



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

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**Opposition to Agenda Item 16-1357, April 25, 2017**

1 message

**Teena Takata** <Teena@besttax.com>

Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 12:00 PM

To: "adam.lid@lacity.org" &lt;adam.lid@lacity.org&gt;, "david.ryu@lacity.org" &lt;david.ryu@lacity.org&gt;, "Paul.koretz@lacity.org" &lt;Paul.koretz@lacity.org&gt;

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

Prohibition on the Exhibit of Wild or Exotic Animals for Entertainment or Amusement

As a board member of the Santa Susana Mountain Park Association, and a hike leader and frequent volunteer for California State Parks in the Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park, I am requesting that bona fide nonprofit organizations that promote the education and conservation of wild or exotic animals be excluded from Agenda Item 16-1357.

This relatively minor change to this Agenda item would be effective in limiting the great majority of backyard people from using wild and exotic animals for Entertainment or Amusement. While the title of the Action does not include the word (and therefore may not include) Education, it greatly concerns me that the ordinance could be interpreted to prohibit educational use also. There certainly is an entertainment factor as well as an educational value in showing reptiles. We are very concerned that we would be precluded from showing native reptiles to the third graders that visit our park to learn about history and natural science on field trips for Title 1 and other schools in and near the Chatsworth area.

This ban would also significantly impair our docent training program where members of the Southwestern Herpetologists Society and Placerita Canyon Natural Area ranger bring in live animals to teach our docents about the critters and birds that can be found in the Santa Susana Mountains. It would also prohibit them from doing their community outreach at schools, parks, events sponsored by the Natural History Museum and the National Park Service, and at the Open House at the Chatsworth Nature Preserve. Thank you.

***Teena A. Takata, CPA***

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