

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Natalee K Goto

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2026 07:41 AM

**Council File No:** 26-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Fund the Controller's office. Give them the positions they need. Every new position will pay for itself a hundred times over. Do. Not. Hire. One. More. Police. Officer. They don't make our city money. Auditors do!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Billy Alfaro

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2026 07:43 AM

**Council File No:** 26-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I believe the budget should not be approved as proposed as once again lapd's budget is expanded just like the previous years. In addition to LAPD taking more than half of the budget they also take half of the budget set aside for lawsuit settlements due to their abuse, excessive force, civil rights violations that the city has to confront every single year. City council needs to make adjustments to where LAPD has to be held accountable for their actions. LAPD should have to pay for their own lawsuits out of their budget so they could feel the impact of the lawsuits so that their officers will start being conscious of their actions and behave correctly. Last year during the mass protest in downtown that were peaceful and LAPD showed up to instigate and provoked crowd at one point I was able to talk to officers in riot gear and we pointed out that they were being violent and aggressive towards peaceful protesters and that they would be sued to which they responded that they did not care because it's not their money that the city would be the one paying for it and it's not their money. This comment by LAPD officers makes it clear that they do not care about following rules and respecting the people they're supposed to be protecting and serving because there is no consequences if they are sued because the city comes and rescues them every single time and lawsuits does not impact their budget. Instead of expanding the lapd's budget the city should invest in infrastructure, fixing the roads, preparing for the Olympics which will be coming in 2028. In fiscal year 2025 the city had to pay out over 50 million in settlements for lawsuits due to the conditions of roads, sidewalks, and basic City Maintenance that was missing that caused injuries. All this was preventable. We also need accountability for what is going on with the money that has been set aside for housing homeless people. Millions of dollars have gone missing with the mayors housing project inside safe. This cannot be denied as the mayor and other City officials were ordered into federal court to explain to a federal judge what was going on and why this money was missing. The judge even stated that he considered stepping in and assigning a federal mediator to oversee the city if the city could not get their act together. A federal judge should never have to do this when we have competent leaders running the city. Finally, to those council members like Miss Hernandez, and Mr. Soto Martinez that claim

they want alternatives for policing and not have LAPD be the solution it's hard to believe you when every single year you vote to expand lapd's budget. It is time for you to stop lying to your constituents and vote in accordance to what you believe and what you are working for and if your purpose or idea is to reform the way law enforcement operates within the city then it's time to start putting limits and start investing money in those Alternatives that you believe in and have proposed and stop expanding LAPD by expanding their budget every single year. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Thank you for your time and attention and please approve a budget that works for the people and not against the people. The budget is supposed to Serve the People and not LAPD or the Mayors interest.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lynne Chao

**Date Submitted:** 05/20/2026 05:55 AM

**Council File No:** 26-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please enter this Written Public Comment into the official public record for the FY 2026–2027 budget discussion regarding LA Animal Services and Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL). Attached are: Written Public Comment Appendix A — Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) Original Terminology Sheet Appendix B — DPFL Terminology (Retyped Searchable Digital Transcription)  
Submitted by: Lynne Chao Date: May 20, 2026

Subject:

FY 2026–2027 Budget — Restore Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) Funding

Public Comment Submitted By:

Lynne Chao

Date:

May 20, 2026

**Please fully fund Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) in the FY 2026–2027 budget and ensure there is no lapse in funding beginning in June 2026.**

The elimination or interruption of DPFL funding would remove one of the primary behavioral assessment, enrichment, rehabilitation, safety handling, and placement support systems currently available within LA Animal Services shelters.

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## **Staff Safety, Behavioral Assessment, and Rescue Decision-Making**

**DPFL is not simply “playtime” for dogs.**

**DPFL is advanced behavioral evaluation, rehabilitation, enrichment, safety handling, and placement infrastructure.**

One of the most important and often overlooked functions of DPFL is **staff safety and handling support for highly stressed, reactive, difficult, or dangerous dogs within City shelters.**

City shelters are fundamentally different from rescues. City shelters do not have the luxury of selective intake and must accept dogs of all behavioral presentations, including dogs that may initially be too dangerous or unsafe for traditional handling methods or a potential public safety concern.

In situations where staff may only be able to interact with a dog using restrictive handling tools or kennel-based observation, DPFL handlers are often able to safely engage the dog outside of the kennel environment and evaluate behaviors not

visible through kennel confinement alone. DPFL handlers are often able to safely remove dogs from kennel confinement for structured interaction and evaluation.

**Important: This creates a critical secondary safety, handling, and evaluation system for both the shelter and LA Animal Services staff.**

Dogs initially perceived as dangerous, unapproachable, behaviorally deteriorated, or impossible to handle may demonstrate:

- sociability
- responsiveness
- recovery after stress
- manageability
- appropriate communication with dogs

once evaluated through structured interaction.

**This can fundamentally change the trajectory of a dog's outcome.**

**Important:** DPFL also directly impacts **staff safety, injury prevention, and potential liability exposure** related to handling highly reactive or dangerous dogs.

