

Communication from Public

Name: David Weier

Date Submitted: 06/15/2026 09:41 PM

Council File No: 26-0832

Comments for Public Posting: I live in Sherman Oaks. I have volunteered at both the East Valley Animal Shelter and the North Central Shelter. I currently rescue dogs for Ace of Hearts Rescue so I visit various shelters in the LA County system as far away as Apple Valley, Palmdale, and Carson. I see how crowded the shelters are. I know what's at stake. We have challenges with the medical conditions of these dogs we take from the system. We have behavioral problems. We have a hard time finding fosters and an even harder time adopting them out to forever homes. But we do it. Every day we try harder. We find them all homes eventually. But it's not easy to do. We need the city to do their part. Don't give up on these animals. We need additional resources for the shelter system. The dogs need to be able to get outside their crates to be seen and socialized. That's the only way they'll get fosters or adopted homes. This is only possible with additional employees and volunteers. Stronger foster, adoption, and return-to-home programs will save lives. Los Angeles has an opportunity to become the national leader in animal welfare. Can you please help save these precious lives?

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Comments for Public Posting: The proposed funding is urgently needed, but it must be directly used for the welfare, care, and outcomes of the animals, not salaries and wage increases. The current shelter system has failed too many animals, and meaningful reform is dire. Leadership, management, and operational practices should be thoroughly reviewed and if necessary completely purged as those currently in charge have run our shelter system into the ground. This includes LAAS commission board members whom has proven themselves completely incompetent and ignorant as well as every administrative and paid staff member. Shelter leadership and paid positions should be filled by individuals with relevant education, certifications, and hands-on experience in animal science, animal welfare, shelter medicine, animal behavior, and related fields. Most importantly, those entrusted with the care of shelter animals must demonstrate a genuine commitment to their well-being and quality of life. A portion of the proposed funding should be allocated toward recruiting qualified professionals, improving staff training, and implementing evidence-based animal care practices. All available funding should be directed toward changes that keep shelter animals safe, healthy, enriched, and properly cared for throughout their stay. The shelter environment should support both the physical and emotional well-being of animals with the goal successful adoption. Currently, many animals experience significant stress within the shelter environment. Chronic stress can negatively affect behavior, health, and adoptability. Funding should be used to improve housing conditions, enrichment programs, behavioral support, medical care, and overall quality of life for shelter animals. There are many ways these funds could be used to improve outcomes for both animals and the families who care for them. Additional recommendations include:

- Immediately cease the euthanasia of healthy, treatable, stressed, and rehabilitatable animals whenever legally and medically appropriate.
- Strictly enforce animal protection laws, including the Hayden Act, and ensure accountability for any and all violations.
- Expand foster, rescue, behavioral rehabilitation, and adoption programs to endure lifesaving outcomes.
- Provide greater support for pet owners to prevent unnecessary shelter intake and owner surrenders.
- Declare an Animal Welfare Emergency and take immediate action

to address overcrowding, inadequate resources, and conditions that compromise animal welfare. The welfare of the animals must be the highest priority, and every dollar of funding should be used to create a humane, effective, and accountable shelter system that serves them.