

Communication from Public

Name: Makoto Mizutani

Date Submitted: 05/08/2026 01:41 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dogs Playing for Life is a critical service that is integral to the enrichment of LA City Shelter dogs. Please let these dogs have this program so they can be adopted sooner! Animal enrichment is a critical part of these dogs' lives. Please do NOT cut any funding to them!

Communication from Public

Name: Leslie Rith-Najarian
Date Submitted: 05/08/2026 10:40 AM
Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: This comment is regarding the cuts to funding for Los Angeles Animal Services in the FY 2026-27 Budget. I am a volunteer at East Valley animal shelter. Having a safe animal shelter system where animals are properly cared for is crucial for public trust in LAAS. In the past month alone, there have been three loose dogs running around my neighborhood. Whenever these dogs are caught, the consensus is that no one trusts bringing an animal to any LAAS shelter, because they've heard about the bad conditions there. So citizens are regularly attempting to temporarily house unknown dogs in their own yards/homes. This is a public safety and health issue. It is crucial that the LAAS shelters take better care of the animals in their system, in order to rebuild public trust. One way to do this is to continue to fund Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) in the 2026-27 budget. In the years prior to DPFL, dogs would regularly go a week to more in between walks. They would sit in dirty cages without exercise for days at a time. Since DPFL started, a majority of dogs now get out-of-kennel time every 1-2 days. That is an impressive achievement and improvement over prior conditions. The Dogs Playing for Life services reduce dog stress + behavioral decline. Such improved shelter conditions in turn improve adoption rates, rescue placements, and public trust in the system. Do NOT let the DPFL contract lapse July 1. It costs less than 1/100th of 1% of the city budget. Thank you, Dr. Leslie Rith-Najarian

Communication from Public

Name: Azul

Date Submitted: 05/07/2026 06:05 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Azul, I use any pronouns. I am part of the Angels of Change program offered by the Trans Latin@ Coalition. I am disillusioned to witness the injustice that is the devaluing and dehumanization of people who dare challenge dominant narratives of gender and of being and embrace their humanness. I am disillusioned because it is dangerous for my TGI siblings and I to walk down the street and get we have to ask time and time again for our basic needs be supported.

Communication from Public

Name: Leslye Kasoff

Date Submitted: 05/08/2026 08:56 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Member, I am a tax payer and resident of Los Angeles. I am extremely concerned and strongly opposed to the proposal to cut food and medical spending and the funding for Dogs Playing For Life contract at our animal shelters. Please restore the FOOD AND MEDICAL budget and fully fund the DOGS PLAYING FOR LIFE contract in the 2026-27 budget. DFL 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 July 1st.

Communication from Public

Name: Connie

Date Submitted: 05/08/2026 03:45 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: When I visited my local shelter (North Central) to adopt my dog, every kennel was filled, and there were even kennels with multiple dogs in them. With shelters overfilled, it's critical for our shelter dogs to have daily enrichment outside their kennels. Please continue your partnership with Dogs Playing For Life to ensure a better life and better health for the dogs. They deserve humane treatment. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Alyssa
Date Submitted: 05/08/2026 09:09 AM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Restore funding for dpfl playgroups in the 2026-27 budget, PLEASE! Have a heart.