

Communication from Public

Name: Claudia Queen

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 08:30 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I urge you to fully retain funding for our canine enrichment program with Dogs Playing for Life. We cannot continue to abuse man and woman's best friend by further diminishing the conditions in our shelters. Killing animals because shelters are under staffed or over crowded is barbaric. We may not be able to successfully deal with homelessness in humans but let's at least try to maintain our human relationships with our pet population who don't have the ability to defend themselves.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 06:23 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please DO NOT CUT Funding for animal shelters!! They are already struggling to care for all the animals in their care! Cutting their funding for vital services will impact animals in their care and guardians who care for them and people who depend on the services they provide! It'll cost animals lives and suffering!

Communication from Public

Name: Casey Navin
Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 07:06 PM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Please reconsider defunding DPFL so that dogs can have a humane existence and increase their chances of adoption.

Communication from Public

Name: Lauren Campana

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 07:21 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: PLEASE: Fully fund Dog Play for Life in 2026-27 budget Do NOT let contract lapse July 1 It's often only out of kennel time dogs get It DIRECTLY impacts adoptions and rescue placements It REDUCES stress and behavioral decline It costs LESS THAN 1/100 of 1% of city budget PROVEN reduced bite incidents PROTECT DOGS PROTECT HUMANITY

Communication from Public

Name: Jesse

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 07:55 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I support the Vacation Short Term Rental ordinance as a smart revenue idea for our City which faces fiscal challenges and this is a gateway to create access to more economic activity in preparation for the World Cup and Olympics.

Communication from Public

Name: Black Planners of Los Angeles (BPLA)
Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 08:10 PM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Black Planners of Los Angeles (BPLA) Comments on proposed cuts to the City Planning Department for the 2026-2027 Budget cycle.



BLACK PLANNERS OF LOS ANGELES

Email: black_planners.la@gmail.com | Website: blackplanners.la | Instagram: [@blackplannersla](https://www.instagram.com/blackplannersla)

April 29, 2026

Honorable Katy Yaroslavsky, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee
Los Angeles City Council, c/o City Clerk
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012-4801

The Black Planners of Los Angeles Strongly Opposes Proposed FY 26-27 Budget ([CF: 26-0600](#))

Honorable Yaroslavsky and the Budget and Finance Committee,

We, the Black Planners of Los Angeles (BPLA), strongly oppose the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027, particularly the reductions proposed for the City Planning Department. The deficit our City faces is not just a crisis to which we must respond, but a moment in which we must reaffirm our priorities as a fair and equitable City.

As a qualified minority employee organization within the City of Los Angeles, BPLA works towards the betterment of Black employees working within the planning profession and related fields, as well as the fair representation of communities impacted by planning policies. The proposed budget specifically targets programs that represent cornerstone issues for our organization. The elimination of these programs would only serve to exacerbate the inequalities seen across Los Angeles that are the direct result of past planning practices.

BPLA was an early and vocal advocate for many department-led equity initiatives, including the creation of a South Los Angeles field office; the establishment of the Office of Racial Justice, Equity, and Transformative Planning (ORJETP); allocating positions to the Environmental Justice Policy Unit; and efforts to accelerate the phase out of oil drilling citywide. These work programs demonstrated the City's commitment to serving historically underrepresented communities and are the culmination of decades of advocacy by Black planning professionals.

In light of the national political climate where programs that encourage or promote "Diversity, Equity and Inclusion" are under threat, the City of Los Angeles must stand as a beacon to uphold those principles and the workers who advocate for them in their everyday jobs. Planners ensure that all voices, especially those from historically marginalized groups, are represented in decisions about land use, transportation, housing, and public spaces. Our work ensures that development does not disproportionately impact disadvantaged populations, but instead uplifts all residents through fair access to resources, opportunities, and a high quality of life. Further reduces capacity, and results in a staffing level with vacancies below the required salary savings level, requiring ongoing attrition and staff depletion over the forthcoming year. For the City Planning Department, this is not a budget that maintains existing services, it reduces them over the fiscal year.

The impacts of this proposed budget to the communities and planners we represent are profound; however, at minimum, BPLA respectfully requests that the Budget Committee amends the proposed budget to include the following items:

Preserve Transformative Planning Functions within Los Angeles City Planning:

- **Fully restore the Development Services Centers (four positions)** Removal of the currently filled staff position assigned to the South LA Development Service Center will require closure or significant reductions in service at the South LA. office. These positions are critical to provide entitlement and public

counter services in a community that has never had a physical planning presence. Reduction in services to our most marginalized communities should not, yet continues to be the first for proposed removal during budget shortfalls as evidenced by the proposed removal of this office entirely and the dismantling of the Office of Racial Justice, Equity, and Transformative Planning in the 2025-2026 budget cycle.

