our society.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lori Wiersum

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 09:02 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear City Council, I am an animal activist AND a PBR fan. I have been to live events and have NEVER a seen inhumane treatment of any of the Livestock. The Bulls have longer lifespans than average by many years. The Horses are magnificent and beautifully handled. The sport is terribly hard on the riders but they are choosing to be there. Having been near the pens, I haven't witnessed any signs of animal distress or I wouldn't be able to watch it, I can't bear abuse of any kind. It's a wild and exciting spectacle, that celebrates the magnificent strength of powerful animal athletes. Please allow it to be performed in Los Angeles. Thank you

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Camarie Widmer

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 09:34 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, My name is Camarie Widmer and I'm the owner of two companies that focus on youth and families in the western lifestyle. The lessons that children learn from horses, ponies, competition and agriculture in general are incomparable to any other lifestyle. They learn responsibility, respect, honor, hard work, passion, perseverance, faith, gratitude, how to care and be soft. Taking care of animals is a huge task, it's like taking care of a child. They can't speak and you have to stay responsible and respect the animal EVERY SINGLE DAY. And because you have to keep them healthy, they get to think about the crops and commodities it takes to keep them well fed. The shoes, the supplements, the feed, clean water, grooming and that's all before they even get on to ride. For youngsters to compete in any equine or rodeo related event, they have to put a lot of work and money into it. They learn how to go after what they want. They have to physically take care of themselves and their partners. They learn discipline, strategy and execution of their events. They have a passion for it because they love their animals and the feeling of their hard work paying off. They have to persevere when things don't go right or their horse gets hurt and they get to take care of them and find a new way. Rodeo is probably the ONLY sport that still has morals and faith in it. We stand for the flag and appreciate the people who have fought for our country to get where it's at today. We PRAY and stand together in unity, spreading love for one another, for our country for GOD and we stand as a FAMILY. If you ask any person who participates in any rodeo related event what the "Rodeo Family" is, you'll learn how much love and care there is for people and animals in this industry. Kids say "yes Sir" and "Yes Ma'am". They have a reason to go outside and not be on their telephone or playing video games all the time. They learn how to COMMUNICATE, the very thing our world is lacking right now. I don't know who gets to make these decisions, but I'm certain, the people who are passing these bills haven't spent time on a ranch learning the ways of the western lifestyle. They haven't spent time in the practice pen with a family who is teaching their children LIFE SKILLS that support them in being good, hardworking, faithful human beings when they mature. They haven't had to pick up square bales out of a field and put them into a loft so their animals could

be well taken care of for the rest of the year. They haven't experienced the kind of care that rough stock animals receive and how peaceful and HEALTHY they are before and after they compete. These animals are well taken care of and until you've experienced it first hand, you shouldn't be making any decisions on people's livelihoods. It's clear that too many people who aren't educated in agriculture and our way of life are making HUGE decisions based on opinions and extremely surface level views of what's actually happening in the back pens. Most people have NO IDEA WHY they're happening, and until you do, please don't make rash decisions. I respect your care for animals, but you have no idea how much MORE we respect them. You are taking away what people LIVE for. By passing this bill, you are taking away the opportunity for families to instill the exact values and morals this country is lacking. Please, DO NOT ban rodeo, 4H, FFA, jackpots or any equine/rodeo related events. Find another way to make sure that animals are taken care of, but don't ban what you don't know about. Thank you, Camarie Widmer

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 10:58 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Understanding our heritage starts with our roots. The term "rodeo" actually comes from the Spanish term rodear- which means to round up. Rodeo is rooted in the vaquero (Spanish for cowboy) lifestyle which much of California was covered in cattle ranches run long before any cities began popping up. This history, culture and lifestyle is preserved through rodeo and our western way of life. If you ask anyone in rodeo, the equestrian community or in a 4-H/FFA program there is no doubt the care we have and take for our animals. Often our animals are fed before ourselves! The health and safety of the animals in rodeo and bull riding is paramount. Rodeo contestants and stock contractors make their living by breeding, training and working with the animal athletes, who get the best care. They truly love these animal athletes and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. These are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for their jobs. They are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don't harm the animals. There are over 70 rules already in place in the PRCA to protect, support and care for our livestock before, during and after every single rodeo. Rodeo teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome, rodeo and animals do not discriminate and these values are needed now more than ever. This ordinance will ban in Los Angeles rodeo, bull riding and various equestrian events– affecting the charros rodeo, the all-Black rodeo at STAPLES Center, PBR, any future PRCA rodeos, Compton Cowboys exhibitions, and even several Olympic equestrian sports. This is not just banning sports that bring economic impact to LA but even worse, equestrian events and exhibitions here that change lives. The opportunities and doors that caring for animals like horses can open is invaluable- there are scholarships, schooling and careers dedicated to the rodeo and western industries. We need to celebrate all cowboys and cowgirls, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles! Rodeo helps keep our children off the streets and promotes a lifestyle that is worth living for.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Gary W. Van Sickle

