



Richard Williams <richard.williams@lacity.org>

Fwd: Budget and Finance Committee, May 3, 2016 - Item 1.

Travis Longcore <longcore@urbanwildlands.org>
To: richard.williams@lacity.org

Thu, May 5, 2016 at 2:36 PM

Please add this communication to Council File 16-0600.

Thank you,
Travis Longcore

—
Travis Longcore, Ph.D.
Science Director
The Urban Wildlands Group
longcore@urbanwildlands.org

Begin forwarded message:

From: Travis Longcore <longcore@urbanwildlands.org>
Subject: Budget and Finance Committee, May 3, 2016 - Item 1.
Date: May 4, 2016 at 9:29:39 AM PDT
To: councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org
Cc: matt.hale@lacity.org

Paul Krekorian, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee

Honorable Councilmember:

I am following up on an email I sent to your Legislative Deputy Matt Hale on April 30, 2016 as a result of the inquiry you made at the April 28 2016-2017 Animal Services Budget Hearing regarding the expenditure of \$800,000 for an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the proposed Citywide Cat Program or its successor proposal.

I also spoke to the Budget and Finance Committee at public comment yesterday to try to correct some of the misstated information surrounding the request for expenditure by the Department of Animal Services (included in the Mayor' budget of 4/20/2016) for the EIR.

Because of the numerous issues discussed at the public hearings, I am itemizing the key issues which seem to have been either overlooked or misunderstood in regard to the provisions of the injunction issued in *The Urban Wildlands Group et al. v. City of Los Angeles*.

Please let me know if I can provide any background information regarding the facts I stated in my public comment yesterday and which follow:

(1) TNR is not prohibited in the City by our injunction. While the City would need to do environmental review to change the ordinances as proposed in the Citywide Cat Program, the City is not required by the injunction to do a specific level of environmental review.

(2) The problematic issues are the proposals in the Citywide Cat Program that would:

- (a) legalize feral cat feeding;
- (b) exempt unowned (stray and feral) cats from the current legal limit for cats per premises;
- (c) increase the number of owned cats with an unenforceable mechanism to control the number of free-roaming cats outdoors: and

(d) end the right to obtain a permit to trap unowned cats on private and public property (and have them impounded at a Los Angeles city shelter without them being returned back to the site of capture or released elsewhere by city personnel or a volunteer).

(3) Our conservation coalition is asking for commonsense measures to reduce the number of unowned cats: mandatory licensing of cats, a no-roaming ordinance for owned cats, enforcement of the spay/neuter law, and continued provision of low cost vouchers for spay/neuter of companion animals.

We believe these are reasonable and proactive measures which would be of public and private benefit in reducing the impact and numbers of feral cats in Los Angeles.

Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any information at all about these issues. My phone number is [310-247-9719](tel:310-247-9719).

Sincerely,
Travis Longcore

—

Travis Longcore, Ph.D.
Science Director
The Urban Wildlands Group
longcore@urbanwildlands.org