- **Restore six Housing Delivery positions** to six positions essential to maintaining our baseline housing policy work program: two CEQA positions (one City Planner and one City Planning Associate), one OHR position (one City Planning Associate) to sustain Housing Element implementation and SB79 compliance, one Systems Analyst for housing policy applications development and maintenance, one Management Analyst for contract administration, and one Public Relations Specialist to assist with communications and outreach publications.
- **Restore seven Economic Development and Job Growth positions** in the Major Project Section and Expedited Processing Section (EPS) that provide staffing capacity for processing regionally significant projects with associated EIRs as well as the expedited review and approval of entitlements for small business, infrastructure, commercial and industrial development. Specifically, this includes restoration of one City Planning Associate in Major Projects and six EPS positions consisting of one City Planner and five City Planning Associates.

BPLA also supports the Department of City Planning's requested funding for 16 positions to fully operationalize integrated zoning review services:

- Over-the-Counter Plan Check: 2 Architects, 4 Architectural Associate IIs, and 6 Architectural Associate IIs
- Zoning Information Counter Services: 1 Architect, 1 Architectural Associate II, and 2 City Planning Associates
- Operational expenses (software licenses, overtime)

Thank you for your consideration. For inquiries, please contact black_planners.la@gmail.com.

In Power,



Kyle Winston, President
Black Planners of Los Angeles

cc: Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Los Angeles City Council President
Bob Blumenfield, Los Angeles City Council
Heather Hutt, Los Angeles City Council
Tim McOsker, Los Angeles City Council
Eunisses Hernandez, Los Angeles City Council
Vince Bertoni, Director of Planning, Los Angeles City Planning
Kevin Keller, Executive Office, Los Angeles City Planning

Communication from Public

Name: Christina
Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 05:00 PM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am speaking in my personal capacity in response to the April 29th LAPD budget presentation. I have been listening to recent discussions about funding, including philanthropic contributions and how funds are allocated across City departments. I appreciate the intent behind supporting public services, including the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). I would like to better understand how funds are tracked and used once they are received, including General Fund allocations, state funding such as the Supplemental Law Enforcement Services Fund, and private donations through the Los Angeles Police Foundation (LAPF). When money is designated for a specific purpose, how does the City ensure it is ultimately used as intended, especially when it is appropriated to general categories such as salaries and operations? I also have a broader concern about accountability and transparency related to liability costs. The City pays a significant amount each year in legal settlements and judgments, many of which are connected to policing. Since these costs are paid from the General Fund, they impact the City as a whole. I would like to see clearer tracking of where these costs are coming from, whether by type of incident or operational area, so that patterns can be identified and addressed. At the same time, I would like to highlight the importance of prevention. The LAPD, primarily a RESPONSE and ENFORCEMENT agency, does have community partnership programs, and those efforts are appreciated. However, many of the deeper prevention and intervention services, such as youth development, violence interruption, and mental health support, are carried out by community based organizations. These programs often operate with more limited and less stable funding. It would be appreciated if more attention and funding were allocated to such crime prevention efforts. Realistically, LAPD can't, and shouldn't be doing it all. Additionally, I would like to suggest increased coordination during homeless encampment cleanups. Involving Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS) Animal Control Officers (ACO) alongside LAPD could help safely address situations involving animals and potentially prevent the need for use of force against them. If our goal is long term public safety, it may be worth considering how we balance investment between response and prevention. Strengthening prevention efforts could reduce the number of high risk incidents,

which in turn may reduce liability costs and improve outcomes for the community. This could be further supported by continued investment in de escalation and scenario based training, along with strong field supervision and review, to help reduce use of force incidents and associated liability. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Edwin A Reyes Flores

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 05:48 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: This programs help lots of people. And its important for all of us.

Communication from Public

Name: Carolina velasco
Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 06:01 PM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: The dogs need their time outside

Communication from Public

Name: Lillian Tsai

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 03:45 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, my name is Lillian Tsai, I am a resident in Arcadia, CA. I am commenting to urge you to fully restore our city's canine enrichment contract with Dogs Playing for Life. Without it, we cannot be a humane LA. This isn't just about the animals — it's about who we are. They are not just dogs, they are lives that deserve a chance. Canceling the program will mean zero time beyond a cramped kennel for countless dogs. Thank you for helping LA be a better place for all of us.

