

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/22/2026 09:32 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: There must be continuing funding to support dogs play for life program. It saves lives and allows the dogs in shelters to have quality of life while in there Also: make backyard breeding of dogs illegal or at least make breeding of the breeds that most commonly end up in shelter without anywhere to go illegal! Until the breeding stops the problem of dogs with nowhere to go after they outgrow the puppy phase will continue!

Communication from Public

Name: Lynne Chao

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 03:13 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: LAAS Budget Concerns — Animal Food Eliminated, DPFL Excluded, and SOUTH LA Oversight Failures Prior to Proposed \$14M Investment Dear Honorable City Council Budget Committee, I am submitting my written public comment regarding the Los Angeles Animal Services budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2026–2027, including concerns related to animal welfare, resource allocation, and operational oversight. Please include this submission and the attached document in the official public record for the upcoming Budget Committee meetings. Thank you for your consideration. Respectfully submitted, Lynne Chao

Submitted by Lynne Chao

April 24, 2026

6 pages

Subject: LAAS Budget Concerns — Animal Food Eliminated, DPFL Excluded, and SOUTH LA Oversight Failures Prior to Proposed \$14M Investment

- Request for City Council and Commission to review 50+ time-stamped Written Public Comments (Written Comments #1–#55) documenting conditions at LA Animal Services, with emphasis on SOUTH LA.
- **Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL)** is not included in the Mayor’s proposed FY 2026–2027 budget, despite being fundamental to the behavioral health, stability, and adoptability of dogs in shelter care.
- **Animal food funding** has declined from \$1,006,601 (FY 2023–2024) to \$0 in the proposed FY 2026–2027 budget. Food is a basic necessity and must be restored as a core City responsibility.
- Request immediate **restoration of funding in the City budget for both Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) and animal food** as core, non-discretionary operational necessities.
- Request immediate **oversight and review of the \$59,300 tree trimming allocation—approved by the LA Animal Services Commission on April 14 and funded through the Animal Welfare Trust Fund (AWTF)—**prior to implementation, due to concerns regarding scope, impact on essential shade for animals in kennel areas and walkways, and alignment with the fund’s intended purpose.
- Investment should **prioritize ground-level staffing—sanitation, cleaning, and enrichment Dogs Playing for Life—**before expanding additional layers of senior management.

Dear Honorable City Council Members and Budget Committee,

My name is **Lynne Chao**. I am an approved foster and animal advocate speaking in my individual capacity. I have been closely **tracking conditions within Los Angeles Animal Services since July 2025**, with a **primary focus on the South Los Angeles / Chesterfield Square Shelter (“SOUTH LA”)**.

Since December 8, 2025, I have submitted more than **50 sequentially numbered written public comments** to the Los Angeles Animal Services Commission (**Written Comments #1–#55 and ongoing**), supported by detailed, time-stamped documentation. These submissions document consistent patterns related to sanitation, disease control, public access, visibility, euthanasia timelines, and record integrity—particularly at SOUTH LA. I have also submitted additional written public comments prior to this numbering series since July 22, 2025, which are part of the same documented record.

I support the proposed \$14 million investment from Best Friends Animal Society and ASPCA for three years.

This proposal includes expanding district supervisory coverage to all six shelters, as well as adding an additional layer of oversight above those district supervisors.

However, based on documented conditions, the primary issue is not solely staffing levels—it is whether existing management and operational practices are producing safe, clean, and humane conditions that lead to lifesaving outcomes.

SOUTH LA already has a district supervisor appointed in late September / early October 2025. Based on documented observations since that time, conditions have not materially improved, including sanitation practices, failure to maintain plumbed kennel water systems to manufacturer standards (Written Comment #31), disease-control conditions and kennel lockdown impacts (Written Comments #39, #43), and euthanasia outcomes, including cases of same-day intake followed by same-day euthanasia deadlines for neonatal animals (Written Comments #51, #53).

During a two-week period over **Thanksgiving 2025**, approximately **50 dogs were euthanasia-listed and 30 were euthanized at SOUTH LA** (Written Comment #4). This pattern has continued across major holidays, including Easter 2026 (Written

Comments #4, #55), **raising concerns about oversight** during predictable low-engagement periods.

