

Communication from Public

Name: Rosemary Knopff

Date Submitted: 05/26/2025 06:35 PM

Council File No: 25-0193

Comments for Public Posting: PLEASE, take a stand for animals. Every year, 5 million dogs and 1 million cats are brutally slaughtered for their meat in Vietnam. Many are stolen from loving homes. They endure horrific abuse including being trucked without food and water in extreme temperatures, before meeting a terrifying, violent death. The dog and cat meat trade poses serious public health risks, including rabies and other zoonotic diseases. Most Vietnamese people support a ban. Establishing a Sister City agreement with a humane condition offers Vietnam an economic and cultural incentive to end this cruelty.

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Name:

Date Submitted: 05/26/2025 12:52 AM

Council File No: 25-0193

Comments for Public Posting: Excerpt from Los Angeles Daily News article April 18, 2025: "Los Angeles considers Hanoi sister city partnership to encourage dog meat ban" Quyen Mai, executive director of the Vietnamese American Organization, a San Jose-based civic engagement nonprofit, said that while City Councilmember Bob Blumenfield's proposal is well-intentioned, any formal relationship with the Vietnamese government should be approached with care. "While the proposal to promote animal welfare through a sister city relationship with Hanoi is thoughtful, it's important to acknowledge Vietnam's broader human rights concerns," Mai said. "Freedom of speech, religion, expression, and civil society activism are all tightly restricted, with the government cracking down on dissent and online activity. Vietnam received a 19/100 rating from Freedom House." Mai suggested, "As Los Angeles considers this partnership, it should engage with the Vietnamese American community—one of the largest in L.A. and California—to ensure the relationship reflects our core democratic values."