STOP! NEED MORE TIME AND MORE OPTIONS REGARDING NORTHEAST VALLEY SHELTER PROPOSAL. 11-1345

1 message

Rene Ruston <reneruston@me.com> **Thu, Aug 11, 2011 at 4:44 PM**

To: patrice.lattimore@lacity.org, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, Council Member Krekorian <councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org>, councilmember.zine@lacity.org, councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, Tony Cardenas <councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org>, councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org, councilmember.parks@lacity.org, councilmember.perry@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councildistrict15@lacity.org, saeed.ali@lacity.org

As a member of the L.A. business and rescue communities, I am greatly concerned about the disposition of the Northeast shelter. We need more time to study the overall impact of handing over operations to a private entity. We need more input on the Alternative 4 study (Keeping the shelter publicly owned and fully functional). Experts in administration are starting to weigh in and feel key components are missing from the study and the conclusions are flawed as a result. We need time to weigh all the facts and explore all the alternatives. We also need to reopen the bidding. I know of at least one other party who is interested in pursuing a partnership with the city.

Sincerely,

Rene Succa-Ruston
Century 21 America
Relocation Specialist
Fine Homes and Estates
(818) 522-7311
www.ReneSucca.com
$1000 to your favorite animal rescue at close of escrow!
Board Member: www.BrittanyFoundation.com
VP Animal Alliance
www.RockandRescue.org

· 70,000 puppies and kittens are born every day in the U.S.

· Between four million and six million pets are euthanized every year because they are homeless.

· That means between 11,000 and 16,000 pets are euthanized every day *simply because they are homeless.*

· An animal in a shelter is killed every 1.5 seconds.

· Only one animal in 10 born in the U.S. gets a good home that lasts a lifetime.

Be Part of the Solution: Spay or Neuter your Pet.

Northeast Shelter 11-1345. NEED MORE TIME AND MORE OPTIONS.

1 message

Zizi Zarkadas <zizi@aardvarkaartists.com> **Thu, Aug 11, 2011 at 6:00 PM**
To: patrice.lattimore@lacity.org, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, saeed.ali@lacity.org, councildistrict15@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.zine@lacity.org, councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org, councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org, councilmember.parks@lacity.org, councilmember.perry@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org

Hey! I am a taxpayer! I paid for that shelter that was NEVER opened! I pay all of YOU as well! You cannot make this decision to turn the facility over to Best Freinds without permission from people like ME who PAY you! This shelter needs to be opened and SPAY and NEUTER needs to be enforced once and for all, I am embarassed to be living in Los Angeles, a city that is supposed to be progressive, instead we kill THOUSANDS of animals!!

Zizi Zarkadas
Aardvark Aartists NYC/Los Angeles
323-828-4103
www.aardvarkaartists.com
Like our Facebook page for more updates! www.facebook.com/pages/Aardvark-Aartists/186861784685716
"Don't Buy and Don't Breed, ADOPT a Shelter Pet In Need!"

I AM AGAINST Best Friends NE Animal Care Shelter

1 message

Haze Take Me Home <tmhrescue@gmail.com> **Thu, Aug 11, 2011 at 8:49 PM**
To: patrice.lattimore@lacity.org, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.zine@lacity.org, councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org, councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org, councilmember.parks@lacity.org, councilmember.perry@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councildistrict15@lacity.org, saeed.ali@lacity.org

Dear LA Council members,

Please slow this process down and do not allow Best Friends to take over this shelter.
Please allow other proposals before granting this tremendous gift to Best Friends for three years.

Thanks for listening,

Haze Lynn
--
Every Second
of Every Minute
of Every Day
A helpless animal is put to death
just because no one was there to take them home
www.takemehome.tv

Join Take Me Home www.facebook.com/takemehomerescue

Take Me Home Rescue

11-1345 Regarding Northeast Animal Care Center

1 message

Judie Mancuso - CAHP <judie@cahealthypets.com> **Thu, Aug 11, 2011 at 9:08 PM**

To: patrice.lattimore@lacity.org, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.zine@lacity.org, councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org, councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org, councilmember.parks@lacity.org, councilmember.perry@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councildistrict15@lacity.org, saeed.ali@lacity.org
Cc: Robert Miller <RobertMiller@rivcocha.org>, "Cicirelli, Jon" <Jon.Cicirelli@sanjoseca.gov>, ehughes@californiastatehumane.org

Dear LA City Council members:

Please re-advertise the RFP to operate the Northeast Animal Care Center. We believe it would be best to slow the process down, and open it back up. "Alternative 4" in the CAO report must be considered and analyzed, there may be an opportunity for LAAS to operate it as well. We support private / public projects, but we feel there should be other groups considered; a local California group with a proven track record would be ideal. The RFP must be more widely distributed in order to give qualified groups a chance to submit. We know how important this shelter is to the community and this is a 3 year commitment that needs to be taken very seriously.

If you do decide to re-circulate the RFP I would suggest having two associations circulate it to their members: State Humane Association of California (SHAC) http://www.californiastatehumane.org/ has hundreds of private shelter organizations as members, and California Animal Control Directors Association (CACDA) http://cacda.org/home/ also has hundreds of members, both private and public. I have cc'd board members of both organizations.

Thank you for your consideration.

Judie Mancuso, President

Social Compassion in Legislation

I AM AGAINST Best Friends NE Animal Care Shelter

1 message

Shannon Ray <shannonray@socal.rr.com> **Thu, Aug 11, 2011 at 9:12 PM**
To: patrice.lattimore@lacity.org, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.zine@lacity.org, councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org, councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org, councilmember.parks@lacity.org, councilmember.perry@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councildistrict15@lacity.org, saeed.ali@lacity.org

Dear LA Council members,

Please slow this process down and do not allow Best Friends to take over this shelter.
Please allow other proposals before granting this tremendous gift to Best Friends for three years.

I admire and respect Best Friends Animal Society and believe in its goals. However, I oppose its proposed use of the Northeast Valley animal shelter.

Thanks for listening,

Shannon Ray
805-444-4477
Take Me Home
Shannonray@socal.rr.com
Follow Take Me Home
http://www.facebook.com/takemehomerescue
www.takemehome.tv

Northeast Valley Shelter

1 message

Milan Radovic <milan.radovic@gmail.com> **Thu, Aug 11, 2011 at 9:14 PM**
To: patrice.lattimore@lacity.org, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.zine@lacity.org, councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org, councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org, councilmember.parks@lacity.org, councilmember.perry@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councildistrict15@lacity.org, saeed.ali@lacity.org

Dear Los Angeles City Councilmembers and Others,

I admire and respect Best Friends Animal Society and believe in its goals. However, I oppose its proposed use of the Northeast Valley animal shelter.

The Best Friends proposal for the Northeast Valley shelter, which was built with $19-million in Proposition F funds, will not be used as voters were led to believe, and is not in the best interests of the city or its residents and animals. (Please see below for a far better solution.) Concerns are as follows:

One key area of benefits of Proposition F was reduction in "the number of stray and feral animals on the streets" and "decrease[d] likelihood of attacks by stray animals."[1] The Best Friends proposal will not provide any field services or animal control, or public safety or animal safety services (in contrast to the six other LAAS shelters). Yet the Northeast Valley area suffers from stray animals and public safety issues more than many other areas of the city.

The proposal will make it harder for local pet owners to find and reclaim their lost pets, and thus keep their pets from being euthanized, especially given the recently increased rate of euthanasia. The Proposition F voter information pamphlet stated that approval will increase the number of lost animals found by their owners. Best Friends will not accept any stray (or owner relinquished) animals and will not hold area lost animals for owners to find them. This will decrease (not increase) the number of lost animals who are found (and thus not euthanized).