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## **Rescue Decision-Making Depends on Behavioral Reporting**

**Rescues rely heavily on behavioral reports to determine which dogs they can pull from euthanasia listings.**

In many cases, rescues cannot meet dogs in person due to extremely limited euthanasia timelines and instead must make decisions based almost entirely on available behavioral documentation. Many rescues are not physically based in Los Angeles and cannot evaluate dogs in person prior to committing to pull.

At South LA, many euthanasia-listed dogs — including Yellow Alert (Y1, Y2) and Rescue Only (R3/R4) dogs — effectively receive only three true “save days” before euthanasia deadlines.

The following do not realistically function as true save days:

1. Mondays do not count as save days because shelters are closed to the public.
2. Intake day does not realistically function as a full save day because dogs may enter euthanasia listings at any time of day.
3. Euthanasia dates at South LA are deadline any time after 8 AM.

Without structured behavioral reporting, rescues have no reliable basis to:

- assess placement compatibility
- evaluate risk
- determine foster suitability
- determine whether dogs can safely integrate with existing dogs

As a result, dogs without clear and detailed behavioral information are significantly less likely to be selected for rescue, even when they are behaviorally suitable for placement.

The reality is this:

**If Dogs Playing for Life and its behavioral reporting system are removed, rescues lose one of the only structured behavioral assessment tools available to evaluate dogs quickly and responsibly under euthanasia timelines.**

Important: If rescues cannot reliably evaluate dogs through structured behavioral reporting, many may instead choose to pull from organizations or shelters where detailed behavioral information is available.

Result: The result is fewer dogs pulled from LA City shelters, fewer lives saved, and increased euthanasia outcomes.

This increase is not only tied to the loss of outside-kennel enrichment and social interaction, but also to the effects of prolonged kennel confinement, fear, anxiety, and stress (FAS), which can develop over days, weeks, or months at the South Los Angeles shelter.

Without DPFL, dogs lose both:

- the opportunity to behaviorally improve through structured interaction
- and the behavioral documentation rescues rely upon to safely commit to pulling them

For many dogs, playgroup may be the only opportunity they receive once every several days to leave kennel confinement, interact with other dogs, and simply behave like dogs.

Dogs are not consistently receiving daily enrichment even under the current system at LA Animal Services. This needs to be reviewed and questioned instead of changing the trajectory toward little to no outside enrichment.

The fallback would primarily become enrichment dependent on volunteer availability and unpaid labor support, creating inconsistency in scheduling, enrichment access, and behavioral opportunities.

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## **Why the DPFL Abbreviations Matter**

One of the most effective aspects of DPFL reporting is the ability to communicate large amounts of behavioral information quickly through shorthand notation.

For example, a short notation cluster may communicate:

- play style
- sociability
- leash behavior
- handling needs
- energy level
- compatibility with other dogs
- behavioral stability
- recovery after stress
- placement considerations

A notation sequence such as:

**GD / SE / Steerable / APPR-C / Mingled / BOP**

can immediately communicate to a rescue that the dog:

- engages in softer play (**GD — Gentle & Dainty**)
- may require thoughtful placement (**SE — Selective**)
- responds appropriately to handling (**Steerable**)
- demonstrates appropriate dog communication (**APPR-C — Appropriate Corrections**)
- interacts socially with dogs (**Mingled**)
- demonstrates manageable group behavior and social engagement (**BOP — Bouts of Play**)

Similarly:

**OLR / Less TM / HM / ASV**

may communicate:

- leash reactivity (**OLR — On-Leash Reactive**)
- preference regarding certain dogs, particularly males (**Less TM — Less Tolerant of Males**)
- monitoring or controlling social behavior within the group (**HM — Hall Monitor**)
- assertive but manageable behavior (**ASV — Assertive**)

**This shorthand system is extremely valuable operationally because rescues often must make lifesaving decisions rapidly without physically meeting the dog first.**

Importantly, these notation clusters communicate nuance.

**A vocal dog is not automatically aggressive.**

**A selective dog is not automatically unsafe.**

**A dog giving strong corrections may still function appropriately in structured playgroups.**

Without DPFL, this behavioral nuance disappears, and dogs are reduced to generic kennel-based descriptions that fail to adequately communicate placement potential.

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## **Behavioral Improvement and Long-Term Placement Success**

It is also important to understand that playgroups and behavioral interaction are not only enrichment opportunities — they are often the primary environment where dogs are able to demonstrate behavioral improvement over time.

Some dogs entering playgroups may initially require muzzles, slower introductions, separation protocols, or additional behavioral management to safely participate.

However, through repeated structured interaction, many dogs begin learning appropriate social behaviors, improve tolerance, reduce stress behaviors, and become safer and more manageable within group settings.

**This behavioral improvement is important because documented progress directly impacts placement potential and overall outcomes.**

Dogs demonstrating improvement, appropriate social interaction, recovery after stress, or successful participation in structured playgroups are more likely to:

- receive positive behavioral documentation
- remain placement candidates longer
- be considered manageable by rescues and foster organizations
- and ultimately exit the shelter alive

Without DPFL, many dogs lose one of the only structured opportunities available to behaviorally improve, demonstrate progress, and show placement potential outside of kennel confinement.

DPFL also helps dogs develop and practice appropriate social behavior that can improve long-term placement success after rescue, fostering, or adoption.

