



Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

To the attention of Councilmen: Mr. Paul Koretz, Mr. Mitch O'Farrell, Mr. Curren Price, Mr. Bob Blumenfield, Mr. David Ryu | BILLY the ELEPHANT | Please release him and ALL ELEPHANTS to an Animal Sanctuary

3 messages

Stacy Williams <singstacysing@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 7, 2017 at 9:23 AM

To: paul.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org, councilmember.price@lacity.org, councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org, david.ryu@lacity.org

Cc: Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org, Clerk.CPS@lacity.org

Dear Councilman,

Mr. Paul Koretz

Mr. Mitch O'Farrell

Mr. Curren Price

Mr. Bob Blumenfield

Mr. David Ryu

I hope this finds you doing well. Unfortunately, I am not happy at all about what I have just read.

I am a recipient of the Care2Action Petitions, and the Plea below was e-mailed to me regarding Billy the Elephant. I have attached it for your review.

I am writing to you to **PLEASE RELEASE** this precious animal from a CRUEL existence of which no living creature should be subjected; let alone for 30 years!!!! This is a deplorable situation. Billy is completely isolated and alone and separate from other elephants? I am very surprised that a ZOO would not know more about the natural habitats for the animals of which they have been entrusted. Disgraceful.

We have almost 100,000 signatures, and I ask you to seek your heart on this matter, and demand that **ALL** of the Elephants at the LA Zoo be released to a property Elephant Sanctuary, as they obviously have no business taking care of ANY of them.

I ask for your immediate and swift action!

Thank you in advance, Gentleman! I pray that you will do the right thing.

For the love of Elephants,

Stacy Williams
Nashville, Tennessee

Billy the elephant spends his day swaying, rocking side to side, and bobbing his head due to frustration, boredom, and depression.

Billy has spent nearly 30 years at the Los Angeles Zoo all alone in a cramped enclosure. After public outcry and a lawsuit a few years ago, the Los Angeles Zoo promised to build a bigger and better enclosure for Billy that would be much more like his natural environment.

But when Care2 member Karen visited Billy after he was installed in the new elephant exhibit, she was shocked to see that his "bigger and better" enclosure was still tiny and separate from the other elephants. Even worse, Billy was still displaying the same troubling swaying and head-bobbing behavior as before.

Karen was so outraged by what she saw at the Los Angeles Zoo that she created a Care2 petition demanding that the zoo release Billy to an animal sanctuary. Will you sign it?

Worried about Billy's condition, Karen spoke to the zoo attendant on duty at the exhibit to see if the elephant was getting proper care. **The attendant showed no awareness of Billy's basic needs, including the need for daily exercise.** He told her that the elephants were simply rotated from one enclosure to another.

In the wild, elephants roam several miles a day, which helps them maintain healthy joints and feet. They are also highly intelligent, sensitive, and social animals who need to be engaged by their surroundings in order to be happy.

Karen is worried that without proper exercise, a stimulating enclosure, and interaction with other elephants, Billy will succumb to a premature death like so many other elephants kept in captivity.

The new elephant exhibit is not at all what the Los Angeles Zoo promised it would be. It seems to Karen that the new exhibit was built more to impress paying visitors than to meet Billy's needs.

The Los Angeles Zoo responded to public pressure once, even if the results were not what we hoped they would be. If enough of us speak out again, we may be able to put enough pressure on them to finally do the right thing. **So sign Karen's petition right now to demand that the Los Angeles Zoo release Billy the elephant to a sanctuary.**

Staci Roberts <staci.roberts@lacity.org>
To: Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

Wed, Jun 7, 2017 at 10:50 AM

[Quoted text hidden]

Eric (Roderico) Villanueva <eric.villanueva@lacity.org>
To: Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 3:43 PM

*Eric Villanueva
Office of the City Clerk
200 N. Spring St. Rm. 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012
213-978-1075*



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

From: **Stacy Williams** <singstacysing@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Jun 7, 2017 at 9:23 AM

Subject: To the attention of Councilmen: Mr. Paul Koretz, Mr. Mitch O'Farrell, Mr. Curren Price, Mr. Bob Blumenfield, Mr. David Ryu | BILLY the ELEPHANT | Please release him and ALL ELEPHANTS to an Animal Sanctuary