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 11:37 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Good morning. My name is Gary W. Van Sickle, and I would like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. My wife and I live in Visalia, CA, about 4 hours north of Los Angeles, in the Central Valley. The major sport that we enjoy watching is the professional bull riding (PBR). In 2019 and 2020 we attended bull riding events in Los Angeles at the Staples Center. When we traveled to your city it was common for the trip to cost us at least \$750 to \$800, just for the expenses that we incurred within the city of Los Angeles. (Many of the other attendees would have spent similar amounts, thus one event could have brought in at least \$10 million dollars to your city.) I would like to point out that the stock contractors make their livings providing animal athletes (bulls) to these events, which they do by selective breeding, training and working with their animal athletes. With the value the contractors have invested in their bulls they provide the absolute best care they can to these athletes. I would like to make it very clear; these are not wild animals forced to compete – they have been bred and trained for doing these competitions. These specific bulls buck because of their genetics. They are not abused or coerced to compete. The flank straps used do not harm the bulls. These bulls become a part of their family. One contractor, Mr. Chad Berger from South Dakota, had a bull that had recently retired from the sport when it unexpectedly died. Later that fall, in memory of that bull Mr. Berger provided to all the fans that attended one of the finals events in Las Vegas, Christmas ornaments with a picture of his dearly beloved bull on them. Regarding the sport of bull riding, it teaches the young men involved important values such as hard work, charity, respect, responsibility and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome, both as riders and as fans/spectators of the sport. I urge you to please not move forward with this proposal. It is unnecessary as the PBR (and PRCA) already protects their great animal athletes, and it would be detrimental to the bull riding fans in Los Angeles if these events could not be held there in the future. I look forward to attending more bull riding events at Staples Center in the future. Thank you.  
Gary W. Van Sickle Visalia, CA



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Josiah Akers

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 12:12 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, My name is Josiah Akers. I have been involved in Rodeo and Rodeo like events including Bullriding for almost 20 years. Canceling events such as these would be a terrible mistake for many reasons. Many peoples livelihoods depend on this sport. And to us its a way of life. The animals that are involved in these sports are not wild animals that are forced or made to buck or perform. They are athletes themselves, just as much as a racehorse is. They are born and bred to be the best animal athletes in the world. They love what they do and enjoy it. Have you ever seen a working dog who could no longer heard sheep or a seeing eye dog who could no longer be of service? They are miserable. They want to work and love every minute of it. It's what they were born to do. The same goes for rodeo animal athletes. The people that work in the Rodeo and equestrian industries are the backbone of America. They are farmers and ranchers and grow the food you eat. If you opened your fridge this morning and had food to pull out and eat you should thank these people. Where do you think it comes from? People that work in these industries are stewards of the land. And put the needs of their animals first and foremost. These animals are treated like family. And they are fed and taken care of long before their owners sit down to eat. I'm very shocked and saddened that this idea of no longer holding these events is even being entertained. Every little boy and girl can learn so much from attending these events, as it has such a positive impact on their lives. Im living proof of that. Seeing strong men and women working hard and taking care of animals and working alongside animals is such a fantastic learning opportunity for young people, as well as a lasting life lesson they may otherwise never have a chance to experience. Thank you for your time. Best regards,  
Josiah Akers

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Carole

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 01:41 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I have been made aware of proceedings targeting Rodeo events, including Bull Riding. As a professional in the veterinary industry I made it my business to thoroughly investigate the treatment of rodeo animals. What I found was an industry absolutely committed to treating the animal athletes as just that, athletes. The animal husbandry practiced among stock contractors is above reproach among the major players. I can't speak to the smaller rodeo operations as I concentrated on the larger operations. The animals are well fed, well conditioned and their care is above reproach. My interest stemmed from a lifetime of enjoying the sport. I admire the work ethic and the family values that the rodeo industry regularly promotes. I admire their commitment to promoting patriotism in America, while at the same time including other countries in the competitions and honoring those countries and their respective histories. Please consider carefully before you eradicate this sport. Research the animal treatment protocols, speak to the competitors, stock contractors and to some of the fans. I think you will find that the sport is being run responsibly and the people involved are determined to keep it that way.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** T Armstrong

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 01:56 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not take this away from our youth and our families.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Timothy Shew

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 02:10 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo animals are among the most cared for creatures in captivity. They are treated like family members by their owners, fed and watered usually better than the average range animal and can be found to have a longer life span. A disinterest in a certain sport or the rare instance cited for animal cruelty is not a valid reason to stop a tradition and way of life that so many people enjoy and make a living doing. No more than seeing a dog mistreated by one person leads to banning dog owners from having their pets. Small interest groups being loud and trying to stop something they have no interest in has become a way of banning or trying to take away the freedom of people who enjoy different pastimes. Rodeo's are an american traditions. The animals in rodeos are treated as professionals with vets present at all times to take care of them. These animals also enjoy many months off a year where they are on pasture and do nothing but eat and rest. Please consider the source of small interest groups trying to take one more thing away from the core interest of mainstream America.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Javier Santizo

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 02:33 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Mi name is javier santizo. I'm asking that we stop and think about this ban on rodeo in LA. My 10 year old boy practices the sport of bull riding in the calf riding division. I am proud that my kid experiences the meaning of hard work and dedication. There is no such thing as a Participation trophy in bull riding. America was founded in the belief of hard work! Dedication! Fearlessness! How many kids do any of you council men and women know a kid that wakes up before sunrise, feeds his chickens, dogs, horses and calfs? Washes their water troughs, brushes and looks for anomalies in his animals before having breakfast and logging on to his class? Bull riding teaches respect for what our lord provided. It teaches work ethic. It challenges you every step of the way. Things are changing radically enough in our food Industry, have you contemplated where our future ranchers and live stock meat producers will be coming from? It is our responsibility to teach our kids. Kids that like to work with their hands. We teach medicine in our schools, engineering, computer programming and many other things. But we fail to teach the True American History. We fail to remind our kids of those who endured the heartache and pain that it took to conquer our frontiers. It's not fair to take away a sport that embody the most American spirit. Bull riding represents life and everything that life can throw at you. My job as a parent is to make sure that my kid understands what it means to be American! You get up and better yourself, you guard, you respect and you fight. Be cowboy.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jessica Simmons

