



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

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**Fwd: agenda item #16-1357**

1 message

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

Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 12:43 PM

For the Council file...

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

From: **Benays Bird & Animal Rentals** <benaysanimals@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 12:22 PM

Subject: agenda item #16-1357

To:

To Whom it May concern,

**RE: OPPOSITION** to agenda item #16-1357: April 5, 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 name is Benay Karp and I own a licensed and permitted facility in Los Angeles and been in operation since 1987. I house/keep/train/care for over 150 birds and animals, that are humanely trained for use in TV, commercials, movies, print, and live shows. In addition to the birds and animals that I keep/train and care for-I also give full time work to 6 people and part time work to another 5-9 people.

In CA, the industry that I work in (Animal keeping/training/training for the entertainment Industry) and that is in direct conflict with your agenda-we are already one of the most heavily regulated in the country. We require more over site, more licenses, more permits and face more obstacles than any other state in order to keep and care for our working and exhibit animals.

In CA, there are over 75 animal training and supply companies listed in just one source book alone (there are at least 50% more companies than listed there). Each of these companies not

only keeps animals for work in our field-they also employ employee anywhere from just one or two trainers-up to many dozens of trainers. There are currently 280 Union animal trainers with an additional 75 other trainers listed as permittees that work in our industry. There are probably at least and ADDITIONAL 100-200 more trainers and handlers that are not part of our Union, that also work in CA not only within the entertainment industry-but also in education/outreach/exhibit.

In order to have a licensed and permitted animal facility in CA-we are required to not only follow extremely stringent rules and regulations-but also be willing to allow surprise inspections at any time/day, by EACH agency we have a license and permit with to ensure that our facilities are clean/well maintained and that our animals are healthy and well fed and cared for.

I believe that the committee thinks they are coming up with ways make our city safer, but removing the ability to legally use animals that are being kept by people who abide by the rules/regulations and laws that are already in place is not the way to do that.

Being able to see real animals (not CGI ones) on screen and in person is vital to keeping people interested and caring for them. Not only do I speak for myself and the people I employ-but I know I also speak for the hundreds of others that are here in CA that share my profession-we do this because we love our animals, and we love helping others learn to love them as well.

Thank you for your time.

Benay Karp

Woodland Hills, CA 91364      818) 881-0053

Benay's Bird & Animal Rentals Teamsters Local 399

818 881-0053

[www.benaysanimals.com](http://www.benaysanimals.com)

***Please like our new company FaceBook page!! We add working animal photos often.***

<https://www.facebook.com/BenaysBirdAnimalRentals>



agenda item #16-1357 TO BE INCLUDED IN ANYTHING PERTAINING TO THIS.docx

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