



Adam Lid <adam.lid@lacity.org>

Opposition to A agenda Item 16-1357

1 message

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To: "Adam.Lid@lacity.org" <Adam.Lid@lacity.org>, "David.ryu@lacity.org" <David.ryu@lacity.org>, "Paul.koretz@lacity.org" <Paul.koretz@lacity.org>

Please include this letter into public record to be included in any hearing, studies, and/or reports.

I would like to ask you to add an addendum to Agenda Item 16-1357 to exclude bonafide 501c organizations from this bill. I am a retired LAUSD teacher who devotes a lot of time to do community outreach with my snakes at schools, at the third grade field trips in the Santa Susana Mountain, at many Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Nights at schools, and at many community events including ones sponsored by the Natural History Museum, The National Park Service, Eaton Canyon Nature Center, and Placerita Canyon Nature Center.

For the past eight years I have organized the Open House at the Chatsworth Nature Preserve with the Southwestern Herpetologists Society and now with the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association in cooperation with the LADWP. We invite several other environmental, animal groups to join us. To prohibit all of us in exhibiting our animals would be a huge disservice to our community.

For many of the children, this is their first experience with the animals that live in the preserve. They see and learn how we care for them, teach them about the animals, and their conservation. However, the most important thing is that we teach them to be tolerant and compassionate with their classmate or sibling who might be terrified of snakes. By providing a terrified child with a safe environment, he or she learns how to overcome this fear. By the time they leave, they have a greater sense of self, as well as for the critters who live in our one spaces.

Why do I spend so much time doing this outreach? Because I want learning to come ALIVE for the children. They are fascinated, motivated, and are learning in a fun way. Hopefully one day, this brief encounter will spark an interest that will lead them to a career path or hobby. We want children to learn to appreciate our open spaces and all the wonderful critters that live there.

Please partner with all of the wonderful organizations, institutions, and businesses that teach children a respectful way of interacting with animals.

Thank you.

Sharon Shingai

Santa Susana Mountain Park Association Board Member

Foundation for the Preservation of the Santa Susana Mountains Board Member

Southwestern Herpetologists Society Junior Herpers Chairperson

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

