

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Anita Crotty

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 08:09 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I live in Highland Park, and we don't need a budget that's 50% police-focused! We need fully funded public works like street, sidewalk, and safety repairs that don't take 7 years. We have sidewalks on my block that are impassable for people with mobility issues (and strollers and hand trucks, too). There are two whole blocks on Ave 56 that have no streetlights at all. None of this is acceptable, and taking away funding for the departments that do this work is only going to make it much worse!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Suzanne Boretz  
**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 08:11 AM  
**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** It is a disgrace that eliminating the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office at a moment following the horrific LA wildfires, in the hottest year on record, and as climate change continues to have the worst effects on low-income communities of color is even on the table. While I am aware there is an extreme budget deficit, the CEMO engages in preventive action that saves us money down the line by preventing or mitigating disasters.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Erin Coutts

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 07:41 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** On behalf of the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability, please find attached a letter of support for the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office.



Los Angeles Regional Collaborative  
for Climate Action and Sustainability

April 25, 2025

Dear Los Angeles City Council Members,

I am writing to voice support for the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO) to retain funding in the FY 25-26 budget.

The January 2025 fires demonstrated that climate change is an urgent and costly threat to the City of Los Angeles. The fires were caused by a windstorm that no firefighting force could have prevented, and were exacerbated by homes that had not been fire-hardened. CEMO's work actively addresses home hardening, among many other initiatives to prepare for climate emergencies.

CEMO was co-created in 2020 to center voices from climate-impacted communities, including low-income residents and unhoused populations. The Office promotes community-focused emergency preparedness and awareness with multilingual public campaigns that reflect the diversity of the City's population. CEMO's success demonstrates why the City should not divert resources from emergency preparedness efforts:

1. Through CEMO's work, Los Angeles has the first city-led Heat Action Plan in California and serves as a model for peer cities.
2. CEMO was awarded a \$750,000 grant to develop a replicable Extreme Heat Blueprint with scalable infrastructure and mitigation strategies. This grant is in the process of being approved by the City Council and funds will likely be forfeited if CEMO is dissolved.
3. CEMO staff is capable of drawing more funds from the Governor's Office and California's Climate Bond Goals, including the \$500M allocated to extreme heat and climate resilience efforts.
4. Chief Heat & Climate Officer Marta Segura is the only municipal Chief Heat Officer on the West Coast, one of eight Chief Heat Officers in the world, and a national leader in climate resilience. Segura's team at CEMO has spent five years developing extensive relationships and networks with Environmental Justice and Environmental Organizations. The deletion of CEMO would damage the trust that has been developed between communities and the City.

Los Angeles has a stellar legacy of being at the forefront of sustainability. With its history of paving the way for the region, the City and the region need the CEMO to continue developing innovative programs and policies. Continuing to invest in climate leadership and staff is at the core of what makes Los Angeles great.

Kind regards,

Erin Coutts  
Executive Director

Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability (LARC)

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Genna Lipman  
**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 08:47 AM  
**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** The potential budget cuts impact LA Animal Services is incredibly concerning and inhumane to these helpless animals. After the fires, non-profit rescues worked tirelessly to help temporarily alleviate overcrowding at the shelters because the system couldn't handle more inflow of animals. Now there's potential for budget cuts that will only hurt the city as people will resort to indescribably acts to relinquish ownership of their animals. For years, advocates and volunteers have been pleading to get more funding, but to hear of budget cuts is absolutely mind boggling. As a tax payer and resident of LA County, I am extremely disappointed that this would even be considered as an option. City council and our elected officials need to listen to what residents need rather than focusing on their own personal agendas. These animals are suffering and we cannot only rely on non profit rescues to save the day. LA has seen enough loss from the impact of the fires. Don't take more innocent lives away by cutting services. Do something impactful and help rebuild the city when people are hurting the most.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Oz Garcia

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 08:47 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Do not make severe budget cuts to the City Planning department. We provide an critical, essential service of creating economic development for the City. We also carry out many of the several City Council requests that help inform those decisionmakers on how to proceed, as well as implementing many of the work programs they request to updated. If necessary, eliminate all the vacant positions but do not eliminate those filled positions. These are actual people who have invested their time and dedication to representing one of the best cities in the world. This is the second time now in the five years I've been here that I've had to endure more heartache and turmoil. The biggest outliers - the Fire and Police Department - are the ones who continue to take up the lion's share of the funding. Take a closer look at their services and how they'd be able to do without a portion of their funds.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lori Ebner

