Communication from Public

Name: Jared
Date Submitted: 06/17/2020 10:40 AM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: I fully support Herb Wesson and Nury Martinez's motion to divert funds to unarmed skilled care workers and I am looking forward to you all gathering these funds by divesting from the LAPD. The fundamental call from your constituents is to Defund the Police, and diverting funds to Re-Imagining public safety is a great start. Without proper funding, this will go the way of many other government services, failing in the wake of the over-funded LAPD, and they will say this is why we need MORE cops. This cannot happen. Defund the police. Paul Koretz looks like a Mr Potato Head that's been put in the microwave. I yield my time, Fuck You, Fuck Eric Garcetti. Herb Nury and Mike are cool. Keep it going. Etc.
Communication from Public

Name: Jan Bunker
Date Submitted: 06/17/2020 03:33 PM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: This is a letter signed by LA Harbor volunteers re: budgeting more $$ for hiring more workers at City Shelters. There is an urgent need by the animals, the volunteers and the employees for more help.
To: The Budget and Finance Committee of the LA City Council:

We are the volunteers at all 7 of the LA Animal Services Shelters. We are very concerned about the lack of enough paid personnel in the shelters, and are urging you to please provide funds for 45 new positions for Animal Care Technicians.

We are noticing every day the difficulty of providing basic care for the animals. Sometimes dogs are without clean cages, they aren’t walked for days, cats and bunnies are not well-cared for, and people who come to the shelters to adopt cannot find an employee to help them. We know that during the last recession, 100 people were let go. Since then, all our shelters have many more animals and we’ve even added a new shelter!

There is no way for the paid personnel to keep on top of all the demands, and we volunteers take up a lot of the slack, but it is a worsening situation and we see the misery of the animals. There are behavior problems due to lack of socializing or getting out of their cages, there are injuries and bites due to the behaviors, and then liability payouts for the City. It isn’t possible to have deep cleaning and sanitizing of the cages, clean bedding, practices that will decrease the length of stay, animal enrichment programs or positive adoption outcomes with a limited staff.

Often, a shelter is run with only 3 Animal Care Technicians per day, which is not in any way sufficient for the number of animals and the size of our shelters.

Please consider that we are the 2nd largest city in the country, and we deserve to be doing a better job for our voiceless and vulnerable furry friends.

Sincerely,