Communication from Public

Name: Paul

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 03:47 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please support full funding for open street events like CicLAvia and LADOT in the FY27 budget. These are social infrastructure investments that Los Angeles needs desperately. We cannot afford to underinvest in programs that bring our communities together.

Communication from Public

Name: Shaun Ahsan

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 03:47 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Allied International Security has been proudly providing services to Safe Parking LA for over two years. During this time, we have witnessed firsthand the meaningful impact this program has on individuals who are not simply experiencing homelessness, but are navigating trauma and actively working toward stable, affordable housing solutions. These sites provide more than a place to park—they offer safety, structure, and a supportive environment for individuals during a critical transition period in their lives. Participants rely on this stability as they rebuild and move forward. The recent budget cuts will have a direct and serious impact not only on program participants, but also on the workforce supporting these operations, including supervisors, managers, and over a dozen dedicated security officers assigned across multiple sites. These team members play a key role in maintaining safe, respectful, and well-managed environments. We are already seeing an increase in non-participants attempting to access these lots due to the growing need for safe and secure spaces. Reducing or eliminating support for this program will only increase these pressures and undermine the structure that currently allows the program to operate effectively. We respectfully urge the City to fully consider the broader impact of these budget reductions and prioritize the continuation of the Safe Parking LA program. This initiative serves as a critical bridge for individuals transitioning toward stability and should be preserved as part of the City's long-term solution for housing and community support.

Communication from Public

Name: Kelly Fedderson

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 08:49 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose cutting funding for food and play groups for la animal shelters. If anything the budget needs to increase across the board to ensure we can get out of the disaster we are currently in and do right by the animals and our own humanity.

Communication from Public

Name: Adriana
Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 10:02 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. The Department's own interim GM, Annette Ramirez, warned the Committee in writing on April 21 that cutting DPFL will negatively affect shelter dogs' physical and behavioral health, decrease adoptability, and increase bite risk to staff, volunteers, and visitors. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100th of 1% of LA's \$14.85B budget — a small fraction of what the city has paid in dog bite settlements over three years. Cutting it converts a small, predictable cost into unpredictable liability. Please vote to restore DPFL funding before the Committee report on May 15. Thank you, Adriana Levandowski Resident of Beachwood Canyon

Communication from Public

Name: Craig Bennett

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 12:17 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to urge the City of Los Angeles to maintain funding for safe parking programs in the upcoming budget. People living in their vehicles represent the single largest subgroup of our unsheltered population. According to the 2024 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, vehicular homelessness accounts for more than 44% of the county's unsheltered population, totaling over 23,000 adults and children on any given night. Despite the scale of this crisis, safe parking is one of the only interventions specifically designed to reach and stabilize this population. Eliminating funding for it does not eliminate the need; it removes the response. Safe parking works because it intervenes at the right moment. The majority of participants, roughly four out of five, are experiencing homelessness for the first time. Many are working, maintaining income, and still connected to the systems that make housing recovery possible. What they lack is a safe, legal place to sleep at night. Safe parking provides that basic stability, and in doing so, it preserves the conditions under which people can return to housing: the ability to rest, to keep a job, to stay engaged with services. When that stability is removed, the trajectory changes. People lose employment, disengage from service providers, and fall into deeper, chronic homelessness where interventions become far more complex and far more expensive. What is currently a reversible situation becomes a long-term system burden. Safe parking is not just a compassionate response; it is a cost-effective, upstream strategy that reduces demand on the most expensive parts of our homelessness infrastructure. Safe Parking LA is an organization best positioned to deliver this work. As the originator and largest dedicated provider of safe parking in Los Angeles, SPLA has operated since 2017 with a singular focus on vehicular homelessness. The organization has built the operating model, scaled a multi-site network across the region, and developed one of the only longitudinal datasets on this population. Its ongoing research partnership with RAND is translating real-world program data into evidence that can inform smarter funding and system design across the region. The results reflect this focus. Across its history, Safe Parking LA provided over 41,000 safe nights, connected 431 participants to case management services, and achieved a 47% housing placement rate for those exiting the program. The organization screened nearly

