



Adam Lid <adam.lid@lacity.org>

Fwd: Exotic Animal Ban

1 message

James Bickhart <james.bickhart@lacity.org>
To: Adam Lid <adam.lid@lacity.org>

Mon, Apr 10, 2017 at 2:04 PM

Adam-

This person requests that her letter below be included in the Council file 16-1357.

Jim Bickhart
Consultant - Office of Councilmember Paul Koretz

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rachael Greenstone** <rachgreens@me.com>
Date: Mon, Apr 10, 2017 at 9:38 AM
Subject: Exotic Animal Ban
To: Paul.koretz@lacity.org

April 10, 2017

Rachael Greenstone
Hollywood Animals, PO Box 2088 Soledad Canyon Road 91351

Dear Committee on Personnel and Animal Welfare,

Opposition to agenda item #16-1357 : Please include this letter into public record to be included in any hearing, studies, and or reports pertaining to this issue.

My name is Rachael Greenstone, I have worked with exotic animals for the last 7 years. I am currently a studio animal trainer for domestics at Hollywood Animals. In the past I have worked for a wildlife sanctuary caring for native wildlife, and attended the EATM (exotic animal training & management) program at Moorpark College. I am in the process of becoming a studio union member for local 399 (teamsters).

I as well as my coworkers have devoted our lives to caring for animals. We educate ourselves on proper care, we spend countless hours with them making sure they receive all necessary aspects of life, and go above and beyond to ensure they are not only physically healthy but also mentally stimulated.

I have been a part of educational shows, parties, and meet and greets with exotic animals. It is incredible to witness the connection members of the public have to the animals you are taking to them. It takes them out of their daily bubble to witness an animal they would normally never see up close and personal. It is a much different encounter than at a zoo. With trained, traveling exotics they enjoy the interaction and spark an interest in almost everyone they meet. Trainers make it an main priority to educate and share their profound love for the animals. They make it a point to teach about the animals plight in the wild. This connection helps the everyday public care about the animals that they meet. They become the ambassador for their species helping their wild counterparts.

I strongly oppose the ordinance as it takes away many people's opportunity to make a connection with exotic animals. Animal care professionals have made it their lives work to safely care for animals and provide the best possible life for them. Sharing them with the public is not only enjoyable for the people lucky enough to meet them, yet it is also enjoyable for the animals. Traveling and being exposed to new environments provides endless mental stimulation. These animals truly benefit just as much as the people meeting them.

Our facility is closely monitored and properly permitted by the USDA, US Fish and Wildlife Service, California Fish & Wildlife Service, as well as city permits.

4/10/2017

City of Los Angeles Mail - Fwd: Exotic Animal Ban

Rachael Greenstone
Animal Trainer
Hollywood Animals

Sent from my iPhone