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 02:53 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo is heritage, it is family, good work ethic, never giving up and always trying your best. The animals are cared for better than human athletes. Most times our animals care comes before ours, they eat before us, they see the Dr at least yearly. They provide our sanity and are therapists while offering rehabilitation for some. WE are a family not a group of people. This our heritage and our job to preserve the western way of life. I can't imagine any livestock event not being available for young kids to participate in. It has taught be so many responsibilities that I would have not gotten anywhere else. Please DO NOT take this away from us who wake up early everyday and support theses organizations and way of life.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 05:32 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I disagree with the idea to ban bull-riding/PBR. As an animal lover, I too would have issues with harming animals for sport; however, I have never witnessed any cruelty during any of the events I have attended. Please consider more research into this matter.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** CIndy Kennedy

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 05:39 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do NOT support ANY bills that seek to ban or eliminate rodeos or other equine events that might seem similar. The animals that are used in these events are very expensive and are very well cared for by the owners and competitors. This is our livelihood and if the animals don't feel the best they could possibly feel, they don't perform the best that they can. They are athletes and are treated very well. You will not find a finer group of people that w to preserve the traditional family values that we cherish in this country. God Bless America and God Bless Cowboys!!



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Juan

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2021 08:36 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hola no creo que al prohibir los rodeos en nuestras ciudades ayude a terminar con los problemas reales que tenemos como sociedad me gustaría que está gente que se ocupa de proponer este tipo de restricciones se pudiera ayudar de verdad a tanta gente que necesita ayuda buen mejor que prohíban a los dogers en ese tipo de eventos hay más violencia que un rodeo por favor no nos quiten nuestras tradiciones godbles América y los angeles

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nadja Adolf

**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2021 12:55 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The people promoting this measure are lying. Rodeo people make their living by breeding, training and working with the animal athletes, who get the best care and training. They are very fond of their stock. The rodeo stock is trained and specially bred for their jobs and the devices used - dull rowel spurs and bucking straps are designed to not cause injury or harm to the animals. An animal in pain does not buck or perform - they tend instead to bolt and run. Rodeo is one of the most inclusive sports and has been as far back as I can remember - and I am in my mid 60s. Native people, Black people, Latins, and Whites have always competed on equal terms. This ordinance will ban Los Angeles rodeo, bull riding and various equestrian events- affecting the charros rodeo, the all-Black rodeo at STAPLES Center, PBR, any future PRCA rodeos, Compton Cowboys exhibitions, and other working equine events. These events - which celebrate unity amidst diversity will be replaced by the usual overpriced events that many who now attend these events cannot afford. This will also impact Olympic equestrian sports which are not as diverse, but are important to those who participate - and no one should be discriminated against because of their race. This is not just banning sports that bring economic benefits to LA but even worse, equestrian events and exhibitions here that enable kids from places like Compton and East Palo Alto to change their lives. There is a Black man from Arizona who grew up on a ranch and has been promoting working with horses and stock to divert children from gang life in EPA. I know him and I know his program works. We need to celebrate all cowboys and cowgirls, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles. Los Angeles is noted for the LatinX Charros Rodeo, and Black rodeos and exhibitions. This will disrupt the character building activities of 4-H and FFA. Do you have any conception of how many urban children in California raise 4-H livestock? Backyard chickens and 4-H poultry shows are enormously popular and the responsibility entailed in raising livestock and caring for stock builds responsibility, reliability, character, and honesty. So does rodeo and so do stock shows.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2021 05:42 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** If you would watch closely you will notice that when a rider is bucked off the bull stops bucking even though the bucking rope is still on him.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** David Gershwin  
**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2021 08:28 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Please see attached correspondence from the Western Sports Industry Coalition regarding Councilmember Blumenfield's motion regarding rodeo in the City of Los Angeles, CF 20-1575.

# Western Sports Industry Coalition

May 21, 2021

The Honorable Bob Blumenfield  
Councilmember, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
200 N. Spring Street, Room 415  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

## RE: CF 20-1575 (Rodeo Events)

Dear Councilmember Blumenfield:

On behalf of the Western Sports Industry Coalition, a group of 30 organizations representing rodeo professionals, the world's leading bull riding organization, equestrians, sports organizations, and cultural institutions, we wanted to respectfully voice our opposition to specific items in your motion for an ordinance that would impose restrictions on rodeo and bull riding events in the City of Los Angeles. The motion, as currently written, will impose unnecessary measures on a sport that already has extensive animal welfare policies, procedures and guidelines. Such an ordinance would effectively ban these events altogether in the City of Los Angeles. Eliminating rodeo events in Los Angeles will have both a negative cultural and economic impact on the City. We want to share with you how many of the animal welfare concerns raised in your motion are already addressed in officially sanctioned rodeo events, and demonstrate how this ordinance is unnecessary and detrimental to our organizations, our Black and Latino culture, and the city of Los Angeles.

