

Communication from Public

Name: Alyssa Lesser

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 12:18 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am Alyssa Lesser, a constituent and Angeleno with an incredible rescue dog who was saved from a shelter and has changed my life. I care deeply about our city's shelter dogs, and write 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. This causes them to shut down and become less easily adoptable. 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,
Alyssa Lesser

Communication from Public

Name: Rachelle

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 12:25 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I'm asking you not to let Dog Play for Life disappear on July 1. For many shelter dogs, this is their only moment of relief—the only time they get out of a kennel, feel safe, and act like a normal dog again. Without it, stress builds, behavior declines, and their chances of ever being adopted drop fast. This program quite literally gives dogs a fighting chance at a life outside the shelter—and it costs the city almost nothing. Please don't take that away from them.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 01:29 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm begging you, on behalf of LA's animals, please add more to animal services. Cruelty, neglect, and abandonment of animals is on the rise, and shelters are already overburdened. Many people who report animal emergencies to LAAS report that they wait for hours or days before anyone responds. LAAS shelters are over-capacity and are often filthy and chaotic as staff struggle to keep up with the overwhelming influx of animals. Cutting funding and staff under these circumstances would be an act of cruelty towards the city's animals. If the city wants to cut spending and staff at L.A. Animal Services, the only ethical way to get there is by investing in measures to reduce the number of unwanted animals being born in Los Angeles. Advocates have been begging the city to enforce the mandatory spay/neuter ordinance, to crack down on illegal breeding, but it's not happening. These laws are being flagrantly broken, including rampant breeding on Skid Row that is regularly documented by concerned citizens but rarely addressed. There is no shortcut, and no substitute for full public funding of our city's vital animal services and shelters, including providing low-cost spay/neuter for those who need it. Cutting funding and staff for this vital department will only ensure that the current crisis spirals even further out of control.

Communication from Public

Name: Annalisa Nardone
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 01:37 PM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Please prioritize TNR funding as shelters are beyond capacity and kitten season has arrived. Animals cannot advocate for themselves, but we can!

Communication from Public

Name: Mitzi

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 01:42 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Layer bass! Please do not cut back any funding for the LA animal shelters! They are already running on minimal budget and do not have enough to properly take care of the animals and install the shelters. This is something that the volunteers had to deal with and be in charge of that's unfair since this is a city shelter. Please reconsider your budget. There are more animal lovers in Los Angeles than probably anywhere in this country and you would be doing a great disservice to them and to the animals in your care.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 01:54 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember Yaroslavsky and Members of the Budget & Finance Committee, I am a resident of CD5, and I'm writing to urge you to restore funding for the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) program in LA Animal Services. This issue is personal for me. I adopted my dog, Mochi, through a rescue after he was found on the streets. He was initially fearful of both other dogs and people, but improved significantly with gradual, structured social exposure. That kind of progress depends on opportunities like the playgroups and enrichment that DPFL provides. As a professor of psychology, I also think about this in terms of how social environments shape behavior: without opportunities for safe, structured interaction, animals under stress are less able to adapt, which directly affects their adoptability and long-term outcomes. Programs like DPFL are not optional extras. They are a humane and essential component of responsible sheltering. Without them, dogs are more likely to deteriorate in high-stress environments, making successful placement less likely and further straining the system. At a time when LA shelters are under significant strain, restoring DPFL funding is a practical and necessary step. As your constituent, I strongly encourage you to support this program. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Marie

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 02:01 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Mayor Bass-this budget is UNACCEPTABLE. There is already way less money than is needed to run an animal shelter system as large as Los Angeles Animal Services. The volunteers are picking up the jobs that should be done by the City. Animals are suffering. If this is how much you care about the animals in our city, I have a feeling you will see a huge backlash to your re-election campaign since there are more animal lovers in the city of Los Angeles than probably any city in this country. PLEASE do not slash the budget any more than it already is. PLEASE do not let animals suffer. We cannot even get Animal Services to come out and do their job now because they are way understaffed. "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated," which is widely attributed to Mahatma Ghandi

Communication from Public

Name: Heather

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 02:15 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I do not want to see this budget passed without more funding for LA Animal Services. It is unconscionable and unethical to pass an LA City Budget and provide \$0 for food for the thousands of animals that pass through the shelter system every year. I have been getting more involved with our shelter system over the years and have seen the situation worsen. There are amazing, hard working and dedicated staff working in the system who are making very difficult decisions every day. And because these animals don't have a voice and a vote, they suffer. Please fund LA Animal Services adequately. They are overwhelmed with animals and it is a multifaceted problem that far exceeds what they can do - they are just sticking their fingers in trying to plug up the holes. But, if we have an animal welfare system at all - we are required in good conscience to fund it and staff it appropriately. Please fund Dogs Playing for Life. Please fund medical and food for the animals. Politically, I get it - LAPD has a powerful union and is a threat...politically, but if I cannot see another bloated LAPD budget to help an out of control agency that is attacking its own citizens and not even following our state laws and no money for the most vulnerable. For once, please do what it right and not just follow the might.

Communication from Public

Name: Colleen Carlsen
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 02:24 PM
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, Colleen Carlsen Hermosa Beach, CA

Communication from Public

Name: Michael Spahn
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 02:24 PM
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. I just adopted an amazing husky from West Valley Animal Shelter and she wouldn't be as friendly or as sociable without the work of this program. 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. Their lives are literally in your hands. Please. Thank you,
Michael Spahn West Hills

Communication from Public

Name: Catherine Edwards
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 02:49 PM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a constituent and Angeleno who visits SLA Shelter to make videos for IG, I care about shelter animals. And urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) contract in the 2026-27 budget. DPFL playgroups MATTER. It's the only structured out-of-kennel time most LA shelter dogs get. Without these unique groups, dogs sit in kennels 24 hours a day — no walks, no play, no joy. Playgroups also teach LAAS the most important thing about a dog: how they behave with others. That single 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 obliterates 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, Catherine Edwards (Cat) @LA_Rescuties
WLA resident and animal advocate

