



Adam Lid <adam.lid@lacity.org>

OPPOSITION TO AGENDA ITEM #16-1357

1 message

Jamie Wong <wong.jamie@yahoo.com>

Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 12:46 PM

Reply-To: Jamie Wong <wong.jamie@yahoo.com>

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>

April, 21, 2017
Jamie Wong
Arcadia

To whom this may concern,

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 Jamie Wong, I am a graduating student of the Exotic Animal, Training and Management program at Moorpark college. Before the program I volunteered with several wildlife sanctuaries and rehabilitation centers who used some of their permanent resident animals as wildlife ambassadors to educate the public. From experience working with animals and caretakers, from a variety of facilities, I can tell you people in the animal industry LOVE the animals they work with. Being an animal caretaker/ trainer is 24 hour, 7 day a week, 365 days a year job, rain or shine, and are often not able to spend time with family and friends during holidays to care for our animals. WE DO NOT ABUSE OUR ANIMALS, we are committed to them 100 percent.

All of our animals are cared for with the utmost respect. We provide them with a balanced nutritious diet, exceptional medical care, and physical and mental exercise to ensure they are in good physical health. Reputable facilities are regulated and permitted by USDA and Fish and Wildlife, as well as local city agencies. When animals are taken to events, caregivers/ educators establish rules and secure boundaries to insure the safety of the animals and the public.

The majority of animals used in outreach and educational programs are from rehabilitation centers and/ or confiscation by government agencies from the illegal pet trade or illegal animal trafficking who are not able to be re-released back into the wild. And using these animals in private and educational presentations helps teach people of all ages about the dangers animals face and their natural environment. These presentations help connect people with wildlife, teaching future generations to respect and care for the resources around them and hopefully help reduce extinction.

Passing this ban will not help any animals or make the city any safer but it will feed into the agenda of animals rights groups. I strongly oppose this ban and urge you to do the same.

Sincerely,
Jamie Wong