2,000 households through its community warmline and provided 390 financial assistance awards to help participants overcome barriers to housing. These are not abstract figures; they represent working families, veterans, seniors, and individuals who were one step from stabilization and received the support they needed to get there. If the City eliminates safe parking funding, five sites and 119 parking spaces will be at risk, disrupting access for more than 400 people each year. There is no alternative system in place for people living in vehicles at night. They will not be absorbed by shelters or other programs. They will be pushed into unsafe, unsanctioned conditions on the street, accelerating their path into the very chronic homelessness the City is working to reduce. This is a narrow window. Maintaining this investment preserves a proven intervention that stabilizes people before they fall further, keeps them connected to employment and housing pathways, and ultimately saves the system money. Cutting it does the opposite. I respectfully ask the City Council to preserve funding for safe parking programs and to recognize Safe Parking LA's essential role in our regional homelessness response. This is not the time to dismantle what works.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 01:56 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am APPALLED at Mayor Bass's plan to cut funding to animal shelters entirely. The funding cut will eliminate the possibility for animals to go on walks, which is currently possible through appropriate funds for staff and non-profits. Los Angeles would keep animals in cages for days, months -- if not year of there lives. In addition, animals would go without food, supplies, and medical care, food. They will die. Please advocate for cuts elsewhere in the budget (like LAPD lawsuits....) in order to keep pre-adopted animals safe from cruelty. Otherwise, Mayor Bass will be remembered for putting the Olympics, and tourism, above the lives of animals.

Communication from Public

Name: Adriana Armenta
Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 02:38 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. The Department's own interim GM, Annette Ramirez, warned the Committee in writing on April 21 that cutting DPFL will negatively affect shelter dogs' physical and behavioral health, decrease adoptability, and increase bite risk to staff, volunteers, and visitors. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100th of 1% of LA's \$14.85B budget — a small fraction of what the city has paid in dog bite settlements over three years. Cutting it converts a small, predictable cost into unpredictable liability. Please vote to restore DPFL funding before the Committee report on May 15. Thank you, Adriana Armenta Vernon

Communication from Public

Name: Elizabeth

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 03:21 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please keep DPFL, an absolute necessity for the health & wellbeing of dogs! They need exercise, sunshine, physical contact & interaction with other dogs, people; feet on the earth. The world is watching. Allocate the funds to extend the kindness, care, and respect for the dogs' quality of life that they deserve!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 02:10 PM

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. The Department's own interim GM, Annette Ramirez, warned the Committee in writing on April 21 that cutting DPFL will negatively affect shelter dogs' physical and behavioral health, decrease adoptability, and increase bite risk to staff, volunteers, and visitors. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100th of 1% of LA's \$14.85B budget — a small fraction of what the city has paid in dog bite settlements over three years. Cutting it converts a small, predictable cost into unpredictable liability. Please vote to restore DPFL funding before the Committee report on May 15.

Communication from Public

Name: Morgan L Brock-Smith

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 10:35 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dogs Playing for Life is an essential program for shelter dogs in Los Angeles. It is critical to their well-being, adoptability, and ultimately, survival. Please do not cut funding for this program.

Communication from Public

Name: Hana Leyland

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 10:44 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Good Morning/afternoon, Councilmembers, My name is Hana Leyland , and I live in District 5. Our community members have asked the city of Los Angeles to truly invest in the lives of the Trans, Gender Expansive, and Intersex populations throughout the county and across all Departments. We ask the city to add the TGI Wellness and Equity Initiative to the FY26/27 Recommended Budget, fully funded. The TGI community has long faced criminalization and discrimination, and now, more than ever, in light of the new federal administration's attacks on our communities' rights to gender-affirming care and tolerance, it is essential that our local government officials invest in community-based organizations to build up the infrastructure of support for our community. At the local, state, and national levels, TGI individuals continue to experience homelessness, violence, and a lack of access to essential services. Funding TGI-led organizations to care for our community is a crucial step to continue advancing equity and align with initiatives at the county level towards a more inclusive Los Angeles. We are thankful to our local government officials who sincerely see that equity, racial justice, and LGBTQIA+ rights are all connected, and support the fight for TGI people who need the county to build capacity to accurately address the issues impacting our communities. We hope you are willing to break the cycle of erasure and improve the lives of TGI people through this year's budget. Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: Rachel

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 11:32 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As an animal lover and someone who volunteers in dog rescue, I urge the committee to fully restore our city's canine enrichment contract with Dogs Playing for Life. This program gives our shelter animals VITAL enrichment which helps their chances at being adopted or rehabilitated. The LA shelter system is already a mess, eliminating this would have devastating affects on the already very high euthanasia numbers, as well as these poor animals well-being. Please revise the budget to consider the welfare of our animals

Communication from Public

Name: Zola Petkovic

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 09:27 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: This is a critical collaboration that affects the lives of our animal friends that are at our mercy. This is the humane thing to do. I vehemently support this and urge LA to support and help fund programs to help save more animal lives. We have the ability to make LA a no-kill city, and we need to do the work to support programs that will help achieve this outcome.