Communication from Public

Name: Mariah Swan

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 02:59 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm very worried that the proposed FY 2026–27 budget appears to eliminate funding for Canine Enrichment in Animal Services. I adopted my dog from the South LA Shelter, and I cannot imagine what the shelter environment would be like without this service. After reviewing the Blue Book, it looks like the amount budgeted for Animal Services Contractual Services drops from \$1,201,993 to \$411,868 — a reduction of \$790,125. In the Contractual Services detail, that same \$790,125 is listed as the adopted amount for Canine Enrichment under Shelter Operations and Animal Care. For next year, the proposed amount for Canine Enrichment is \$0. This is alarming because it appears the City is removing the contract funding without identifying a replacement for the service. At minimum, Council should restore the \$790,125 reduction to Animal Services Contractual Services so Canine Enrichment is not zeroed out in the FY 2026–27 budget. Council should also direct the CAO, CLA, and LAAS to identify what additional funding would be needed to maintain current service levels, since current-year estimated spending is much higher than the adopted amount. If the current Canine Enrichment contract is not going to be renewed, LAAS needs to explain the replacement plan, staffing model, service-hour impact, and projected operational effects before the budget is finalized. The City should not eliminate an existing shelter operations service without showing how that work will be replaced or what the consequences will be.

Communication from Public

Name: Laura Gutierrez

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 03:12 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Subject Line: Rainbow Services, Ltd. Urges Full Funding for CIFD Survivor Survivors and LAHSA CoC Planning Dear City of LA Budget and Finance Committee Members: My name is Laura Gutierrez, and I'm writing as a staff member of Rainbow Services, Ltd., an organization serving survivors of domestic violence for more than 40 years. Rainbow Services is headquartered in San Pedro, within City Council District 15. We are encouraged by the level funding proposed for CIFD's Survivor Supportive Services budget, totaling \$12.3M in General Funds— this amount is essential for maintaining vital beds and services. Level funding ensures that the historic 32% increase in DV shelter beds in the City of LA is maintained. These beds are critically important, given that 41% of people experiencing homelessness in LA report a history of domestic or intimate partner violence. We urge the City Council to approve the full \$12.3 million in General Funds requested for CIFD Survivor Services in FY 26-27. We are also greatly concerned about the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority ability to perform critical functions for the broader Continuum of Care (CoC) under the current funding levels proposed. As it stands, the \$791.7M proposed for CoC Planning is inadequate to ensure LAHSA has the capacity to submit renewal requests to HUD, including DV Bonus funding, a crucial housing resource for survivors. The current proposal also does not fully fund the capacity needed to support work under the Domestic Violence Support Services Only Grant (DV-SSO); LAHSA DV staffing is instrumental in navigating the complexity of federal policy, as well as supporting DV Regional Coordinators in ensuring survivors access housing and shelter resources. Their collective expertise is essential. We are grateful for the City of LA's firm commitment to survivors, including expanding DV shelter beds and launching programs like Survivors First that offer rapid rehousing with flexible financial assistance and long-term support tailored to their needs. We urge the City to adopt the \$12.3M in General Funds proposed for CIFD Survivor Services in FY 26-27 and adopt LAHSA's requested funding for Continuum of Care planning (\$1.5M) to ensure continuity of HUD funded homeless services for survivors. This is a critical moment to protect and strengthen LA's response to gender-based violence. Please stand with survivors and ensure full

funding for CIFD Survivor Services as well as LAHSA CoC core functions. Sincerely, Laura Gutierrez

Communication from Public

Name: M Saddique

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 03:12 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: NO TO CUTTING FUNDS AND TO SHUTTING DOWN ANIMAL SHELTERS! That is inhumane and cruel. Tax the rich, instead. Slash bloated administrative jobs at city hall.

Communication from Public

Name: Yvonne Acosta
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 03:29 PM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: SPAYING and NEUTERING saves LIVES. LA should fund it to stop the needless and inhumane killing of cats and dogs.

Communication from Public

Name: Daniel Innamorati
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 03:36 PM
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, Dan Innamorati Hollywood

Communication from Public

Name: Brianna Feria

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 04:00 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Fully Fund All Spay/Neuter Voucher Types - Animals and Families Deserve Better In re: file #26-0600 Dear Los Angeles City Councilmembers, I am writing to urge you to take immediate action to fully fund all spay and neuter voucher types in the City of Los Angeles not just the Free Voucher for owned pets, but also those that support the Citywide Cat Program, shelter pets, mobile clinics, rabbits, and low-income families. After ten years without an increase, the City Council's recent decision to raise reimbursement rates for only one voucher type (for just one year) leaves behind tens of thousands of animals who urgently need care. This limited increase fails to support the high-volume, cost-effective programs that have proven to reduce shelter intake and euthanasia rates. As you know, LA faces an escalating animal welfare crisis: our shelters are overcrowded, adoptable animals are being euthanized, and veterinarians cannot afford to participate in the voucher program because the outdated reimbursement rates do not reflect the real cost of providing care. Vulnerable animals need help. Every dollar invested in spay and neuter saves the City approximately four dollars in sheltering costs. At the South LA shelter alone, the City spends an estimated \$12,000 per day in animal care costs—more than \$4 million per year. Now, multiply that by six LAAS shelters. Fully funding the voucher program is not just humane, it's fiscally responsible. Please don't leave our animals and the people who care for them behind. Fully implement the voucher rate increase across all voucher types so we can prevent suffering, reduce costs, and save lives. Sincerely, Brianna M Feria 91103 Pet: Joey Feria (Cat)

Communication from Public

Name: Matt Wersinger

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 05:40 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: SAVE SAFE PARKING LA! Safe Parking is one of the most effective and low cost homeless interventions in the City and must be fully funded in the new budget! Many people living in their vehicles have jobs and are new to being unhoused, and Safe Parking lots provide them with an immediate safety net to keep them from falling further. Without a safe place to park and the services that SPLA provides, we are at risk of increasing the cost of police and emergency services and creating the need for even more homeless services if and when people lose their cars and end up in tents. SPLA provides one of the most cost effective means to uplift people and bring them back into permanent housing. The data shows the need is real in the high capacity of these lots, and it also shows the program is cost effective and leads to permanent housing placements. SPLA funding goes to so much more than just a parking space – it includes security, grants to participants, car repairs, and housing placement. I beg you to look objectively at the data and see the results that this program brings to our streets.