Following this period, a commissioner **requested that the SOUTH LA District Supervisor appear before the Commission; this did not occur** (Written Comment #4).

This raises a central accountability question:

If outcomes at SOUTH LA have not improved under an existing district supervisory structure—and if accountability has not been enforced within that structure—how will adding additional district supervisors across all six shelters, and an additional layer overseeing them, improve outcomes without first addressing performance, oversight, and operational practices at the current level?

It has been stated that overcapacity drives euthanasia. Based on documented conditions at SOUTH LA, I respectfully submit that the condition of the shelter environment—particularly **sanitation conditions that contribute to prolonged kennel confinement—is a PRIMARY contributing factor.**

A **Giardia-related outbreak at SOUTH LA** beginning January 22, 2026, resulted in approximately **60 days of kennel confinement** (Written Comments #39, #43). Under these prolonged conditions, dogs deteriorate physically and behaviorally and are then euthanasia-listed with limited save windows. Dogs confined for extended periods are subsequently labeled with FAS (Fear, Anxiety, Stress), despite those conditions being directly influenced by prolonged kennel confinement.

During this outbreak at SOUTH LA, kennel cleaning was reported as verified “by sight only,” with no written log stated at a Commission meeting (Written Comment #43). **Continuous-flow kennel water systems have not been maintained to manufacturer standards** (Written Comment #31). Combined with delayed waste removal and sanitation practices that may spread contamination, these conditions contribute to disease transmission and declining animal health.

Transparency barriers further limit outcomes. **Rescue-only dogs (R3/R4) are not consistently visible on the LAAS website**, and time-critical lists are difficult to

locate (Written Comments #21, #22, #43). When dogs are not visible, they cannot be saved.

Record integrity issues—including conflicting euthanasia dates and listing discrepancies—have also been documented (Written Comments #48–#50), including cases where euthanasia proceeded while public access was impaired (Written Comment #29).

Taken together, these findings demonstrate that this is not solely a capacity issue—it is an outcomes and accountability issue.

To address these conditions and improve outcomes, I am requesting the following:

- **Restore funding for Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) within the City budget as a core operational program.**
- **Restore and maintain funding for animal food within the City budget as a fundamental responsibility.**
- **Prioritize hiring and allocation of ground-level staff responsible for sanitation, kennel cleaning, and animal care.**
- **Ensure that sanitation, disease-control, and enrichment practices are implemented consistently across all shelters, with accountability at the supervisory level.**

Budget figures for Animal Food / Feed and Grain reflect a significant decline:

- FY 2023–2024: \$1,006,601
- FY 2024–2025: \$436,956
- FY 2025–2026: \$200,000
- FY 2026–2027: \$0

With six shelters still in operation, it is not clear how food funding can be reduced to zero. Food, water, and shelter are the most basic requirements of animal care and **must be funded in the City budget as essential services—not supplemented or dependent on external funds.**

Finally on April 14, 2026, the LA Animal Services Commission **approval of \$59,300 in tree trimming contracts—funded through the Animal Welfare Trust Fund (AWTF)—raises concerns about alignment with animal welfare priorities** (Written Comment #52, #52 Addendum). These trees provide essential shade for animals, and the **scope of trimming extends beyond lighting needs into animal housing areas**. These trees have not yet been cut, and this presents an immediate opportunity for oversight before irreversible impact occurs.

I respectfully request immediate review of this allocation prior to implementation.

I respectfully request that the Commission and City Council review the full body of my written public comments prior to approving expansion of senior management structure.

I support this investment. To achieve its purpose, it must be grounded in improving daily conditions for animals and tied to measurable outcomes and accountability.

Appendix A — Index of Referenced Written Public Comments

Full written comments were submitted to ani.commission@lacity.org and are available upon request.