The proposal will not expand housing for shelter animals. Under the proposed contract, Best Friends will house only "an average of 50" animals. The Northeast Valley shelter has already been housing that many animals since construction was completed in 2008.[2] Since Best Friends will house only an average of 50 animals, the same or fewer than LAAS already has been housing there, there will be no increase in animals housed.

The Best Friends' proposal for an average of 50 animals is only a small fraction of the Northeast Valley shelter capacity and Proposition F voter expectations. The Northeast Valley shelter was built to have 163 dog kennels, equivalent to the East Valley shelter which as of today, August 10, 2011, is housing 378 total animals.[3] Under this measure, Best Friends' proposed housing of only "an average of 50" dogs and cats (combined total), is an 86% reduction from Northeast Valley shelter housing capacity, contrary to voters' expectations under proposition F.[4]

With no increase, and probably a reduction, in animals housed at Northeast Valley under the proposal, the claimed decrease in overall LAAS euthanasia lacks a factual basis.

In fact, the proposal is very likely to increase euthanasia at the city's other already very overcrowded shelters. It appears that, in preparation for the Best Friends takeover, animals who were being housed at the Northeast Valley shelter have already been transferred to the East and West Valley shelters. Those shelters were already severely

overcrowded and killing larger and larger numbers of animals for time and space. (LAAS euthanasia of dogs and cats since the new General Manager arrived has increased by 10.7% compared to the same 10 months the prior year.) The result is more and faster killing at the East Valley and West Valley shelters to make space for the Northeast Valley animals no longer being housed in Northeast.

How is it legal to receive voter approval of the $19-million expenditure, make the expenditure, and subsequently change to uses which do not deliver what the voters expected for their money? The proposed contract provides for no field services or animal control services, and no public safety activities or responsibilities. The proposed contract is for housing of 50 animals, an approximate 86% reduction from capacity of the shelter the voters approved. This proposal therefore delivers 0% of Proposition F voters' expectations on field services/public safety and 14% (50/378) of shelter housing.

I am quite concerned that privatization of an LAAS animal shelter will create union issues for LAAS and beyond.

Liability concerns: The city will remain owner of the property and the city has the Proposition F responsibility to operate the shelter. The city's employees have the skills to safely operate the shelter, while the contract requires no corresponding skill sets of Best Friends employees and volunteers who will work at the Northeast Valley shelter.

The proposed contract lacks any commitment to volume and pricing. No volume of services are stated other than housing only an average of 50 dogs and cats. No prices are set forth for what Best Friends will charge the public for any of its services or products.

No details are given regarding the number of spay/neuter surgeries Best Friends will provide for the Los Angeles public's pets, or what price to the public.[5] The spay/neuter clinic built into the Northeast Valley shelter can and should be used to provide spay/neuter for the public's pets which service is desperately needed in the Northeast Valley area (and without which the many low income area residents cannot comply with the city's spay/neuter law). The contract is currently so ambiguous about spay/neuter services for the public as to be unenforceable. The number of spay/neuters for the public's animals (dogs, cats, rabbits) per year should be specified in the contract, as should be the prices to be charged to the public (low income and other than low income) for spay/neuter and related services and products.

The proposed contract is silent as to which animals will be sent to the Northeast Valley shelter. What will ensure that there is no cherry pricking and cannibalization of other shelter adoptions? This is a known problem when shelters partner with adoption agencies and while I do not accuse any party of planning this, the contract should prevent it as a possibility.

The proposed contract lacks accountability standards. Best Friends should be required to provide operating and animal outcome statistics just as LAAS does. This is because it is operating a city animal shelter facility (albeit only as an adoption agency), and bringing in and adopting (or transporting) out city shelter animals. In order to have accountability, and to avoid skewing of LAAS statistics and public complaints, the outcomes of LAAS animals sent to Best Friends at Northeast Valley should be required to be reported in the same manner, timing and detail as the statistics provided by LAAS.

Also regarding accountability, the proposed contract has no provision requiring compliance with the California Public Records Act. Again, because Best Friends will be operating a city animal shelter facility (albeit only as an adoption agency), and bringing in and then adopting (or transporting) out city shelter animals, Best Friends must be required to meet the same CPRA standards to which the city is held.

The city's budget woes do not justify treating one segment of the city (Northeast Valley) differently than it treats the rest of the city. In fact the worsening economy makes operating the Northeast Valley shelter as the voters envisioned

more important than ever, given the increased numbers of owner relinquished and stray animals, and concomitant public safety risks, in the Northeast Valley area. Denying expected and voter-approved use of the facility is simply unfair to Northeast Valley residents and to city taxpayers who fund Proposition F.

The contract would lock the city into these issues and inequities for three to seven years.

There is a far better alternative.

Better Alternative to the Best Friends Proposal

I fully support City Councilmember Alarcon's proposal to operate the Northeast Valley animal shelter as a city animal shelter providing all LAAS services no different than the six other city shelters. This would achieve fairness throughout the city, and would deliver on Proposition F voter expectations.

In order to achieve this, I fully agree with Councilmember Alarcon's suggestion that staff can be drawn down from the other shelters and redeployed at the Northeast Valley shelter. LAAS staff has already been utilized at the Northeast Valley shelter since it opened in 2008. Thus, only an increment more would need to be transferred from each of the six other LAAS shelters to Northeast Valley in order to provide adequate staffing at the one Northeast Valley shelter and thereby provide like services throughout the city.

Again, I respect and admire Best Friends. However I do not believe that this proposal is in the best interests of the city or the animals, and there is a far better alternative.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Laura Beth Heisen, M.B.A., J.D.

Commissioner of the Board of L.A. Animal Services, 2002-2003

[1] Proposition F voter information pamphlet, statement by the city's CLA.

[2] Since completion in 2008, the Northeast Valley shelter has been housing many mothers with their litters, evidence animals, and hospital animals. The average number of animals which was already being housed by LAAS at Northeast Valley is about 50 (more when disaster housing and transports are included).

[3] LAAS dog kennels generally hold between 1 to 6 dogs each (depending on dog size and behavior). Even if they hold only 2 each, that, plus the Northeast Valley shelter's room of cat cages, gives the shelter a capacity of about 400 animals. Under this measure, Best Friends' proposal to house 50 is an 87.5% reduction from shelter capacity.

[4] In the Proposition F voter information pamphlet, the CLA stated that the city's animal shelters "are too small to keep the number of lost, abandoned and stray animals collected each year. Overcrowding in shelters results in a very high rate of euthanasia," and the pamphlet also stated that approval will, "provide a more humane environment for impounded animals, reduce injuries and illness."

[5] The Proposition F voter information pamphlet arguments in favor stated that approval will "reduce pet overpopulation by building neighborhood spay and neuter clinics." State law requires all animals adopted from a

shelter, rescue group or adoption agency such as Best Friends to be spayed or neutered before release to the new owner. This state law requirement is different from the important service of providing spay and neuter services for pets the public already owns.

