

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 06/15/2025 07:22 AM

**Council File No:** 23-0452

**Comments for Public Posting:** When Council File 23-0452 ("Spay Neuter Voucher Program / Monetary Value Adjustment / Subsidized Veterinary Services") comes up for a vote, I respectfully ask that you request an amendment to the committee's recommendation to include rabbits in the voucher increases. Specifically, please advocate for the adoption of Alternative 1 in the CAO's report for the "free" vouchers, ensuring they cover dogs, cats, AND rabbits. Currently, veterinary hospitals cannot break even with the existing reimbursement rates for rabbit spay/neuter services. As a rabbit owner myself, I know firsthand how important spaying and neutering is—not only to prevent overpopulation but also for the health and well-being of our pets. Spaying and neutering significantly reduce the risk of reproductive cancers and improve behavior, making rabbits healthier and calmer companions. Rabbits reproduce at an exponential rate, and from a cost-benefit perspective, investing in rabbit neutering provides significant long-term savings compared to dogs and cats. Expanding this program to include rabbits is a proactive step toward reducing the burden on shelters and rescues. Thank you for your time and for your service to the Los Angeles community.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Laurie Mark

**Date Submitted:** 06/15/2025 08:29 AM

**Council File No:** 23-0452

**Comments for Public Posting:** Rabbits must be included in the spay/neuter voucher increase! Female rabbits have a 60-80% increase in the incidence of reproductive cancers by the time they are 2 years of age. A rabbit's lifespan can be anywhere from 10-12 years. Non-neutered male rabbits have increased aggression leading to abandonment and inability to bond with other rabbits and family members as well as elevated risk of serious medical problems. Spay/neuter of all rabbits is absolutely essential and must be included in the voucher increase.

Rabbits must be included in the spay/neuter voucher increase! Female rabbits have a 60-80% increase in the incidence of reproductive cancers by the time they are 2 years of age. A rabbit's lifespan can be anywhere from 10-12 years. Non-neutered male rabbits have increased aggression leading to abandonment and inability to bond with other rabbits and family members as well as elevated risk of serious medical problems. There are a limited number of exotic veterinarians specialized in the care of rabbits who can perform spay/neuter procedures. They're not cheap but they are absolutely vital and essential to a rabbit's life and well-being. They must be included in the voucher increase.