Communication from Public

Name: chani friedman

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 09:43 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am messaging as your constituent to urge you to fully restore our city's canine enrichment contract with Dogs Playing for Life. Without it, we cannot be a humane LA. This isn't just about the animals — it's about who we are.

Communication from Public

Name: Laura gelles

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 10:20 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We have to do better. It is shockingly cruel to keep treating animals the way we do in Los Angeles County. We need to add to the budget to give animals a humane life, not cut it. We need to support and add to the number of volunteers and paid staff. We need to expand the programs to ensure more people are fostering/adopting and animals entrusted into our care are not mistreated so horribly as they are now. We need to make sure they get enough exercise, play time, good food and are able to decompress, since living in a shelter is obviously not ideal, but also clearly necessary. Please please do what you can.

Communication from Public

Name: DTLA Hotel

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 10:25 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We would like to inform your office that the alley behind the DTLA Hotel at 1123 W 7th St, Los Angeles, has become a long-term encampment site for multiple unhoused individuals. Tents, open cooking, suspected drug activity, and significant trash accumulation have created unsafe and unsanitary conditions. These conditions are now directly affecting nearby businesses, including customer access, employee safety, and overall operations. We respectfully request that the individuals in this area be relocated to an appropriate service-supported location, as the current situation is no longer sustainable for the surrounding community.

Communication from Public

Name: Chandra Jefferey

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 09:22 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The Los Angeles Public Library has worked alongside One San Pedro since 2018 to help develop a comprehensive plan focused on building a healthy, safe, and equitable community. We are in full support of One San Pedro and the residents and families it serves. San Pedro and the City of Los Angeles deserves this project. Over the years, we have built strong relationships with current residents to better understand community needs and have partnered closely with One San Pedro to coordinate the delivery of our free resources. To date, we have participated in more than 200 community events and meetings, all focused on investing in the current and future well-being of the community. For these reasons, we strongly support continued investment through ULA funding and the approval of these awards.

Communication from Public

Name: Michael Freeman

Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 09:17 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please maintain budget for shelter animals, including the Dogs Playing for Life contract. Dogs deserve adequate food, medical supplies, and socialization. This is important for the dogs, for their future families, and for the Los Angeles community. Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: Stephanie Vogt

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 09:01 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not cut funding for DPFL. As it is, our city's animal shelters are woefully underfunded. These animals deserve time to get outdoors - many of them will live almost their entire lives at the shelter, in a concrete cube, due to the city's overpopulation crisis and lack of proper restrictions around breeding. I have volunteered at these shelters. I have seen these animals' distress and the sad lives they live. I am begging you not to take away the one source of joy in their day.

Communication from Public

Name: Emily

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 09:07 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Stop gutting the LA Animal Services budget and support the collaboration between LA Animal Services, ASPCA, and Best Friends Animal Society. Make LA a no kill city and support LA Animal Services(humans and animals

Communication from Public

Name: Tina

Date Submitted: 04/29/2026 02:01 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please continue the funding so the poor dogs have some playtime. Its essential for there mental health. They are more prone to get adopted because they will be happier. And its more humane. Please ?? and thank you!

Communication from Public

Name: Kristi Hawke

Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 08:33 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.

Communication from Public

Name: Anissa Esmeralda Nambo

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 08:11 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. The Department's own interim GM, Annette Ramirez, warned the Committee in writing on April 21 that cutting DPFL will negatively affect shelter dogs' physical and behavioral health, decrease adoptability, and increase bite risk to staff, volunteers, and visitors. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100th of 1% of LA's \$14.85B budget — a small fraction of what the city has paid in dog bite settlements over three years. Cutting it converts a small, predictable cost into unpredictable liability. Please vote to restore DPFL funding before the Committee report on May 15. Thank you, Anissa Nambo Hemet, Ca

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 08:36 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am dismayed that animal shelters are at risk of losing money needed to maintain them. So much money is wasted and unaccounted for. Please do better. Please include animals in the budget.