Please reconsider the vote for Best Friends taking over NE Valley Shelter

1 message

Shana Kaplan <Shana@wolffurban.com> **Thu, Aug 11, 2011 at 9:27 PM**

To: "patrice.lattimore@lacity.org" <patrice.lattimore@lacity.org>, "councilmember.reyes@lacity.org" <councilmember.reyes@lacity.org>, "councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org" <councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org>, "councilmember.zine@lacity.org" <councilmember.zine@lacity.org>, "councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org" <councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org>, "councilmember.koretz@lacity.org" <councilmember.koretz@lacity.org>, "councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org" <councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org>, "councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org" <councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org>, "councilmember.parks@lacity.org" <councilmember.parks@lacity.org>, "councilmember.perry@lacity.org" <councilmember.perry@lacity.org>, "councilmember.wesson@lacity.org" <councilmember.wesson@lacity.org>, "councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org" <councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org>, "councilmember.englander@lacity.org" <councilmember.englander@lacity.org>, "councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org" <councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org>, "saeed.ali@lacity.org" <saeed.ali@lacity.org>

Dear LA Council members,

Please slow this process down and do not allow Best Friends to take over this shelter.
Please allow other proposals before granting this tremendous gift to Best Friends for three years.

Thanks for listening,

Shana
Los Angeles, CA

Northeast Valley Animal Shelter

1 message

Jill Gasparac <ape4dogs@yahoo.com> **Thu, Aug 11, 2011 at 9:39 PM**

Reply-To: Jill Gasparac <ape4dogs@yahoo.com>
To: "patrice.lattimore@lacity.org" <patrice.lattimore@lacity.org>, "councilmember.reyes@lacity.org" <councilmember.reyes@lacity.org>, "councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org" <councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org>, "councilmember.zine@lacity.org" <councilmember.zine@lacity.org>, "councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org" <councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org>, "councilmember.koretz@lacity.org" <councilmember.koretz@lacity.org>, "councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org" <councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org>, "councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org" <councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org>, "councilmember.parks@lacity.org" <councilmember.parks@lacity.org>, "councilmember.perry@lacity.org" <councilmember.perry@lacity.org>, "councilmember.wesson@lacity.org" <councilmember.wesson@lacity.org>, "councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org" <councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org>, "councilmember.englander@lacity.org" <councilmember.englander@lacity.org>, "councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org" <councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org>, "councilmember.huizar@lacity.org" <councilmember.huizar@lacity.org>, "councildistrict15@lacity.org" <councildistrict15@lacity.org>

Dear Council Members,

I'm very concerned about the possible handing over of the Northeast Valley Animal Shelter to the Best Friends organization. Why is the happening so fast?

Best Friends plan is to take in a limit of 50 animals and maintain a "No-Kill" policy? We all know there are record numbers of animals coming into our shelters, so, I can only presume there will be a "Closed Door"(not No-Kill) Admission policy. This shelter was built in district 7 because the need was so great. They continue to be one of the biggest contributors to the intake population. What is the purpose of not using this facility as it was intended when built? We still need a fully functioning public shelter there.

We need more time to study the overall impact of handing over operations to a private entity. We would like more input on the Alternative 4 study (Keeping the shelter publicly owned and fully functional). Experts in administration are starting to weigh in and feel key components are missing from the study and the conclusions are flawed as a result.

We need time to weigh all the facts and explore all the alternatives. We also need to reopen the bidding. It appears there is at least one other party who is interested in pursuing a partnership with the city.

Please take this into consideration and allow more time and more open communication to come to the best solution for the animas and the use of this building being supported with tax payers dollars.

Sincerely,

Jill
APe Action
www.apeaction.org
See Spot Stay
www.see-spot-stay.com

Go to the link below and register to help APe Action with each purchase!
http://www.iGive.com/welcome/warmwelcome.cfm?c=38202&m=475947

Fw: IMPORTANT: WE NEED MORE TIME AND MORE OPTIONS REGARDING NORTHEAST VALLEY SHELTER CONTRACT. Time is of the essence. Write councilmembers!

3 messages

Chela <77dognights@sbcglobal.net> **Thu, Aug 11, 2011 at 5:13 PM**
To: 77dognights@sbcglobal.net
Cc: patrice.lattimore@lacity.org, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.zine@lacity.org, councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org, councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org, councilmember.parks@lacity.org, councilmember.perry@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councildistrict15@lacity.org, saeed.ali@lacity.org

Another point: We have the capacity to hold about 300 dogs and cats at NE, BF will only take "on average a combine of 50 dogs and cats", that'll hardly make a different for East or West Valley Shelter not to mention entire LAAS. They say they can help to reduce the number of animals euthanized for time and space is somewhat outlandish. We need NE open. Best Friends can still do things for the community with or without NE.

--- On **Thu, 8/11/11, Rene Ruston <*reneruston@me.com*>** wrote:

From: Rene Ruston <reneruston@me.com>
Subject: IMPORTANT: WE NEED MORE TIME AND MORE OPTIONS REGARDING NORTHEAST VALLEY SHELTER CONTRACT. Time is of the essence. Write councilmembers!
To:
Date: Thursday, August 11, 2011, 4:24 PM

I am thankful that Ms. Barrymore brought up these questions.

It made me think. What do we really know about the impact this proposal will have on the record numbers of animals coming into the shelters? The council meeting is tomorrow. Why so fast?? There are many more questions that need to be answered. I have nothing against Best Friends and as a matter of fact admire much of their work, however, I can't ignore the fact that this is being pushed forward at lightening speed. Why? There plan is to take in a limit of 50 animals and maintain a "No-Kill" policy. We all know there are record numbers of animals coming into our shelters, so, I can only presume there will be a "Closed Door" (not No-Kill) Admission policy. Space is limited and volume is overwhelming. This means some dogs and cats will be admitted and some will not. Bear in mind this shelter was built in district 7 because the need was so great. They continue to be one of the biggest

contributors to the intake population. We still need a fully functioning public shelter there. Currently this facility has housed a number of at risk animals: evidence, pregnant mamas and medical. These animals are already being moved into the other overcrowded shelters like this is a done deal. Guess what? Animals need to be killed to make room.

The City Council meeting is tomorrow, Friday August 12 at 10 am. Please let all the Council members know we need more time to study the overall impact of handing over operations to a private entity. Let them know that you want more input on the Alternative 4 study (Keeping the shelter publicly owned and fully functional). Experts in administration are starting to weigh in and feel key components are missing from the study and the conclusions are flawed as a result. We need time to weigh all the facts and explore all the alternatives. We also need to reopen the bidding. I know of at least one other party who is interested in pursuing a partnership with the city. The animals are counting on us to ask questions. Here is the link to read the proposal and the supporting documents:

http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2011/11-1345_RPT_CAO_08-02-11.pdf

There is an opportunity for the animals benefit and we need to explore all options. Here is a list of council members. Please copy and paste. Reference: Northeast Shelter 11-1345. NEED MORE TIME AND MORE OPTIONS.
ALSO PUT ON YOUR FACEBOOK PAGES. Write to these people now. Tomorrow is the meeting!

patrice.lattimore@lacity.org,
councilmember.reyes@lacity.org,
councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org,
councilmember.zine@lacity.org,
councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org,
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councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org,
councilmember.huizar@lacity.org,
councildistrict15@lacity.org,
saeed.ali@lacity.org

Rene Ruston
VP Animal Alliance

Begin forwarded message:

From: olivia barrymore <oliviabarrymore1@gmail.com>
Date: August 10, 2011 10:27:03 PM PDT
To: oliviabarrymore1@gmail.com
Bcc: renes@c21america.com
Subject: Important read:Best Friends takeover of the NorthEast Valley shelter

I have been asked it is OK to cross post this e mail. Please feel free to do so to your distribution list as well as post it on your Facebook. Don't forget City Council is voting on the contract on Friday so if you have a view please let them know as well.

