

Budget suggestions:

1. YES INCREASE L.A. Animal Services funding! It has been severely underfunded for years; worse, its spending priorities have only ensured that the overpopulation & resulting problems continue. Every penny needs to be spent on free & low-cost spay/neuter, especially for pit bulls & other large dogs; they are the dogs most often inhumanely warehoused & euthanized by LAAS, & for cats & feral cats, as they too are disproportionately euthanized at LAAS.

2. REJECT the proposed \$14-million donation to LAAS from Best Friends & ASPCA is ridiculous. Adding about 10% of staff will make NO meaningful or lasting change -- unless their ONLY assignment is to enforce & provide spay/neuter. Sadly, that is NOT what the donation proposes. It will only distract from what actually needs to be done.

3. MUCH MORE FREE & LOW-COST SPAY/NEUTER WILL CHANGE THINGS! Get the new LAAS GM to lean on every philanthropist she can find & develop new philanthropists to help fund more free & low-cost spay/neuter for the public's pets & feral cats. Add city-operated free spay/neuter clinics in unused city space in poor areas; they can provide better services at lower cost than contractors and, unlike current contractors, give more appointments to the animals most urgent but most difficult to spay/neuter - large dogs & pregnant animals.

4. STOP the LAAS “managed intake” policy & “community cat program.!! They are a HOAX that either (a) dumps (“releases” or “returns”) cats & dogs outside with no known caregiver, & FALSELY claims they were “saved,” instead of LAAS doing its job to find homes & rescues for them; or (b) refuses to impound them, so owners & finders dump the animals outside instead. Many of those dumped or rejected animals are not even sterilized first, so LAAS is actually making the problem worse. These animals are not a “live” outcome & are not “saved.” It is how LAAS avoids a euthanasia stat without saving any life, & instead subjecting the animal to misery & death outdoors. Please STOP these INHUMANE programs!! (San Diego Humane Society was sued & last year had to pay half a million dollars for a similar program.)

5. As for LIABILITY, get the city attorney to stop being afraid to litigate. The city attorneys have been weak pushovers who cost taxpayers a fortune due to litigation fear or laziness. Some complaints are definitely valid & need to be fairly settled & paid. But the city attorneys have too often avoided trial by giving settlement amounts in excess of a fair settlement amount or award at trial. Make the city attorney get a spine & do the work to stop excessive settlement payments; do this by not approving proposed settlements that are excessive.

6. HOMELESSNESS: SOLVE a sizeable (1/3) segment of the problem by making more starter homes that apartment dwellers can BUY. Over 1/3 of the homeless are only on the streets because they were priced out of apartments.

Enabling current apartment dwellers to become homeowners will shrink the number of apartment seekers, bringing down prices, enabling some homeless to get off the streets. Provide significant tax incentives, & easier/faster approval for conversion or building of starter homes that current apartment dwellers can afford. Make them builders grade but nice, just big enough for a single person or couple with a small family, perhaps with a one-car garage or patio/balcony, in decent neighborhoods; something people will be proud to own, keep up & stay in for a long time. Restrict sale & re-sale to only L.A. apartment dwellers for the first maybe five or ten years, to be sure they serve the intended purpose. *That will put city investment & I& into its citizens, not corporations, build generational wealth, & home ownership stabilizes communities & reduces crime.* It is also a one-time city investment, unlike the current unsustainable ongoing payment of rent for so many homeless. All it will take is significant tax incentives & administrative/regulatory assistance to get the starter homes built, but the benefits to the city include property tax revenue, lower crime & better neighborhoods. This will take time, but it is win-win-win by creating new homeowners, more formerly homeless, generational wealth & stronger communities. Start now.

7. CITY MANAGEMENT SALARIES are too high! You could cut city manager & assistant manager salaries by 25% on a permanent basis or at least during the budget crisis, & it is unlikely that any would leave; even if they do, they could be easily replaced with excellent candidates who

would love jobs at 75% current city manager salaries. The DWP manager salary is not the only one that is insanely high. Line worker salaries are not excessive, but management salaries definitely are excessive.

8. ELIMINATE MANY MID-LEVEL MANAGERS: L.A. has too many mid-level managers! Require managers to review each to consolidate & eliminate the excess, or do it for them.

Thank you!



Marisol Garcia <marisol.garcia@lacity.org>

Council File # 26-0600 Public Comment to PLEASE ADD TO FILE

1 message

Louise Oshiro <louise.a.oshiro@gmail.com>
To: clerk.pcn@lacity.org

Tue, May 5, 2026 at 1:01 PM

Hi, Your website is not accepting comments so your office said I can send my comment here and you will post it. My comment is attached, and it goes to Council File # 26-600.

Thank you very much!

 **LA City Budget Recommendations.docx**
20K