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Lennox

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 08:42 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

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

Communication from Public

Name: Richard Stewart

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 09:08 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: This is completely unfair. These dogs did nothing wrong. The very little time they have outside of the cement boxes they are kept in is the only descent thing they have. Please do not take away the only good part of their lives.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 04:49 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, Ana Gomez Windsor Hills

Communication from Public

Name: Marine Maldonado
Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 05:29 AM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Please fund spay and neuter

Communication from Public

Name: Leslie Rodriguez
Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 07:35 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, Leslie Reseda Neighborhood

Communication from Public

Name: Sophia Knight

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 02:27 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am speaking today as a participant in the Safe Parking program in Los Angeles—and as a woman who has lived the reality this program is meant to serve. I am over 50, a single woman, and after becoming seriously ill, I found myself without stable housing. Rebuilding your life under those conditions is not just difficult—it can feel impossible. Safe Place changed that for me. This program gave me something many people take for granted: a place to rest without fear. Before Safe Parking, every night meant worrying that someone might knock on my window, try to open my door, or put me in danger while I slept. Now, I have a designated, secure place where I can park and close my eyes knowing I am safe. But Safe Parking is more than just a parking program. They have supported me in ways that go far beyond expectations. When my car broke down—my only shelter—they helped me get it serviced. When I started working again, they provided gift cards to help me get back on my feet. They've created a sense of community through encouragement, meals, and genuine care. They treat us with dignity, not judgment. For me, this program is not optional—it is essential. It is the difference between stability and crisis, between hope and despair. It is the only place I can call home at night right now. If this program loses funding or is shut down, people like me will not just be inconvenienced—we will be put at real risk. Safe Parking is working. It is helping people rebuild their lives with safety, structure, and support. I urge decision-makers and the community to recognize the value of this program and to continue supporting it. Programs like Safe Parking don't just provide parking—they provide a pathway back to stability, dignity, and independence. Please don't take that away. This is my family this is my shelter.
Sophi Knight

Communication from Public

Name: Delvin Henriquez

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 02:54 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, My name is Delvin Henriquez and I'm unhoused living out of my car in a SAFE Parking Lot. This program needs to continue supporting people who are in transition of homes. We need to be supporting people find healthy safe homes not putting us out on the street. PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE FUNDING FROM SAFE PARKING. Thank you,

Communication from Public

Name: Palmira Reyes

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 05:09 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am a pet owner of both cats and dogs. I have neutered/spayed some of my pets, but not all. The cost is one factor. While I have not, nor will I breed them, for their health, it is important that I spay and neuter them. My pets are all rescues and having assistance with their care in the form of spay or neuter vouchers would be extremely helpful.

Communication from Public

Name: Tee Murray

Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 05:18 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am advocating for MORE investment in Safe Parking programs. These programs help keep our citizens, neighbors, and communities out of the elements and off the streets. They also allow people to have dignity as they transition through unprecedented times and/or unpredictable circumstances.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 03:38 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Not everyone has what it takes to be a financially successful member of society. Some folks, for whatever reason, are just incapable of obtaining enough money to support themselves. Which of course does not mean they do not have other wonderful attributes. We the "haves" are the lucky ones. The "have nots" need our help, not the destruction of their vehicles, not the discarding of their belongings, not evictions, not sweeps, and not incarceration. We need safe parking, shelters, affordable housing and eviction protections, to name a few. Please revise the budget accordingly. I have been a Venice resident for over 50 years, first as a renter and then as a home owner since 1990. Venice has all of the trappings of an urban community which included folks of all races and socio economic levels. That's what makes for a healthy, thriving community. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Tania Gonzalez
Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 04:32 PM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a constituent and an Angeleno who cares about our city's shelter dogs, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) contract in the 2026-27 budget. DPFL playgroups are the only structured out-of-kennel time most LA shelter dogs ever get. Without them, dogs sit in concrete kennels 24 hours a day — no walks, no play, no joy. Playgroups are also how LA Animal Services learns the most important thing about every dog: how they behave with other dogs. That single data point drives adoptions, rescue pulls, and every lifesaving decision the shelter makes. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100th of 1% of LA's \$14.85B budget. Cutting it costs the city every claim to being a Humane LA. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. Thank you, Tania Gonzalez

Communication from Public

Name: Vanessa

Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 04:36 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: AS AN AVID ANIMAL FOSTERER, PLEASE DO NOT TAKE AWAY THE ANIMALS TIME TO WALK AND STRETCH AND TAKE A BREAK FROM THE STRESS INDUCED CAGES/BOX. I Denounce THIS.