--- On **Wed, 8/10/11, olivia barrymore <oliviabarrymore1@gmail.com>** wrote:

From: olivia barrymore <oliviabarrymore1@gmail.com>
Subject: Important read:Best Friends takeover of the NorthEast Valley shelter
To: oliviabarrymore@gmail.com
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2011, 8:28 PM

Don't you think it is ironic that on Sunday New Hope partners were promised by Best Friends a $100 gift for additional adoptions and, two days later, Best Friends is asking us to endorse a proposal about which we have no real details? Be informed, read on.
Best Friends is soliciting the rescue community to endorse their takeover of the Northeast Valley shelter.

Let's remember that from 2008 until two weeks ago, the Northeast Valley shelter has, in fact, been housing evidence animals, mamas and babies, hospital animals, quarantine animals and large numbers of animals awaiting transport. That is a lot of animals.

In the last couple of weeks, in preparation for Best Friends' takeover of Northeast Valley shelter, all of these animals have been relocated to the other LAAS shelters they originally came from or would have originally gone to had we not had Northeast Valley shelter. The hideous impact is already apparent: there is even more overcrowding and higher killings at LAAS' six other shelters.

Best Friends is stating they will provide the Northeast Valley community with a low-cost spay/neuter and adoption center and community outreach center that offers wellness clinics and emergency services to Northeast Valley pet owners. At what

price and who pays?
1) The Northeast Valley community is a very low income area with a very high stray and relinquishment rate. Since Best Friends will not be accepting strays or owner surrenders (services LAAS does provide), what will happen to those animals?
2) Speaking of services, Best Friends is asserting that they will provide emergency care to the community. What emergency services? Will Best Friends provide emergency medical care? At what price? Will Best Friends be hiring the equivalent of animal control officers to patrol or respond in the area? Will Best Friends hire experts to deal with wild animal emergencies? After all, by definition, "emergency" means sufficient personal is ready to go at any time.
3) The proposed Best Friends' contract does not disclose any prices that Best Friends will charge the public (or New Hope) for anything. Then how do we know if this low income community can afford such services? How can we know if Best Friends' operation will be good for the city and the animals, without knowing prices?

The City Administrator Officer's Aug 2, 2011 report to the mayor and city council concerning Northeast Valley Animal Care Center states that all charges will be set by Best Friends "in its discretion". This means that Best Friends is asking you to lobby city council, and asking city council to approve, a potential 7 year contract without having the slightest idea how much Best Friends will charge for anything. Not one word is mentioned as to the fees public or New Hope will be charged for spay/neuter. Not one word about fees the public or New Hope will be charged to adopt. Although the proposed contract says that LAAS will get "a set adoption fee", we are not told if that is the full adoption fee, or a small percentage. Furthermore, the report states that Best Friends will house a total average of only 50 dogs and cats combined. That does not make a dent in our overcrowding. Moreover, to adopt that number Best Friends will have to cherry-pick their animals like spcaLA with Madeline Bernstein in Long Beach's nightmare. In other words, Best Friends will shine (and earn donations) like spcaLA does at the expense of LAAS evolving into the same killing machine that Long Beach shelter is known for.

You cannot give up a $19 million shelter with this kind of ambiguity. Northeast Valley shelter cost city taxpayers $19 million to build under proposition F. Proposition F was voter approved and paid because this low income area was in desperate need of a city shelter to assist them with animal care and for public safety reasons. Now their Proposition F investment is being given away to Best Friends, leaving them without a shelter or hope of their expected public safety or emergency services for up to 7 years, and without their spent $19 million.

Point being, Best Friends is asking us to sign and endorse a product that we have no details on and one that simple addition does not add up to lower kill rates. No matter what Best Friends is proposing, using Northeast Valley shelter will not result in saving lives. On the contrary, Best Friends' takeover will force our already overcrowded shelters to operate in even tighter quarters by reducing 7 shelters to 6.

In conclusion, I thought City Council is supposed to be to be getting more fiscally responsible. How can City Council possibly approve a contract that gives a way a $19 million city taxpayer asset with a contract that says nothing about prices to be charged to city residence? For $19,000,000 Los Angeles taxpayers will not be getting what they bargained and paid for, and LAAS overcrowding will increase with consequential faster and higher killing rates.

Rene Succa-Ruston
Century 21 America
Relocation Specialist
Fine Homes and Estates
(818) 522-7311
www.ReneSucca.com
$1000 to your favorite animal rescue at close of escrow!
Board Member: www.BrittanyFoundation.com
www.AnimalAlliance.net

· 70,000 puppies and kittens are born every day in the U.S.

· Between four million and six million pets are euthanized every year because they are homeless.

· That means between 11,000 and 16,000 pets are euthanized every day *simply because they are homeless*.

· An animal in a shelter is killed every 1.5 seconds.

· Only one animal in 10 born in the U.S. gets a good home that lasts a lifetime.

Be Part of the Solution: Spay or Neuter your Pet.

Kathleen Helmer <kathpup@gmail.com> **Thu, Aug 11, 2011 at 9:48 PM**

To: Chela <77dognights@sbcglobal.net>, Rene Ruston <reneruston@me.com>, olivia barrymore <oliviabarrymore1@gmail.com>
Cc: patrice.lattimore@lacity.org, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.zine@lacity.org, councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org, councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org, councilmember.parks@lacity.org, councilmember.perry@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councildistrict15@lacity.org, saeed.ali@lacity.org

Here, Here. "Just Say No" is a failed drug policy and will fail as a way to save "50 dogs and cats combined" by saying 'No' to the massive number they will not take in and the massive number who

will be killed at shelters to make room for District 7 *overflow*. As if evidence dogs, pregnant dogs, quarantine dogs weren't already rejected enough by most of the public. Best Friends is going to reject them too?

If Best Friends wants to help in a big way, why not buy/rent/lease one of the empty commercial spaces LA is awash in and run a huge low-no-fee spay/neuter clinic??? Euthanizing at city shelters so Best Friends doesn't have to euthanize the animals they won't accommodate is a twisted and callous logic. Emptying out the *city-funded*NE facility so Best Friends can pick and choose with death as a consequence.....who's best friend are they really? -kathleen

On Thu, Aug 11, 2011 at 5:13 PM, Chela <77dognights@sbcglobal.net> wrote:
Another point: We have the capacity to hold about 300 dogs and cats at NE, BF will only take "on average a combine of 50 dogs and cats", that'll hardly make a different for East or West Valley Shelter not to mention entire LAAS. They say they can help to reduce the number of animals euthanized for time and space is somewhat outlandish. We need NE open. Best Friends can still do things for the community with or without NE.

From: Rene Ruston <reneruston@me.com> Date: Thursday, **August 11**, 2011, 4:24 PM
Subject: IMPORTANT: WE NEED MORE TIME AND MORE OPTIONS REGARDING NORTHEAST VALLEY SHELTER CONTRACT. Time is of the essence. Write councilmembers!

[Quoted text hidden]

From: olivia barrymore <oliviabarrymore1@gmail.com> **Date:** August 10, 2011 10:27:03 PM PDT
To: oliviabarrymore1@gmail.com **Bcc:** renes@c21america.com
Subject: Important read:Best Friends takeover of the NorthEast Valley shelter

I have been asked it is OK to cross post this e mail. Please feel free to do so to your distribution list as well as post it on your Facebook. Don't forget City Council is voting on the contract on Friday so if you have a view please let them know as well.