ALL SHELTERS — Sanitation & Disease Control

- #31 — Waterer Sanitation — Jan. 26, 2026

SOUTH LA — Sanitation & Disease Control

- #39 — Giardia / Diarrhea Lockdown — Feb. 15, 2026
- #43 — Kennel Confinement / Restricted Access — Feb. 20, 2026

SOUTH LA — Euthanasia Patterns & Outcomes

- #4 — Thanksgiving: 50 Euth Listed / 30 Euthanized — Dec. 10, 2025
- #55 — Holiday Euthanasia Pattern (Passover/Easter) — Apr. 5, 2026

SOUTH LA — Neonatal / Same-Day Euthanasia

- #51 — Neonatal Puppies Same-Day Deadline — Mar. 23, 2026
- #53 — Blue Alert Visibility Failure — Mar. 24, 2026

ALL SHELTERS — Visibility, Access & Oversight

- #22 — Alert Lists Not Findable — Jan. 6, 2026
- #43 — Website / Visibility / Access Issues — Feb. 20, 2026
- #35 — District Supervisor Transparency — Feb. 9, 2026

SOUTH LA — Visibility, Access & Oversight

- #21 — R3/R4 Dogs Not Visible — Jan. 5, 2026
- #35 — District Supervisor Transparency — Feb. 9, 2026

SOUTH LA — Record Integrity & Listing Discrepancies

- #29 — Public Access Failure During Euthanasia — Jan. 23, 2026
- #29A — Pre-Dated Listing Discrepancy — Jan. 23, 2026
- #48 — Timeline Discrepancy (Alejandro) — Mar. 13, 2026
- #49 — Naming / Listing Issues (Danger) — Mar. 14, 2026
- #50 — Conflicting Euth Dates (StuDog) — Mar. 20, 2026

SOUTH LA — Generic Euthanasia Reasons

- #5 — Princess — Dec. 11, 2025
- #6 — Boo — Dec. 13, 2025
- #7 — Bubba — Dec. 14, 2025
- #8 — Multiple Dogs — Dec. 14, 2025

Systemwide / Policy / Medical

- #1 — Pyrantel Deworming / Medical Accuracy — Dec. 8, 2025
- #36 — Y-Alert Save Day Policy — Feb. 12, 2026
- #46 — Ongoing Save Day Timeline Issues — Mar. 13, 2026

SOUTH LA — Policy / Medical

- #2 — Zorro Medical Review — Dec. 8, 2025
- #3 — Tequila Hold / Visibility — Dec. 9, 2025

Resource Allocation & Animal Welfare Trust Fund

- #52 — Tree Trimming / Animal Welfare Trust Fund — Apr. 2026
- #52 Addendum — Tree Trimming Contracts — April 14 Commission Meeting (includes photographs documenting scope prior to trimming)

Respectfully submitted,
Lynne Chao

Communication from Public

Name: Ariana Wong

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 03:37 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The budget for Animal Services needs to be adjusted. The proposed budget does not have proper allocations for medicine, food and vital programs like “Dogs Playing for Life”. The state of our animal shelters is atrocious. By underfunding the shelters, you are hamstringing the hard working shelter workers and volunteers and letting down all the animals in our care.

Communication from Public

Name: sayra sarai romero

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 03:51 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: MEMORANDUM TO: Los Angeles City Council, Budget and Finance Committee FROM: Sayra Sarai Romero, Community Planning Student, LATTC DATE: April 22, 2026 SUBJECT: Utilizing Commercial Land Trusts (CLTs) to Mitigate Green Gentrification in South Los Angeles

i. Executive Summary South Los Angeles is currently experiencing a historic wave of environmental and infrastructure investment, ranging from the Destination Crenshaw "open-air museum" to the expansion of the K-Line. While these "greening" projects address long-standing environmental racism, they are simultaneously triggering "Green Gentrification"—a process where rising land values and speculative investment displace the very legacy businesses they were meant to serve. This memo recommends that the City of Los Angeles formally support and fund Commercial Land Trusts (CLTs) to remove critical commercial parcels from the speculative market, ensuring permanent affordability and community stewardship.