Communication from Public

Name: Anne B

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 05:42 PM

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. Simply put, this proposed cut would be inhumane which we as a society cannot allow. 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. Please, do not let it lapse July 1.

Communication from Public

Name: Kay Tornborg

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 04:26 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: PLEASE do not cut funds for animal services!!! Consider educating the public on why they should support MORE animal services; that is what a civilized society should be doing. This is not a third world country.

Communication from Public

Name: Reasha Honaker
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 04:36 PM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not sign a bill reducing funding for animal shelters in the Los Angeles County area. Pet enrichment programs increase adoptability, and the shelters cannot rely upon donations alone for food and medical services for the animals inside. Not to mention the humans that would lose their jobs in this process. Please let's continue to give all these pets a chance at a good life and not decrease funding at any level for the Los Angeles animal shelter system.

Communication from Public

Name: Keri
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 04:44 PM
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, Keri

Communication from Public

Name: Safe Parking Community of Practice
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 05:09 PM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Attached is the Sign-on Letter from providers of Safe Parking within the City of Los Angeles.

PROTECT SAFE PARKING

April 24, 2026

Dear Madam Chair and Honorable Committee Members:

We, the undersigned Safe Parking Community of Practice respectfully urge the City of Los Angeles to reinstate funding for Safe Parking programs in the FY 2026–2027 City budget.

Safe Parking is the only intervention specifically designed to serve people living in vehicles. Vehicular homelessness is the largest segment of Los Angeles' unsheltered population. Thousands of Angelenos rely on their vehicles as shelter and an income generator each night, including working adults, seniors, veterans, and families with children who are striving to maintain stability in the face of rising housing costs.

Eliminating or reducing Safe Parking funding in the FY27 budget would have immediate and harmful consequences. Participants currently enrolled in Safe Parking programs would face displacement with nowhere to go, thus increasing unsheltered vehicle dwelling across neighborhoods and placing additional strain on shelters, hospitals, and law enforcement resources.

At a time when Los Angeles continues to face severe housing affordability challenges and limited shelter capacity, maintaining Safe Parking funding is both a humane and fiscally responsible investment. Disinvesting from Safe Parking would move the City backward by dismantling one of the few proven tools available to stabilize people living in vehicles.

We urge the City of Los Angeles to:

1. Fully reinstate Safe Parking funding in the FY 2026–2027 budget.
2. Ensure continuity of services for currently enrolled participants, preventing displacement into unsheltered conditions.
3. Recognize Safe Parking as an essential component of the City's homelessness response system, particularly for people living in vehicles.

We urge you to protect this essential intervention and reaffirm the City's commitment to thoughtful, effective homelessness solutions.

Respectfully,

HOPICS
North Valley Caring Services
Safe Parking LA
The Shower of Hope
Watts Labor Community Action Committee

Communication from Public

Name: Safe Parking Community of Practice
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 05:09 PM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Attached is the Sign-on Letter from providers of Safe Parking within the City of Los Angeles.

Communication from Public

Name: Jennifer Monk

Date Submitted: 04/25/2026 09:00 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Fully Fund All Spay/Neuter Voucher Types - Animals and Families Deserve Better Dear Los Angeles City Councilmembers, I am writing to urge you to take immediate action to fully fund all spay and neuter voucher types in the City of Los Angeles, not just the Free Voucher for owned pets, but also those that support the Citywide Cat Program, shelter pets, mobile clinics, rabbits, and low-income families. My husband and I have helped so many sick and dying cats on the street and in our community, most of them friendly. The current voucher system denies help and assistance to friendly community cats that can be socialized with the possibility of a permanent home. Instead they are left unfixed on the streets, sick and struggling, continuing the cycle and exacerbating the problem. With little resources from the city, over crowded shelters euthanizing animals to make room, non profit rescues at capacity- we've done this on our own dime, because the animals are suffering. We have removed deceased animals ourselves from our neighborhood multiple times, because animal services denied us or was unable to come out to do so. It is a crisis, when your citizens are having to do this because the city is unable. This is a city and community problem. We are begging you to help turn a corner for the animals, but also for people like us that feel overwhelmed and helpless. Please make spay/neuter resources affordable and more accessible to the entire city and do not deny us the assistance and support. After ten years without an increase, the City Council's recent decision to raise reimbursement rates for only one voucher type- for just one year-leaves behind tens of thousands of animals who urgently need care. This limited increase fails to support the high-volume, cost-effective programs that have proven to reduce shelter intake and euthanasia rates. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Jennifer Monk

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Winters

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 09:27 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Do NOT reduce funding for the city's animal shelters. My name is Sarah Winters, I am a volunteer at North Central, one of the city's six animal shelter. It is a high-volume animal shelter, and where animals end up after Animal Control is called to pick up strays, or after city residents surrender their dogs, etc. I already see the ways that lack of funding impacts the dogs negatively. The shelters are understaffed. They do not have adequate employees to address the basic hygiene and health of the animals. Animals are kept in poor conditions -- their kennels are not cleaned frequently enough, the dogs do not get taken out of the kennels for enrichment and stimulation often enough, and diseases (like giardia and parvo) are rampant, and dangerous for the dogs. The staff is caring and competent, and the shelter has many volunteers that care deeply; however, THERE SIMPLY ISN'T ENOUGH FUNDING FROM THE CITY, no matter which way you slice it. The city needs to pay more employees to be there, to take care of the dogs. Not take money AWAY from the already-underfunded shelters. There is no part of LA that needs the money MORE than these shelters, and the idea that Mayor Bass and the city would actually take AWAY these insufficient funds is deeply disappointing and upsetting to me. As an LAAS volunteer and LA resident who voted for Mayor Bass -- PLEASE LISTEN TO YOUR CONSTITUENTS. DO NOT cut funding for LAAS or for Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL). These are CRUCIAL city services, and taking away from them will affect ALL residents and the animals.

