

PROJECT COYOTE

F O S T E R I N G C O E X I S T E N C E



LA CITY TESTIMONY

RE: ITEM NO. 16-0585

Good Morning Council Members. I am the volunteer Southern California Representative of Project Coyote. I am out of town and unable to testify at the October 19,2016 meeting.

Project Coyote continues to support Los Angeles Animal Services and General Manager Brenda Barnette's recommendation for co-existence and education in their proposed Coyote Management Program. We support a proactive plan that emphasizes public education and effective behavior modifications to reduce conflicts between people, pets and coyotes. I have been attending and participating in LA CITY neighborhood council meetings with great turnouts and tremendous support. Most recently, I attended and spoke at the Westchester and Playa Del Rey meeting, attended by 250 people. Through our Coyote Friendly Communities Program we provide services to cities and towns throughout North America - including San Francisco, Calabasas and Albuquerque, NM - providing presentations, workshops, and scientifically vetted public education materials. We offer our services, free materials and expertise to the City.

Recent attacks reported are largely due to garbage not contained and feeding in local parks. This should not influence your direction on co-existence. Scientific studies show that trapping does not work. Coyotes play a vital role in maintaining healthy ecosystems, providing free rodent control among other ecological services. They are here to stay. The City of Los Angeles has become a model and a leader in environmental stewardship with the ban on trapping, and the most recent wildlife corridor motion. We support the Animal Services recommendation.

Randi Feilich, Volunteer
Southern California Representative
www.projectcoyote.org