Communication from Public

Name: Danielle Dolinger

Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 04:45 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, [Dani Dolinger] [los angeles]

Communication from Public

Name: TJ

Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 05:57 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, I'm writing as an Angeleno to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) contract in the 2026-27 budget. DPFL is the only structured out-of-kennel time most dogs at LA's six city shelters ever receive. It also prevents the behavioral deterioration that has led Los Angeles to pay more than \$31.85M in shelter dog-bite settlements since 2023. The contract costs less than 1/100 of 1% of the city budget. Cutting it doesn't save money — it converts a fixed cost into unpredictable liability. Please restore funding before Council locks the budget June 6. These poor dogs have it hard enough. Don't take away there only taste of hope. Thank you, TJ Linnard Burbank, CA

Communication from Public

Name: Autum mahabir
Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 11:27 PM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: We need funding for neutering cats pls

Communication from Public

Name: Thomas Kelty
Date Submitted: 04/28/2026 08:56 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 do not take away another service that enriches the lives of your constituents; restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. Thank you, Thomas Kelty Sherman Oaks/Studio City

Communication from Public

Name: Leigh LaChapelle
Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 11:43 AM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing on behalf of the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (Cast), a Los Angeles–based organization providing comprehensive, survivor-informed services and advancing policy solutions to end human trafficking. We appreciate the proposed level funding for the City’s Survivor Supportive Services budget, totaling \$12.3 million in General Funds. Maintaining this funding is essential to sustaining critical shelter capacity and services for survivors of human trafficking, domestic violence, and sexual assault. In a region where housing instability and violence are deeply intertwined, preserving these resources is necessary to prevent further harm and exploitation. At the same time, we have serious concerns about whether the proposed funding levels for Continuum of Care (CoC) planning will allow the system to function effectively. The current allocation is insufficient to ensure that Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority can carry out core responsibilities, including submitting renewal applications to HUD and securing critical funding streams such as DV Bonus resources. These federal funds are a lifeline for survivors and must not be put at risk due to underinvestment in administrative and planning capacity. We are also concerned about gaps in support for survivors navigating housing transitions. Survivors who were matched to Emergency Housing Vouchers are now at significant risk of returning to homelessness as those resources expire. Without proactive investment in alternative housing pathways, the system risks undoing progress made in stabilizing survivors. Additionally, workforce development programs remain a key component of long-term stability for survivors. Survivors of trafficking and gender-based violence frequently face financial abuse and economic coercion, which can prolong their vulnerability. Investments in programs like LA: RISE should be protected and strengthened to ensure survivors have access to sustainable income and independence. We recognize and appreciate the City’s continued commitment to survivors, including investments in shelter expansion and survivor-centered housing models. However, maintaining a truly effective response requires not only preserving direct services, but also ensuring the infrastructure that connects survivors to those services is fully resourced. We urge the City Council to: -Adopt the full \$12.3 million in General Funds for Survivor Supportive

Services; -Fully fund CoC planning to ensure continuity of HUD-funded housing resources; -Protect and expand housing pathways for survivors at risk of losing assistance; and -Sustain investments in workforce development programs that promote long-term stability. This is a critical moment to reinforce a public health approach to human trafficking and gender-based violence—one that prioritizes housing, economic stability, and access to care over crisis response alone. We urge you to protect and strengthen these investments to ensure survivors can achieve safety and stability.

Communication from Public

Name: Clarisa Pena

Date Submitted: 04/26/2026 12:59 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Budget and Finance Committee, My name is Clarisa Pena, and I work at 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 Survivor Services. This funding is essential to maintaining life-saving shelter, housing, and support services for survivors of domestic violence. I also ask that you fully fund LAHSA's Continuum of Care (CoC) Planning request. Without adequate funding, critical programs and staffing that support survivors in accessing housing and federal resources will be at risk. Additionally, I encourage the City to: Ensure survivors do not lose housing as Emergency Housing Vouchers expire
Maintain workforce development programs like LA: RISE This funding directly supports the work we do every day and the survivors we serve. Please stand with survivors and ensure full funding for these critical services. Sincerely, Clarisa Pena

Communication from Public

Name: Diana Murphy

Date Submitted: 04/25/2026 09:39 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Mayor Bass and LA Council Budget Committee: Your 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. Thank you for your attention and compassion.

Communication from Public

Name: Tracy Voss

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 10:46 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Across the country—from New York to Los Angeles—the implementation of “no-kill” policies that focus primarily on lowering euthanasia numbers has failed. Many communities are now facing serious strain, with growing impacts on both animal welfare and public safety. Bringing this same approach to Los Angeles is deeply concerning. Focusing on outcomes without addressing root causes does not solve the problem—it shifts it. We must focus on prevention first: high-volume spay/neuter, community education, and responsible ownership. That is how we reduce suffering at its source. If we get prevention right, a more humane world for animals and people will follow. It does not work the other way around. Thank you for your time and consideration. Tracy Voss

Communication from Public

Name: Blaze Lovejoy

Date Submitted: 04/25/2026 03:17 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please don't cut back on animal services funding. It's so needed.