Our member organizations have long taken leadership roles developing animal welfare regulations to preserve the welfare of our animals. Simply put, we could not hold rodeo events without the continued health and well-being of our animals. We undertake the following animal welfare measures for all rodeo and bull riding events:

- **Spurs** are used by contestants for balance and to keep time with the animal. We do not allow sharpened or fixed spurs or rowels. All rowels are dull, about the thickness of two quarters, roll freely in the horse riding events, and roll 1/5 of a turn in bull riding. They do not harm the animal.
- **Flank straps** for horses must be covered in fleece or neoprene, and flank straps for bulls are made of soft cotton rope and are equivalent to the use of a belt by a person. Contrary to common misinformation, the straps do not touch the animal's genitals. Neither type of flank strap harms the animal in any way and do NOT make them buck – horses and bulls are bred to buck.
- **Electric prods** are not permitted except for the safety of livestock, the contestant, or personnel. When they are used, the output is measured in milliamps (1/1000<sup>th</sup> of an amp), typically in the 1.5-4.0 mA range. Household electrical circuits typically carry up to 20 amps – *5,000 to more than 13,000 times more current than a battery-operated prod.*
- **Wire tie-downs** are not used in bull riding events held by Professional Bull Riders (PBR), and are used only in equestrian events. All wire tie-downs must have a nose covering in all

## Western Sports Industry Coalition

Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association (PRCA) events, and in events held by the Mexican Federation of Charros in California (FMCH-CA), the use of wire material is strictly prohibited.

More details on these safety measures can be found in the attached fact sheet.

Additionally, effectively banning rodeos in the City of Los Angeles would impose major hardships on three major cultural groups – Mexican American *Charros*, Black cowboys, and Native Americans – and their ability to hold and compete in rodeo events that provide valuable education and inspiration, particularly to youth. The first, competitive *Charrería*, a cultural tradition originally from Mexico which has been passed down from generation to generation, is prominent in Mexican American culture as well. Inscribed in 2016 on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO, *Charrería* and its *Charros* (riders) carry on a proud tradition of roping and handling cattle and horses, with saddles, spurs and other pieces of equipment designed by local artisans. The second, Black rodeo organizations, including the Compton Cowboys, and the Bill Pickett Invitational Rodeo also represent the history and tradition of rodeos, ranching and agrarian lifestyle in the Black community. Finally, Native Americans, the original stewards of our land, participate in western sports at a professional level greater than in any other area of sports.

One additional consequence of this proposed rodeo ordinance's language is making two sports of 2028 LA Olympics illegal – Equestrian and Modern Pentathlon. Both events' participants use spurs with fixed rowels.

Finally, if the City of Los Angeles's actions ultimately prevented large sporting events such as the Professional Bull Riders, last held at STAPLES Center in February 2020, the City would lose significant revenue, including hotel bed taxes associated with the event and economic activity generated by both participants and fans. Eliminating rodeo events would impact venues like STAPLES Center, resulting in the loss of millions of dollars in economic impact to Los Angeles as well as hundreds of hours of union work by members of IATSE Local 33 and other workers represented by organized labor who support the event's logistics.

Thank you for taking the time to review this material and allowing us the opportunity to provide you with facts and context to demonstrate the numerous detrimental consequences of this unnecessary ordinance. Should you have any questions or need further information, please contact Dave Duquette, President and Executive Director of Western Justice at [dave@westernjustice.info](mailto:dave@westernjustice.info) or 541-571-7588, or our advocate David Gershwin at [david@davidgershwin.com](mailto:david@davidgershwin.com) or 323-791-2319.

We look forward to discussing this matter with you further.

Sincerely,

Western Industry Sports Coalition

## Western Sports Industry Coalition



AMERICAN  
QUARTER  
HORSE  
ASSOCIATION



COMPTON  
COWBOYS<sup>SM</sup>



jr. rodeo  
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*Murieta Equestrian Center*



National Stock Horse Association

*Simply The Best*



PCCHA  
PACIFIC COAST CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION



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## Western Sports Industry Coalition



cc: The Honorable Mitch O'Farrell  
The Honorable Paul Koretz  
The Honorable Marqueece Harris-Dawson  
The Honorable Mike Bonin  
The Honorable Gil Cedillo  
The Honorable Paul Krekorian  
The Honorable Nithya Raman  
The Honorable Nury Martinez  
The Honorable Monica Rodriguez  
The Honorable Curren Price  
The Honorable Mark Ridley-Thomas  
The Honorable John Lee  
The Honorable Kevin de Leon  
The Honorable Joe Buscaino  
Ms. Valerie Flores, Office of the City Attorney  
Mr. Steve Houchin, Office of the City Attorney  
Mr. Adam Lid, Office of the City Clerk  
Mr. John White, Office of the City Clerk