Through structured interaction with other dogs, many dogs learn:

- appropriate social communication
- tolerance
- impulse control
- play boundaries
- correction and recovery behavior
- safer group interaction

These are critical life and socialization skills that can directly impact whether a dog succeeds in foster care, rescue placement, boarding, or adoption environments.

This is especially important for dogs exiting prolonged kennel confinement where stress, overstimulation, frustration, fear, and isolation may negatively impact behavior.

**DPFL gives dogs the opportunity to practice healthier social behavior in structured settings before placement.**

As a result, DPFL not only helps dogs exit the shelter alive — it may also improve the likelihood that dogs remain successfully placed after rescue, fostering, or adoption.

It is also important to recognize that reliance on volunteer support alone creates inconsistency because volunteer availability fluctuates week to week based on personal schedules and unpaid free time.

Structured behavioral programs should not depend primarily on inconsistent volunteer availability for dogs to receive enrichment, social interaction, and behavioral opportunities critical to their outcomes.

Attachments:

Appendix A — Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) Original Terminology Sheet  
Appendix B — DPFL Terminology (Searchable Digital Transcription)



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## Legend of DPFL Terms Used in Airtable

- ? = used as an addition to other terms on this sheet, usually means "there is a risk of\_\_\_" or "be cautious this may be present/possible"
  - The DPFL team uses this when they have a hunch a behavior may be present in a dog but did not actually observe the behavior directly, or the behavior must exist as a pattern to be labeled as such (versus a solitary instance)
  - EX: CD? = this dog may be conflict driven
- 2XH = double housed (Dogs that are cohoused in kennel)
- APPR-G = appropriate greetings (Greetings that are respectful in space and approach)
- ANX = anxious (Behavior that presents as uncertain or fearful, potentially due to anticipatory stress, ex. pacing)
- ASV = assertive (Behavior or body language that can be imposing in intent)
- BR = barrier reactive (A dog that responds to a perceived or real threat or trigger through a barrier with behavior that is outward and "loud," ex. barking, lunging)
- BP = body pressure (Spatial use of handler's body that can affect dog behavior, can be used to create space but can also add additional pressure, with or without the addition of tools, to dog/dog and dog/human interactions)
- CD = conflict driven (A pattern of behavior where a dog displays a propensity to jump into altercations)
- CPR = "continue, play, recover" (The process of allowing emotional recovery for dog, generally after a negative experience with another dog such as being victim in a dog fight or being present when other dogs were in a fight)
- CKR = cubby kennel routine recommended (This recommendation can be made due to a dog's behavior in kennel to reduce stress leashing)
- DDA = dog-dog assessment (Assessment that is set up for one dog and during which helper dog(s) participate to assist in evaluating the assessment dog)
- DF = defensive (Behavior of a dog that doesn't initiate aggression and who will first choose avoidance or flight, but will respond to real or perceived threat(s) with aggressive behavior)
- DSP = displaced, usually in reference to a bite (Moving something from its original position; in reference to a bite when a bite lands on an unintended target, ex. dog is attempting to bite another dog and handler accidentally moves their leg in the dog's bite range)
- DT= due to (Used as addition to other notes EX: DTN = due to notes)
- F = female
- FIK = fractious in kennel (Dog that displays behavior that is difficult to control or manage in kennel)
- FOL = fractious on leash (Dog that displays behavior that is difficult to control or manage on leash)
- FT = "dog fight" or "fought with" (Dog to dog interaction where a disagreement occurs and can range from a verbal altercation to an altercation with contact between dogs)
- G = greeter dog (A dog that can be playful and even puppy-like, is happy to meet new dogs, but may not be emotionally stout enough to handle rude or inappropriate behavior from other dogs)



- **GG** = gate greeting (Greeting between dogs through a fence, if leashes are held on either side they should always be loose as to not impact the dog's behavior during the greeting)
- **H** = helper (A dog that demonstrates ability to give and take appropriate corrections, is mentally and physically stout enough to handle inappropriate or rude behavior from other dogs, and can defend themselves if necessary)
- **HAN** = handling issues (A dog that has varying degrees of difficulty tolerating handling by people due to arousal or fear. They may use inappropriate (ex. mouthing) or defensive behavior to seek space, ex. during collaring or petting)
- **HE** = high energy (Dog that is energetic in the yard, may overwhelm dogs with lower energy, ex. may enter yard running in)
- **HM** = hall monitor (Dog that will correct another dog for perceived infractions with other dogs as if they are responsible for monitoring and managing the yards themselves)
- **HTS** = hard to steer (Dog that is only responsive to stronger steering or tactile tools, ex. MSC with touch to dog)
- **IC or ICI** = impulse control (issue) (When a dog is struggling to modulate their behavior)
- **IH** = In heat (Female dog in the fertile and receptive period of the sexual cycle; this can also impact male dog behavior toward the female in heat)
- **INT** = intolerant (Not accepting of)
  - **INT-M's** = intolerant of males (Not accepting of males, should be closely monitored if in the presence of male dogs)
  - **INT-F's** = intolerant of females (Not accepting of females, should be closely monitored if in the presence of female dogs)
  - **INT-Restraint** = intolerant of restraint (Not accepting of restraint and will employ distance seeking behavior when trying to restrain)
  - **INT-Collaring** = intolerant of collaring (Not accepting of collaring and will employ distance seeking behavior when trying to collar)
  - **INT-MW** = intolerant of muzzling (Not accepting of muzzling and will employ distance seeking behavior when trying to muzzle)
  - **INT-mounting** = intolerant of mounting (Not accepting of mounting and will likely overcorrect or overreact when mounted)
- **K2S** = kept to self (A dog in PG that does not interact with other dogs)
- **KM** = kennel mate (As referring to a dog that is cohoused in kennel with another specific dog)
- **KMS** = kick me sign (A dog in PG that can be targeted for behavior that may be perceived by certain other dogs as "weak" and should be protected)
- **LE** = low energy (A dog who presents with calm energy)
- **M** = male
- **MD** = mama dog (In reference to maternal behavior or physical characteristics)
- **MW** = muzzle work or muzzle (Used to indicate a dog that is muzzled for playgroup and/or may need ongoing muzzling in PG)
- **NIK** = not in kennel (Notation used to indicate DPFL could not pull as dog was not in their kennel)
- **NIS** = not in system (Notation used to indicate DPFL could not pull as dog was not in the system)
- **NS** = noise sensitive (A dog that is overwhelmed with noise)
- **OBX** = obnoxious (Rude)



