



Adam Lid &lt;adam.lid@lacity.org&gt;

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**agenda item #161357**

1 message

Sarah Karp &lt;sarahkarp153@gmail.com&gt;

Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 10:47 AM

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

**OPPOSITION to agenda item #161357**

April 14, 2017

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

Dear Committee on Personnel and Animal Welfare,

My mother has owned and operated a licensed and permitted animal training facility in Los Angeles that supplies trained birds and animals for the entertainment industry for over 30 years. For the past the last four years, I have worked for her company- there are so many different types of jobs to do here -from people who train, do office work, make the diets, work the grounds, make behavioral enrichment, daily cleaning, ect. My main job is to help make behavioral enrichment for the animals and socialization. Behavioral Enrichment is designed to challenge the animal and mimic what they would be doing in the wild. For example, I might take the diets that are prepared and put it in a bunch of boxes and wrapped paper. That would encourage the animals to forage for their food. It is a great way to keep the animal active, busy and get his/her mind working. I spend between 3-4 hours every day coming up with and making new toys and enrichment for the animals. I also do daily socialization for the mammals in our care. From sitting in their enclosures and handling/playing/grooming them-to taking them out for walks, climbing in our trees and meeting people. Every single day, 7 days a week from around 6am to 5:30 pm there are people on the compound making sure the animals are well maintained and happy. And my family lives on the compound grounds, to make sure the animals are always safe and protected.

Many of the animals in our care are rescued or displaced animals. Our company is sometimes contacted by rescues, rehabbers and places like Fish and Wildlife when there is a bird or animal that needs a home. Those animals would likely not survive being released into the wild and having them at our compound gives them another chance at a long healthy and happy life.

There are some groups of radical animal rights activists that put misleading information and propaganda. Animal rights groups are very different than Animal Welfare groups. Animal Welfare are what the majority of animal lovers are. They care for the welfare of the animals. Animal Rights groups however are a radical spinoff of that group. They are a minority group who do not want to see animals in captivity, and their ultimate goal is for absolutely no animals in captivity- that includes family pets like dogs, cats, goldfish etc. Passing this bill forward would only feed into the agenda of those radical groups and would cause more harm than good to the animal community and because of that I stand in strong opposition to this ban. I urge you to do the same.

Sarah Karp  
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