

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 11:43 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please restore and increase funding for Los Angeles Animal Services. Increase spay/neuter funding by at least \$1 million, restore animal food funding, restore medical supplies funding, restore Dogs Playing for Life funding, and immediately reinstate the LAPD Animal Cruelty Task Force. This is not optional. Animals need to be protected just as people need to be protected. Protecting animals protects our entire community.

Communication from Public

Name: Grace Gutierrez

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 12:03 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please restore and increase funding for Los Angeles Animal Services. Increase spay/neuter funding by at least \$1 million, restore animal food funding, restore medical supplies funding, restore Dogs Playing for Life funding, and immediately reinstate the LAPD Animal Cruelty Task Force. This is not optional. Animals need to be protected just as people need to be protected. Protecting animals protects our entire community. Sincerely,
Grace Gutierrez

Communication from Public

Name: Michelle Hayward

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 11:16 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please restore and increase funding for Los Angeles Animal Services. Increase spay/neuter funding by at least \$1 million, restore animal food funding, restore medical supplies funding, restore Dogs Playing for Life funding, and immediately reinstate the LAPD Animal Cruelty Task Force. This is not optional. Animals need to be protected just as people need to be protected. Protecting animals protects our entire community

Communication from Public

Name: paul k

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 12:56 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, please restore the critical Animal Cruelty Task Force unit. The proposed budget already includes more than 500 new LAPD positions, and I am urging Los Angeles to dedicate positions to reestablishing a dedicated Animal Cruelty Task Force team. Thank you!

Communication from Public

Name: Marisa H Landsberg
Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 01:19 PM
Council File No: 26-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Protect shelter funding to save Los Angeles' animals.

Communication from Public

Name: Tiffani LoBue

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 01:26 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: the City must increase the proposed spay/neuter funding by at least \$1 million. This investment would support 10,000–13,000 additional surgeries annually and is one of the only real solutions to the shelter overcrowding crisis. Without expanded spay/neuter access: Shelter overcrowding will worsen Roaming and abandoned animal populations will continue to grow Intake pressure on already overwhelmed shelters will increase Increased bites as neutered dogs are three times less likely to bite than intact dogs, according to studies At the same time, the City must RESTORE the slashed funding for: Animal Food budget: Increase from the proposed \$0 to \$200,000 Medical Supplies funding: Increase from the proposed \$48,968 to \$388,591 Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) Restore \$1.53 Million for the final year of the contract. The program is one of the only ways shelter dogs get enrichment and structured time out of kennels. Food, medicine, and humane care are not optional budget line items, they are the bare minimum required to meet the City’s legal and statutory obligations to animals in its custody. Denying shelter animals adequate food, medical treatment, and basic enrichment during an overcrowding crisis is inhumane and unacceptable. “The shelter overcrowding crisis is not a mystery, it is a policy failure. Year after year, City leaders allow conditions to worsen by underfunding LA Animal Services and neglecting proven solutions like spay and neuter,” said Dr. Gary Michelson, founder and co-chair of Michelson Philanthropies & Michelson Center for Public Policy.

Communication from Public

Name: J.E.

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 01:44 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members, I urge you to reverse the proposed budget cuts to the Safe Parking program. As a long-time volunteer, I have seen firsthand how this program operates and the real, measurable impact it has on our neighbors. The support, care, and stability it provides to people living in their cars is invaluable and absolutely worth protecting. Although often invisible, vehicle dwellers make up a significant portion of people experiencing homelessness. Without a sanctioned, safe place to park, they are pushed into an even more constant state of fear and survival. They are already carrying so much. Whether this program serves 500 people or 5,000, its value is undeniable. In fact, Safe Parking should not be cut, it should be expanded, better advertised, and strengthened. Estimates suggest that up to 23,000 people in the City of Los Angeles live in their vehicles. I have personally witnessed individuals find permanent housing through this program and seen communities form that help people regain stability and dignity. Please protect and bolster Safe Parking. Thank you, J.E.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 03:57 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, please don't cut funding to homelessness intervention services like Safe Parking LA. Safe parking is one of the few interventions designed specifically for people living in vehicles. It provides a safe, legal place to stay while maintaining connection to work, services, and housing pathways. Without it, there is no alternative system response at night, when the risk of harm is highest, especially for women and queer clients. Interventions like these keep people who are at risk from slipping further into homelessness from ending up on the street. It is an investment in public safety and an investment in our community. Housing is necessary, but preventing people from becoming unhoused is crucial. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Jeannie Dong

