



Adam Lid <adam.lid@lacity.org>

PUBLIC COMMENT COUNCIL FILE 13-1580

1 message

wildwingsla . <wildwingsla@gmail.com>
To: Adam.Lid@lacity.org

Fri, Apr 25, 2014 at 11:10 PM

April 25, 2014

Arts, Parks, Health, Aging, and River Committee

c/o City Clerk

Los Angeles City Hall

200 N. Spring Street, Room 360

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Attn: Adam Lid, Legislative Assistant

Re: Council Motion CF 13-1580

Dear Honorable Members:

We own and operate Wild Wings, a nature store in Sherman Oaks that specializes in Wild Bird Supplies. We have installed three Barn Owl Boxes on behalf of San Fernando Valley Audubon, and many more on behalf of our customers. These boxes are protective nesting sites for Barn Owls. We are poised to install three more in and around the Sepulveda Basin specifically for rodent control. It is believed that a single barn owl can consume over 1,000 rats, mice, voles and gophers per year. A family of barn owls could consume up to 25 rodents per night. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has determined that the barn owl is one of the most economically beneficial wildlife species in North America. Barn owls produce a large number of offspring compared to other owls. According to *North American Birds* – operated by Cornell University, *The ability to produce multiple broods in one year differentiates the Barn Owl from other raptors, and they lay on average 5 eggs per clutch. Most raptors lay an average of 2 eggs per clutch.* Because they are raising multiple broods, they provide excellent, year-round rodent control.

Poison bait boxes with Department of Recreation and Parks tags have been observed in the Sepulveda Basin. The boxes contain diphacinone, an anticoagulant rodenticide. Anticoagulant rodenticides are known to cause severe, secondary poisoning of birds and mammals. For the protection of the wildlife of Los Angeles including; Barn owls, other predatory birds, mountain lions, bob cats, coyotes, our pets, and our children we strongly urge the City Council to direct the Department of Recreation and Parks to stop the widespread use of rodenticides, and ban their use citywide. Barn Owl Boxes and battery operated, electric rat traps offer a safe alternative to these deadly poisons.

Thank you for your time and prompt attention to this urgent matter,

Bonnie McFarlin and Scott Logan,

Owners

Wild Wings – Your Backyard Nature Store

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