To: paul.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org, councilmember.price@lacity.org, councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org, david.ryu@lacity.org

Cc: Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org, Clerk.CPS@lacity.org

[Quoted text hidden]



Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

Fwd: Send Billy to Sanctuary and End Captive Breeding at the Los Angeles Zoo

3 messages

Eric (Roderico) Villanueva <eric.villanueva@lacity.org>

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 3:44 PM

To: Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

Eric Villanueva
 Office of the City Clerk
 200 N. Spring St. Rm. 395
 Los Angeles, CA 90012
 213-978-1075



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

From: **victoria minetta** <takeaction@idausa.org>

Date: Wed, Jun 7, 2017 at 4:18 PM

Subject: Send Billy to Sanctuary and End Captive Breeding at the Los Angeles Zoo

To: Eric Villanueva <Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org>

Jun 7, 2017

Mr. Eric Villanueva

Dear Mr. Villanueva,

As a Los Angeles constituent and a supporter of California-based In Defense of Animals that represents over 250,000 supporters, I urge you to support Councilman Koretz's motion to free Billy, the lone bull elephant at the Los Angeles Zoo, to an accredited GFAS (Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries) sanctuary as soon as possible. We also ask the same for the female elephants at the exhibit, Tina and Jewell.

Billy's plight at the LA Zoo has been a focus of In Defense of Animals for over 12 years. The inadequate conditions that he is forced to live in, despite costly renovations to the Elephants of Asia exhibit, continue to negatively impact his well-being.

Through the LA Zoo's breeding program, Billy has been forced to endure a highly invasive procedure to collect his semen for the purpose of artificially inseminating females at other zoos for breeding. According to zoo documents, Billy underwent "training" for the actual semen collection process at least 55 times between January 20, 2011 and November 14, 2014.

This procedure is inhumane and invasive. While this has been touted as a practice of "conservation," the data shows that it is nothing of the sort, with elephants in zoos dying in captivity faster than they can reproduce due to the unnaturally high mortality rates of elephants in captivity. The only real way conservation for elephants can occur is in the wild and a certified elephant sanctuary is the closest thing to a natural environment that we can give to Billy.



Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

Send Billy to Sanctuary and End Captive Breeding at the Los Angeles Zoo

1 message

Sam Walsh <takeaction@idausa.org>
Reply-To: Sam Walsh <samwalsh888@gmail.com>
To: "Holly L. Wolcott" <Clerk.CPS@lacity.org>

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 12:20 PM

Jun 8, 2017

Ms. Holly L. Wolcott

Dear Ms. Wolcott,

As a Los Angeles constituent and a supporter of California-based In Defense of Animals that represents over 250,000 supporters, I urge you to support Councilman Koretz's motion to free Billy, the lone bull elephant at the Los Angeles Zoo, to an accredited GFAS (Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries) sanctuary as soon as possible. We also ask the same for the female elephants at the exhibit, Tina and Jewell.

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There is no science- or conservation-based justification for the LA Zoo to keep Billy or ANY of the elephants, including females Tina and Jewel - in captivity. The scientifically validated negative effects of captivity on elephants are irrefutable and well documented.

Los Angeles must seize this opportunity for leadership on humane animal welfare issues and policy. Therefore, we urge you to support the relocation of Billy to a GFAS-certified sanctuary to transfer elephants Tina and Jewel as well - end all elephant captivity and elephant breeding programs at the LA Zoo immediately. +

Sincerely,

Ms. Sam Walsh
Duleek
meath, CA Na
(087) 674-8714



Eric (Roderico) Villanueva <eric.villanueva@lacity.org>

Shut down LA Zoo Elephant Exhibit and Send Elephants to Sanctuary Immediately

5 messages

heather@heatherwokusch.com <heather@heatherwokusch.com>

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 3:45 AM

To: paul.koretz@lacity.org

Cc: Clerk.CPS@lacity.org, Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org

Dear Paul Koretz

The elephant exhibit at the Los Angeles Zoo must be shut down immediately and the elephants retired to an appropriate sanctuary where their needs will be met more appropriately.

This involves Billy, Tina and Jewel. As a Californian, I see it as a disgrace to my state that these magnificent animals are being kept in such appalling conditions.