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 03:58 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Member, I am writing as a Los Angeles resident to support restoring and increasing funding for LA Animal Services within the city budget, specifically regarding Council File 26-0600. I urge you to prioritize funding for spay/neuter access, shelter medical care, food, and enrichment programs. Los Angeles shelters are currently facing a severe overcrowding crisis. Expanding spay and neuter access is one of the most effective, humane, and fiscally responsible ways to reduce intake. Increasing this funding by at least \$1 million would enable an estimated 10,000 to 13,000 additional surgeries annually, directly addressing the root cause of overcrowding. Additionally, I strongly urge the city to restore critical cuts to animal food, medical supplies, and the Dogs Playing for Life program. Basic medical care, nutrition, and humane enrichment are not optional; they are the minimum standards required for animals in the city's custody and are essential for maintaining health and safety in overcrowded facilities. Failure to fund these core services will increase long-term costs, worsen animal suffering, and place further strain on shelter staff and volunteers. Investing in these proven solutions will save lives and reflect Los Angeles's commitment to humane animal care. Thank you for your time and for considering the voices of residents who care deeply about animal welfare and the health of our community. Sincerely, Jean Dong

Communication from Public

Name: Heidi Mastrogiovanni

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 02:56 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to urge the Los Angeles City Council to fully fund the LA Animal Services Department at its requested level of \$31.8 million for 2026 - 27. I ask you to restore funding for dog and cat food, medical supplies, spay/neuter vouchers, and the Dogs Playing For Life program, and to approve the historic Best Friends Animal Society and ASPCA partnership. These investments protect animals and our communities. Please do the right thing.

Communication from Public

Name: Resa Blatman

Date Submitted: 05/11/2026 05:47 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The City must increase the proposed spay/neuter funding by at least \$1 million. This investment would support 10,000–13,000 additional surgeries annually and is one of the only real solutions to the shelter overcrowding crisis. Without expanded spay/neuter access: - Shelter overcrowding will worsen - Roaming and abandoned animal populations will continue to grow - Intake pressure on already overwhelmed shelters will increase At the same time, the City must RESTORE the slashed funding for: - Animal Food budget: Increase from the proposed \$0 to \$200,000 - Medical Supplies funding: Increase from the proposed \$48,968 to \$388,591 - Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) Restore \$1.53 Million for the final year of the contract. The program is one of the only ways shelter dogs get enrichment and structured time out of kennels. Food, medicine, and humane care are not optional budget line items, they are the bare minimum required to meet the City's legal and statutory obligations to animals in its custody. Denying shelter animals adequate food, medical treatment, and basic enrichment during an overcrowding crisis is inhumane and unacceptable.

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Ely

Date Submitted: 05/11/2026 08:15 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: "I am writing to urge the Los Angeles City Council to fully fund the LA Animal Services Department at its requested level of \$31.8 million for 2026 - 27. I ask you to restore funding for dog and cat food, medical supplies, spay/neuter vouchers, and the Dogs Playing For Life program, and to approve the historic Best Friends Animal Society and ASPCA partnership. These investments protect animals and our communities. Please do the right thing."

Communication from Public

Name: Caitlin Horne

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 06:04 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: To the Members of the Budget and Finance Committee, I'm a constituent from Santa Monica, and I urge you to restore full funding for the Dogs Playing for Life program in the 2026–2027 budget. Mayor Bass's proposed budget does not fund the final year of the \$1.6 million DPFL contract, even though this program provides the only structured out-of-kennel time many LA shelter dogs receive. That is not a luxury. It is basic humane care for animals living in overcrowded, high-stress conditions. This is bad math and bad policy: DPFL costs very little compared with the city's overall budget, but cutting it risks worse shelter outcomes, higher liability, and greater danger to staff, volunteers, and visitors. In fact, the Department's own interim General Manager warned that cutting DPFL will harm dogs' physical and behavioral health, reduce adoptability, and increase bite risk. Shelter staff are stretched thin, and rescue groups cannot be expected to continue to fill a gap created by city budget decisions. Members of this committee have the power to restore this funding, and residents are asking you to treat shelter animal welfare as a real public responsibility, not a discretionary add-on. Constituents are speaking up because these animals have no voice of their own. Please listen, and please vote to restore this funding.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 06:15 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. Also, this time outside is sometimes THE ONLY CHANCE to get pictures and videos of the dogs playing/interacting so that citizens will ADOPT them. 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: Tema L Staig

