



CITY OF LOS ANGELES

GREATER ECHO PARK ELYSIAN NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



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PROTEST

September 3, 2010

The Honorable Eric Garcetti
President, Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: CF No. 10-0982 OPPOSITION TO INCREASING ANIMAL LIMITS FOR DOGS AND CATS

Dear Council President Garcetti:

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Governors of the Greater Echo Park Elysian Neighborhood Council to express our OPPOSITION to the proposal to increase the number of dogs and cats allowable per resident in the City of Los Angeles.

At our August 2010 monthly general meeting, the neighborhood council placed this item on the agenda for discussion, review and public comment and we voted to oppose the measure.

This Neighborhood Council represents primarily low-income areas adjacent to downtown Los Angeles and has traditionally had a problem with stray and unleashed dogs roaming our streets, creating hazards for motorists and pedestrians and endangering children who may not have access to private yards for play because they live in apartment buildings.

Those families who do have pets in our community often do not have the proper fencing nor the resources to spay/neuter and properly care for them. One of our stakeholders recently complained that he is seeing an increase in pit bulls and other aggressive animals being walked or maintained in groups.

Additionally, stray and feral cats are not only a nuisance but are also endangered by cars and are attacked by coyotes that have been attracted into many parts of our community by the outside cats.

We are very supportive of pets for families, however, to allow five dogs and five cats per resident or even per property will create an increase in barking and fighting, and waste that may not be properly removed daily. This will cause odor and could result in epidemics of disease in a community, where animals may not be regularly vaccinated and many are not licensed.

We believe that adding more animals to our pet population when we do not have adequate control of existing pets could create unsafe conditions for the animals and our residents. We recommend that any increase not be approved.

Sincerely
Jose Sigala
JOSE SIGALA
Board President

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