# Western Sports Industry Coalition

## Attachment

### Rodeo & Bull Riding Animal Welfare Facts

#### Overview – Key Takeaways

- The motion, as currently written, will ban equipment that is necessary for human and animal safety in rodeo and bull riding events. Without being able to use this safety equipment, we will be unable to hold these events in Los Angeles.
- There are deep Latino and African American cultural connections to rodeos, which celebrate the ranching and agrarian lifestyle rooted in Los Angeles.
  - The history and tradition of Charrería, an event similar to rodeo, is deeply engrained in the Mexican spirit. The tradition represents important social values, such as love and care of animals, and respect and equality for people in the community.
  - The Black cowboys in South Los Angeles known as “The Compton Cowboys” help tell this history, serve as an inspiration to youth, and are now receiving national recognition.
  - The nation’s all-Black touring rodeo, the Bill Picket Invitational Rodeo, which teaches forgotten history of Black cowboys and cowgirls while inspiring youth, will be unable to have events in LA if this ordinance is adopted.
- The health and safety of all animals involved in rodeo and bull riding events is of paramount importance to every rodeo organization. There is a zero-tolerance policy in place for the mistreatment of any animal. Penalties for the mistreatment of animals include fines, disqualification and even expulsion.
- Animals in rodeo get the best food and medical care and live a substantially better life than animals not involved in rodeo.

#### *Flank or Bucking Straps*

- Flank straps are used as an extra cue to encourage bucking.
- Flank straps do not harm or injure the bulls or horses and do not make them buck. Horses and bulls are bred to buck. Genetics are the most prevalent factor in determining the animal’s ability to buck.

#### *Electric Prods*

- Electric prods are used only for the safety of the animal or contestant.
- The electric prod has an output so small that it is measured in milliamps (1/1000<sup>th</sup> of an amp) - 1.5 to 4.0 mA. This is slightly stronger than the shock a person may receive through static electricity.
- Use of electric prods in a California rodeo is used in compliance with existing CA penal code 596.7

#### *Wire Tie-Downs*

- The tie down is a safety device, which does not harm the horse.
- The tie-down is used as a balance point for the horse to push into and keep its head down as it is running or pulling cattle. The horse needs to have its head down in order to see the cattle’s movement and adjust accordingly. It keeps the horse moving horizontally with its feet on the ground and its center of gravity low, much like an offensive lineman in football. Horses that naturally keep their heads and center of gravity low do not need a tie down for balance.
- All wire tie-downs must have a nose covering in ALL PRCA events.

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- In Charro events, tie-downs and nosebands must be leather, cotton, or waxed string/rope. The use of any wire material is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**.
- Tie-downs are not used in PBR. They are used in the equestrian events by contestants on their own horses.

### ***Sharpened or Fixed Spurs or Rowels***

- All rowels on riders' spurs in rodeo and bull riding are dull and do not harm the animal. Sharpened spurs are not permitted.
- The spurs in the bucking horse events are used by the contestants for balance and to keep time with the animal.
- In PBR, spurs are used by riders to help with grip and balance on the bull. PBR mandates a spur rowel that is dull to the touch.
- Flankmen, livestock owners, gate men, judges, and others are all monitoring to ensure sharpened spurs are not used. Spurs are inspected by personnel on the back of the chute as the rider is mounting the animal. Riders with sharp rowels, or hook spurs will be disqualified from the event, fined and could face suspension.

### ***Injuries in Rodeo and Bull Riding***

- The claim that animal injuries are “common” is myth promulgated to sensationalize the occurrence of rare injuries.
  - PRCA tracks and reports all injuries occurring in state to the California Veterinary Medical Board. The PRCA has a 99.9% safety rating with the livestock in rodeo. Less than 1% of livestock exposures result in any form of injury.
  - A survey conducted at 148 PRCA rodeo performances and 70 sections of slack recorded 28 injuries occurring during 60,244 exposures. This calculates to an injury rate of .00046 or just under five-hundredths of 1%.
  - PBR reports bull injuries/fatalities occurring in .0002% of outs (the bull leaving the chute).
  - In more than 5,000 PBR bull outs in 2020, there were two bull injuries.
- Injuries ranging from a minor scratch to more severe only happen 1/100<sup>th</sup> of a percent of total animal exposures annually.

### **Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) Animal Welfare Facts**

The PRCA has been sanctioning rodeos since its first iteration in 1936, wrote its first animal welfare laws in the mid 1940's, and has been the industry leader in creating the standard in animal welfare for rodeo. The rodeo industry could not continue without the health and well-being of its animals being at the forefront of its concerns. Today, the PRCA has over 70 rules covering the welfare of the livestock used in rodeos.

### ***Flank Straps***

- The purpose of the flank strap is to encourage the horse to kick as it is bucking. It also helps the horse to slow down and remain in control with its head up as it is bucking.
- Flank straps must be covered in fleece or neoprene. No wire or sharp/foreign objects are allowed including but not limited to zip ties, wire, plastic, steel, golf tees, etc.

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- Flank straps fit around the waist, much like a belt on a person. When a horse is in the chute, the flank strap is loose. As the horse leaves the chute it is tightened to approximately the same tightness as a snug belt or a pair of shoelaces on a basketball or running shoe.
- The flank strap has a quick release mechanism so that a pickup man may release it when he rides up and helps the cowboy dismount from the horse at the end of the ride.
- The flank strap is not attached or wrapped to the genitals of a horse. This is a myth and easily debunked by pictures of these animals in action.