Communication from Public

Name: Alejandra García
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 09:47 AM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Submit written public comment by Monday, April 27 before the 3:30 pm meeting.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:01 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. Dogs are being euthanized daily due to kennel stress and fearful behavior and this will only increase without access to enrichment. The DPFL program provides a LIFESAVING service. 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. In the past 18 months I have fostered 7 dogs from the South LA shelter, and done so successfully because shelter volunteers knew enough about each dog to match them with me. This would not have been possible without the opportunities for engagement and out-of-kennel assessments provided by DPFL. Then there is the data: Studies on shelter behavior show structured playgroups reduce length of stay, lower stress indicators, and decrease kennel-related behavioral deterioration. DPFL's own outcome data across client shelters reports a 38% decrease in length of stay and a 6% increase in lifesaving. 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, Michelle Thompson-Giovannoni Resident of the Hollywood Dell

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 03:06 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: 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. Fully fund DPFL's contract in the June 6 budget. Don't let it lapse!

Communication from Public

Name: Dena

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 05:16 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please fully fund the dogs playing for lives program. These amazing dogs are dumped into a scary, loud shelter and this short time outside of their cages is the only time they get to stretch and be socialized. It also helps get them seen and saved because the public can see how they truly act outside of their jail cell. Please don't take this away, it's truly cruel and these dogs have already suffered so much trauma and sadness from losing their home

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:23 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. This has **PROVEN** to be lifesaving for LA's homeless dogs, unlike many of your other city projects. These are sentient beings you will be killing. And please do not give the reason that it is being cut because you are using "donation" money. This requires a standing line item from the city budget for guaranteed funds. Not "play it by ear" donations funds. And once you take it out of the budget, we all know you will never put it back. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. You can take the funds from the inflated top 1% of salaries. This is **MY** money you are playing with and I want it spent on DPFL, food, and enrichment for the LA shelter dogs and cats.

Communication from Public

Name: Christopher C Tilly
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 11:02 AM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I write as a LA (Venice) resident, 17 year homeowner, and a professor of urban planning at UCLA. The City should expand programs that work for helping unhoused people, not cut them. Conversely, the City should not be expanding spending on programs that do not help unhoused people. Safe parking is an important affordable housing option--not ideal, but better than putting people into temporary housing and destroying their vehicles, which typically results in them ending up back on the street. Expand safe parking, don't cut it. See this UCLA report: <https://challengeinequality.luskin.ucla.edu/2025/06/25/keep-moving/> Inside Safe moves people out of sight, but only results in permanent housing for a minority of unhoused people. LA needs to do more to expand permanent housing. A local example for me (I live a few blocks away) is for the City to allow the already approved Venice Dell project to be built, rather than fighting it. Treating homelessness as a law enforcement issue leads to unhoused people being harassed, pushed from one place to another, and belongings confiscated (which among other things means that more people are now doing rough sleeping instead of even having a tent). Sweeps are inhumane and rarely help people get housing. See this UCLA report, which I helped research: <https://challengeinequality.luskin.ucla.edu/2026/01/20/cd11sweepsreport/>

Communication from Public

Name: Brittany Donkin
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 11:24 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, Brittany Donkin Eagle Rock Works with SLA shelter and Lacy St shelter

Communication from Public

Name: Faviana Gonzalez

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 12:09 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Safe Parking LA and programs like it are an essential service and intervention for individuals facing homelessness and experiencing vehicular homelessness. Safe Parking LA serves as a final intervention before Angelenos face complete and total loss of shelter. Not only does Safe Parking LA provide shelter and safe overnight parking, but it offers connection and a sense of normalcy. Neighborhoods do not want people parking in their streets and the city has blocked off street parking with barriers, creating obstacles for people to safely live in their vehicle, something that is not by choice but due to a plethora of reasons, including the high cost of living. Please continue to protect Angelenos and continue by funding programs that have direct impact on your residents and people in need like Safe Parking LA.

Communication from Public

Name: Lauren M Lynley
Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 06:12 PM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am a long time resident of Los Angeles and I'm absolutely appalled at the utter lack of wisdom and compassion displayed by the office of Mayor Bass and the City Council with regard to the slashing of an already depleted, seriously under-funded budget for animal services. Los Angeles is a world class city; tourists flock here by the millions every year. The world is greatly influenced, for better or worse, by the entertainment industry located primarily in Los Angeles. Our media and politicians are very good at talking the talk but is less so walking the walk. It is imperative to restore and increase funds for animal protective services in the city of Los Angeles. This will absolutely be a primary issue for me when I vote this year, and I am not alone in this. I will not be voting for anyone who advocated slashing the animal protection services budget. The animals of this city and the people who love them deserve better than what we've been getting. The taxes and cost of living is sky high here so I have to ask: where is all the money going? City officials are elected to carry out the will of the people and to act in our best interests. We expect you to do your jobs effectively and with decency, honour, and compassion. I have seen very little of these qualities expressed in so many of the actions of this current administration. Do better.

Communication from Public

Name: Patricia D.

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 07:08 PM

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, Patricia Dragony Miracle Mile, Los Angeles 90036

Communication from Public

Name: Iris Marquardt

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 07:33 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Council members, I urge you to please fully fund Dog Play for Life in the 2026/27 budget. Please DO NOT let the contract lapse, as it is often times the only enrichment dogs get while being confined in kennels 24/7. This will directly impact adoptions and rescue placement. Statistics have shown that playgroups reduce stress and behavioral decline. It costs less than 1/100th of 1% of the entire city budget. Sincerely, Iris Marquardt Advocate for the voiceless

Communication from Public

Name: Olgalivia Angel
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 08:12 PM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Dogs/Cats do matter!! We can do and be better!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Stephanie Colbert

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 08:15 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, 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: Maggie P.