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- **OBX-greetings** = obnoxious greetings (Rude, over the top, and/or inappropriate interactions when first meeting other dogs that may not be malicious in intent but can require management depending on dogs in the yard)
  - **OBX-play** = obnoxious play (Rude, over the top, and/or inappropriate play that may need management depending on dogs in the yard)
  - **OC** = over-corrects (Excessive corrections by a dog given the context)
  - **OLR** = on-leash reactive (Outward or "loud" behavior displayed on leash as a response to a real or perceived threat or trigger)
  - **OR** = overreacts (Overreaction by a dog given the context)
  - **OR-C** = over-reactive corrections (Overreactive corrections given by a dog given the context)
  - **OTM** = one-track mind (Behavior that is consistently singularly motivated, usually in reference to sexually-motivated mounting)
  - **PC** = personality conflict (Dogs that get along with others dogs but have displayed an immediate or consistent difficulty showing appropriate or friendly behavior toward each other specifically)
  - **PGA** = playgroup assessment (An assessment where one dog is introduced to a group of dogs, the group is generally curated for that dog unless a DDA has already been done to establish a baseline of sociability)
  - **PG** = playgroup (A group of dogs that are brought into a yard for an opportunity to socialize, established by social categories and playstyles)
  - **PLF** = playful (A dog that shows social behavior and loose body language when interacting with other dogs, instigates play)
    - **PLF-M's** = playful-males (Playful with male dogs)
    - **PLF-Fs** = playful-females (Playful with female dogs)
    - **PLF-SO** = playful-social (Playful with social dogs)
    - **PLF-Soft** = playful-soft (Playful with soft dogs)
    - **PLF-Respectful** = playful-respectful (Playful with respectful dogs)
    - **PLF-IH** = playful-in heat (Playful with dogs in heat)
  - **PL** = prey-like (A dog that displays fleeing-type behavior that may trigger predatory drive from certain other dogs)
  - **PRT** = protest (The act of objecting to something usually employing distance seeking behaviors like snapping or lunging)
    - **PRT-Tools** = protest-tools (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior towards a handler who attempts to use any tool on them)
    - **PRT-SB** = protest-spray bottle (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior towards a handler who attempts to use a spray bottle on them)
    - **PRT-SC** = protest-shake can (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior towards a handler who attempts to use a shake can on them)
    - **PRT-MS** = protest-monster shake can (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior towards a handler who attempts to use a monster shake can on them)
    - **PRT-PCR** = protest-pet corrector (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior towards a handler who attempts to use a pet corrector on them)