The new exhibit is not what LA Zoo had claimed it would be. The elephants are rotated from one small enclosure to another and exhibiting stress-related behavior – swaying, rocking and head-bobbing.

Please work to release these animals to a sanctuary immediately!

Best regards
Heather Wokusch
Folsom, CA

heather@heatherwokusch.com <heather@heatherwokusch.com>

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 3:47 AM

To: councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org

Cc: Clerk.CPS@lacity.org, Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org

Dear Councilmember O'Farrell

The elephant exhibit at the Los Angeles Zoo must be shut down immediately and the elephants retired to an appropriate sanctuary where their needs will be met more appropriately.

This involves Billy, Tina and Jewel. As a Californian, I see it as a disgrace to my state that these magnificent animals are being kept in such appalling conditions.

The new exhibit is not what LA Zoo had claimed it would be. The elephants are rotated from one small enclosure to another and exhibiting stress-related behavior -- swaying, rocking and head-bobbing.

Please release these animals to a sanctuary immediately!

[Quoted text hidden]

heather@heatherwokusch.com <heather@heatherwokusch.com>

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 4:02 AM

To: councilmember.price@lacity.org

Cc: Clerk.CPS@lacity.org, Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org

Dear Councilmember Price

The elephant exhibit at the Los Angeles Zoo must be shut down immediately and the elephants retired to an appropriate sanctuary where their needs will be met more appropriately.

[Quoted text hidden]

6/8/2017

City of Los Angeles Mail - Shut down LA Zoo Elephant Exhibit and Send Elephants to Sanctuary Immediately

heather@heatherwokusch.com <heather@heatherwokusch.com>
To: councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org
Cc: Clerk.CPS@lacity.org, Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 4:06 AM

Dear Councilmember Blumenfield

[Quoted text hidden]

heather@heatherwokusch.com <heather@heatherwokusch.com>
To: david.ryu@lacity.org
Cc: Clerk.CPS@lacity.org, Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 4:15 AM

Dear David Ryu

[Quoted text hidden]



Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

Billy the Elephant

2 messages

Gerry Williams <goodleaders@roadrunner.com>
To: clerk.CPS@lacity.org

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 4:14 PM

I have sent the following letter to City Council members in support of freeing Billy the elephant to a sanctuary.

I strongly urge you to support Los Angeles City Council Motion # 17-0453 (Motion to Free Billy from the Los Angeles Zoo). This is an ongoing problem that has received much publicity because this lone and lonely elephant is suffering from neglect, lack of adequate exercise, and lack of social companionship in his current conditions at the Zoo.

Even though the the Association Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) Accreditation Inspection Visiting Team reported to the Accreditation Commission that "all aspects of the Los Angeles Zoo's elephant program continue to display practices and features consistent with modern, professional elephant exhibit design, care, welfare, and management, *this "team" does not adequately consider Billy's psychological health nor the probability of continued health of Billy's feet, lacking adequate space to roam.*

This group is more interested in the retention of the elephant as a display for human entertainment and income, than it is in Billy's health!

Please understand that the conditions under which Billy lives can be rightly compared with human jails. Nothing about his conditions matches the reality of what his life would be and should be were he released from his jail -- either to a sanctuary or to the wild.

Again, I urge you to support L.A. City Council Motion #17-0453 to free Billy!

Sincerely,
Gerry Williams

Eric (Roderico) Villanueva <eric.villanueva@lacity.org>
To: Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 4:48 PM

*Eric Villanueva
Office of the City Clerk
200 N. Spring St. Rm. 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012
213-978-1075*



[Quoted text hidden]



Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

Send Billy to Sanctuary and End Captive Breeding at the Los Angeles Zoo

1 message

Llauren Peralta <takeaction@idausa.org>
Reply-To: Llauren Peralta <bodhineverdisparag@prodigy.net>
To: "Holly L. Wolcott" <Clerk.CPS@lacity.org>

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 6:50 PM

Jun 8, 2017

Ms. Holly L. Wolcott

Dear Ms. Wolcott,

As a Los Angeles constituent and a supporter of California-based In Defense of Animals that represents over 250,000 supporters, I urge you to support Councilman Koretz's motion to free Billy, the lone bull elephant at the Los Angeles Zoo, to an accredited GFAS (Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries) sanctuary as soon as possible. We also ask the same for the female elephants at the exhibit, Tina and Jewell.