ii. The Displacement Crisis: South Central as a Case Study In South Central, the "Planning Paradox" is on full display. Projects like the LA River revitalization and new pocket parks provide essential health benefits but act as market signals for developers. Unlike residential tenants who have some protections under Rent Stabilization Ordinances (RSO), small business owners have no protection against market-rate rent hikes. As property values surge along the Crenshaw Corridor, legacy "mom-and-pop" shops—the cultural and economic backbone of the neighborhood—face immediate displacement. Without intervention, South Central risks becoming a neighborhood that is environmentally "green" but culturally vacant.

iii. The Solution: The Community Land Trust (CLT) Model A Commercial Land Trust is a non-profit organization that owns land in perpetuity for the benefit of the community. Under this model, the trust owns the land, while the business owner holds a long-term, fixed-rate ground lease (typically 99 years) for the building. Stability: Rents are decoupled from market speculation, allowing businesses to plan for the long term. Governance: Following the "Tripartite" model, the board consists of leaseholders, community residents, and public experts, ensuring democratic control of local land. Placemaking: By taking land off the open market, CLTs transform "Placemaking"

into "Placekeeping," protecting the existing cultural fabric of South LA. iv. Lessons from the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI) To implement this effectively, Los Angeles should look to the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI) in Boston. DSNI is the national "gold standard" for community-led development. By securing the power of eminent domain over vacant parcels, they created a permanent urban village that includes affordable housing and commercial space. South LA can adapt this by using city-backed land acquisition to empower local trusts like T.R.U.S.T. South LA, preventing the "scattered-site" displacement currently threatening the K-Line corridor. v. Policy Recommendations To move from theory to practice, the following measures are recommended: Seed a Municipal Community Trust Fund: Allocate a portion of Measure A (Parks) and Measure H revenue to provide seed capital for CLTs specifically for commercial acquisition in high-displacement zones. Integrate Value Capture via SB 79: Leverage the 2026 SB 79 (Abundant and Affordable Homes Near Transit Act) to require developers of luxury transit-oriented projects to contribute "linkage fees" directly into a South Central Small Business Stabilization Fund. Establish a Community Right to Purchase: Create an ordinance giving certified non-profit CLTs the "First Right of Offer" to purchase commercial properties before they are sold to private developers. vi. Conclusion Environmental justice is incomplete if the community it serves is replaced. By investing in Commercial Land Trusts, the City of Los Angeles can ensure that the "greening" of South Central leads to community wealth building rather than community erasure. We must choose to invest in people, not just property.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Los Angeles City Council, Budget and Finance Committee

FROM: Sayra Sarai Romero, Community Planning Student

DATE: April 24, 2026

SUBJECT: Utilizing Commercial Land Trusts (CLTs) to Mitigate Green Gentrification in South Los Angeles

i. Executive Summary

South Los Angeles is currently experiencing a historic wave of environmental and infrastructure investment, ranging from the Destination Crenshaw "open-air museum" to the expansion of the K-Line. While these "greening" projects address long-standing environmental racism, they are simultaneously triggering "Green Gentrification"—a process where rising land values and speculative investment displace the very legacy businesses they were meant to serve. This memo recommends that the City of Los Angeles formally support and fund **Commercial Land Trusts (CLTs)** to remove critical commercial parcels from the speculative market, ensuring permanent affordability and community stewardship.

ii. The Displacement Crisis: South Central as a Case Study

In South Central, the "Planning Paradox" is on full display. Projects like the LA River revitalization and new pocket parks provide essential health benefits but act as market signals for developers. Unlike residential tenants who have some protections under Rent Stabilization Ordinances (RSO), small business owners have no protection against market-rate rent hikes. As property values surge along the Crenshaw Corridor, legacy "mom-and-pop" shops—the cultural and economic backbone of the neighborhood—face immediate displacement. Without intervention, South Central risks becoming a neighborhood that is environmentally "green" but culturally vacant.

iii. The Solution: The Community Land Trust (CLT) Model

A Commercial Land Trust is a non-profit organization that owns land in perpetuity for the benefit of the community. Under this model, the trust owns the land, while the business owner holds a long-term, fixed-rate ground lease (typically 99 years) for the building.