From: olivia barrymore <oliviabarrymore1@gmail.com>
Subject: Important read:Best Friends takeover of the NorthEast Valley shelter
To: oliviabarrymore@gmail.com
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2011, 8:28 PM

Don't you think it is ironic that on Sunday New Hope partners were promised by Best Friends a $100 gift for additional adoptions and, two days later, Best Friends is asking us to endorse a proposal about which we have no real details? Be informed, read on.
Best Friends is soliciting the rescue community to endorse their takeover of the Northeast Valley shelter.

Let's remember that from 2008 until two weeks ago, the Northeast Valley shelter

has, in fact, been housing evidence animals, mamas and babies, hospital animals, quarantine animals and large numbers of animals awaiting transport. That is a lot of animals.

In the last couple of weeks, in preparation for Best Friends' takeover of Northeast Valley shelter, all of these animals have been relocated to the other LAAS shelters they originally came from or would have originally gone to had we not had Northeast Valley shelter. The hideous impact is already apparent: there is even more overcrowding and higher killings at LAAS' six other shelters.

Best Friends is stating they will provide the Northeast Valley community with a low-cost spay/neuter and adoption center and community outreach center that offers wellness clinics and emergency services to Northeast Valley pet owners. At what price and who pays?
1) The Northeast Valley community is a very low income area with a very high stray and relinquishment rate. Since Best Friends will not be accepting strays or owner surrenders (services LAAS does provide), what will happen to those animals?
2) Speaking of services, Best Friends is asserting that they will provide emergency care to the community. What emergency services? Will Best Friends provide emergency medical care? At what price? Will Best Friends be hiring the equivalent of animal control officers to patrol or respond in the area? Will Best Friends hire experts to deal with wild animal emergencies? After all, by definition, "emergency" means sufficient personal is ready to go at any time.
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Valley shelter cost city taxpayers $19 million to build under proposition F. Proposition F was voter approved and paid because this low income area was in desperate need of a city shelter to assist them with animal care and for public safety reasons. Now their Proposition F investment is being given away to Best Friends, leaving them without a shelter or hope of their expected public safety or emergency services for up to 7 years, and without their spent $19 million.

Point being, Best Friends is asking us to sign and endorse a product that we have no details on and one that simple addition does not add up to lower kill rates. No matter what Best Friends is proposing, using Northeast Valley shelter will not result in saving lives. On the contrary, Best Friends' takeover will force our already overcrowded shelters to operate in even tighter quarters by reducing 7 shelters to 6.

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· Only one animal in 10 born in the U.S. gets a good home that lasts a lifetime.

Be Part of the Solution: Spay or Neuter your Pet.

Jane Garcia <critters911@gmail.com> **Fri, Aug 12, 2011 at 12:14 AM**

To: Jane Garcia <critters911@gmail.com>

Cc: patrice.lattimore@lacity.org, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.zine@lacity.org, councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org, councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org, councilmember.parks@lacity.org, councilmember.perry@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councildistrict15@lacity.org, saeed.ali@lacity.org

Councilmembers: PLEASE DO NOT VOTE FOR THIS PLAN TO GO THROUGH IN ITS CURRENT FORM.

At the very least please table the vote until more options are explored that will serve the residents and the unwanted animals in the NE Valley shelter community.

Thank you.

Jane Garcia
Resident, Council District 4

Fwd: Northeast closing causes OVERCROWDING @EV list of some Border Collie, Bulldog x, Bullmastiff, Bull Terrier

1 message

Jane Garcia <critters911@gmail.com> **Fri, Aug 12, 2011 at 12:15 AM**

To: Jane Garcia <critters911@gmail.com>
Cc: patrice.lattimore@lacity.org, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.zine@lacity.org, councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org, councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org, councilmember.parks@lacity.org, councilmember.perry@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councildistrict15@lacity.org, saeed.ali@lacity.org

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **pnina gersten** <pnina.gersten.eblasts@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Aug 12, 2011 at 12:13 AM
Subject: Northeast closing causes OVERCROWDING @EV list of some Border Collie, Bulldog x, Bullmastiff, Bull Terrier
To: pd53@sbcglobal.net
Cc: christy <christy.louzan@lacity.org>, Margaret Whited <margaret.whited@lacity.org>, sheryl perez <sheryl.perez@lacity.org>, veronica <ani.newhopeev@lacity.org>, Wendell Bowers <wendell.bowers@lacity.org>

***Donation avail for some of the dogs listed below to qualified rescue. To qualify contact pd53@sbcglobal.net PRIOR TO BAIL.**

As you all know, the Northeast Valley shelter has now been emptied awaiting the Best Friends' takeover. Consequently we are PACKED AND NEED IMMEDIATE HELP. Some wonderful dogs will have to be killed due to overcrowding.

East Valley shelter 818 756 9323/4 or Veronica ani.newhopeev@lacity.org or Veronica 213 435 9152 or Pnina pd53@sbcglobal.net

A0691653

My name is Tony and I am a neutered male, white and brown Border Collie.

The shelter thinks I am about 7 years old.

I have been at the shelter

Border Collie	7 yr	East Valley Animal Care and Control Center

since Jul 27, 2011.

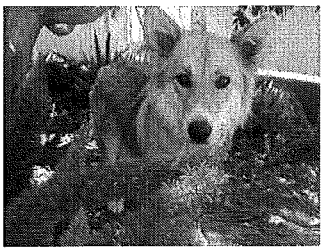
A1237893

My name is Freddy and I am an unaltered male, black and white Border Collie mix.

The shelter thinks I am about 1 years and 0 months old.

I have been at the shelter since Aug 04, 2011.

Border Collie mix	1 yr, 0 mo	East Valley Animal Care and Control Center



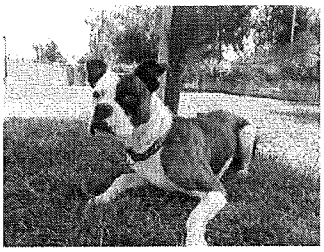
A1238366

My name is Xena and I am a spayed female, tan and white Border Collie mix.

The shelter thinks I am about 4 years old.

I have been at the shelter since Aug 06, 2011.

Border Collie mix	4 yr	East Valley Animal Care and Control Center



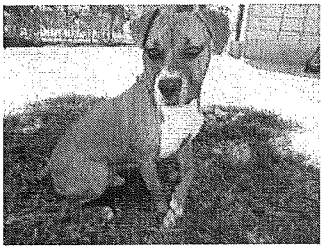
A1235876

My name is Tota and I am an unaltered female, brown brindle and white Boxer and American Staffordshire Terrier.

The shelter thinks I am about 2 years and 1 month old.

I have been at the shelter since Jul 29, 2011.

Boxer and American Staffordshire Terrier	2 yr, 1 mo	East Valley Animal Care and Control Center



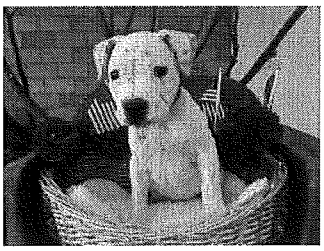
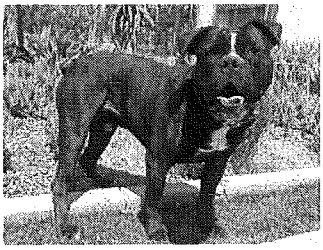
A1232556

My name is Aiden and I am an unaltered male, brown and white Boxer and Pit Bull Terrier.

The shelter thinks I am about 11 months old. I weigh approximately 56 pounds.

I have been at the shelter since Jul 17, 2011.

