

Google Groups

Billy the Elephant

Mary Vergara

Feb 7, 2018 12:55 PM

Posted in group: **Clerk - Public Use - Clerk Council and Public Services**

Please let him continue to receive the best quality of care at the LA Zoo!

Sent from my 



Google Groups

Billy the elephant

BVZ

Feb 7, 2018 11:17 PM

Posted in group: **Clerk - Public Use - Clerk Council and Public Services**

Good evening

Your intentions may be honorable but you are uninformed. Billy the elephant needs to stay at the zoo. Moving him is cruel and abusive.

Please reconsider this terrible decision

Best,

Billy Van Zandt

Sent from my iPhone



Melinda Novoa <melinda.novoa@lacity.org>

Council File #17-0453

2 messages

Mandy Ho <webmaster@lazoo.org>
Reply-To: leh_nee@yahoo.com
To: clerk.cps@lacity.org, michael.espinosa@lacity.org

Wed, Feb 7, 2018 at 10:17 AM

Sent by the Los Angeles Zoo on behalf of:

Mandy Ho
4424 Ivar Ave
Rosemead, California 91770
[6266785389](tel:6266785389)
leh_nee@yahoo.com

Dear Los Angeles City Council Arts, Entertainment, 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,

Mandy Ho
leh_nee@yahoo.com

--

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

Beth Inches <webmaster@lazoo.org>

Wed, Feb 7, 2018 at 7:28 PM

Reply-To: athena314@hotmail.com

To: clerk.cps@lacity.org, michael.espinosa@lacity.org

Sent by the Los Angeles Zoo on behalf of:

Beth Inches
1616 mt royal blvd
Apt 305
Glenshaw, Pennsylvania 15116
[4128041235](tel:4128041235)
athena314@hotmail.com

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

I urge you to dismiss L.A. City Council motion #17-0453 that would send Billy the Asian elephant to a sanctuary. As an individual who has taken it upon myself to become educated on zoos and their operations, training methods, etc, I can assure you that a sanctuary is not going to be able to provide this elephant with the love, support, and care he has received at the L.A. zoo. As a matter of fact, there is NO legal definition outlining requirements for an elephant "sanctuary" so how can you honestly say that he would be better off?

This move honestly reeks of recommendations provided to you all by animal rights groups such as PETA, HSUS, etc who push for these actions without being fully educated and without thought or concern for the actual individual animals themselves. Their basis is solely on an emotionally based belief system with no grounding in actual scientific fact. As groups that have NO actual experience with animal care, they are hardly the people to provide these types of recommendations. Stop and think...if their own president was just found guilty of improper treatment of subordinates, is that who you truly should be aligning yourself with? Take the time, show you truly care, show the world you are not blind sheep, and learn the facts for yourself!!!!!!

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 and inspired millions of kids to care about elephants.

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,

Beth Inches

athena314@hotmail.com

[Quoted text hidden]