Communication from Public

Name: Jazelle Becerra

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 11:31 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Good Morning/Afternoon Councilmembers, My name is Jazelle and I reside in city district 9. I am here to speak in support of the TGI Wellness and Equity Initiative, a \$4 million investment over 2 years into Transgender, Gender-Expansive, and Intersex community-based organizations. The TransLatin@ Coalition, alongside community members, has repeatedly asked the City of Los Angeles to make meaningful investments in the lives of Transgender, Gender-Expansive, and Intersex people throughout the city. With dwindling federal funding for services and programs flagged as DEI initiatives, we look towards our local government officials to support these already underfunded services and programs. The TGI community has long faced criminalization and discrimination, and now, more than ever, in light of the escalating federal administration's attacks on gender affirming care and fundamental freedoms, it is essential that we raise awareness and stand in solidarity. At the local, state, and national levels, GI people continue to experience disproportionate rates of homelessness, violence, and a lack of access to essential services. Funding TGI-led and TGI-serving organizations to care for TGI community members is vital to advance equity and align with City initiatives towards a more inclusive Los Angeles. We uplift those within the City who recognize that equity, racial justice, and TGI rights are interconnected, and who support us in this fight. We need the city to build capacity to accurately address the issues impacting TGI people! We invite you to support us in breaking cycles of erasure and violence and help us improve the lives of all marginalized people through the city budgeting process.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/24/2026 11:31 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Afternoon Councilmembers, My name is Johanna Wallace , and I reside in city district [10]. I am here to speak in support of the TGI Wellness and Equity Initiative, a \$4 million investment over 2 years into Transgender, Gender-Expansive, and Intersex community-based organizations. The TransLatin@ Coalition, alongside community members, has repeatedly asked the City of Los Angeles to make meaningful investments in the lives of Transgender, Gender-Expansive, and Intersex people throughout the city. With dwindling federal funding for services and programs flagged as DEI initiatives, we look towards our local government officials to support these already underfunded services and programs. The TGI community has long faced criminalization and discrimination, and now, more than ever, in light of the escalating federal administration's attacks on gender affirming care and fundamental freedoms, it is essential that we raise awareness and stand in solidarity. At the local, state, and national levels, TGI people continue to experience disproportionate rates of homelessness, violence, and a lack of access to essential services. Funding TGI-led and TGI-serving organizations to care for TGI community members is vital to advance equity and align with City initiatives towards a more inclusive Los Angeles. We uplift those within the City who recognize that equity, racial justice, and TGI rights are interconnected, and who support us in this fight. We need the city to build capacity to accurately address the issues impacting TGI people! We invite you to support us in breaking cycles of erasure and violence and help us improve the lives of all marginalized people through the city budgeting process.

Communication from Public

Name: Christie Ohlhaver

Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 10:55 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Member, I write to you as someone who has fostered shelter dogs for half their life. I urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) contract in the 2026-27 budget. DPFL playgroups are so important to shelter dogs enrichment as it's often the only structured out-of-kennel time most LA shelter dogs ever get. Without them, dogs sit in small concrete kennels, often hosed down so they are cold and wet, 24 hours a day. The dogs need walks, play, and exercise to help them destress, get bathroom breaks, have a small moment of joy, and this is important time for shelter staff to learn about the dogs. All these things make a dog more adoptable and give it a better chance of life. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100th of 1% of LA's \$14.85B budget. Cutting it costs the city every claim to being a Humane LA. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1.

Communication from Public

Name: Maria
Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 11:05 AM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember, As a constituent and an Angeleno who cares about our city's shelter dogs, I'm writing to urge you to fully fund the Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) contract in the 2026-27 budget. DPFL playgroups are the only structured out-of-kennel time most LA shelter dogs ever get. Without them, dogs sit in concrete kennels 24 hours a day — no walks, no play, no joy. Playgroups are also how LA Animal Services learns the most important thing about every dog: how they behave with other dogs. That single data point drives adoptions, rescue pulls, and every lifesaving decision the shelter makes. The DPFL contract costs less than 1/100th of 1% of LA's \$14.85B budget. Cutting it costs the city every claim to being a Humane LA. Please restore DPFL funding before Council locks the budget June 6. Don't let this lifesaving program lapse on July 1. Thank you, [Your name]
[Your neighborhood]

Communication from Public

Name: Melissa Torre

Date Submitted: 04/27/2026 01:22 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. Do not be cruel!!! Thank you, Melissa Torre Los Angeles, CA 90035