Boxer and Pit Bull Terrier	11 mo	East Valley Animal Care and Control Center

	**A1235950**	My name is Rufus and I am an unaltered male, white and black Bull Terrier. The shelter thinks I am about 3 months old. I weigh approximately 11 pounds. I have been at the shelter since Jul 29, 2011.	Bull Terrier	3 mo	East Valley Animal Care and Control Center
	**A1171958**	My name is Bronson and I am a neutered male, brown and black Bulldog. The shelter thinks I am about 1 years and 0 months old. I have been at the shelter since Jul 28, 2011.	Bulldog	1 yr, 0 mo	East Valley Animal Care and Control Center
	**A1239107**	My name is Sinatra and I am an unaltered male, gray and black Bullmastiff. The shelter thinks I am about 1 year and 5 months old. I have been at the shelter since Aug 08, 2011.	Bullmastiff	1 yr, 5 mo	East Valley Animal Care and Control Center

Best Friends/Northeast Valley Shelter Meeting

1 message

Michelle Sathe <sathewords@yahoo.com> **Fri, Aug 12, 2011 at 6:37 AM**
Reply-To: Michelle Sathe <sathewords@yahoo.com>
To: "patrice.lattimore@lacity.org" <patrice.lattimore@lacity.org>, "councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org" <councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org>, "councilmember.zine@lacity.org" <councilmember.zine@lacity.org>, "councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org" <councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org>, "councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org" <councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org>, "councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org" <councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org>, "councilmember.parks@lacity.org" <councilmember.parks@lacity.org>, "councilmember.perry@lacity.org" <councilmember.perry@lacity.org>, "councilmember.wesson@lacity.org" <councilmember.wesson@lacity.org>, "councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org" <councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org>, "councilmember.englander@lacity.org" <councilmember.englander@lacity.org>, "councilmember.huizar@lacity.org" <councilmember.huizar@lacity.org>, "councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org" <councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org>, "councildistrict15@lacity.org" <councildistrict15@lacity.org>
Cc: "saeed.ali@lacity.org" <saeed.ali@lacity.org>

Hello,

My name's Michelle Sathe. I'm a passionate animal welfare advocate in Los Angeles. Originally, I signed the petition for Best Friends Animal Society to take over the Northeast Valley Shelter. However, after exploring the facts, I've reconsidered...and I hope you will, too.

My concern is always the animals and I believe the proposal by BFAS may not be the best scenario to help Los Angeles' homeless pets. In order to do so, the NE Valley Shelter would need to be an open-door, no-kill facility in the vein of Nevada Humane Society in Reno, rather than a limited-quantity adoption center that may only display "cherry picked" shelter pets as proposed by BFAS.

As such, we need more time to study the overall impact of handing over operations to a private entity. I'd also like to hear more input on the Alternative 4 study (keeping the shelter publicly owned and fully functional). Experts in administration are starting to weigh in and feel key components are missing from the study and the conclusions are flawed as a result. We need time to weigh all the facts and explore all the alternatives. We also need to reopen the bidding to other organizations who may want to take over the shelter.

Please speak up for those who have no voice and make the decision that will make the most positive impact for the greatest number of L.A.'s homeless pets.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michelle Sathe
661-803-2909

North East Valley Shelter

1 message

Felice Catena <fcatena@socal.rr.com> **Fri, Aug 12, 2011 at 7:14 AM**
To: patrice.lattimore@lacity.org, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.zine@lacity.org, councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org, councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org, councilmember.parks@lacity.org, councilmember.perry@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councildistrict15@lacity.org, saeed.ali@lacity.org

Good morning, Council Members....

I know that you have heard from various members of the community regarding the North East Valley Shelter and the proposal being considered by you to turn this $19 million City facility, paid for by our tax dollars, over to Best Friends Animal Society to be used by them for .....what? 50 animals in a facility meant to house nearly 400 animals?

And for $1 per year rent? And the City will pay at least $200,000 per year for maintenance, utilities, security???? For a private organization that will house only 50 animals??

What are they planning for the remainder of the kennel space in that huge facility? They have not addressed many questions.

I beg you to reject this proposal and find other ways to efficiently use the North East Valley shelter to the advantage of the community it was intended to serve.

As I understand it, an RFI is meant to be inclusive, not exclusive. Were other organizations given the opportunity to submit a proposal to run this shelter on behalf of or in concert with Los Angeles City?

This shelter was meant to serve the grossly underserved community in which it was built. That it has never been opened to its community is shameful - a smart manager would figure out how to open it and keep it operational in order to save the lives of the animals it was intended to

serve. It was not meant to be run by a private organization for its own vague and ill-defined purposes.

There are many questions that are not being fully and transparently answered by Best Friends and the CAO. Lots of numbers with no substance. For instance, the CAO claims in his report that 10,000 animals will be killed if Best Friends does NOT take over this facility. On what does he base this assumption? I see no evidence of this - on the contrary, if this facility is given to Best Friends it is already evident that more animals will die.

I also see no legitimate reason that the North East Valley shelter has already been stripped bare of animals as well as all equipment.

The animals that were taken out of North East in recent days have been taken to West Valley and East Valley shelters, causing what one member of the community described as a "bloodbath" at the other two shelters. According to the information I've received, animals are being "slaughtered" at West and East shelters in order to make space because of the transfer of animals from North East.

The employees at these facilities are severely distraught over the increase in killing that has been caused by the mere anticipation of the Best Friends takeover of North East Valley Shelter. Their proposal has not yet been approved, yet actions are underway that appear to be facilitating the takeover before it is approved by you, our City Council.

This is unacceptable on every level, and I know that you have heard all the other reasons from other citizens.

Please do not approve this takeover. There are alternatives that will benefit the community in the North East Valley and its animals. I urge you to explore those alternatives and do the RIGHT thing for your constituents and the animals that were meant to be served by this City facility.

Thank you for doing the right thing and rejecting this proposal.

Felice Catena

Northeast Shelter 11-1345. NEED MORE TIME AND MORE OPTIONS - WHAT'S THE RUSH?

1 message

Fails, Charlotte <CFails@americangolf.com> **Fri, Aug 12, 2011 at 7:25 AM**
To: patrice.lattimore@lacity.org, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.zine@lacity.org, councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org, councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org, councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org, councilmember.parks@lacity.org, councilmember.perry@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org, councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org, councilmember.englander@lacity.org, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councildistrict15@lacity.org, saeed.ali@lacity.org

I have volunteered for approximately four years at East Valley Shelter in Van Nuys and see the number of animals coming in on a 24/7 basis - now, with NE closed AND if BF takes it over, where are the animals that use to be housed at NE going? - easy answer - to already overcrowded East Valley and West Valley, with an impact on the entire Shelter system. East Valley is beyond overwhelmed and has been for months.

We have three situations going on here - first, the number of animals in the Shelters is the highest it has been in years, 2ndly Heigl is no longer going to be subsidizingrescues on the spay/neuter fees which is going to directly affect the number of animals rescues can afford to pull and thirdly - if Northeast is closed the number of animals they were taking in have to go somewhere - which means EVEN MORE ANIMALS IN THE OTHER SHELTERS - which means room will have to be made for them - which means animals will be killed to make room - and animals are dying at an all time high as it is, so to allow BF to take over NE for whatever purpose they say they will use it -is wrong for a number of reasons, not the least of which is the affect it will have on the area NE should serve, and the increased number of animals in the other Shelters who will have even less of a chance than they already do, to make it out alive.

Please do a thorough Impact Study - what's the rush to vote on this?

Thank you for your time.