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 08:22 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Subject: Support Full Funding for Survivor Services in LA City Budget (Council File: 26-0600) Dear Budget and Finance Committee, My name is Maggie Pickering, 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, Maggie Pickering

Communication from Public

Name: Mellonise Shorter
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 08:23 PM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Council File Number: 26-0600 My name is Mellonise Shorter. I am a lived experience board member with Safe Parking LA (SPLA) and a former participant. I am writing regarding the proposed removal of funding from homeless services, including safe parking programs and other critical resources. As I mentioned, I was a participant of SPLA. At the time, I had my master's degree and was a single mother of one. I lost my full-time employment and could only secure part-time work. When I applied for assistance, I was denied because I made \$200 over the federal poverty line. At the same time, I did not earn enough to meet the 2 to 3 times rent requirement for even a studio apartment in Los Angeles. Because of this, my child and I became homeless. That experience was frightening, overwhelming, and isolating. Safe Parking LA provided us with a safe place to sleep, a case manager, and access to resources that helped us stabilize. While this was one of the hardest periods of my life, it was also one of the most supported because of SPLA. Homelessness continues to grow in Los Angeles. Many people are one paycheck, one decision, or one medical emergency away from experiencing it. Removing or deprioritizing funding for homeless services will only deepen this crisis and harm those who are already vulnerable. I am one of many who have relied on these services. There are more people like me every day. The server at your favorite restaurant, a customer service representative, or an engineer at a large company are everyday people. The same people you interact with daily may be experiencing homelessness. Programs like safe parking are essential. They provide stability, dignity, and a pathway forward for individuals and families navigating incredibly difficult circumstances. Funding for homelessness services should not be reduced while the need continues to grow. These programs remain critical to helping people regain stability and move forward. Thank you for your consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Diane Elizabeth Kinder

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 08:35 PM

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. As a long term and very active Volunteer at Harbor Shelter I can tell you that this program is an absolutely integral part of our shelter system. There is a massive shortage of Volunteers at our shelter. DPFL ensures that our dogs - all of them - get out regularly. They help these dogs blossom, thrive and grow making them more adoptable. And, they help Volunteers develop their skills. Countless dogs have made it to forever homes because of their contribution.... dogs that would have otherwise surely been euthanized. WE NEED DPFL !!!
Thank you, Diane Kinder Vista Del Oro / San Pedro

Communication from Public

Name: Eric Hannah

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 08:46 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I was previously Homeless while going through a divorce. I wound up losing my job and depending on Safe Parking LA for safety and security. The executive director, Scott sale supported me on getting employed, helped me Source refunds to rent an apartment, and showed general care and concern about my crisis. I am now fully and gainfully employed & spend quality time with my son who is now 13 years old. I will be forever grateful for the support, Care, and kindness of the director and the staff of Safe Parking LA. I implore all efforts at maintaining funding for this critical Initiative. Thank you for your time and consideration in considering my opinion.

Communication from Public

Name: Lindsey Hirway
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 08:52 PM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Mayor Bass's proposed budget ignores the reality of the homeless animal crisis in Los Angeles. Shelters are struggling to keep up as animals are being surrendered in record numbers. Cruelty, neglect, and abandonment of animals is on the rise, and many people who report animal emergencies to LAAS report they can wait for hours or days before anyone responds. LAAS shelters are over-capacity and are often filthy and chaotic as staff struggle to keep up with the overwhelming influx of animals. Cutting funding and staff under these circumstances would be an act of cruelty towards the city's animals. If the city wants to cut spending and staff at L.A. Animal Services, the only ethical way to get there is to invest in measures to reduce the number of unwanted animals being born in Los Angeles. Advocates have been begging the city to enforce the mandatory spay/neuter ordinance and crack down on illegal breeding. Still, it's not happening and these laws are being flagrantly broken, including rampant breeding on Skid Row that is regularly documented by concerned citizens but rarely addressed. There is no shortcut, and no substitute for full public funding of our city's vital animal services and shelters, including providing low-cost spay/neuter for those who need it. Cutting funding and staff for this vital department will only ensure that the current crisis spirals even further out of control. Thanks for helping to build a kinder world!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 09:02 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am a volunteer in LA city shelters and I am asking you to urgently increase funding for LA Animal Services. Healthy, adoptable dogs are being euthanized due to overcrowding and lack of resources. This is preventable. We need more funding, staffing, and support for foster and adoption programs NOW. Please take action to save these animals.

Communication from Public

Name: susan millmann
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 09:02 PM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I write as a 50-year Venice (LA) resident, and homeowner. The City should expand programs that work for helping unhoused people, not cut them. Conversely, the City should not be expanding spending on programs that do not help unhoused people. Safe parking is an important affordable housing option--not ideal, but better than putting people into temporary housing and destroying their vehicles, which typically results in them ending up back on the street. Expand safe parking, don't cut it. See this UCLA report:
<https://challengeinequality.luskin.ucla.edu/2025/06/25/keep-moving/>
Inside Safe moves people out of sight, but only results in permanent housing for a minority of unhoused people. LA needs to do more to expand permanent housing. A local example for me (I live a few blocks away) is that the City stop obstructing building of City Council twice approved and Coastal Commission approved Venice Dell project (120 low income units), rather than spending tax dollars on the most expensive private attorneys on the planet fighting it. Treating homelessness as a law enforcement issue leads to unhoused people being harassed, pushed from one place to another, and belongings confiscated (which among other things means that more people are now doing rough sleeping instead of even having a tent). Sweeps are inhumane and rarely help people get housing. See this UCLA report
<https://challengeinequality.luskin.ucla.edu/2026/01/20/> The City is failing to permanently house people and instead spending tax dollars obstructing permanent housing.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 09:03 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to you about the proposed budget cuts for animal services in Los Angeles. Cutting the funding for food and medical care for the animals that the shelter is entrusted to care for is not acceptable. These animals have already been failed by their owners and are now going to be failed by our under funded shelter system. We have a duty to provide food, shelter and medical care for the animals in Los Angeles. Every year the shelter budget gets cut further and this year the amount of money for animal services will guarantee that many animals will suffer and die while in the shelter system. In addition to the cuts to the shelter budget the Dogs Playing For Life (DPFL) contract was not funded. DPFL provides a crucial service to the animals in the shelter and are saving lives. They run playgroups to give the animals vital enrichment, help match animals with adopters, train staff and volunteers, and work with the fearful and shy pets who are terrified when entering the shelter. Without this program many wonderful and loving animals will never been seen and saved. Please reconsider the cuts to the animal shelter funding. As a tax payer in Los Angeles I am appalled that we are neglecting to care for the pets that depend on us.