- **Stability:** Rents are decoupled from market speculation, allowing businesses to plan for the long term.
- **Governance:** Following the "Tripartite" model, the board consists of leaseholders, community residents, and public experts, ensuring democratic control of local land.
- **Placekeeping:** By taking land off the open market, CLTs transform "Placemaking" into "Placekeeping," protecting the existing cultural fabric of South LA.

iv. Lessons from the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI)

To implement this effectively, Los Angeles should look to the **Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI)** in Boston. DSNI is the national "gold standard" for community-led development. By securing the power of eminent domain over vacant parcels, they created a permanent urban village that includes affordable housing and commercial space. South LA can adapt this by using city-backed land acquisition to empower local trusts like **T.R.U.S.T. South LA**, preventing the "scattered-site" displacement currently threatening the K-Line corridor.

v. Policy Recommendations

To move from theory to practice, the following measures are recommended:

1. **Seed a Municipal Community Trust Fund:** Allocate a portion of Measure A (Parks) and Measure H revenue to provide seed capital for CLTs specifically for *commercial* acquisition in high-displacement zones.
2. **Integrate Value Capture via SB 79:** Leverage the 2026 **SB 79 (Abundant and Affordable Homes Near Transit Act)** to require developers of luxury transit-oriented projects to contribute "linkage fees" directly into a South Central Small Business Stabilization Fund.
3. **Establish a Community Right to Purchase:** Create an ordinance giving certified non-profit CLTs the "First Right of Offer" to purchase commercial properties before they are sold to private developers.

vi. Conclusion

Environmental justice is incomplete if the community it serves is replaced. By investing in Commercial Land Trusts, the City of Los Angeles can ensure that the "greening" of South Central leads to community wealth building rather than community erasure. We must choose to invest in people, not just property.

Communication from Public

Name: Emily G

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 06:13 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Restore funding for Dogs Playing for Life at LAAS. Do not let it lapse July 1. Twenty minutes of play is the equivalent of an hour walk. Dogs in the shelter system need this enrichment. It makes them more adoptable. It also helps alleviate stress while living in the shelter environment. This helps curb behavior issues and helps adoption retention. Please restore this funding. It helps save the lives of these dogs.

Communication from Public

Name: Trisha Davis

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 06:59 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life contract in the 2026–27 budget. DPFL playgroups are the only structured out-of-kennel time most LA shelter dogs ever get. Without them, dogs sit in concrete kennels 24 hours a day — no walks, no play, no joy. Playgroups are how LAAS learns the most important thing about every dog: how they behave with other dogs. That single data point drives adoptions, rescue pulls, and every lifesaving decision. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100th of 1% of LA’s \$14.85B budget. Cutting it costs the city every claim to being a Humane LA. Fully fund DPFL’s contract in the June 6 budget. Don’t let it lapse July 1.

Communication from Public

Name: Annie

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 07:22 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please Restore Funding for Dogs Playing for Life at LA Animal Services Dear Councilmember, I'm writing to urge you to restore funding for the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) program at LA Animal Services in the 2026-27 budget. As a member of the Budget and Finance Committee, you have a direct opportunity to save this program before it lapses on July 1. DPFL playgroups are the only out-of-kennel time most of these dogs ever get. Without it, dogs will sit confined for weeks or months — on-site dog bites go up, volunteers and staff get hurt, fear, anxiety, and stress climb with prolonged confinement, and euthanasia pressure grows. The City of LA has a \$14.85 billion budget. DPFL's entire annual contract is less than 1/100th of 1% of that. This isn't about money. It's about who we are as a city. Do not let it lapse July 1. Thank you for your time and service.

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica Meier

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 07:24 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, I'm writing to urge you to restore funding for the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) program at LA Animal Services in the 2026-27 budget. As a member of the Budget and Finance Committee, you have a direct opportunity to save this program before it lapses on July 1. DPFL playgroups are the only out-of-kennel time most of these dogs ever get. Without it, dogs will sit confined for weeks or months — on-site dog bites go up, volunteers and staff get hurt, fear, anxiety, and stress climb with prolonged confinement, and euthanasia pressure grows. The City of LA has a \$14.85 billion budget. DPFL's entire annual contract is less than 1/100th of 1% of that. This isn't about money. It's about who we are as a city. Do not let it lapse July 1. Thank you for your time and service. Jessica Meier District 6

Communication from Public

Name: Tess Hunt

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 07:31 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not take away money from the DPFL dogs playing for life city shelters program. This is important for safety and mental well being as well as it's just the humane thing to do is to let dogs have activity outside of their shelters. Please this is NOT WHO LA IS! This city has a heart and this is heartless .

