

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/05/2026 02:06 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, As an Angeleno who cares about the purpose of government and the well-being of citizens and animals, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) contract in the 2026-27 budget at the very least. As you know, where government lacks, citizens step in as volunteers and private entities to help. And these private citizens and entities who see first hand on-the-ground situations have informed us of the critical lack of shelter and animal services for years--and in this case, that 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 Department's own interim GM, Annette Ramirez, warned the Committee in writing on April 21 that cutting DPFL will negatively affect shelter dogs' physical and behavioral health, decrease adoptability, and increase bite risk to staff, volunteers, and visitors. Is there a reason ever to go out of one's way to inflict harm, especially when leaving things as-is costs next to nothing? The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100th of 1% of LA's \$14.85B budget — a small fraction of what the city has paid in dog bite settlements over three years--a subject which is interconnected to the poor system of care around animal services to begin with. Cutting it converts a small, predictable cost into unpredictable liability. Not having the wherewithal to be proactive is one thing, but a tiny look down the trajectory of such poor decisions shows clearly not only impending but guaranteed harm on the scale of failure of humanity. We are all connected, animals and humans, and we are all complicit. Let that complicity be a complicity of compassion and stewardship. As a public servant (government official), please vote to restore public faith by restoring DPFL funding before the Committee report on May 15. “The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated”. – Mahatma Gandhi “I am in favour of animal rights as well as human rights. That is the way of a whole human being”. – Abraham Lincoln “Compassion for animals is intimately associated with goodness of character, and it may be confidently asserted that he who is cruel to animals cannot be a good man”. – Arthur Schopenhauer “Pets are humanizing. They remind us we have an obligation and responsibility to preserve and nurture and care for all life.” – James Cromwell Thank you,

Jung Bell

Communication from Public

Name: Kelly Brinkman

Date Submitted: 05/02/2026 01:33 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please fully fund Dogs Play For Life contract 2026-2027. This program is essential & not optional for the well being of staff, volunteers, the public and dogs. Our shelters are busting at the seams with too many animals & never enough cleaning or volunteers to safely take them all out. DPFL is the most cost effective strategy for the safety of staff, volunteers, public and dogs. There is no way to downplay the crisis that we are in and making this cut would negatively impact our communities. DPFL is an organization that has proven to be professional, knowledgeable, flexible, and most importantly, demonstrated the importance of playgroups. Please do not take away this highlight in a such dim