Communication from Public

Name: Sophia Carrisosa

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 09:04 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: This is a request regarding the mayors proposed 26-27 budget. It is unconscionable to cut the funding for two programs in particular. The first is the canine enrichment program at the La shelter that helps dogs survive their stay. Without this program they will be forced to stay caged 24/7 and that only leads to more dogs being euthanized after an inevitable decline. It's bad enough a decision was made not to eat mark any food for the shelters and then you take away their sanity. What is all for if not to make the animals basic needs. I would expect a decision like this from an unsympathetic republican bureaucracy elsewhere but not here in Los Angeles. The second which follows the same sentiment is the safe parking LA program which allows the unhoused a safe place to sleep. The programs that work are the ones to invest in not cut. This should be a no brainer. Please reconsider and provide the funding needed to keep these programs in place.

Communication from Public

Name: Michael Chaskes

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 09:06 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to urge you NOT to defund safe parking programs for unhoused Angelenos who dwell in their vehicles. As an Angeleno myself, and a volunteer who's helped to serve meals and provide company to clients of Safe Parking LA, I've seen firsthand the difference these programs can make to our neighbors who are just struggling to get by and stay safe, from senior citizens down to children. As well as adding much-needed stability and safety to their daily lives, participation in safe parking also makes them much more accessible for casework and, ultimately, placement under a proper roof. Again, please continue to fund these vital programs.

Communication from Public

Name: Paula Guzman

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 09:19 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Paula Guzman, and I have worked for four years at Safe Parking LA. This job has changed my life and the lives of so many people I've had the privilege to serve. For the past four years, I have managed the financial assistance program. Through this work, I've witnessed something powerful: real, lasting change. We have helped members of our community secure housing, pay for courses, education, and access basic necessities. These are not small victories these are life-changing opportunities that restore dignity and stability. But beyond the services, we have created something just as important: community. People who once felt isolated and invisible have found connection, support, and a sense of belonging. That human connection is powerful it gives people hope and the strength to move forward. I have seen firsthand how effective this program is. I have watched people transition from living in their vehicles to having a safe place to call home. Housing is not a luxury it is a human right. And this program helps make that right a reality. Right now, we are at risk of losing that impact. Vehicle homelessness is a serious and often overlooked issue, affecting seniors, students, and families with children, people who are part of our community and deserve support. Without continued funding, we risk leaving them with nowhere to turn. This program is not only important it is essential. It has transformed lives, including my own, by giving us the chance to do meaningful work for the city and the community we love. I urge you to consider including this program in the city budget. Investing in this work means continuing to create real change, strengthening our community, and ensuring that fewer people are left behind.

Communication from Public

Name: Kristin Xenakis
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 09:21 PM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council members, I urge you to vote to fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) contract in the 2026-27 budget. I've spent time at Chesterfield Square/South LA as a foster, and successfully homed three dogs I've fostered from South LA. Since I have pets at home, it's essential that staff and volunteers help me match with a dog. The only way this is possible is through DPFL. DPFL is the only structured out-of-kennel time dogs receive, and those playgroups make dogs who arrive anxious and reactive adoptable within weeks. I can't foster every dog, so without DPFL, dogs decompensate. The city pays for that deterioration in bite settlements (more than \$31.85M since 2023). 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 animals we claim to care about. Please vote and help to restore the funding before June 6. Thank you, Kristin Xenakis C14 Highland Park

Communication from Public

Name: Melissa Garcia

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 09:58 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: To Whom It May Concern: Please fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life contract in the 2026-27 budget. DPFL playgroups are the only out of kennel time most LA shelter dogs ever receive. Without them, dogs sit in concrete kennels 24 hours a day (some overcrowded) without walks, play or interaction. It is crucial for their mental health and for adoptions to work to continue to fund the Dogs Playing for Life contract. Playgroups are how LAAS learns how dogs behave with other dogs and humans. It's the most critical data point that drives adoptions, rescues and lifesaving decisions. These playgroups also lessen fear, anxiety and stress. As a result, there are less on-site bites and shorter stays if they are social and adopted out, further creating space in already overcrowded shelters. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100th of 1% of LA's \$14.85B budget. Cutting the contract would be a negligent form of animal cruelty and go against the city's claim to a "Humane LA." Please fully fund DPFL's contract in the June 6 budget. Don't let it lapse July 1. Stand by these dogs and be a voice for the voiceless and innocent. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Dog lover 90731

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:03 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Animal shelters are already bursting at the seams due to budget cuts, no space & underpaid shelter employees. Taking away from the budget so dramatically will KILL these beautiful babies. Animals have zero control over their circumstances & depend on human beings with HEARTS to love & protect them. It is OUR responsibility to make sure they're happy, healthy & have the ability to live long full lives. DO BETTER!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Nedelle Torrasi

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:04 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Closing and underfunding shelters is an abhorrent move - animals need responsible government to advocate on their behalf. Please do the right thing.

Communication from Public

Name: Robert Drummond
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:04 PM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Mayor Bass's proposed budget ignores the reality of the homeless animal crisis in Los Angeles. Shelters are struggling to keep up as animals are being surrendered in record numbers. Cruelty, neglect, and abandonment of animals is on the rise, and many people who report animal emergencies to LAAS report they can wait for hours or days before anyone responds. LAAS shelters are over-capacity and are often filthy and chaotic as staff struggle to keep up with the overwhelming influx of animals. Cutting funding and staff under these circumstances would be an act of cruelty towards the city's animals. If the city wants to cut spending and staff at L.A. Animal Services, the only ethical way to get there is to invest in measures to reduce the number of unwanted animals being born in Los Angeles. Advocates have been begging the city to enforce the mandatory spay/neuter ordinance and crack down on illegal breeding. Still, it's not happening and these laws are being flagrantly broken, including rampant breeding on Skid Row that is regularly documented by concerned citizens but rarely addressed. There is no shortcut, and no substitute for full public funding of our city's vital animal services and shelters, including providing low-cost spay/neuter for those who need it. Cutting funding and staff for this vital department will only ensure that the current crisis spirals even further out of control.