- **PRT-AH** = protest-air horn (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior towards a handler who attempts to use an Airhorn on them)
- **PRT-C/Handler** = protest-handler corrections (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior to handler for attempting to correct the dog)
- **PRT-C/Dog** = protest-dog corrections (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior to another dog who attempts to correct them)
- **PS** = pulley system (Used by DPFL to guide a leash through an item such as a carabiner linked to a fence. Used for handler safety and access to more or less slack to a leashed dog)
- **QR** = quick release (Method to remove a slip leash without having to move the leash off of a dog's neck. A regular leash is clipped onto the silver ring on the slip leash, and then the second leash is used to pull both leashes off)
- **RA** = risk assessment (An assessment run by DPFL that provides data on preferred enrichment opportunities individualized to each dog and gives safety risk data on the dog)
- **RD** = redirected (The act of changing arousal from the triggered target to another target that is generally nearby)
  - **RD?** = redirected? (Potential redirection, generally in reference to a bite or attempted bite)
  - **RD-BR** = redirected-barrier (Redirection that is triggered by a barrier, such as a kennel, fence, or leash)
  - **RD-Defense** = redirected-defense (Redirection that is motivated by defense and is more likely to be used when flight is not option)
  - **RD-Arousal** = redirected-arousal (Redirection that is motivated by heightened arousal)
- **RG** = resource guarder (A dog that uses aggressive behavior to maintain access to a resource by keeping others away)
- **RS** = ROCK STAR! (A standout helper dog that can act as a helper to dogs of all different playstyles and social categories)
- **RV** = reactive (A dog that responds to a perceived or real threat or trigger with outward and "loud" behavior, ex. barking, lunging)
- **SA** = separation anxiety (A medical diagnosis, when a dog becomes highly distressed when separated from others (can be specific to someone or in general). The separation can lead to destructive behavior and can include self-injurious behavior)
- **SCI** = stimulus control issue (When a dog is not discriminating well between cues or stimuli)
- **SENS** = sensitive (Fearful/overwhelmed, may shut down with exposure)
  - **SENS-tools** = sensitive-to tools (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed- may shut down- with tool use toward them or in the vicinity of them for audible tools)
  - **SENS-SB** = sensitive-to spray bottle (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed- may shut down- with spray bottle use)
  - **SENS-SC** = sensitive-to shake can (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed- may shut down- with shake can use toward them or in the vicinity of them)
  - **SENS-MSC** = sensitive-to monster shake can (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed- may shut down- with monster shake can use toward them or in the vicinity of them)
  - **SENS-PCR** = sensitive-to pet corrector (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed- may shut down- with pet corrector use, toward them or in the vicinity of them)



- **SENS-sound** = sensitive-to sound (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed with noise and may shut down with sound)
- **SENS-BP** = sensitive-to body pressure (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed with body pressure and may shut down with body pressure use)
- **SM** = sexually motivated (Mounting that is not rooted in assertive behavior but rather sexual arousal)
- **TG** = territorial guarding (When a dog displays aggressive behavior to move or keep others away from a location, resource guarding of a territory)
- **UD** = uninterruptible drive (When a dog is not influenced by any tool use to interrupt aggression toward another animal, requires handlers to be hands on in a fight)
- **UA** = unpredictable aggression (When a dog uses aggressive behavior toward another animal and the trigger cannot be identified)
- **UM** = un-muzzled (When a dog that was initially muzzled, whether in this particular session or historically, is no longer muzzled)
- **URI** = upper respiratory (Upper respiratory infection, used by DPFL to note medical restrictions or yard set up to accommodate for medical needs as allowed)
- **V** = vocal (Vocalizations emitted by dog, can be motivated by different things)
  - **V-Play** = vocal-play (A dog that vocalizes when playing, ex. growling, barking)
  - **V-DE** = vocal-drive expression (A dog that vocalizes when engaged in drive expression through the use of toys, ex. growling when playing with a tug toy and human)
- **WG** = warnings (Behavior/body language used by dogs to communicate with another dog or person)
  - **APPR-WG** = appropriate-warning(s) (Reasonable behavior used by a dog to communicate their needs/boundaries with another dog or person)
  - **APPR-WG/space** = appropriate-warning(s) for space (Reasonable behavior used by a dog to communicate with another dog or person that they need them to back off/give them space)
- **WOH** = wary of handling (Dogs that are fearful/nervous about people handling them in respect to the person physically touching the dog, usually need a slow approach)
- **WOS** = wary of strangers (Dogs that are fearful/nervous about people they have not met before and may employ distance seeking behavior if their personal bubble is not adhered to)

#### Training Terminology:

- **ACC** = acclimate (To get used to something)
  - **ACC-MW** = acclimate to wearing a muzzle (The process of working with a dog to getting used to wearing a muzzle, can include the use of food or other motivators the dog finds reinforcing)
- **C** = corrections
  - **APPR-C** = appropriate-corrections (Dog gives corrections that are fair and usually well received by dogs)
  - **Soft/weak-C** = Dog gives corrections that are too soft or weak to adequately stand up for itself and may need handler to intervene on their behalf



- **APPR-C/space** = appropriate-corrections for space ( Dog gives appropriate corrections for space if it feels crowded by other dogs)
- **OR-C/space** = overreactive-corrections for space (Dog gives corrections when it feels crowded that may require handler to intervene)
- **APPR-C/mounting** = appropriate-Correction for mounting (Dog gives fair corrections when it wants a dog to stop mounting it)
- **OR-C/mounting** = overreactive-corrections for mounting (Dog gives corrections when mounted that may require handler intervention)

#### Sociability Category:

- **SO** = social with dogs (These dogs are appropriate and playful with many dogs and are likely to do well in many situations with other dogs)
- **T** = tolerant with dogs (These dogs are usually more tolerant than playful or show little interest in other dogs. These dogs might tolerate or ignore dogs but are generally appropriate)
- **SE** = selective with dogs (The majority of dogs fall into this category. These dogs will play with some dogs while intolerant or inappropriate with others)
- **DD** = defensively aggressive with dogs (These dogs are playful with some dogs but reactive to dogs that challenge. The reactivity often involves snapping and lunging along with vocalization and is rooted in anxiety and fear)
- **DO** = offensively aggressive with dogs (These dogs are not able to play with or tolerate other dogs. They will not have any tendency toward playful behavior; their intent is to drive the other dogs away and/or do damage)