### *Prods*

- The use of an electric prod in the chute is prohibited except if needed for the safety of the livestock, contestant, or personnel as determined by a rodeo judge – all extremely rare circumstances.
- The electric prod has an output so small that it is measured in milliamps (1/1000<sup>th</sup> of an amp) - 1.5 to 4.0 mA. This is slightly stronger than the shock a person may receive through static electricity.
- A prod is used minimally to move 1,500+ pound animals who stall out in the bucking chute. Similar to a sprinter leaving the starting block or a hurdler avoiding tripping over a hurdle, the move out of the chute needs to be as clean as possible. Prods help with this action while keeping the animal safe.
- It is also a matter of safety for the contestants by keeping the animal from dragging a leg and catching a toe in the gate or on the front of the chute.
- The use of an electric prod in California rodeos is used in compliance with existing California penal code 596.7 – “The rodeo management shall ensure that no electric prod or similar device is used on any animal once the animal is in the holding chute, unless necessary to protect the participants and spectators of the rodeo.”
- California’s law followed the rules for prod usage that the PRCA has used and developed since 1960.

### *Spurs*

- ALL spurs are dull. Sharpened spurs are strictly against the rules in PRCA events.
- Rodeo spurs have rowels that are attached and roll freely. Only in the bull riding are these rowels semi-locked (able to turn about 1/5 of a turn).
- Bucking Events
  - The spurs in the bucking horse events are used for balance and to keep time with the animal as it is bucking. The rowels are dull, loose, and about the thickness of 2 quarters. They are used like hand holds for the rider’s feet but are reset each jump to keep in time with the horse. Bull spurs, also dull and not harmful to the animal, are the thickness of three quarters.
- Timed Events (Tie-down Roping, Team Roping, Barrel Racing, and Steer Wrestling)
  - The spurs used in the timed events are used to move the horse forward as well as to get the horse to move its front feet or back in a certain direction.
  - In the roping events and barrel racing, spurs are a cue to shift weight or bend the horse’s body to maintain balance while making a turn or absorbing the pull from a roped bovine. The reins on a bridle tell the horse when to go, stop, and turn – the spurs tell the horse how fast, and how its body needs to be positioned when doing these.

### *Wire tie-downs*

- All wire tie-downs must have a nose covering in ALL PRCA events.
- Tie downs are used as a balance point for the animal and do not harm them.

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## ***Animal Injuries***

- The claim that animal injuries are “common” is a myth sensationalizing the occurrence of rare injuries.
- The PRCA has a 99.9% safety rating with the livestock in rodeo. Less than 1% of livestock exposures result in any form of injury.
- The claim that “many animals are put down” is false, a fallacy proven by simple economics and mathematics. It is economically inviable that the owner of the livestock could afford, much less tolerate, the loss of “many” of his assets.
- Mathematically, the loss of “50%” – as has been claimed– of the animals per year, is completely false. No business can lose 50% of its product and remain a business.
- Misinformation is being used to allege that livestock used in rodeos are “wild” animals gathered from the plains and pastures, loaded up, hauled to the rodeo, and put into their respective events without conditioning to feed, transportation, human contact, and more importantly, the physical conditioning needed. This is false. The animal athletes are bred for their specific purpose and trained for their respective events.
- The livestock are in the truest sense, animal athletes. No different than a football, basketball, baseball, or track athlete.
- Diets are monitored closely, as well as the best veterinarian care provided.

## **FMCH-CA (Mexican Federation of Charros in California) Animal Welfare Facts**

Charrería was inscribed in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO in 2016. Charrería is considered an important aspect of the identity of bearer communities and their cultural heritage since the late 1800’s.

Charrería is a tradition passed down from generation to generation. Riders, known as charros, are skilled horsemen who proudly carry on traditions such as roping and the handling of cattle and horses. Charros and their horses often spend decades together working in the ring and competing in events. Following the conclusion of their career, these horses can live up to another 20 years. Many find second careers in breeding and as therapy horses.

## ***Flank Straps***

- Both the bull rope and flank strap, or “verijero,” are made of cotton. There are no spikes or sharp edges to it.
- The flank strap is loosely fitted, and contrary to myth is not wrapped around the animal’s genitals.
- The flank strap is necessary so the animal bucks and does not flip over or fall back on the rider. These straps help avoid injury to both the animals and the riders.

## ***Prods***

- The use of electric prods is strictly prohibited inside the arena. Outside the arena, the battery-operated less-than 1-amp prods, are used only if necessary when moving cattle. This prod is only handled by the sports commissioner if necessary.

## ***Spurs***

- The spurs are used to assist the rider in holding on and keeping balance, when riding the bulls and bucking horses.

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- Hook spurs with sharp rowels, a tied heel, or angled shanks are strictly prohibited.
- Competitors are under constant evaluation, and anyone who uses prohibited spurs will be disqualified.
- The commissioner at each event has two pairs of spurs that are readily accessible for all riders to use. These are the ONLY spurs allowed. No one can use their own spurs.
- For reining and roping events, the spurs are dulled with free rolling rowels. Spurs are used as a cue for horses to move forward and for the rider's balance.

### ***Wire tie-downs***

- Tie downs and nosebands must be leather, cotton, or waxed string/rope.
- The use of any wire material is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

### ***Animal Injuries***

- There is zero tolerance for animal abuse. Punishments for evidence of animal abuse include fines and a potential lifetime ban.
- Most charros make a living of breeding and raising their horses and livestock.
- There is no economic value to have their animals injured or abused.
- Many hours are spent training the animals to perform to their best abilities.
- The safety rating with livestock in the charro events is similar to the PRCA.
- In the case of any accident, we tend to the animal immediately with our vets and those who are trained to be vet techs.