Communication from Public

Name: Taylor R.

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:14 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Mayor Bass's proposed budget ignores the reality of the homeless animal crisis in Los Angeles. Shelters are struggling to keep up as animals are being surrendered in record numbers. Cruelty, neglect, and abandonment of animals is on the rise, and many people who report animal emergencies to LAAS report they wait for hours or days before anyone responds. LAAS shelters are over capacity and are often filthy and chaotic as staff struggle to keep up with the overwhelming influx of animals. Cutting funding and staff under these circumstances would be an act of cruelty towards the city's animals. If the city wants to cut spending and staff at LA Animal Services, the only ethical way to get there is by investing in measures to reduce the number of unwanted animals being born in Los Angeles. Advocates have been begging the city to enforce the mandatory spay/neuter ordinance, to crack down on illegal breeding, but it's not happening. These laws are being flagrantly broken, including rampant breeding on Skid Row that is regularly documented by concerned citizens but rarely addressed. There is no shortcut, and no substitute for full public funding of our city's vital animal services and shelters, including providing low-cost spay/neuter for those who need it. Cutting funding and staff for this vital department will only ensure that the current crisis spirals even further out of control.

Communication from Public

Name: Jesse Romero

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:18 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: There has already been a series of budget cuts to LA's animal shelters year after year. Shelters remain overcrowded and the city needs to do more to help dogs. Getting rid of the canine enrichment program is excusable and it's one of the very least things we can do for a dog's welfare.

Communication from Public

Name: Corey Staley

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:28 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: If DPFL funding isn't restored, dogs in Los Angeles shelters will be confined to kennels for up to 24 hours a day. The DPFL program provides essential enrichment that allows them to leave those kennels and engage in normal behavior. Without it, dogs experience chronic stress, anxiety, and behavioral decline—pacing, barking, shutting down—which directly reduces their chances of adoption. This also conflicts with basic animal welfare standards like the Five Freedoms, which recognize that animals need more than food and shelter—they need movement, stimulation, and the ability to behave normally. Please restore this funding before June 6. Do not let this program lapse on July 1. We elected you to speak for us, and we're paying close attention to how you represent our community in decisions like this Thank you, Corey Staley West Hollywood

Communication from Public

Name: Luis Lopez

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:41 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not cut the LA Animal Services budget. Animals need all these resources in every shelter where they are given a second chance of survival. Please make the compassionate decision to not make any cuts that would affect their hope for a better life. Thank you for your regards to this extremely important matter.

Communication from Public

Name: Susan

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:47 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please Mayor Bass I respectfully ask that you do not drastically cut the LA Animal Services budget, slashing funds allotted for food, medicine, & programs providing vital exercise & enrichment to shelter dogs. We want Los Angeles to serve as an example to how the rest of the country should treat animals. Cutting these vitally important services would negatively impact Angelenos and our local pets and animals, and would have negative effects on our city and communities. More than ever our animals are considered part of our community and we owe them humane treatment and the most basic services. Let's keep the animals vaccinated to keep disease under control and keep them fed and housed to keep as many off the street and in safe shelter, as possible. It is a mark of our humanity how we treat our animals. Thank you. Susan Passow, East Hollywood

Communication from Public

Name: Lorraine Lopez
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:49 PM
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, Lorraine Lopez South LA

Communication from Public

Name: Maggie

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:51 PM

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.

Communication from Public

Name: Tushar Patel

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:51 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: # Public Comment — LA City Budget FY 2025–26 ****Submitted by:**** Tushar Patel, Budget Representative, CPNC ****To:**** Office of Mayor Karen Bass, City of Los Angeles ****Subject:**** Full Utilization of City Resources — Chatsworth Courthouse 7-Day Pilot ****Net Savings: \$19.9 Million Annually | Zero Additional Budget Required**** ----- Dear Mayor Bass and Office of the Mayor, My name is Tushar Patel, and I serve as Budget Representative for the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council (CPNC). I am submitting this public comment in strong support of a fiscally responsible and humanitarian proposal: the ****Chatsworth Courthouse 7-Day Operations Pilot Program**** — built entirely on full utilization of existing city resources, requiring ****zero new budget allocation****, while delivering an estimated ****\$19.9 million in net annual savings**** to the City of Los Angeles. ****The Problem: Underutilized Assets and the Monday Surge**** Los Angeles courthouses, including Chatsworth, operate Monday–Friday. This creates a damaging “Monday Surge” — an overwhelming flood of cases, arrested individuals, and legal paperwork that crashes onto City Attorneys, Court Staff, and LAPD every Monday morning. The backlog drives up overtime costs, increases liability exposure, burns out city workers, and denies Angelenos timely access to justice. The infrastructure and staff already exist. The only thing missing is smarter scheduling. ****The Solution: AWD 7-Day Pilot at Chatsworth Courthouse**** Our proposal is simple: use an ****Alternate Work Schedule (AWD) framework**** to divide existing staff into rotating shifts, making Chatsworth Courthouse accessible all 7 days — at zero additional cost. This is voluntary, not mandated. Staff seeking 4x10 schedules or better work-life balance can opt into weekend shifts. The benefits are immediate and compounding: - Smooths workloads across 7 days, eliminating the Monday backlog for LAPD, City Attorneys, and court staff - Optimizes space utilization through staggered shifts, reducing crowding and improving safety - Reduces staff burnout, sick leave, and costly turnover - Increases access to justice for working Angelenos who cannot attend court on weekdays without losing wages ****The Savings: Six Categories, Zero New Spending**** All savings derive from better scheduling of existing staff and resources — directly supporting Mayor Bass’s

“hold-the-line” budget: - **LAPD Overtime:** Spreading court appearances across 7 days reduces involuntary officer overtime. Savings: **\$180k–\$480k/year per courthouse** - **Arrestee Custody:** Reduced weekend holding time lowers per-diem custody costs. Savings: **\$60k–\$180k/year** - **City Attorney Backlog:** Eliminating the Monday surge reduces emergency overtime and contract support. Savings: **\$120k–\$300k/year** - **Liability Risk Reduction:** Better spacing and less rushed processing reduces legal exposure. Savings: **\$60k–\$180k/year** - **Staff Burnout & Turnover:** A flexible, healthier workplace reduces absenteeism and attrition. Savings: **\$24k–\$96k/year** - **Pro Rata & Maintenance:** Spreading usage across 7 days at lower daily intensity reduces peak maintenance costs. Savings: **\$8.4k–\$15.6k/year**

Total: ~\$600,000/year per courthouse (median). Scaled to 10 locations: ~\$6 million annually. Combined with the broader Full Utilization of Assets framework applied across city facilities and maintenance budget cycles every 3rd and 5th year, total net benefit reaches **\$19.9 million annually** — every dollar saved protecting front-line services Angelenos depend on.

