

Communication from Public

Name: Katherine T.

Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 03:47 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Good afternoon, my name is Katherine, and I'm an LA resident. Animal services are public services that families rely on every day. This once in a lifetime grant opportunity will fund critical roles like adoption staff, foster coordinators, and field operations. These are not abstract benefits, these are real services that help families reunite with lost pets, reduce strain on shelters, and improve public safety in our neighborhoods. This isn't just about animals, it's about supporting families, neighborhoods, and public safety through better services. Please approve this funding partnership from the ASPCA & Best Friends Animal Society. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Darrin Bird

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 12:32 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, As a dog lover, a former dog owner, and a constituent, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) contract in the 2026-27 budget. Fourteen years ago I adopted my late dog Daisy from the West LA Animal Shelter. Needless to say, my life has been forever changed. She lifted me out of depression and gave me so much to be thankful for, even now almost two years since her passing. She was the perfect dog - never barked, never bit anyone, loved other dogs. I often joke she was grown in a lab to be the prime specimen of dog, but no, she came from a city shelter. I tell people all the time to check out the shelters rather than go through an expensive rescue organization because there are truly so many overlooked great dogs. That's why it pains me to be in the situation we're in now. I know Daisy thrived due to her playtime with volunteers and 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 also how LA Animal Services 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 shelter makes. This last point astounds me but 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. How can anyone honestly accept this? I am eternally grateful for LA Animal Services. It brought Daisy and me together and it can do the same for countless others, but not if the dogs are denied adequate play and socialization. That will just produce stressed and “unadoptable” dogs and cause bigger problems down the line. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. Thank you, Darrin Bird Larchmont / Mid-City

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 02:00 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, As a constituent and an Angeleno who cares about our city's shelter dogs, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) 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 — do you have no heart or soul for these living sentient beings?!?!?! Playgroups are also how LA Animal Services 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 shelter makes. 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. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1.

Communication from Public

Name: Alyssa McCarthy
Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 03:20 AM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) contract in the 2026-27 budget. I've spent time at the West Valley animal shelter as a foster and adopter, and I've watched firsthand what DPFL does. Dogs who arrive anxious and reactive become adoptable within weeks because of playgroups — because DPFL is the only structured out-of-kennel time they receive. Without it, those same dogs decompensate, and the city pays for that deterioration in bite settlements (more than \$31.85M since 2023). My own adopted dog was in the shelter for a full year before I adopted him. If it wasn't for DPFL I would have never got to see his temperament with other dogs and his mannerisms that made me realize he was the one for me. I also do not think it is humane to cut such a vital program for an already suffering system. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100 of 1% of LA's budget. Cutting it doesn't save money. It just shifts a small fixed cost into unpredictable liability — and it abandons the dogs we claim to care about. Please, I strongly strongly urge the city restore the funding before June 6. Thank you, Alyssa McCarthy LAC

Communication from Public

Name: Karen Alvarez

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 04:13 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, As a constituent and an Angeleno who cares about our city's shelter dogs, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) 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 also how LA Animal Services 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 shelter makes. 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. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. Thank you, Karen Alvarez
Long Beach, Los Angeles County

Communication from Public

Name: Anna Keizer

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 05:05 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, As a constituent and an Angeleno who cares about our city's shelter dogs, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) 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 also how LA Animal Services 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 shelter makes. 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. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. Thank you, Anna Keizer
Sherman Oaks

Communication from Public

Name: Catie Macken

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 05:36 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, As a constituent and an Angeleno who cares about our city's shelter dogs, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) 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 also how LA Animal Services 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 shelter makes. 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. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. Thank you, Catie Macken
Topanga

Communication from Public

Name: Danielle Carroll
Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 05:50 AM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, As a constituent and an Angeleno who cares about our city's shelter dogs, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) 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. Imagine living like that? Playgroups are also how LA Animal Services 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 shelter makes. 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. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. We need your help to make positive change that our community cares about. Thank you, [Your name] [Your neighborhood]

Communication from Public

Name: Stacey Craig

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 06:10 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please consider boosting the funding for Public Works - Sanitation - Care+ program. The public right of way is cleaner and safer by reducing fire hazards, and this program prevents encampments from growing unchecked. We have the world cup, the olympics, and the superbowl coming up and we have to get prepared.

Communication from Public

Name: Liz A. Perez

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 06:33 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm writing to urge the Budget and Finance Committee to restore full funding to LA Animal Services. Eliminating the animal food account, gutting medical supplies, and cutting enrichment programs like Dogs Playing for Life will directly harm thousands of animals and make the shelter crisis worse. These are basic care necessities, not luxuries. Please amend the budget to protect LA Animal Service.

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Poziemski
Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 07:33 AM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, As a constituent, an Angeleno, someone who works in pet care and cares about our city's shelter dogs, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) 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 also how LA Animal Services 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 shelter makes. My family has always only rescued dogs, specifically senior dogs who need a second chance. These dogs bring as much joy to our lives as we bring to theirs. Removing the opportunity to assess is essentially removing the opportunity to adopt. 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. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. And I will continue as I have for the past 20 years, donate to fund ASPCA and Humane society in addition to the taxes I pay to ensure programs like DPFL exist. Thank you, Sarah