Charlotte M. Fails

Executive Assistant

American Golf Corporation

2951 28th Street, Suite 3000

Santa Monica, CA 90405

310-664-4141

FAX 310-664-4324

cfails@americangolf.com

The NE Animal Shelter....READ BEFORE YOUR MEETING PLEASE!!!!!!

1 message

nicole salter <nicoleasalter@yahoo.com> **Fri, Aug 12, 2011 at 7:42 AM**
Reply-To: nicole salter <nicoleasalter@yahoo.com>
To: "patrice.lattimore@lacity.org" <patrice.lattimore@lacity.org>, "councilmember.reyes@lacity.org" <councilmember.reyes@lacity.org>, "councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org" <councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org>, "councilmember.zine@lacity.org" <councilmember.zine@lacity.org>, "councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org" <councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org>, "councilmember.koretz@lacity.org" <councilmember.koretz@lacity.org>, "councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org" <councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org>, "councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org" <councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org>, "councilmember.parks@lacity.org" <councilmember.parks@lacity.org>, "councilmember.perry@lacity.org" <councilmember.perry@lacity.org>, "councilmember.wesson@lacity.org" <councilmember.wesson@lacity.org>, "councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org" <councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org>, "councilmember.englander@lacity.org" <councilmember.englander@lacity.org>, "councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org" <councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org>, "councilmember.huizar@lacity.org" <councilmember.huizar@lacity.org>, "councildistrict15@lacity.org" <councildistrict15@lacity.org>, "saeed.ali@lacity.org" <saeed.ali@lacity.org>
Cc: Chela <77dognights@sbcglobal.net>, Rene Ruston <reneruston@me.com>, olivia barrymore <oliviabarrymore1@gmail.com>, Kathleen Helmer <kathpup@gmail.com>

Dear Council Members and all concerned and/or involved in the issue of subject of Best Friends signing a contract to take over the NE Shelter:

Because I write this quickly and without eloquence, I hope the impact of my desperate plea will not go un-noticed. I request, I implore, I beg and I demand of you, if you have ANY influence in the decision on whether Best Friends is allowed to take over the use of the NE Animal Shelter and the time-frame of that being final, please, at the VERY LEAST, give us, the rescue community and the civilian community MORE TIME to be educated on the fine print of that contract. Especially if you do not truly understand the shelter system, how it works, what a No-Kill Shelter and/or community really is and how an organization like Best Friends can call themselves No-Kill just by hand picking and choosing which animals are "allowed" to enter and be protected by the care of their organization. If you have no understanding that by denying animals entry into your shelter or facility you inadvertently participate in a "kill" community then you have no right participating in this decision until you yourself are educated on this very misunderstood scenario.

While Best Friends is, in many ways, an amazing organization to be emulated, their taking over this LAAS shelter MAY VERY WELL , inadvertently or not, KILL MORE OF OUR COMMUNITIES ANIMALS just by virtue of the fine print and how that will affect our animals. WE NEED THAT FACILITY under our control and we need it to be available to help ALL of OUR ANIMALS....not just the ones Best Friends picks. 50 animals is nothing compared to the staggering numbers being killed everyday. We need that facility to be Open Admission....Challenge Best Friends to do that! Or, Best Friends can buy land and build a

facility....or rent PART of that shelter or design any number of viable solutions IF WE WORK TOGETHER AND ALL UNDERSTAND AND AGREE....but to shut down that shelter's use as part of an important infrastructure in our LAAS shelter system and allow Best Friends to use it without us really understanding how that will save more of OUR ANIMALS, is rude, overbearing, arrogant and ignorant. Or....it means you just plain don't care. Too often the hands of the people that do care (us, the rescue community and civilian community) are tied because of situations JUST LIKE THIS. We cannot and will not sit by and watch this happen again and again. We were promised a No Kill GM YEARS ago....and look what's happened with that. (In case you dont' know...the answer is NOTHING). Last year we had New Hope when a new GM was put into place...by the way we didn't get to vote on that!, and look where we are a year later. MORE KILLING, MORE USELESS DEATHS AND MORE BOILER PLATE B.S. ANSWERS from pencil pushers in tall building or small cubicles who DO NOT UNDERSTAND....OR CARE TO.... THE ANIMAL SITUATION IN OUR COMMUNITY.

I cannot beseech you enough....DO NOT LET THE DECISION TO AWARD BEST FRIENDS THE CONTRACT TO TAKE OVER THE NE SHELTER HAPPEN TODAY, or anytime soon. We need to know more about the details of what they are offering and how those details will save lives. Because if what Best Friends plans to puts into place at the shelter, inadvertently or not, KILLS MORE OF OUR ANIMALS.....WE WILL NOT HAVE IT.

If I am in any way misunderstanding the fine details of the little bit that I do know....I think you know enough about the issue at hand to take into context my email and request....no DEMAND..... for more time, more studies, more education, more answers and more of whatever needs to happen to know that the actions we take will save our animals lives and give more opportunity to enrich those saved lives....not the opposite. By the way....it's our money you're controlling....which is all to often disregarded.

If this decision goes through, and more of our animals are at risk, we will hold you responsible and take all involved to task. We are done with the killing and if those in power do not start to take actions reflecting the cares, concerns and needs of the community, we will start to dismantle your system and change it. A revolution has begun and if you are not part of the new change, your antiquated ways need to be put out of business. I mean no offense and if your intentions are true, you will feel none. I, however, am offended by the propaganda always being forced down our throats while decisions are made behind closed doors....decisions that tie our hands whild spending our money on things we do not support. Especially when more animals die because of it.

With due respect, I sign off....

Nicole Salter
310-621-4137

From: Kathleen Helmer <kathpup@gmail.com>

To: Chela <77dognights@sbcglobal.net>; Rene Ruston <reneruston@me.com>; olivia barrymore <oliviabarrymore1@gmail.com>
Cc: patrice.lattimore@lacity.org; councilmember.reyes@lacity.org; councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org; councilmember.zine@lacity.org;councilmember.LaBonge@lacity.org; councilmember.koretz@lacity.org; councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org; councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org;councilmember.parks@lacity.org; councilmember.perry@lacity.org; councilmember.wesson@lacity.org; councilmember.rosendahl@lacity.org;councilmember.englander@lacity.org; councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org; councilmember.huizar@lacity.org; councildistrict15@lacity.org; saeed.ali@lacity.org

Subject: IMPORTANT: WE NEED MORE TIME AND MORE OPTIONS REGARDING NORTHEAST VALLEY SHELTER CONTRACT. Time is of the essence. Write councilmembers!

Here, Here. "Just Say No" is a failed drug policy and will fail as a way to save "50 dogs and cats combined" by saying 'No' to the massive number they will not take in and the massive number who will be killed at shelters to make room for District 7 *overflow*. As if evidence dogs, pregnant dogs, quarantine dogs weren't already rejected enough by most of the public. Best Friends is going to reject them too?

If Best Friends wants to help in a big way, why not buy/rent/lease one of the empty commercial spaces LA is awash in and run a huge low-no-fee spay/neuter clinic??? Euthanizing at city shelters so Best Friends doesn't have to euthanize the animals they won't accommodate is a twisted and callous logic. Emptying out the*city-funded* NE facility so Best Friends can pick and choose with death as a consequence.....who's best friend are they really? -kathleen

On Thu, Aug 11, 2011 at 5:13 PM, Chela <77dognights@sbcglobal.net> wrote:
Another point: We have the capacity to hold about 300 dogs and cats at NE, BF will only take "on average a combine of 50 dogs and cats", that'll hardly make a different for East or West Valley Shelter not to mention entire LAAS. They say they can help to reduce the number of animals euthanized for time and space is somewhat outlandish. We need NE open. Best Friends can still do things for the community with or without NE.

