



Brenda Barnette <brenda.barnette@lacity.org>

New LAAS SHELTERING AT HOME Policy

1 message

Yoav Getzler <yoavgetzler@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 13, 2018 at 5:31 PM

To: Sharon.Dickinson@lacity.org

Cc: David.Hersch@lacity.org, Brenda.Barnette@lacity.org

To Whom it May Concern,

Please register our support for this positive change to the inadequacies of the current 4-day shelter hold policy that doesn't leave a pets family enough time to locate and retrieve their lost pet for so many reasons. My wife and I are lifelong LA residents, homeowners with rescued cats we chipped. We live in a neighborhood where everyone on our block has some kind of pet. If they go out of town for a week or two and the pet gets out there just isn't enough time to be reunited with their lost pet if it was found and made it to a shelter. Shelters are crowded and with volunteers ready to offer to shelter at home this is a creative way to solve multiple issues simultaneously.

I understand this type of home sheltering has been successful in some kind of pilot or grassroots movement in Laurel Canyon. I think this could be a positive in many neighborhoods and we as a city should be looking for ways to ease over-regulation and find ways to be more creative in ways that give our neighbors more flexibility when it comes to lost, stray or abandoned animals.

Please implement this positive and innovative change Citywide.

Thank you,

Yoav and Theresa Getzler
5934 Carpenter Ave
Valley Village, CA 91607

"The peaceful political revolution begins between your ears"

Date: 8/15/18
Submitted in PRM Committee
Council File No: 18-0150
Item No.: 17
Deputy: Adam R. Lid



Brenda Barnette <brenda.barnette@lacity.org>

Sheltering At Home Policy Change

1 message

Elaine Kohn <elaine.kohn@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 13, 2018 at 5:26 PM

To: Sharon.Dickinson@lacity.org, Brenda.Barnette@lacity.org

Hi Sharon,

I have lived in Los Angeles in Laurel Canyon since 1975. I support the Sheltering At Home policy change currently proposed. It will help prevent over-crowding at our animal shelters, furthering animal protection's ability to keep the animal's healthy in a less crowded space. Most of all, it relieves owners who have lost their pets of the current stray hold policy which unfairly punishes owners who might be out of town for longer than 4 days.

I know that Laurel Canyon has been operating a very successful volunteer Safe Paws program saving over 30 dogs that otherwise would have been turned over to shelters. This has allowed these animals to be safely reunited with their owners.

I urge you to adopt the Sheltering at Home Policy. It just makes sense.

Elaine Kohn



Brenda Barnette <brenda.barnette@lacity.org>

SHELTERING AT HOME POLICY CHANGE

1 message

Catherine Finkenstaedt <catfinkusa@yahoo.com>
To: Sharon.Dickinson@lacity.org
Cc: David.Hersch@lacity.org, Brenda.Barnette@lacity.org

Mon, Aug 13, 2018 at 5:17 PM

re: SHELTERING AT HOME POLICY CHANGE.

Hello

I am writing to support the SHELTERING AT HOME policy change.

I am a resident of Los Angeles, specifically Laurel Canyon - and we have been working as a community to help re-unite neighbors with their lost dogs and cats in as little time as possible.

However, there are often mitigating circumstances where we KNOW it's a community dog, there's just a missing communication link and we work hard to find that missing link and avoid the trauma to the dog and owner of taking the dog to a city shelter.

This helps avoid the tragic overcrowding that I know the City Shelters experience. it helps the found dog stay healthy and perhaps most importantly -

the time allowance on a stray hold I feel is too short to allow a distraught and perhaps not overly experienced "lost dog" owner, find their dog.

We as neighbors in ever growing communities need to be able to help one another - this fosters good will, and just a downright old fashioned neighborly spirit, especially when it comes to ones beloved animals.

I work in the Safe Paws program in Laurel Canyon and have fostered and networked lost dogs successfully. Time is of the essence up there to capture a loose animal due to the wildlife - that's the hard part - the easy part is keeping the animal safe and sound until it's owner is located. We have created a deep networking system and are encouraging the community to voluntarily create a database of their animals in case they are lost, stolen or there is an emergency - we know our neighbors and most importantly, their pets.

We are not capturing and keeping people's pets, we are not capturing feral dogs - we are helping a neighbor whose dog escaped due to a gate being left open get reunited as quickly as possible with their owner.

I never expect any financial compensation for this service - reuniting a loving owner with their pet feels so good, it's payment enough.

I would however expect the support and ability to inform the shelter that I have found an animal and provide a photo so that should the owner call the local shelter the shelter system is aware of who can be contacted for the safe return of the animal.

All round the SHELTERING AT HOME is a win win. If you can and want to shelter at home it will be an option - and the Shelter system will always be there for those that cannot participate.

I think it helps so many elements important to our communities - keeping our animals safe, fostering neighborly behavior and reuniting lost pets and owners quickly and efficiently.

Thank you so much for your consideration for this policy change

I look forward to hearing the results

Catherine

Catherine Finkenstaedt
8761 Appian Way
Los Angeles, CA 90046

Catherine Finkenstaedt • catfinkusa@yahoo.com • 310 500 5513



Brenda Barnette <brenda.barnette@lacity.org>

Sheltering At Home

1 message

Linda Marder <lm@lindamarder.com>

Mon, Aug 13, 2018 at 9:28 AM

To: "Sharon.Dickinson@LACity.org" <Sharon.Dickinson@lacity.org>

Cc: "David.Hersch@lacity.org" <David.Hersch@lacity.org>, "Brenda.Barnette@lacity.org" <Brenda.Barnette@lacity.org>

August 11, 2018

To whom it may concern,

I am a thirty year resident of Laurel Canyon. For decades now I have been a designated house that people in my neighborhood know to come to with found dogs and other pets and wildlife requiring assistance.