### **PBR Animal Welfare Facts – Bulls**

Every bull ride takes two athletes – a courageous cowboy and world-class bovine. The prized animal athletes competing in professional bull riding are cared for as true stars of the sport. Here are important facts about the world-class treatment of the bulls in PBR:

***The bulls buck because of genetic breeding.*** Just as thoroughbred racehorses are carefully bred to run fast, PBR bucking bulls are genetically disposed to jump, kick and spin with power and grace. They are NEVER shocked, coerced, or harmfully prodded to compete. The only training device used to stimulate bucking behavior is a flank strap tied relatively loosely around the haunches of the bull. This cues the animal's movement.

***The flank strap does not hurt the bull.*** This soft cotton rope – perhaps the most misunderstood piece of equipment in sports – is used to encourage a genetically pre-disposed bucking bull to kick. Imagine a kitten with a ribbon loosely tied around its paw, trying to shoo it away. The flank strap never touches the bulls' genitals.

***Spurs are dull and do not harm the bull.*** In PBR, spurs are used by riders to help with grip and balance on the back of the bull. PBR mandates a spur rowel that is dull to the touch. Judges inspect each rider's boots prior to every event. A rider found with spurs in violation of the rules would be disqualified, fined, and potentially suspended.

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***Bucking bulls have a carefully regulated diet, health regimen, travel and performance schedule.*** PBR has rigorous guidelines for transporting the bulls, required travel rest periods, and other policies based on the primacy of animal welfare. Bulls compete at most two times in any given weekend, many only once. Beyond that, stock contractors treat their prized animal athletes like members of their own family, including giving them the very best food and health care. Stock contractors determine their bulls' schedules in the best interests of their valuable animal athletes whose health and well-being impact their livelihood.

***These bulls enjoy what they are doing.*** Each stock contractor has stories about bulls eager to rush into the trailer to go to PBR events. They have a job to do, which they love. They buck with the same prideful zeal as a dog returning to its owner a thrown ball. Just as it is evident when a pet is happy, the bulls exhibit the same energetic, tail-wagging behavior on game day.

***PBR bulls live a long and healthy life.*** Outside the PBR, bulls enter the food supply at the average age of three. PBR bulls enjoy a substantially longer and better life. Following the first-class life of a professional athlete, getting the very best food, training and medical care, these bulls retire to stud at a relatively young age. They live the remainder of their pampered life breeding on a rural ranch. In the bovine world, becoming a PBR bucking bull is like winning the animal lottery.

PBR is a sport that celebrates its animal athletes, who live a great, long life. We are proud to be part of a sport that always puts its animal athletes first. Following the first-class life of a professional athlete, getting the very best food, training and medical care, these bulls retire to stud at a relatively young age.

### **Olympics and Other Equestrian Events**

Like in rodeo, Equestrian spurs are used as cues to change pace and move the feet and body certain directions and ways. Equestrian events, such as dressage and cutting, permit spurs to have rowels. In dressage they are typically smooth, blunt, and free to rotate.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Canon

**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2021 08:30 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo has been around for years. All the animals in rodeo are well taken care of. Rodeo teaches children responsibility to care for the animals. It teaches hard work, respect and honesty. These animal athlete's are not abused. They are loved and well cared for in and out of the arena.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dustin

**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2021 03:37 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** The health and safety of the animals in rodeo and bull riding is paramount. Rodeo people make their living by breeding, training and working with the animal athletes, who get the best care. They truly love these animal athletes and have many safeguards in place to ensure their care. - These are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for their jobs. They are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don't harm the animals. - Rodeo teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. These values are needed now more than ever. - This ordinance will ban in Los Angeles rodeo, bull riding and various equestrian events– affecting the charros rodeo, the all-Black rodeo at STAPLES Center, PBR, any future PRCA rodeos, Compton Cowboys exhibitions, and even several Olympic equestrian sports. - This is not just banning sports that bring economic impact to LA but even worse, equestrian events and exhibitions here that change lives. We need to celebrate all cowboys and cowgirls, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles!



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ricardo Gutierrez

**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2021 05:16 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Ricardo Gutierrez, and I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. I work in Hospitality and we have been severely hurt by Covid. I have been looking forward to the return of events at the Staples center as it provides us Hotel workers with more travelers and, in turn, jobs for us. We were the hardest hit segment of the pandemic and need your help to bring events to Los Angeles. We particularly would like the return of PBR Rodeo events as NBA and LAFC are accepting fans and will now have a designated vaccinated seating section. Walmart and Costco are no longer requiring masks and Universities will return to in person classes in the fall. The Bulls are cared for at the highest standards, please return to us a sense of normalcy.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Gavin russell

**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2021 05:43 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo is a sport that should never be banned your taking away tradition and history

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jimmy Hash

**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2021 08:07 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please leave the decisions as to the Welfare of Animals being used in Rodeos up to Animal Science and Livestock Management professionals. I'm guessing your city has plenty of other issues that need your immediate attention like poverty, homelessness, and drugs. The Sport of Rodeo does more for teaching young adults responsibility than you can imagine. Thank You.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Cassie G