A Humanitarian Case Beyond fiscal savings, this proposal is about people. Working families in the San Fernando Valley — hourly workers, caregivers, small business owners — must currently take unpaid time off to access justice. Seven-day courthouse access gives every Angeleno equal access to city services they pay for and deserve. Staff worn down by Monday chaos deserve flexibility and dignity — reducing the turnover that drains institutional knowledge and taxpayer resources.

Our Request I respectfully urge Mayor Bass and the Office of the Mayor to:

1. Authorize a formal **Chatsworth Courthouse 7-Day Operations Pilot** using AWD scheduling at zero additional budget cost
1. Direct LAPD, the City Attorney’s Office, and General Services to develop a **6-month implementation plan**
1. Establish **measurable benchmarks** for savings, staff satisfaction, and public access
1. **Scale successful outcomes** to additional courthouse locations citywide

This is smart, compassionate government — and it costs nothing. I am available to present this proposal in detail at any budget or policy meeting. Respectfully submitted, **Tushar Patel** Budget Representative, Chatsworth Neighborhood Council (CPNC) City of Los Angeles | April 2026

Public Comment — LA City Budget FY 2025–26

Submitted by: Tushar Patel, Budget Representative, CPNC

To: Office of Mayor Karen Bass, City of Los Angeles

Subject: Full Utilization of City Resources — Chatsworth Courthouse 7-Day Pilot

Net Savings: \$19.9 Million Annually | Zero Additional Budget Required

Dear Mayor Bass and Office of the Mayor,

My name is Tushar Patel, and I serve as Budget Representative for the Chatsworth Neighborhood Council (CPNC). I am submitting this public comment in strong support of a fiscally responsible and humanitarian proposal: the **Chatsworth Courthouse 7-Day Operations Pilot Program** — built entirely on full utilization of existing city resources, requiring **zero new budget allocation**, while delivering an estimated **\$19.9 million in net annual savings** to the City of Los Angeles.

The Problem: Underutilized Assets and the Monday Surge

Los Angeles courthouses, including Chatsworth, operate Monday–Friday. This creates a damaging “Monday Surge” — an overwhelming flood of cases, arrested individuals, and legal paperwork that crashes onto City Attorneys, Court Staff, and LAPD every Monday morning. The backlog drives up overtime costs, increases liability exposure, burns out city workers, and denies Angelenos timely access to justice. The infrastructure and staff already exist. The only thing missing is smarter scheduling.

The Solution: AWD 7-Day Pilot at Chatsworth Courthouse

Our proposal is simple: use an **Alternate Work Schedule (AWD) framework** to divide existing staff into rotating shifts, making Chatsworth Courthouse accessible all 7 days — at zero additional cost. This is voluntary, not mandated. Staff seeking 4x10 schedules or better work-life balance can opt into weekend shifts. The benefits are immediate and compounding:

- Smooths workloads across 7 days, eliminating the Monday backlog for LAPD, City Attorneys, and court staff
- Optimizes space utilization through staggered shifts, reducing crowding and improving safety
- Reduces staff burnout, sick leave, and costly turnover

- Increases access to justice for working Angelenos who cannot attend court on weekdays without losing wages

The Savings: Six Categories, Zero New Spending

All savings derive from better scheduling of existing staff and resources — directly supporting Mayor Bass’s “hold-the-line” budget:

- **LAPD Overtime:** Spreading court appearances across 7 days reduces involuntary officer overtime. Savings: **\$180k–\$480k/year per courthouse**
- **Arrestee Custody:** Reduced weekend holding time lowers per-diem custody costs. Savings: **\$60k–\$180k/year**
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A Humanitarian Case

Beyond fiscal savings, this proposal is about people. Working families in the San Fernando Valley — hourly workers, caregivers, small business owners — must currently take unpaid time off to access justice. Seven-day courthouse access gives every Angeleno equal access to city services they pay for and deserve. Staff worn down by Monday chaos deserve flexibility and dignity — reducing the turnover that drains institutional knowledge and taxpayer resources.

Our Request

I respectfully urge Mayor Bass and the Office of the Mayor to:

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2. Direct LAPD, the City Attorney's Office, and General Services to develop a **6-month implementation plan**
3. Establish **measurable benchmarks** for savings, staff satisfaction, and public access
4. **Scale successful outcomes** to additional courthouse locations citywide

This is smart, compassionate government — and it costs nothing. I am available to present this proposal in detail at any budget or policy meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tushar Patel

Budget Representative, Chatsworth Neighborhood Council (CPNC)

City of Los Angeles | April 2026

Communication from Public

Name: Ginamarie Will

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:53 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, As a constituent and an Angeleno who 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. If this program is cut, you will take away their only outlet for releasing energy and stress, and a source of much-needed mental and physical stimulation. Leaving them without this outlet is simply inhumane. 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. It's critical to save this program. Our shelter pets deserve better. Thank you, Ginamarie Will Torrance

Communication from Public

Name: Ted Levy

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 10:59 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: PLEASE don't cut funding for Los Angeles Animal Services. Our huge population of dogs and cats is suffering and should be treated with compassion and respect. The way we treat animals mirrors and affects how we treat our fellow human beings. We must continue to house homeless dogs and cats to the best of our ability, promote and support widespread spay/neuter services, and put greater effort into enforcing laws controlling the proper ownership and breeding of pets. Don't let the lives of our wonderful non-human companions wither and die!

Communication from Public

Name: Lanya Bingo

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 11:43 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

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Marina Del Rey