

## Communication from Public

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**Comments for Public Posting:** As to the issue of the Pet Shop Ordinance. As co-operator of Petopia Animal Rescue which operated for three years in the Westfield Promenade I can share with you my experience as to the benefit of dedicated (not fake) rescued pet adoption centers. As to my comment of "fake" there is an organization that opened in another county that claims they are "adopting" animals out from other states with fees of \$2000 and up. They are puppy mill animals and their misrepresentation hurts every legitimate organization doing the work to get the numbers down for Los Angeles and surrounding areas. During the three years of operation having a dedicated facility for our rescue allowed us to pull more animals because we had the space. We did not have to rely on fosters, which are becoming fewer and fewer. The Woof Stats for September proved two critical issues, first we are not doing enough proactive response to spay and neuter / TNR, and two there is no way to increase adoption rates at shelters when the drop off is 22 percent higher than before. What makes an impact is support of organizations that can do both pet population education and organizations that can support larger numbers in their care. What has been consistently found with retail adoption centers is they are not a problem for waste, health issues, noise, or care if properly managed. To be properly managed the organizations opening them (large organizations or joint ventures between rescues) allow for greater pull numbers and positive access from the public. People still see City and County Shelters as depositories of death and despair. A place to dump and run or to hear that animals are being killed for space. It behooves the city to work with organizations to get a more positive image out about rescued pets and that is a private sector strong suit. I continue to be an advocate for retail shops and know that the numbers of adoptions we did made a difference both to the public that adopted and to the red listed, blue listed and yellow listed animals we continuously pulled. Allowing select organizations to assist in the start up guidelines and implementation would be a solution that could expedite this matter and take it out of the council hands that aren't doing the hands on work. That set of rules and regulations as set forth by with assisted oversight from the City would be a better use of time and effort on behalf of the animals. Having those organizations meet with zoning and health and create a

legacy of public / private action will save more lives than the continued debate and rehashing of issues from the last dozen council meetings.