Date Submitted: 05/12/2026 10:17 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: We need an innovative WPA style program to make filmmaking viable and productive in LA County. The tax incentives are great, but they are soft money that productions don't see until the shoot is complete. We need a program to get productions rolling NOW. Film LA promised changes, but those changes haven't come through yet, and every month without progress, is another month that people aren't working or are under employed. There is a solution. Please consider Women in Media's CAMERAderie Features Initiative. It will bring back hundreds, if not thousands of jobs to an industry that has been decimated. Workers have dipped into their savings and pensions to the point that they are living in their cars. A partnership to give them the dignity of work, foster investment, and jump start production would save businesses, independent productions, and the workers who power them. Initiative Plan here:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1S_OoWJ4pcY964Ildk21xQmJ-4utHEfDG/edit?usp=sharing&oid=108808843626558208898&rtpof=true&sd=true

Communication from Public

Name: Xenia Lappo

Date Submitted: 05/12/2026 03:29 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly support funding and approving the CAMERAderie Features Initiative by Women in Media who I am a member of, as part of the City's cultural and economic investment priorities. Programs like CAMERAderie create important opportunities for emerging and independent filmmakers, support diverse voices, foster local job creation, and strengthen Los Angeles' position as a global center for creative innovation especially in such a difficult time for productions. Investing in artist-driven film initiatives also creates long-term community impact through education, workforce development, and culturally relevant storytelling.

Communication from Public

Name: Jen Burrell

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 09:15 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: It is imperative that dogs playing for life remain funded this year. To take this resource away from shelter dogs would be cruel and further harm the reputation of LA shelter system. The community, and everyone who cares about securing positive outcomes for these dogs expect that you will follow through on your commitment and fund this necessary service.

Communication from Public

Name: Daniel Low

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 10:05 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not reduce funding for animal shelters.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 10:19 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: the City must increase the proposed spay/neuter funding by at least \$1 million. This investment would support 10,000–13,000 additional surgeries annually and is one of the only real solutions to the shelter overcrowding crisis. Without expanded spay/neuter access: Shelter overcrowding will worsen Roaming and abandoned animal populations will continue to grow Intake pressure on already overwhelmed shelters will increase At the same time, the City must RESTORE the slashed funding for:
Animal Food budget: Increase from the proposed \$0 to \$200,000
Medical Supplies funding: Increase from the proposed \$48,968 to \$388,591
Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL) Restore \$1.53 Million for the final year of the contract. The program is one of the only ways shelter dogs get enrichment and structured time out of kennels. Food, medicine, and humane care are not optional budget line items, they are the bare minimum required to meet the City's legal and statutory obligations to animals in its custody. Denying shelter animals adequate food, medical treatment, and basic enrichment during an overcrowding crisis is inhumane and unacceptable. "The shelter overcrowding crisis is not a mystery, it is a policy failure. Year after year, City leaders allow conditions to worsen by underfunding LA Animal Services and neglecting proven solutions like spay and neuter," said Dr. Gary Michelson, founder and co-chair of Michelson Philanthropies & Michelson Center for Public Policy.

Communication from Public

Name: Chris Leverich

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 11:06 AM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I urge the City Council to restore animal shelter funding and immediately reinstate the LAPD Animal Cruelty Task Force. This is not optional. Animals need to be protected just as people need to be protected. Protecting animals protects our entire community. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Heidi Mastrogiovanni.

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 04:48 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote to support an effective budget for the LA Animal Services Department. Please let's all work together to make Los Angeles a kinder and more caring community for animals and for the people who help them. Surely it is a measure of the decency of a city that the most vulnerable are protected there.

Communication from Public

Name: Jim Bickhart

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 05:09 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I urge the Council to amend the City Budget to include full funding for the Animal Cruelty Task Force, a partnership between LAPD, LA Animal Services and the City Attorney to improve the City's response to the dozens of case of animal cruelty that occur in the city each year. Councilmember Blumenfield secured funding for this purpose in the 2025-26 City Budget and will know an appropriate amount for this effort. With three departments working in coordination over the course of nearly 20 years, the ACTF raised the level of enforcement of animal cruelty laws in Los Angeles. Funding issues exacerbated by the pandemic caused the unit to suspend operations, but those who commit cruelty toward animals did not suspend their heinous activity. As a former City Council and Mayoral staffer who helped coordinate the creation of the Task Force back i 2004, I am completely familiar with its importance and its potential to do so much more on behalf of animals here. But re-starting ACTF requires your involvement and support. I urge every Councilmember to take this step toward a more humane city.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 03:49 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, I strongly urge you to approve the CAMERAderie Features Initiative. This program will bring more work to Angelinos, help revitalize our struggling film industry, and provide a working model of how to boost independent filmmaking with profitability. It has been terrible to watch our industry be gutted over the last six years, leaving many of us "below-the-line" workers in film and tv unemployed. CAMERAderie will help, and will likely be self-funding after a kickoff from the city. Thank you for your time.

Communication from Public

Name: Pamela

Date Submitted: 05/13/2026 12:23 PM

Council File No: 26-0600

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