#### Play Style:

- **GD** = gentle/dainty (Mutual, soft, gentle play that starts and stops)
- **PP** = push/pull (Chasing, driving, herding-type play)
- **RR** = rough/rowdy (Physical, wrestling play style)
- **SD** = seek/destroy (Prey or predator role play)
- **SDP** = seek/destroy as prey dog (Prey role play)
- **NP** = no play style observed (Dog that has not shown a particular play style or engagement with other dogs outside of greetings)

#### Tools:

- **SB** = spray bottle (Used for steering and brakes, impacts the behavior of one dog)
- **SC** = shake can (Audible tool used for steering and brakes, impacts multiple dogs)
- **MSC** = monster shake can (Audible tool used for steering and brakes, impacts multiple dogs)
- **PCR** = pet corrector (Audible tool used for brakes, impacts multiple dogs)
- **AH** = Airhorn (Audible tool used for brakes- at times with gentle pressure airhorn can be used to steer, impacts multiple dogs)
  - **steering** is employed to influence behavior through momentary interruption
  - **brakes** are employed to immediately and urgently interrupt a behavior

This document is a **retyped**, searchable transcription of the original Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) terminology sheet (Appendix A), provided for accessibility and public submission purposes.

## Legend of DPFL Terms Used in Airtable

[www.dogsplayingforlife.org](http://www.dogsplayingforlife.org)

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- **DT** = due to (Used as addition to other notes EX: DTN = due to notes)
- **F** = female
- **FIK** = fractious in kennel (Dog that displays behavior that is difficult to control or manage in kennel)
- **FOL** = fractious on leash (Dog that displays behavior that is difficult to control or manage on leash)
- **FT** = "dog fight" or "fought with" (Dog to dog interaction where a disagreement occurs and can range from a verbal altercation to an altercation with contact between dogs)
- **G** = greeter dog (A dog that can be playful and even puppy-like, is happy to meet new dogs, but may not be emotionally stout enough to handle rude or inappropriate behavior from other dogs)

- **GG** = gate greeting (Greeting between dogs through a fence, if leashes are held on either side they should always be loose as to not impact the dog's behavior during the greeting)
- **H** = helper (A dog that demonstrates ability to give and take appropriate corrections, is mentally and physically stout enough to handle inappropriate or rude behavior from other dogs, and can defend themselves if necessary)
- **HAN** = handling issues (A dog that has varying degrees of difficulty tolerating handling by people due to arousal or fear. They may use inappropriate (ex. mouthing) or defensive behavior to seek space, ex. during collaring or petting)
- **HE** = high energy (Dog that is energetic in the yard, may overwhelm dogs with lower energy, ex. may enter yard running in)
- **HM** = hall monitor (Dog that will correct another dog for perceived infractions with other dogs as if they are responsible for monitoring and managing the yards themselves)
- **HTS** = hard to steer (Dog that is only responsive to stronger steering or tactile tools, ex. MSC with touch to dog)
- **IC** or **IC** = impulse control (issue) (When a dog is struggling to modulate their behavior)
- **IH** = In heat (Female dog in the fertile and receptive period of the sexual cycle; this can also impact male dog behavior toward the female In heat)
- **INT** = intolerant (Not accepting of)
  - **INT-M's** = Intolerant of males (Not accepting of males, should be closely monitored if in the presence of male dogs)
  - **INT-F's** = intolerant of females (Not accepting of females, should be closely monitored if in the presence of female dogs)
  - **INT-Restraint** = intolerant of restraint (Not accepting of restraint and will employ distance seeking behavior when trying to restrain)
  - **INT-Collaring** = intolerant of collaring (Not accepting of collaring and will employ distance seeking behavior when trying to collar)
  - **INT-MW** = intolerant of muzzling (Not accepting of muzzling and will employ distance seeking behavior when trying to muzzle)
  - **INT-mounting** = intolerant of mounting (Not accepting of mounting and will likely overcorrect or overreact when mounted)
- **K2S** = kept to self (A dog in PG that does not interact with other dogs)
- **KM** = kennel mate (As referring to a dog that is cohoused in kennel with another specific dog)
- **KMS** = kick me sign (A dog in PG that can be targeted for behavior that may be perceived by certain other dogs as "weak" and should be protected)
- **LE** = low energy (A dog who presents with calm energy)
- **M** = male
- **MD** = mama dog (In reference to maternal behavior or physical characteristics)
- **MW** = muzzle work or muzzle (Used to indicate a dog that is muzzled for playgroup and/or may need ongoing muzzling in PG)
- **NIK** = not in kennel (Notation used to indicate DPFL could not pull as dog was not in their kennel)
- **NIS** = not in system (Notation used to indicate DPFL could not pull as dog was not in the system)
- **NS** = noise sensitive (A dog that is overwhelmed with noise)
- **OBX** = obnoxious (Rude)