Communication from Public

Name: Viviana
Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 07:49 AM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Please restore the funding for DPFL playgroups in the 2026-2027 budget. It is only <1/100 of 1% of the city's budget.

Communication from Public

Name: Victoria

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 07:52 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please renew LAAS contract with DPFL.(Dogs Playing for Life)
This organization is vital for the mental health and optimal lifesaving of dogs in our shelter system. If the city actually cares about being a humane LA we must not lose the progress we have made by failing to renew this contract. Without it most dogs don't make it out of their kennel even once in 90 days.

Communication from Public

Name: Brandey Herrera
Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 07:56 AM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to respectfully urge you to reconsider the proposed budget cuts affecting animal welfare services, specifically funding for animal food, medical supplies, and the Dogs Playing for Life program. These reductions have already had serious consequences. The animal food budget has been drastically reduced compared to previous years, forcing the department to rely heavily on donations just to meet basic needs. Similarly, the medical supplies budget has been significantly slashed, leaving shelters struggling to provide essential care and again depending on outside donations to fill the gap. This is not a sustainable or responsible approach for maintaining the health and safety of animals in the city's care. Equally concerning is the decision not to fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) program. This program does far more than facilitate playgroups—it helps fearful dogs build confidence, improves adoption matches, supports staff and volunteers, and assists in safely managing more complex cases. It plays a vital role in saving lives and maintaining a safe, humane shelter environment. Without adequate funding for food, medical care, and programs like DPFL, the burden shifts to already strained donation sources, and ultimately, the well-being of the animals suffers. I strongly urge you to restore funding for these essential services in the final budget. Ensuring proper care for shelter animals is not only a matter of compassion, but also of public responsibility and community values. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Emily Waisman
Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 08:09 AM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: I'm writing to ask the Council to please fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life contract in the budget for 2026-2027. This project is essential for our shelter residents, and a vital part of keeping those animals emotionally, behaviorally, and physically well. It's vital to support our shelter population, and I hope the Council can recognize that.

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 08:11 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life contract in the 2026-2027 budget. The shelters are already overflowing with dogs, and many are euthanized every single day with only being in the shelter for 10 days. Locking dogs up in concrete kennels for 24hrs will lower their chances of adoption and heighten their stress, anxiety, and overall mental wellbeing. Allowing the dogs time to play not only helps them mentally, but also allows staff and volunteers to properly assess the dogs and learn more about them which only increases their chances of successful adoptions. These animals love us with every fiber of their being, and they bring positive mental support to humans struggling. Repaying them by treating them as prisoners in overcrowded shelters is a pretty poor way of repaying them. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100th of 1% of LA's \$14.85B budget. Cutting it costs the city every claim to being a Humane LA. Fully fund DPFL's contract in the June 6 budget. Don't let it lapse July 1st. Man's best friend needs us now more than ever.

Communication from Public

Name: Amanda

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 08:15 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Fully Fund the Dogs Playing for Life Contract in the 2026-27 Budget! For less than 1/100th of 1% of LA's \$15 billion budget, the city can give thousands of shelter dogs their only chance at a real life. Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) play groups are not a luxury. They are the only structured time most LA shelter dogs spend outside a concrete kennel. No play groups means no walks, no socialization, no human contact. Just 24 hours a day in a cage, alone. But here's what's really at stake: play groups are how LAAS learns how dogs actually behave. That single data point drives adoption matches, rescue pulls, and life-saving decisions made every single day. Without it, staff are guessing. And dogs pay with their lives. Cutting this contract doesn't save money. It costs lives, and it costs LA its credibility as a humane city. Fully fund the DPFL contract in the June 6 budget. Do not let it lapse on July 1.

