

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kim Clark

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**Council File No:** 20-1575

**Comments for Public Posting:** Los Angeles City Council Members: Thank you for taking the time to read my comments. I am writing to you regarding the ordinance language that pertains to rodeos and rodeo type events. The items listed in the motion for ordinance language (electric cattle prods, sharpened spurs, wire tie-downs, and flank straps) when and if they are used in a rodeo, are carefully regulated and monitored by industry professionals. The initial action to have this ordinance written by the city attorney was presented and urged by animal rights activists, who are against all animal use. These extremists are working to ban all animal ownership including pets and animal agriculture, and this is just another step of incrementalism in their plan. These groups use emotional rhetoric to manipulate public opinion. They purposefully ignore facts and current animal welfare standards. If there are concerns about rodeo and rodeo-type events consultations should be conducted with actual experts in rodeo, animal welfare, and from independent large-animal veterinarians and then strongly considered. We urge you to take into account the track record of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA). The PRCA has had animal welfare rules in place since 1947 and currently have over 70 rules protecting the livestock used in currently sanctioned rodeos. The PRCA has also had a 99.9% safety rating for the past 4 years. I am asking the Los Angeles City Council to look at this issue from the side of animal welfare, not the ideology of animal rights. I urge you to consult with true subject matter experts on this issue before you vote to approve ordinance language that will impact a large sector of your constituents. Following the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania ordinance as the city attorney was directed to do would effectively ban all animal exhibitions including dog shows, horse shows, 4H and FFA student projects in the city. The banning of the equipment listed would also effectively ban rodeo and other animal exhibition forms from Los Angeles. This in turn would create an economic void for event vendors, exhibitors, competitors, and the community and set a dangerous precedent. Thank you for your time, Kim Clark