

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Esteban Escobedo

**Date Submitted:** 03/16/2021 11:57 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I would like to know why LA City Council did not make the minutes for the meeting of March 12th public. All it says is meeting in progress. This is when this ban going around was decided on. The public should have been able to attend the meeting. I have been competing in both American and Mexican rodeos all my life and was brought up in a lifestyle that made me who I am. I now work for the California Department of Food and Agriculture-Animal Health and Food Safety Services Department, due to the experience I gained from living around rodeos, livestock, and horses. We do not injure or abuse the animals we spend so much time and money to care for them. Like peoples pet's, they are our family members. For someone like myself that couldn't have children, they are all I have. If these tools or equipment you are trying to ban were created and sold to the public is because the companies selling them are looking out for our safety and the safety of the animals. Don't punish those who practice the sport of rodeos because you don't agree with how we care for our animals. Instead come out and work cattle and horses with us, so you can see how difficult it is. Unfortunately the constituents from Eagle Rock that created this ban, have no clue and have never been around animals like we have. If someone abuses these rights and harms animals by all means put them in jail and fine them, but don't punish a sport that has been around for hundreds of years because you are unaware of our methods. We have protocols, biosecurity plans, animal welfare commissioners, who will not tolerate any to abuse an animal during a rodeo. Please reconsider and learn what we stand for concerning animal welfare before making a decision. I held a rodeo concert in the Staples Center back in January 2018 and followed all the protocols from my state agency, worked with CalOES, local Los Angeles City Animal Inspectors to make sure all animals used in this show were being well taken care of and made sure we followed all guidelines in the best interest of all the animals. We provided all documents necessary for the event like, Certification of Veterinary Inspections, Coggins for horses that are blood tested to make sure they are not carrying a foreign animal disease, and special permits necessary to work with the Los Angeles City permitting office to get a permit to hold the event that 10s of thousands of fans got to see. We want to work

with Mr. Blumenfield and other City council members to make sure we can come to an agreement and show them we are civilized individuals who want the best for the animals who perform in all rodeos.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jim Hash

**Date Submitted:** 03/17/2021 10:18 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Surely your City has more pressing needs to address such as Homelessness, Racial Injustice, Poverty, Education, and Human Trafficking. Please leave Animal Science Principals up to Professionals in the Animal Science and Husbandry industry.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Abby Vanderstraeten  
**Date Submitted:** 03/17/2021 08:31 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear city council and to all whom this concerns, Let me tell you a little about Rodeo. Have you ever searched for a community where you feel like you belong? Somewhere you feel accepted. A place you call your second home and family? This is what my family found with Rodeo. My daughters are 4 and 6. They LOVE their horse and they LOVE rodeo. We love watching, participating and learning more about it every time we are there. We carefully do research on the best supplements, the best way to care for our equine athlete and what will ultimately make him the happiest. These animals are cared for extremely well. They are spoiled rotten and are rewarded for all their hard efforts. We appreciate these animals for the lives they provide us and are loved like our human family members. Rodeo is not a cruel sport; it is passionate, it is a lot of hard work, it's full of comradeship, and love. A love for the animals, a love for the sport, a love for each other. It is a patriotic sport, the ONLY TRUE patriotic sport filled with God and prayer and love for this country and our truest way of life. If this offends you, then so be it. That's on you! Don't take away something that not only people love, but these animals athletes love as well. They love their job and they love doing it well. They are happy and feel so proud of themselves when they know they've done their job. If you have never invested any time rodeoing and learning that way of life, I suggest you crawl out of your hole and educate yourself. Get to know these animals as we know them, look in their eyes, their souls and see how much they truly love their sport. Stop taking away livelihoods and stop trying to fill up horse kill pens! Abby Vanderstraeten

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 03/17/2021 03:22 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Banning Rodeo and other equestrian activities that to a small, misinformed minority may seem a good idea, but it would have a negative financial impact on the city of Los Angeles due to the lack of revenue derived from those equestrian events. Aside from the drop in revenue, members of the equestrian community respect their animals and the vast majority treat their animals like members of their family. It's obvious that the ones who would like to see rodeo and equestrian events banned know absolutely nothing about horses or livestock nor the care of same. The vast majority of equestrian and live stock owners are fully aware of the needs of their animals to remain healthy and content. It is essential for LA City Council to make a sincere attempt to research the equestrian community before banning them. Do your homework and you will learn that the rodeo and equestrian animals live more healthfully and safely than the people who live on the streets of Los Angeles.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lisa Dyson

**Date Submitted:** 03/17/2021 10:54 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** When considering whether or not to ban rodeos and equestrian events that use bucking straps or spurs etc., I would like to suggest you consult with equine professionals such as a horse trainer and an equine veterinarian. I have ridden horses for over 50 years - and with my horses, spurs are a necessity. My horses are loved and very well cared for, but I use spurs as an extension of my legs to emphasize my cues. I wear them every day and no one considers my use of them abusive. Yes, there are some instances of spur abuse, but for riders like myself - we need to ride with spurs. Please check with an equine veterinarian - injuries from spur use are nearly non-existent. Banning horse events that utilize some of these aids and equipment will basically shut down the equestrian activity in Los Angeles and cause great economic harm to many families. Please get some information from equine professionals and not just the animal activists who don't have any real day to day experiences working with horses and other livestock.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Maggie Simms

**Date Submitted:** 03/17/2021 06:27 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** I was shocked and deeply concerned that the L.A. City Council would even entertain such a bill that would ban rodeo and equestrian events. I am well aware that the animal rights activists are constantly sensationalizing all kinds of activities at various venues, including the Los Angeles Zoo and the Equestrian Center. They obviously don't understand, or don't care, that people who participate in these equestrian activities take very good care of their animals and are extremely concerned with their safety. The financial investment in these animals is immense, so why would they risk injuring or losing one of them due to negligence? Please consider the negative economic impact that this will have not only on all of the people and businesses involved, but also the tax revenue that won't be generated by banning these activities. Don't we have more pressing problems in this city that should be addressed by the Council? How about the way homeless people are living on the streets with no medical attention, food to eat or a roof over their head? The animals that are involved in these rodeos and equestrian events are treated and cared for better than our fellow citizens living on the streets. Do something about them!!!