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**City Council File #17-0453 (Billy the elephant at the LA Zoo)**1 message

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**From:** GAYLE JANZEN <cgjanzen@comcast.net>**To:** david.ryu@lacity.org, councilmember.price@lacity.org, councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org**At:** Thu, Jun 13, 2019 at 11:56 PM

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Dear Mr's Ryu, Price, and O'Farrell:

The AZA has a policy that no elephant in a zoo should be alone, so I am very concerned about Billy, the lone male elephant at the LA Zoo, and understand that the City is setting up a Panel to make recommendation as to Billy's future.

Can you answer the following questions for me:

1. Is there a timeline for the selection of the Panel, and who will make the selections? Can anyone "apply" to be on the Panel, or can recommendations be made to the selection committee?
2. What exactly is the proposed make-up of the Panel. ie. will it be only AZA (zoo) affiliated persons, or will professional opinions also be sought from non-zoo experts such as Accredited Sanctuary affiliated persons (eg the Performing Animal Welfare Society Sanctuary in CA), or professionals in elephant behavior and rehabilitation, etc.?
3. Will the names, credentials, and affiliations of the individual Panel members be provided to the public? Will the final report/conclusions/recommendations of the Panel be provided to the public?

I really hope Billy is allowed to retire to a sanctuary where he will have enough room to roam and have the companionship of other elephants if he chooses. I ask that you keep me informed of this process as it goes forward so please include my email with public notices sent with regards to City Council file #17-0453.

Thank you,

Gayle Janzen

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## Questions Re: Billy

1 message

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**From:** savelolitap <savelolitap@yahoo.com>

**To:** clerk.cps@lacity.org

**At:** Thu, Jun 13, 2019 at 9:50 PM

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1. What is the timeline for the selection of the independent medical panel who will assess Billy's physical and mental health?
2. When will the names of the panel members be released to the public?
3. When will the medical reports be returned to the committee?
4. How will the assessment process be monitored? Will advocates for Billy's release be included in this process?
5. please attach my email to City Council file #17-0453

Syd Marcus, G.G.

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE smartphone

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**Letter for Council File #17-0447**

1 message

**Sheila Bush** <Sheila.Bush.206781295@p2a.co>  
Reply-To: scooterbreeze@sbcglobal.net  
To: City Clerk <Clerk.cps@lacity.org>

Fri, Jun 14, 2019 at 7:21 AM

Letter for Council File #17-0447

I am writing to express my opposition to any proposed oil and gas production setback in the City of Los Angeles. Please submit the below letter to Council File #17-0447.

Thank You,  
Sheila Bush

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Re: Please oppose the harmful new oil & gas setback requirements

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

The Petroleum Administrator is expected to recommend increasing oil production setbacks in his forthcoming Setback Study Report. Local oil and gas producers are an essential part of Los Angeles' economy and provide jobs for working families, tax revenues for important community services and a safe, affordable and reliable energy supply for residents and businesses. Any expanded setback requirement would significantly disrupt local production and greatly diminish these benefits without improving public health or the environment.

More than 8,000 people power Los Angeles' oil and gas industry – union members, veterans, second chancers, single moms, immigrants – to produce the safe, affordable and reliable energy we need in a way that protects people and the environment. The oil and gas workforce is diverse, and allows skilled workers across the educational spectrum to earn a good living with benefits, and achieve upward mobility.

As we examine how to meet the needs of the region's 10 million residents, we must embrace an "all of the above" energy strategy which incorporates all forms of energy – traditional oil and natural gas and renewables such as wind and solar. A production setback threatens to eliminate Los Angeles' capacity to produce any oil and gas locally. Setbacks also impact the ability to develop property surrounding oil wells, magnifying the adverse effects on Los Angeles' economy.

All the oil produced in Los Angeles is used by local refineries to make products Angelenos need every day. If we don't produce energy locally, we are forced to import more of it from countries that don't hire Californians, pay California taxes or apply our stringent safety, labor, and environmental standards. Oil and gas producers in Los Angeles operate under the strictest environmental regulations in the world. More than two dozen federal, state and local agencies oversee oil and natural gas production activities.

There is too much at stake to allow agendas and fear tactics to guide this policy conversation. A setback requirement would hurt L.A.'s economy and significantly disrupt the livelihoods of thousands. We hope you will look at the full picture as you consider the report and its recommendations in the coming weeks.

Thank You,  
Sheila Bush

**Billy The Elephant**

1 message

**Patty Shenker** <pattysenker@gmail.com>  
To: clerk.cps@lacity.org

Fri, Jun 14, 2019 at 10:11 AM

Dear Councilmembers,

I was unable to join my friends at City Council this week to comment on the lack of action on behalf of Billy, the elephant at the LA Zoo. Two years goes quickly for us but for Billy, it's more time in an unhealthy, miserable existence where his premature death is almost certain. The late Daphne Sheldrick of the Sheldrick Wildlife Trust in Kenya, who has rescued & saved more elephants than anyone, including babies with whom she discovered the proper milk formula for their survival, said this- "What you are seeing in a zoo is not an elephant; what you are seeing is a tragedy."

So here are our questions. We have been waiting for months for the selected medical panel members and their report. When will this be done? Who are these panel members? How will the assessment be monitored?

We do think that we who are in favor of Billy's release be given the same amount of time & attention & be included in any meetings at the zoo or elsewhere. It's only fair.

On another note, I spoke about this briefly at a city council meeting months ago but will reiterate here. To quote an educational post at the LA elephant exhibit- "Some elephants now find work with tourist in ecotourism & it's become an important part of Thailand's economy. It helps preserve jobs for people & elephants." And "Elephant safaris like this one at a Thai elephant camp are popular with tourists. It's an important source of employment for working elephants." Added to this text was a photo of ignorant tourists riding abused elephants. This statement actually supports & promotes elephant abuse. It supports the 'phajaan' or 'crush box' where baby elephants are tied up & beaten brutally & repeatedly for days until the elephants gives up & will then do what is demanded of them. This is not education, which zoos so proudly claim they do so well. These posts must be replaced by truly educational ones about elephants & encouraging people to not support any use of them for work or entertainment purposes.

Surely, our City of Angels doesn't want to cause more suffering of elephants around the world & hopefully will do the right thing & let Billy go to sanctuary. 30 years in confinement is long enough; he has suffered long enough.

Please let's get this ball rolling & get Billy to sanctuary.

Thank you for your time & attention.

Patty Shenker & Doug & Julia Stoll

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