**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2021 08:21 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing this to show my support for rodeo and bull riding events that showcase Cowboy heritage and help educate the public on Livestock, Agriculture, and the Western Way of Life. Rodeo events are an excellent opportunity for those in urban areas to learn about western culture, animal husbandry, and their rural counterparts. As a native born Californian I know how deep agriculture and western roots run in the Golden State. Banning rodeo not only denies Californians who partake in the sport the opportunity to compete and perform, but also the spectators the chance to appreciate and celebrate rural culture.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/21/2021 11:18 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not ban rodeos, it is a lifelong family tradition of mine that keeps my family going. There is no need to ban them, please no animals are really hurt with these events going on!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Blair Minnis

**Date Submitted:** 05/22/2021 06:52 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Blair Minnis, and I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that would ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. Any fan of Rodeo or Bull Riding knows the health and safety of the animals is paramount. These animals are athletes and as such they get the best care available. PBR bulls are so well taken care of that their lives are often extended four to five times as long as the average bull. They compete for a few years and then go to stud, they do not enter the food supply unlike the bulls not fortunate enough to complete in PBR. PBR stock contractors make their living by breeding, training, and working with their animal athletes. They truly love these animals, treating them as a member of their own family in the same way you and I treat our beloved family pets. PBR has many safeguards in place to ensure the animals are cared for properly. The bulls in PBR are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for their jobs. Bulls buck because of their genetics, they are not abused or coerced to compete. The flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. This ordinance is unnecessary – PBR already takes great care of the bulls. In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their stories and skills in Los Angeles. I urge you to please NOT move forward with this proposal.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Andre Villasenor

**Date Submitted:** 05/22/2021 10:12 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not ban rodeo from LA. These animals are treated with a lot of love and respect. The owners would not put their animals in any kind of danger. Also this is a family setting where many come together to enjoy the show that these fantastic animals put on. Also this is how many people make a living and support their families. Please do not take this away.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** JOHN W WARNE

**Date Submitted:** 05/23/2021 08:43 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Leave Bullriding alone, it's one of the last living heritages that we have to our past, ranching, and ways that celebrations were held. It was to find out whose ranch hands were better. So it's not about cruelty to animals as people, like you to believe. But heritages and the bulls, they are professional athletes and treated as such. They get just as great care as a family pet, because to a lot of the Stock Contractors, they are just that. So don't ban history, leave Bullriding and Rodeo alone



## Communication from Public

**Name:** C. Olvera

**Date Submitted:** 05/23/2021 02:07 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Anyone who follows PBR understands and sees that the health and safety of the animals in PBR bull riding is paramount to those involved. This ordinance is unnecessary. These animal athletes get the best care and live a great life much longer than other bulls. The PBR and their stock contractors have respect and love for their bulls and ensure these bulls are happy, healthy and well cared for. These bulls have the best food and care as they are the athletes in their own right, bred specifically for bucking (doing their job, what they love, not unlike certain breeds of dogs bred for specific jobs). The PBR stock contractors invest millions of dollars into the breeding, training and ensuring these bulls are well taken care of and not injured. They are the top elite of their kind and are genetically bred to buck, something they love. Flank straps and dull spurs used in PBR do NOT harm the bulls. - In addition to bringing millions of dollars of economic impact to LA, bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. It also teaches and promotes good animal husbandry. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2021 10:19 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo has come a long way in the last few years. they have many rules to protect the welfare of the animals. I personally know some stock contractors who take very good care of their stock. these animals work for 8-30 seconds a few times a year they get fed well and vet checked along the way. I do not think we should ban a sport that showcases history and heritage. Long Live Cowboys

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ruth

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2021 11:05 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rodeo is an important aspect of our western culture. My daughter has competed in rodeo events since she was 4 years old. This has taught her a high level of respect for the animals care and welfare. Her # 1 concern when competing is safety for the animals. She has also learned a number of valuable life lessons like, work hard for what you want, never give up, work comes before play, integrity, honesty, sportsmanship, working well with others, and perseverance. Rodeo has shaped her into a well rounded young woman that I know will be successful in anything she chooses to do. She has also maintained a 4.0 plus GPA in Junior High and High School and is planning on attending a 4 year University where she can continue the sport of Rodeo. Rodeo has shaped and impacted our lives in a wonderful way and I hope other young people for generations to come are exposed to it.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Pamela D Moore

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2021 12:11 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Councilmembers: My name is Pamela D. Moore, and I'd like to express my opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. Although I do not live or work in LA, I have enjoyed and had family members participate in rodeo/bull riding events in California and Nevada. My family enjoys these sports and continues to participate in these events. We also own horses that are used to participate in these sports. Any bull riding fan knows the health and safety of the magnificent animals in these events is very important to all involved. Rodeo people make their living by breeding, training, and working with the animal athletes. They make sure these animals get the very best care. They give them a great life. These are not wild animals forced to compete – they're bred and trained for rodeo. The bulls are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don't harm them. The bulls compete for a few years and go to stud. They are treated like a member of the family and die a natural death on a ranch. They do not enter the food supply like bulls not fortunate to compete in PBR. Bull riding teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. These values are needed today more than ever. Especially for our youth. If this ordinance goes forward, it will ban PBR and rodeo in Los Angeles. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles! I urge you to please not move forward with this proposal – it is unnecessary because PBR already protects its great animal athletes, and it would be detrimental to Los Angeles in many ways. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns.  
Pamela D. Moore coolcountrychic14@yahoo.com