

Communication from Public

Name: Miki Bates

Date Submitted: 06/03/2021 11:33 AM

Council File No: 20-1575

Comments for Public Posting: I realize that times are changing. To me it feels like it is changing for the worst. Why can't politics leave some things alone? I was wondering if you have been to a rodeo? The animals that participate in these events are very well maintained. They are feed, water and cared for first. In my past 20 years of experience of PRCA Rodeo Committee member, I am amazed at what these people will do for their animals and no expense spared. The animals are ranked as are the contestants. A high ranking animal is highly coveted. The value of the horses and bulls are VERY high. Barrel Racers and ropers make their living with their animals. As far as the welfare of contestants, every effort is made for their safety and needs. I have not ran the statistics but if I did I am sure there are more fatal injuries from Football games held on junior high school to professional level. Scholarships are earned from rodeos. Money is raised for charities. Many rodeos are held in conjunction with county fairs all over the United States. There is so little left of our world. Many things have gone away due to technology. Skating Rinks have taken way to game rooms. My children were not allowed to walk to school if fear of human predators. The corner store no longer has racks to hold bicycles for the kids. I will be 60 years old this year. I am the last generation to know what being FREE is. Focus on the issues that need more attention than a rodeo. Focus on education, health issues, pandemics, homeless, poverty, drugs and racism. Rodeo sports are enjoyed by ALL race, sexuality or gender. Thanks for letting me have a moment :) Michelle (Miki) Bates

Communication from Public

Name: Tiffany Jefferson

Date Submitted: 06/03/2021 08:41 AM

Council File No: 20-1575

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not ban Rodeos and Rodeo-like events in your city. Rodeo teaches you respect for farm life, respect for your fellow competitors, and respect for nature and animals. Rodeo also teaches you about equality and history. Rodeo is a True American Past-time equal with baseball. It showcases Black American Cowboys and Cowgirls which represented about a quarter of all the cowpokes out west. This is a part of American history that we need to keep alive. Your ban would also outlaw the Bill Picket Invitational Rodeo. This rodeo, like all other rodeos and western sports helps to foster hard work, charity, responsibility, honesty, and spaces where differing mindsets and upbringings can come together and converse. These values are important and needed to help build strong, confident Americans. Your ban would end the way in which younger Americans learn about our history and Black History; including our American-born past-time, Rodeo. Did you know that Bill Pickett was the most well known Black Cowboy of his day AND that he created steer wrestling? Well there are a lot of Americans, Young Americans, and even International folks who have absolutely no idea of who he is. Even worse, there are so many people nationally and worldwide that don't even know that Black Cowpokes existed. We need rodeo to keep 'living history' alive. Please do not ban Rodeos and Rodeo-like events in your city.

Communication from Public

Name: Wisconsin Horse Council
Date Submitted: 06/03/2021 06:39 AM
Council File No: 20-1575
Comments for Public Posting: Please read the attached letter to see the Wisconsin Horse Council's stance on the rodeo ban. Thank you!



WISCONSIN HORSE COUNCIL
121 S. Ludington St., P.O. Box 72, Columbus, Wisconsin 53925
Phone: 920-623-0393 Fax: 920-623-0583

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING THE INTERESTS OF HORSES AND HORSEMEN IN WISCONSIN

6-1-21

To the LA City Council,

My name is Nancy L A Edwards, and I am the president of the Wisconsin Horse Council. I would like to express our opposition to the proposed ordinance that will ban rodeo and bull riding in Los Angeles. We as an organization feel this decision could have far reaching implications. We own the Midwest Horse Fair which is held each year, except not recently with Covid 19, in Madison, WI. We have rodeos each year with this event and support them whole heartedly in the way they take care of their animals. The Wisconsin High School Rodeo is a member of our organization and is a wonderful organization for our youth to be involved with.

Anyone who is a fan of western sports knows that the health and safety of the animals in these events is very important to all involved. Rodeo people make their living by breeding, training, and working with the animal athletes. They make sure these animals get the best care.

These are not wild animals forced to compete – they are bred and trained for rodeo. They are not abused. The flank straps and dull spurs don't harm the animals, who are actually treated very well.

Rodeo teaches important values like hard work, charity, respect, responsibility, and honesty. The sport is inclusive and promotes equality. Everyone is welcome. These values are needed today more than ever. Especially for our youth.

If this ordinance goes forward, it will ban in Los Angeles rodeo, bull riding and various equestrian events– affecting the charros rodeo, the all-Black rodeo planned for STAPLES Center, PBR, any future PRCA rodeos, Compton Cowboys exhibitions, and even several Olympic equestrian sports. This is not just banning sports that bring economic impact to LA but even worse, equestrian events and exhibitions here that change lives. We need to celebrate all cowboys, their strong values, and all the great things they stand for, not prevent them from showcasing their skills in Los Angeles!

We urge you to please not move forward with this proposal – it is unnecessary for a sport that already protects its animal athletes as a model steward in caring and treating for these animals and it would be detrimental to Los Angeles in many ways.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to our concerns.

Sincerely,

Nancy L A Edwards, President
The Wisconsin Horse Council
262-853-5272