



Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

DISMISS the Motion to Send Billy to a Sanctuary

1 message

Ute Braun <webmaster@lazoo.org>

Sun, Aug 20, 2017 at 3:17 PM

Reply-To: ubraun100@hotmail.com

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

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

CF-17-0453

Sent by the Los Angeles Zoo on behalf of:

Ute Braun
26035 bouquet canyon road #349
Santa clarita, California 91350
310-951-8583
ubraun100@hotmail.com

Dear Los Angeles City Council Arts, Parks, and River Committee Member,

As an area resident and a supporter of the Los Angeles Zoo, I urge you to dismiss L.A. City Council motion #17-0453 that would send Billy the Asian elephant to a sanctuary.

The Elephants of Asia habitat at the Los Angeles Zoo is Billy's home. In fact, it's the only home that he has ever known. Billy lives in one of the best and largest elephant habitats in North America and benefits from tremendous resources, a dedicated staff, and top-quality health care. Elephants of Asia is the largest habitat at the L.A. Zoo and the space vastly exceeds the standards of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), as well as those of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the California Department of Fish & Wildlife.

Billy's quality of care at the L.A. Zoo far surpasses that which he would receive at any sanctuary. Elephants are highly intelligent and sociable animals, and they form deep emotional bonds with their caregivers and other elephants. Billy's caregivers have known him for decades and he receives the best care possible at the L.A. Zoo. If Billy were sent to a sanctuary, the ties he has with his caregivers and fellow elephant companions would be broken. Further, any sanctuary would keep Billy separated from other elephants, since he is a bull and would not be allowed to mate.

The fact is that sanctuaries are limited in their land and financial resources, no matter their size. They do not have an accrediting organization as stringent as the AZA and they are not focused on or committed to saving animals from extinction.

At the L.A. Zoo, Billy is an ambassador for his endangered species. He is an important member of the AZA Asian elephant Species Survival Plan (SSP) and his presence at the L.A. Zoo raises awareness about his wild counterparts to the nearly 1.8 million people who visit the Zoo annually. The L.A. Zoo does a tremendous amount of conservation work and is committed to saving the thousands of species, including wild Asian elephants, that are on the verge of extinction.

I am submitting this letter because I care deeply about Billy's future as well as that of endangered wild Asian elephants. It is with this concern that I ask you NOT to approve the motion to send Billy to a sanctuary. Billy deserves the best care possible – and wild Asian elephants deserve a future.

Sincerely,

Ute Braun

ubraun100@hotmail.com

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens (<http://www.lazoo.org>)



Carolina Peters <carolina.peters@lacity.org>

DISMISS the Motion to Send Billy to a Sanctuary

1 message

zach Goerge <webmaster@lazoo.org>

Fri, Aug 18, 2017 at 8:33 AM

Reply-To: djagt29@icloud.com

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

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

Sent by the Los Angeles Zoo on behalf of:

zach Goerge

, California
2132654283
djagt29@icloud.com

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