Communication from Public

Name: Charlene Spiteri
Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 08:16 AM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Budget and Finance Committee, My name is Charlene Spiteri and I am writing in support of full funding for survivor services in the City's FY 26–27 budget. I urge you to adopt the proposed \$12.3 million in General Funds for CIFD Survivor Services. This funding is essential to maintaining life-saving shelter, housing, and support services for survivors of domestic violence. These services are critical, especially as many individuals experiencing homelessness have a history of domestic or intimate partner violence. I also ask that you fully fund LAHSA's Continuum of Care (CoC) Planning request. Without adequate funding, LAHSA will be unable to sustain key programs and staffing that support survivors in accessing housing and federal resources. Disruptions to this system will directly impact some of the most vulnerable individuals in our community. Additionally, I encourage the City to: Ensure survivors do not lose housing as Emergency Housing Vouchers expire Maintain strong workforce development programs like LA: RISE, which are essential for long-term survivor stability Los Angeles has made meaningful progress in expanding services for survivors, and this is a critical moment to protect and build on that progress. Please stand with survivors and ensure full funding for CIFD Survivor Services and LAHSA CoC core functions. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to our community. Charlene Spiteri

Communication from Public

Name: Dhaani sharma

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 08:24 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please fund the dogs playing for life contract in the 2026-27 budget DPFL playgroups are the only structured out of kennel time most LA shelter dogs ever get Without them dogs sit in concrete kennels 24 hours a day. No walks no play no joy. Playgroups are how LAAS learns the most important thing about every dog. How they behave with other dogs,that single data point drives adoption, rescue pulls, and every life saving decision. DPFL contract cause less than 1/100th of 1% of LAs dollar 14.85 B budget. Cutting it costs the city every claim to being a humane LA. Fully funded DPFLs contract in June do NOT let it lapse

Communication from Public

Name: Lahari

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 08:34 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: If you need to cut funding start with the police department. When was the last time you visited one of the city shelters? Consider walking down the concrete jail cells and see if you really have no heart and think it's ok to leave animals in there 24/7 until they get killed for exhibiting behavioral issues or becoming in adoptable from going crazy in solitary confinement. Please fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life contract in the 2026-27 budget. PFL playgroups are the only structured out-of-kennel time most LA shelter dogs ever get. Without them, dogs sit in concrete kennels 24 hours a day - no walks, no play, no joy. Playgroups are how LAAS learns the most important thing about every dog: how they behave with other dogs. That single data point drives adoptions, rescue pulls, and every lifesaving decision. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100th of 1% of LA's \$14.85B budget Cutting it costs the city every claim to being a Humane LA.

Communication from Public

Name: Cynthia Lauren
Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 08:35 AM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The most vulnerable of our LA community, once again, are put on the literal chopping block, turned out to the streets, overlooked and neglected by this sorry excuse for a mayor. I wanted to love Kaenm Bass and what she said she stood for, but it has become a cruel joke. Consistently, she will go after those who can't speak for themselves, advocate for themselves, and are the true victims of the cruelty and carelessness of LA residents. The animals are hungry, scared and subject to the horrible reality of too many and too few caring humans. But cutting back the current draconian funds for them, cutting basics such as food and shelter, she is punishing them and sending them to the horror of the streets, starvation, injury and death. Unacceptable- of course money is always tight - but finding budget relief through cruel, vicious and thoughtless cuts of funding for the most basic of needs is beneath even her.

Communication from Public

Name: Robin L Potchka

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 08:41 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council, How does your conscience allow you to wake up in the morning with any joy knowing what is happening to the innocent dogs on skid row, in shelters, and throughout Los Angeles. These poor innocent creatures are living the cruelest lives and you dont have the compassion or feel the need to end their suffering. What is wrong with all of you? Shame on you. Make this right.

Communication from Public

Name: Victoria Ochoa

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 08:43 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not pull funding for Dogs Playing for Life contract in the 2026- 2027 Budget. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100 of 1% of Los Angeles's \$14.85B budget. This program creates the opportunity every dog deserves - normalcy, stress relief, and exercise while also providing data that drives adoptions and rescue pulls, therefore decreasing euthanasia. Less lives lost should always be the objective of any and all effort when it comes to animal control. The information DPFL provided led me to adopt my dog, Lady, from the West LA location. They let me know her previous owner had abandoned her, and based off what they learned in playgroups, she was shy, sweet, and scared. DPFL staff encouraged me to meet her and when we were introduced, I knew she was the one for me. This program is absolutely necessary, please reconsider.