- **OBX-greetings** = obnoxious greetings (Rude, over the top, and/or inappropriate interactions when first meeting other dogs that may not be malicious in intent but can require management depending on dogs in the yard)
  - **OBX-play** = obnoxious play (Rude, over the top, and/or inappropriate play that may need management depending on dogs in the yard)
- **OC** = over-corrects (Excessive corrections by a dog given the context)
- **OLR** = on-leash reactive Outward or "loud" behavior displayed on leash as a response to a real or perceived threat or trigger)
- **OR** = overreacts (Overreaction by a dog given the context)
- **OR-C** = over-reactive corrections (Overreactive corrections given by a dog given the context)
- **OTM** = one-track mind (Behavior that is consistently singularly motivated, usually in reference to sexually motivated mounting)
- **PC** = personality conflict (Dogs that get along with other dogs but have displayed an immediate or consistent difficulty showing appropriate or friendly behavior toward each other specifically)
- **PGA** = playgroup assessment (An assessment where one dog is introduced to a group of dogs, the group is generally curated for that dog unless a DDA has already been done to establish a baseline of sociability)
- **PG** = playgroup (A group of dogs that are brought into a yard for an opportunity to socialize, established by social categories and playstyles)
- **PLF** = playful (A dog that shows social behavior and loose body language when interacting with other dogs, instigates play)
  - PLF-M's = playful-males (Playful with male dogs)
  - PLF-Fs = playful-females (Playful with female dogs)
  - PLF-SO = playful-social (Playful with social dogs)
  - PLF Soft = playful-soft (Playful with soft dogs)
  - PLF-Respectful = playful-respectful (Playful with respectful dogs)
  - PLF-IH playful-in heat (Playful with dogs in heat)
- **PL** = prey-like (A dog that displays fleeing-type behavior that may trigger predatory drive from certain other dogs)
- **PRT** = protest (The act of objecting to something usually employing distance seeking behaviors like snapping or lunging)
  - **PRT-Tools** = protest-tools (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior towards a handler who attempts to use any tool on them)
  - **PRT-SB** = protest-spray bottle (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior towards a handler who attempts to use a spray bottle on them)
  - **PRT-SC** = protest-shake can (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior towards a handler who attempts to use a shake can on them)
  - **PRT-MSC** = protest-monster shake can (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior towards a handler who attempts to use a monster shake can on them)
  - **PRT-PCR** = protest-pet corrector (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior towards a handler who attempts to use a pet corrector on them)

- **PRT-AH** = protest-air horn (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior towards a handler who attempts to use an Airhorn on them)
- **PRT-C/Handler** = protest-handler corrections (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior to handler for attempting to correct the dog)
- **PRT-C/Dog** = protest-dog corrections (A dog that will give warnings, correct, or display aggressive behavior to another dog who attempts to correct them)
- **PS** = pulley system (Used by DPFL to guide a leash through an item such as a carabiner linked to a fence. Used for handler safety and access to more or less slack to a leashed dog)
- **QR** = quick release (Method to remove a slip leash without having to move the leash off of a dog's neck. A regular leash is clipped onto the silver ring on the slip leash, and then the second leash is used to pull both leashes off)
- **RA** = risk assessment (An assessment run by DPFL that provides data on preferred enrichment opportunities individualized to each dog and gives safety risk data on the dog)
- **RD** = redirected (The act of changing arousal from the triggered target to another target that is generally nearby)
  - **RD?** = redirected? (Potential redirection, generally in reference to a bite or attempted bite)
  - **RD-BR** = redirected-barrier (Redirection that is triggered by a barrier, such as a kennel, fence, or leash)
  - **RD-Defense** = redirected-defense (Redirection that is motivated by defense and is more likely to be used when flight is not option)
  - **RD-Arousal** = redirected arousal (Redirection that is motivated by heightened arousal)
- **RG** = resource guarder (A dog that uses aggressive behavior to maintain access to a resource by keeping others away)
- **RS** = ROCK STAR! (A standout helper dog that can act as a helper to dogs of all different playstyles and social categories)
- **RV** = reactive (A dog that responds to a perceived or real threat or trigger with outward and "loud" behavior, ex. barking, lunging)
- **SA** = separation anxiety (A medical diagnosis, when a dog becomes highly distressed when separated from others (can be specific to someone or in general). The separation can lead to destructive behavior and can include self-injurious behavior)
- **SCI** = stimulus control issue (When a dog is not discriminating well between cues or stimuli)
- **SENS** = sensitive (Fearful/overwhelmed, may shut down with exposure)
  - **SENS-tools** = sensitive-to tools (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed- may shut down- with tool use toward them or in the vicinity of them for audible tools)
  - **SENS-SB** = sensitive-to spray bottle (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed- may shut down- with spray bottle use)
  - **SENS-SC** = sensitive-to shake can (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed- may shut down- with shake can use toward them or in the vicinity of them)
  - **SENS-MSC** = sensitive-to monster shake can (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed- may shut down- with monster shake can use toward them or in the vicinity of them)
  - **SENS-PCR** = sensitive-to pet corrector (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed- may shut down- with pet corrector use, toward them or in the vicinity of them)