When it comes to domesticated pets, I reach out to one of our Canyon's Safe Paws volunteers who comes by with a microchip reader to scan the found animal for a chip.

If the dog is chipped, we reach out to the owner and get the animal returned. I politely let the owner know to properly identify their animal in the future and inquire about how the animal got out and offer up the Laurel Canyon's Safe Paws volunteers to help address any issues the owner might have with their yard, suggest a good dog walker or pet sitter if that was part of the problem. Dogs get out, sometimes it is just that simple.

When the animal is not chipped, my neighbors and I put up fliers around the neighborhood and local businesses, those who know how post on social media and we call into the SAFE PAWS hotline (888-66-Safe Paw) to get the word out around the Canyon and the surrounding area. Dogs can move fast and sometimes live a canyon over.

Dogs found in the area usually are claimed same day, on the rare occasion within a few days because maybe the owner is on vacation and the dog walker or pet sitter does not know the area well. Or maybe the owner is sick or elderly and needs assistance. In those situations, our Senior Lead Officer (Ralph Sanchez is our hero!) and Safe Paws program help out. I know of a few scenarios where our SLO and Safe Paws have helped elderly people in our community receive resources to help with animals that often get out and have even helped rehome pets that were too much work for owners as they got older or sick.

What would really help is if there was a way for the found animals to get listed in the City's shelter system so that when someone is looking for their lost pet they can find them through the shelters, too. The more places we can network found animals in our community, the better. Because in an area like ours, no one wants to take a neighbors dog to a City shelter, it's just not very neighborly. The shelters are already full, so many animal lovers would rather not make things worse for the shelters and the neighborhood.

It would also help in the rare occasion that we find a dog that is not neutered or spayed, is in bad shape health-wise, or does not get claimed locally after a the 30 days so that a local rescue can legally adopt it out to a new family.

It is for all of the reasons above that I support a Shelter at Home policy and hope that the whole city can follow our progressive Laurel Canyon program's lead!

Safe Paws Los Angeles!

Best wishes,

Linda Marder

Laurel Canyon

Linda Marder
8835 Wonderland Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90046
Ph: 323-656-8844
Fx: 323-656-0422



Brenda Barnette <brenda.barnette@lacity.org>

Support for LAAS Shelter at Home Policy Change 18-0130

1 message

Kristen Stavola <kristen@wearelaurelcanyon.org>

Tue, Aug 14, 2018 at 10:57 AM

To: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org, David Hersch <david.hersch@lacity.org>

Cc: Brenda Barnette <brenda.barnette@lacity.org>, james.bickhart@lacity.org, president@hhwnc.org, Orrin Feldman <ofeldman@pacbell.net>, area8chair@hhwnc.org, Stacy Sillins <s.sillins@nicholscanyon.org>, Catherine Landers <catherine.landiers@lacity.org>, Sarah Dusseault <sarah.dusseault@lacity.org>, Madelynn Taras <madelynn.taras@lacity.org>, commissioner.gross@yahoo.com

August 14th, 2018

Sharon.Dickinson@LACity.Org

Re: LAAS Sheltering at Home 18-0130

To members of the PAW Committee,

I write to you today with a request that you support the proposed changes that will allow LAAS to create a city-wide Sheltering at Home program.

Please consider all of the wonderful possibilities that this one small change to the LAAS found dog policy can enable.

I am a founder of the Laurel Canyon Safe Paws program. We are a group of over a dozen area volunteers with experience in animal rescue & rehab, behavior sciences & training, dog walking & pet sitting, veterinary care and more. We have been operating a Shelter at Home program for the last several years in Laurel Canyon and the surrounding hillsides. In the last 18 mos we have reunited over 30 hillside residents with their beloved escaped pet. No stressful stay at the local shelter for pet, owner or the neighbor who finds the pet, no impact on already crowded shelters.

And our program provides an extended period of time for the owner of a lost pet to reclaim it before it legally becomes available for adoption through the shelters' 4 day hold period.

Safe Paws volunteers have helped find solutions for escape artists, dogs with separation anxiety and helped numerous residents adopt, find veterinary care, training and more. We've even worked with LAPD and social services to help elderly residents find assistance with their pets and in some cases re-home their pets when they've become ill or unable to responsibly care for a large pet (and helped find a more suitable pet for their lifestyle.)

We have volunteers equipped with microchip readers, temp ID tags, crates, dog beds, leashes and other supplies... we even have a dedicated vehicle to roam the hillsides on lost dog missions. Safe Paws volunteers are adept at creating and networking lost and found pet campaigns on the street and on social media. Being able to network found pets through the LAAS database is going to prove to be hugely helpful in communities throughout the City.

Safe Paws works closely with LAAS shelters on both domestic and wildlife issues that we face as a hillside community. The passing of this policy will allow volunteers for the Laurel Canyon Safe Paws program to meet with interested communities around the City and help them create

similar programs. One of the easiest ways to do this would be by networking through LAAS New Hope Partners, City Council offices and Neighborhood Councils. In order to do this in accordance with LAAS rules and regulations, this policy change is essential. Safe Paws has created enormous good will in Laurel Canyon and surrounding hillsides and fostered a true sense of community.

Please support the Sheltering at Home program, there is so much good will in this City where animal welfare is concerned, let's organize it and make this City, truly, the most humane City in the Nation.

Respectfully,

Kristen Stavola
Laurel Canyon resident
Executive Director, We Are Laurel Canyon
Founder, Safe Paws
Board Member, Eastwood Ranch Foundation