Communication from Public

Name: Stephanie Colbert

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 07:35 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm writing from the Westchester neighborhood to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) contract in the 2026-27 budget. As a volunteer at the South LA Shelter, I've seen how essential DPFL is for these shelter dogs. These playgroups provide the only structured yard time at the shelter, and for most dogs, this is the only out-of-kennel time they receive at all. There aren't nearly enough dog walkers to go around, so most dogs go weeks, and even months, without being taken out by a volunteer. Without DPFL, dogs will sit in their small concrete kennels for weeks at a time. Defunding DPFL is not only inhumane, but it will also increase the risk of dog bites. Every shelter dog bite settlement the city has paid stems from the same conditions: dogs deteriorating in kennels without enrichment, undocumented behavioral histories, staff stretched too thin to safely assess them, and adopters sent home with dogs no one could reliably evaluate. DPFL is the program that most directly addresses those conditions. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget on June 6. Thank you, Stephanie Colbert Westchester

Communication from Public

Name: Celeste Russell

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 07:51 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please restore DPFL. As someone who adopted an LA dog, I know first hand how overcrowded our shelters are, leading to an enormous amount of depressed dogs who don't show well and therefore don't get adopted. The way I see it, outdoor time is critical in a dog's life, not optional. If you want to help decrease the number of animals in LA shelters that starts by getting them adopted, which is much more likely if they actually feel they have something to live for. Taking away any animals outdoor time is just cruel. These dogs deserve better. They deserve fresh air and sunshine, especially given they're facing their life being cut short if not adopted.

Communication from Public

Name: Iliana Gonzalez
Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 07:55 AM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: What you all are deciding to do with our tax dollars that us hard working citizens pay is utterly disgusting and shameful. These dogs are already in such distress and suffering they do not need to suffer anymore by taking away their only time away from hard and cold concrete kennels. My tax dollars fund this program and I demand that it stays that way. The lack of compassion and empathy is infuriating to say the least. These dogs don't have much do not take away the little bit of free time and stimulation they have.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 07:59 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a constituent and an Angeleno who cares about our city's shelter dogs, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) 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 also how LA Animal Services 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 shelter makes. 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. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1.

Communication from Public

Name: Jane Raczy

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 08:06 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I urge Mayor Bass and the City Council to approve the 2026-2027 proposed funding for DPFL (Dogs Playing for Life) at the LA Animal Services shelters. I am a volunteer at East Valley Shelter and have witnessed the benefits of the dogs getting outside their kennels on a daily basis. There are too few dog walking volunteers to get even a small percentage of the dog population out daily. DPFL helps reduce FAS and provides important behavior information about the dogs that helps them get adopted by the right people. Thank you for your consideration. Jane Raczy

Communication from Public

Name: Adam Tune

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 08:17 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: To the city council— As an Angeleno who cares about our city's shelter dogs, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) 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. Just misery. Playgroups are also how LA Animal Services learns the most important thing about any dog—how they behave with other dogs. That single data point drives adoptions, rescue pulls, and every life-saving decision a shelter makes. 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. There is no justification to cut this out of the budget to save money—if money is tight, cut the salary of some of the most over-paid individuals on the budget; don't take from the poorest of the poor (dogs trapped in, effectively, dog jail). Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1.

Communication from Public

Name: Angela P

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 08:27 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As someone who cares about your city's shelter dogs, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) 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 also how LA Animal Services 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 shelter makes. 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. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. Thank you,

Communication from Public

Name: Eva Elena Ernst
Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 08:28 AM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, Please fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) contract in the 2026–27 budget. For many shelter dogs, these playgroups are their only time outside a kennel. Without them, dogs spend their days on concrete with no movement, no relief, and no enrichment. Playgroups reduce stress, prevent behavioral decline, and make dogs safer and more adoptable. They also give shelters the key information they need, how a dog behaves with others, which directly drives adoptions, rescue pulls, and responsible placements. The cost is minimal, but the impact is not. Please restore DPFL funding before June 6 and do not let this program lapse on July 1. Thank you, Eva Elena Ernst

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Jaime

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 08:43 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I urge your support in this effort to help Los Angeles Animal Services. — It is supported by a major investment from Best Friends Animal Society and the ASPCA. Right now, our shelters are BEYOND full. — Animals living in stressful, overcrowded conditions, leaving workers and volunteers stretched to their limits, and often the public with no where to turn This \$14 million grant gives Los Angeles Animal Services the opportunity to do something different. This is exactly the kind of partnership we should be saying yes to. If we don't invest in systems upfront, we will pay for it more later, in emergency care, overcrowding, and inefficiency. We are already paying dearly for the current approach with a system that is completely overwhelmed. But with the right resources, like the ones being proposed, we can give animals a real chance, and better serve our communities. Please approve this investment. Our animals — and their people — are depending on it.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 10:25 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, As a constituent and an Angeleno who runs a nonprofit animal rescue and cares deeply about our city's shelter dogs, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) 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 also how LA Animal Services 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 shelter makes. 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. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. Thank you, Lauren Avon Franklin Village

Communication from Public

Name: Britt McColl

Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 05:21 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, As a constituent and an Angeleno who cares so much about our city's shelter dogs, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) contract in the 2026-27 budget. Playgroups are the only out-of-kennel time most shelter dogs get. Without DPFL, dogs sit in concrete kennels 24 hours a day. No walks. No play. No contact outside the steel door. Playgroups = the data every placement depends on. How a dog handles other dogs is the single most important piece of behavioral information LAAS can collect. Playgroups are the only way that data gets gathered at scale. 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. 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. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. Thank you, Britt McColl Sherman Oaks

Communication from Public

Name: Nicole

Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 01:06 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) 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 also how LA Animal Services 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 shelter makes. 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. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. Thank you, Nicole