- **SENS-sound** = sensitive-to sound (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed with noise and may shut down with sound)
- **SENS-BP** = sensitive-to body pressure (A dog that is fearful/overwhelmed with body pressure and may shut down with body pressure use)
- **SM** = sexually motivated (Mounting that is not rooted in assertive behavior but rather sexual arousal)
- **TG** = territorial guarding (When a dog displays aggressive behavior to move or keep others away from a location, resource guarding of a territory)
- **UD** = unintermittible drive (When a dog is not influenced by any tool use to interrupt aggression toward another animal, requires handlers to be hands on in a fight)
- **UA** = unpredictable aggression (When a dog uses aggressive behavior toward another animal and the trigger cannot be identified)
- **UM** = un-muzzled When a dog that was initially muzzled, whether in this particular session or historically, is no longer muzzled)
- **URI** = upper respiratory (Upper respiratory infection, used by DPFL to note medical restrictions or yard set up to accommodate for medical needs as allowed)
- **V** = vocal (Vocalizations emitted by dog, can be motivated by different things)
  - **V-Play** = vocal-play (A dog that vocalizes when playing, ex, growling, barking)
  - **V-DE** = vocal-drive expression (A dog that vocalizes when engaged in drive expression through the use of toys, ex. growling when playing with a tug toy and hurari)
- **WG** = warnings (Behavior/body language used by dogs to communicate with another dog or person)
  - **APPR-WG** = appropriate-warning(s) (Reasonable behavior used by a dog to communicate their needs/boundaries with another dog or person)
  - **APPR-WG/space** = appropriate-warning(s) for space (Reasonable behavior used by a dog to communicate with another dog or person that they need them to back off/give them space)
- **WOH** = wary of handling (Dogs that are fearful/nervous about people handling them in respect to the person physically touching the dog, usually need a slow approach)
- **WOS** = wary of strangers (Dogs that are fearful/nervous about people they have not met before and may employ distance seeking behavior if their personal bubble is not adhered to)

### Training Terminology:

- **ACC** = acclimate (To get used to something)
  - **ACC-MW** = acclimate to wearing a muzzle (The process of working with a dog to getting used to wearing a muzzle, can include the use of food or other motivators the dog finds reinforcing)
- **C** = corrections
  - **APPR-C** = appropriate-corrections (Dog gives corrections that are fair and usually well received by dogs)
  - **Soft/weak-C** = Dog gives corrections that are too soft or weak to adequately stand up for itself and may need handler to intervene on their behalf

- **APPR-C/space** =appropriate-corrections for space (Dog gives appropriate corrections for space if it feels crowded by other dogs)
- **OR-C/space** = overreactive-corrections for space (Dog gives corrections when it feels crowded that may require handler to intervene)
- **APPR-C/mounting** = appropriate-Correction for mounting (Dog gives fair corrections when it wants a dog to stop mounting it)
- **OR-C/mounting** = overreactive-corrections for mounting (Dog gives corrections when mounted that may require handler intervention)

### Sociability Category:

- **SO** = social with dogs (These dogs are appropriate and playful with many dogs and are likely to do well in many situations with other dogs)
- **T** = tolerant with dogs (These dogs are usually more tolerant than playful or show little interest in other dogs. These dogs might tolerate or ignore dogs but are generally appropriate)
- **SE** = selective with dogs (The majority of dogs fall into this category. These dogs will play with some dogs while intolerant or inappropriate with others)
- **DD** = defensively aggressive with dogs (These dogs are playful with some dogs but reactive to dogs that challenge. The reactivity often involves snapping and lunging along with vocalization and is rooted in anxiety and fear)
- **DO** = offensively aggressive with dogs (These dogs are not able to play with or tolerate other dogs. They will not have any tendency toward playful behavior; their intent is to drive the other dogs away and/or do damage)

### Play Style:

- **GD** = gentle/dainty (Mutual, soft, gentle play that starts and stops)
- **PP** = push/pull (Chasing, driving, herding-type play)
- **RR** = rough/rowdy (Physical, wrestling play style)
- **SD** = seek/destroy (Prey or predator role play)
- **SDP** = seek/destroy as prey dog (Prey role play)
- **NP** = no play style observed (Dog that has not shown a particular play style or engagement with other dogs outside of greetings)

### Tools:

- **SB** = spray bottle (Used for steering and brakes, impacts the behavior of one dog)
- **SC** = shake can (Audible tool used for steering and brakes, impacts multiple dogs)
- **MSC** = monster shake can (Audible tool used for steering and brakes, impacts multiple dogs)
- **PCR** = pel corrector (Audible tool used for brakes, impacts multiple dogs)
- **AH** = Airhorn (Audible tool used for brakes- at times with gentle pressure airhorn can be used to steer, impacts multiple dogs)
  - **steering** is employed to influence behavior through momentary interruption
  - **brakes** are employed to immediately and urgently interrupt a behavior

## **Appendix A — Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) Original Terminology Sheet**

Original document as provided by Dogs Playing for Life (non-searchable format).

## **Appendix B — DPFL Terminology (Searchable Digital Transcription)**

This document is a retyped, searchable transcription of the original Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) terminology sheet (Appendix A), provided for accessibility and public submission purposes.

This transcription preserves the original terminology and definitions as provided by Dogs Playing for Life. Formatting has been adjusted only for readability and accessibility.

Prepared for public submission, May 20, 2026.