From: Rene Ruston <reneruston@me.com> Date: Thursday, **August 11**, 2011, 4:24 PM
Subject: IMPORTANT: WE NEED MORE TIME AND MORE OPTIONS REGARDING NORTHEAST VALLEY SHELTER CONTRACT. Time is of the essence. Write councilmembers!

I am thankful that Ms. Barrymore brought up these questions.

It made me think. What do we really know about the impact this proposal will have on the record numbers of animals coming into the shelters? The council meeting is tomorrow. Why so fast?? There are many more questions that need to be answered. I have nothing against Best Friends and as a matter of fact admire much of their work, however, I can't ignore the fact that this is being

pushed forward at lightening speed. Why? There plan is to take in a limit of 50 animals and maintain a "No-Kill" policy. We all know there are record numbers of animals coming into our shelters, so, I can only presume there will be a "Closed Door" (not No-Kill) Admission policy. Space is limited and volume is overwhelming. This means some dogs and cats will be admitted and some will not. Bear in mind this shelter was built in district 7 because the need was so great. They continue to be one of the biggest contributors to the intake population. We still need a fully functioning public shelter there. Currently this facility has housed a number of at risk animals: evidence, pregnant mamas and medical. These animals are already being moved into the other overcrowded shelters like this is a done deal. Guess what? Animals need to be killed to make room.

The City Council meeting is tomorrow, Friday August 12 at 10 am. Please let all the Council members know we need more time to study the overall impact of handing over operations to a private entity. Let them know that you want more input on the Alternative 4 study (Keeping the shelter publicly owned and fully functional). Experts in administration are starting to weigh in and feel key components are missing from the study and the conclusions are flawed as a result. We need time to weigh all the facts and explore all the alternatives. We also need to reopen the bidding. I know of at least one other party who is interested in pursuing a partnership with the city. The animals are counting on us to ask questions. Here is the link to read the proposal and the supporting documents:

http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2011/11-1345_RPT_CAO_08-02-11.pdf

There is an opportunity for the animals benefit and we need to explore all options. Here is a list of council members. Please copy and paste. Reference: Northeast Shelter 11-1345. NEED MORE TIME AND MORE OPTIONS. ALSO PUT ON YOUR FACEBOOK PAGES. Write to these people now. Tomorrow is the meeting!

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Rene Ruston
VP Animal Alliance

From: olivia barrymore <oliviabarrymore1@gmail.com> **Date:** August 10, 2011 10:27:03 PM PDT
To: oliviabarrymore1@gmail.com **Bcc:** renes@c21america.com
Subject: Important read:Best Friends takeover of the NorthEast Valley shelter

I have been asked it is OK to cross post this e mail. Please feel free to do so to your distribution list as well as post it on your Facebook. Don't forget City Council is voting on the contract on Friday so if you have a view please let them know as well.

From: olivia barrymore <oliviabarrymore1@gmail.com>
Subject: Important read:Best Friends takeover of the NorthEast Valley shelter
To: oliviabarrymore@gmail.com
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2011, 8:28 PM

Don't you think it is ironic that on Sunday New Hope partners were promised by Best Friends a $100 gift for additional adoptions and, two days later, Best Friends is asking us to endorse a proposal about which we have no real details? Be informed, read on.
Best Friends is soliciting the rescue community to endorse their takeover of the Northeast Valley shelter.

Let's remember that from 2008 until two weeks ago, the Northeast Valley shelter has, in fact, been housing evidence animals, mamas and babies, hospital animals, quarantine animals and large numbers of animals awaiting transport. That is a lot of animals.

In the last couple of weeks, in preparation for Best Friends' takeover of Northeast Valley shelter, all of these animals have been relocated to the other LAAS shelters they originally came from or would have originally gone to had we not had Northeast Valley shelter. The hideous impact is already apparent: there is even more overcrowding and higher killings at LAAS' six other shelters.

Best Friends is stating they will provide the Northeast Valley community with a low-cost spay/neuter and adoption center and community outreach center that offers wellness clinics and emergency services to Northeast Valley pet owners. At what price and who pays?

1) The Northeast Valley community is a very low income area with a very high stray and relinquishment rate. Since Best Friends will not be accepting strays or owner surrenders (services LAAS does provide), what will happen to those animals?

2) Speaking of services, Best Friends is asserting that they will provide emergency care to the community. What emergency services? Will Best Friends provide emergency medical care? At what price? Will Best Friends be hiring the equivalent of animal control officers to patrol or respond in the area? Will Best Friends hire experts to deal with wild animal emergencies? After all, by definition, "emergency" means sufficient personal is ready to go at any time.

3) The proposed Best Friends' contract does not disclose any prices that Best Friends will charge the public (or New Hope) for anything. Then how do we know if this low income community can afford such services? How can we know if Best Friends' operation will be good for the city and the animals, without knowing prices?

The City Administrator Officer's Aug 2, 2011 report to the mayor and city council concerning Northeast Valley Animal Care Center states that all charges will be set by Best Friends "in its discretion". This means that Best Friends is asking you to lobby city council, and asking city council to approve, a potential 7 year contract without having the slightest idea how much Best Friends will charge for anything. Not one word is mentioned as to the fees public or New Hope will be charged for spay/neuter. Not one word about fees the public or New Hope will be charged to adopt. Although the proposed contract says that LAAS will get "a set adoption fee", we are not told if that is the full adoption fee, or a small percentage. Furthermore, the report states that Best Friends will house a total average of only 50 dogs and cats combined. That does not make a dent in our overcrowding. Moreover, to adopt that number Best Friends will have to cherry-pick their animals like spcaLA with Madeline Bernstein in Long Beach's nightmare. In other words, Best Friends will shine (and earn donations) like spcaLA does at the expense of LAAS evolving into the same killing machine that Long Beach shelter is known for.

You cannot give up a $19 million shelter with this kind of ambiguity. Northeast Valley shelter cost city taxpayers $19 million to build under proposition F. Proposition F was voter approved and paid because this low income area was in desperate need of a city shelter to assist them with animal care and for public safety reasons. Now their Proposition F investment is being given away to Best Friends, leaving them without a shelter or hope of their expected public safety or emergency services for up to 7 years, and without their spent $19 million.

Point being, Best Friends is asking us to sign and endorse a product that we have no details on and one that simple addition does not add up to lower kill rates. No matter what Best Friends is proposing, using Northeast Valley shelter will not result in saving lives. On the contrary, Best Friends' takeover will force our already overcrowded shelters to operate in even tighter quarters by reducing 7 shelters to 6.

In conclusion, I thought City Council is supposed to be to be getting more fiscally responsible. How can City Council possibly approve a contract that gives a way a $19 million city taxpayer asset with a contract that says nothing about prices to be charged to city residence? For $19,000,000 Los Angeles taxpayers will not be getting what they bargained and paid for, and LAAS overcrowding will increase with consequential faster and higher killing rates.

· 70,000 puppies and kittens are born every day in the U.S.
· Between four million and six million pets are euthanized every year because they are homeless.
· That means between 11,000 and 16,000 pets are euthanized every day *simply because they are homeless*.
· An animal in a shelter is killed every 1.5 seconds.
· Only one animal in 10 born in the U.S. gets a good home that lasts a lifetime.

Be Part of the Solution: Spay or Neuter your Pet.