Communication from Public

Name: Jen Burrell

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 08:47 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life contract in the 2026-27 budget. Through these playgroups, LA shelter dogs are getting their only out-of-kennel time for weeks and months. Otherwise, it's 24 hours a day in the kennel with no walks and no play. No quality of life for a situation we created for them. Playgroups through DPFL are also one of the best ways to learn about a dog's behavior. This information drives adoptions, rescue pulls, and lifesaving decisions. This funding is less than 1/100th of the budget. Without it, costs every claim to the city being a Humane LA. Please act with urgency to fund the Dogs Playing for Life contract in the June 6th budget. Don't let it lapse on July 1st!

Communication from Public

Name: Jahnai

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 08:48 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Support Full Funding for Survivor Services in LA City Budget (Council File: 26-0600) Dear Budget and Finance Committee, My name is Jahnai and I am a board member of Haven Hills, a domestic violence organization serving survivors and families across Los Angeles. I am writing in support of full funding for survivor services in the City's FY 26–27 budget. I urge you to adopt the proposed \$12.3 million in General Funds for CIFD Survivor Services. This funding is essential to maintaining life-saving shelter, housing, and support services for survivors of domestic violence. These services are critical, especially as many individuals experiencing homelessness have a history of domestic or intimate partner violence. I also ask that you fully fund LAHSA's Continuum of Care (CoC) Planning request. Without adequate funding, LAHSA will be unable to sustain key programs and staffing that support survivors in accessing housing and federal resources. Additionally, I encourage the City to: Ensure survivors do not lose housing as Emergency Housing Vouchers expire Maintain strong workforce development programs like LA: RISE Los Angeles has made meaningful progress in expanding services for survivors, and this is a critical moment to protect and build on that progress. Please stand with survivors and ensure full funding for CIFD Survivor Services and LAHSA CoC core functions. Sincerely, Jahnai

Communication from Public

Name: Jocelyn Hernandez

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 08:50 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life contract in the 2026-2027 budget. DPFL playgroups are the only structures out-of-kennel time most LA shelter dogs ever get. Without them, dogs sit in concrete kennels 24 hours a day, without walks, without play, without joy, sometimes sitting, eating, sleeping next to their own excrement with no reprieve. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100th of 1% of LA's \$14.85 BILLION budget. Cutting such a vital program strips the city's claim of being a "humane LA." Fully fund DPFL's contract in the June 6th budget. Do not let it lapse on July 1st. Jocelyn Hernandez Council District 8 constituent

Communication from Public

Name: vanessa estrada

Date Submitted: 04/23/2026 09:45 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am a Los Angeles resident and I urge you to restore funding for the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) contract in the Animal Services budget. This program is essential for dog socialization, shelter safety, and increasing adoption rates. Please do not let our shelter dogs languish in kennels 24/7.

Communication from Public

Name: Andy Pearlman

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 12:25 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember: As a constituent of CD11 and a 23-year dog rescue volunteer, I implore you to please reinstate the LA City shelter funding for FOOD (are the animals supposed to starve?), and Dogs Playing for Life. This program is critical, and we've been able to get dogs out of the shelter due to their being socialized by these great folks who take otherwise difficult dogs, and make them adoptable house pets. This saves them from euthanasia as well as helps get them out of the shelter sooner, which saves the city money. BTW, our rescue Forte Animal Rescue, was founded by Marie Atake, former Animal Services Commissioner under Mayor Villaraigosa. We have been able to save almost 2000 dogs in our 24 years of existence in partnership with LAAS. Thank you, Andy Pearlman

Communication from Public

Name: Stefanie Huschka

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 12:51 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: It is absolutely inhumane and animal abuse to not be having dogs walked and played with. why are staff receiving 6 figure salaries and there is \$0 going to food & hardly anything going to medical? getting dogs out and socialized & feeding them should be the number one priority.