Billy's plight at the LA Zoo has been a focus of In Defense of Animals for over 12 years. The inadequate conditions that he is forced to live in, despite costly renovations to the Elephants of Asia exhibit, continue to negatively impact his well-being.

Through the LA Zoo's breeding program, Billy has been forced to endure a highly invasive procedure to collect his semen for the purpose of artificially inseminating females at other zoos for breeding. According to zoo documents, Billy underwent "training" for the actual semen collection process at least 55 times between January 20, 2011 and November 14, 2014.

This procedure is inhumane and invasive. While this has been touted as a practice of "conservation," the data shows that it is nothing of the sort, with elephants in zoos dying in captivity faster than they can reproduce due to the unnaturally high mortality rates of elephants in captivity. The only real way conservation for elephants can occur is in the wild and a certified elephant sanctuary is the closest thing to a natural environment that we can give to Billy.

There is no science- or conservation-based justification for the LA Zoo to keep Billy or ANY of the elephants, including females Tina and Jewel - in captivity. The scientifically validated negative effects of captivity on elephants are irrefutable and well documented.

Los Angeles must seize this opportunity for leadership on humane animal welfare issues and policy. Therefore, we urge you to support the relocation of Billy to a GFAS-certified sanctuary to transfer elephants Tina and Jewel as well - end all elephant captivity and elephant breeding programs at the LA Zoo immediately. +

Sincerely,

Ms. Llauren Peralta
322 Neva Pl
Los Angeles, CA 90042-2707
(626) 487-7745

6/9/2017

City of Los Angeles Mail - Send Billy to Sanctuary and End Captive Breeding at the Los Angeles Zoo

bodhineverdisparag@prodigy.net

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Sincerely,

victoria minetta
1420 Ambassador St Apt 302
Los Angeles, CA 90035-2857
(310) 487-6894
victoria.minetta@lacity.org

Eric (Roderico) Villanueva <eric.villanueva@lacity.org>
To: Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 3:44 PM

Eric Villanueva
Office of the City Clerk
200 N. Spring St. Rm. 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012
213-978-1075



[Quoted text hidden]
Dr. Sangeeta Fernandes
127 Gable Ct
San Rafael, CA 94903-5206
(323) 842-7715
sangeetaf@gmail.com

Eric (Roderico) Villanueva <eric.villanueva@lacity.org>
To: Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 3:45 PM

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[Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]

6/8/2017

City of Los Angeles Mail - Fwd: Send Billy to Sanctuary and End Captive Breeding at the Los Angeles Zoo

Ms. Amanda Skerski
162 N Swall Dr
Beverly Hills, CA 90211-1965
(312) 343-0243
askerski@yahoo.com



Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

Fwd: Send Billy to Sanctuary and End Captive Breeding at the Los Angeles Zoo

2 messages

Eric (Roderico) Villanueva <eric.villanueva@lacity.org>

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 3:46 PM

To: Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

Eric Villanueva
Office of the City Clerk
200 N. Spring St. Rm. 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012
213-978-1075



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

From: **Amanda Skerski** <takeaction@idausa.org>

Date: Wed, Jun 7, 2017 at 5:58 PM

Subject: Send Billy to Sanctuary and End Captive Breeding at the Los Angeles Zoo

To: "Holly L. Wolcott" <Clerk.CPS@lacity.org>

Jun 7, 2017

Ms. Holly L. Wolcott

Dear Ms. Wolcott,

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Sincerely,

Ms. Amanda Skerski
162 N Swall Dr
Beverly Hills, CA 90211-1965
(312) 343-0243
askerski@yahoo.com

Eric (Roderico) Villanueva <eric.villanueva@lacity.org>
To: Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 3:48 PM

Eric Villanueva
Office of the City Clerk
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Los Angeles, CA 90012
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sam Walsh** <takeaction@idausa.org>
Date: Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 12:20 PM
Subject: Send Billy to Sanctuary and End Captive Breeding at the Los Angeles Zoo
To: Eric Villanueva <Eric.Villanueva@lacity.org>

Jun 8, 2017

Mr. Eric Villanueva

Dear Mr. Villanueva,

[Quoted text hidden]

Ms. Sam Walsh

Duleek

meath, CA Na

(087) 674-8714

samwalsh888@gmail.com