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 08:51 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** PLEASE DO NOT CUT FUNDING TO ANIMAL SERVICES!  
Cutting services to our pets, strays and other animals hurts people as well. Please do not cut funding at a time when so many of us are trying to reach a 0% euthanasia of animals goal. We are slowly doing better in this regard and need your support to keep on track. Please do not cut funding to animals that need our help.  
Thank you, Lori Ebner

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sara Burton

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 08:19 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Shutting down 3 animal shelters in Los Angeles will cost the city more time and money than it will save. People in the community who can't keep their pets will be forced to abandon them on the streets instead of bringing them to the shelter, which is a huge safety and health risk. With already high kill rates at every shelter (for example there is a 15 week pup just cleared for euthanasia this morning - perfectly healthy and friendly), cutting funding will make this worse. Not only will more un-spayed and un-neutered animals be on the streets, but the already over crowded shelters will have to take on hundreds of more animals. Please think logically to attack the route of the problem. Use the 5 million we have available in the budget to continue to fund the 3 shelters in addition to providing consistent free spay and neuter clinics to our community. This will lead to saving money in the long run. Again the proposed solution is not only inhumane, it will cost the city more time and money than it is saving.



## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 08:20 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** More funds are needed for LA's animal programs, not less. Every year hundreds of animals get you a nice needlessly because the city doesn't prioritize the lives of these creatures. Mayor Bass, please don't cut funding to LAAS and the animals that so desperately need our help.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Stephanie Colbert

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 08:21 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly oppose the proposed budget cuts to LA Animal Services. While I understand that some cuts need to be made, this department is already underfunded and needs more support. Shelter conditions need improvement, and a greater focus on spay and neuter programs, along with public education, is absolutely essential right now, as overpopulation is out of control. Closing three shelters would be incredibly detrimental, leading to even more overcrowding and increased euthanasia due to lack of space. I urge you to reconsider these cuts and prioritize the humane treatment and safety of the animals in our city.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nicole Pasini

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 08:25 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to express my concerns about the Mayor's proposed cuts to the Climate Action Office and the Office of Petroleum & Natural Gas. Transparency about oil & gas compliance and eventually phasing out oil and gas drilling in the City will help long-impacted communities in LA. The Office of Petroleum and Natural Gas is needed to do that work. Eliminating the Climate Action Office will leave a \$750k grant on the table from the state to create a heat and resilience plan. LA can't ignore climate change, and we need to make big changes. These cuts will be a step backward.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Cynthia

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 08:26 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** We need to help save the three animal shelters that are in danger of being shut down. We also need to save the jobs that will be terminated due to the proposed budget cuts to the animal shelters. Los Angeles is already in a stray dogs and cats crisis closing down any shelter will be a disaster. We need to come up with alternatives. Many lives are taken due to overcrowding I can't imagine the devastation if we were to close any shelter let alone 3 of them! Please, there must be something we can do!

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 08:26 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** LAX gets 5B in contracts, yet we're facing layoffs across the City because we are 1B short??? That seems totally unjust. I get economic growth & development but at this cost. Also, why is LAPD disproportionately affected with 400 civilian workers on the chopping block? That makes no sense and the remaining civilians will bear the brunt of it and we are already understaffed. The sworn will need to continue to step in, and they're needed in the field not the office covering additional civilian position vacancies. Additionally, the citizens we serve and agencies we support are going to be harmed by longer wait times. Meaning every victim who needs a reports will continue to wait over 9 months for a copy of the report and that response time will grow. We also support Children's services, other law enforcement agencies, licensing agencies, and other government agencies. They wait over a year to get a copy of the report requested and that response time will grow. More victims will not get crimes solved because of the lack of staff to go out and take fingerprints at crime scenes because FPS positions are being eliminated. They not only go out and take the forensic prints, they have to validate them. A ton of additional work is done on the backside. Additionally, photo documentation of crime scenes will not be done at a professional level, which in turn hurts courts case, because 10 photographers are being eliminated and another job classification will need to take pictures. And if there is a photographer available to respond, they loose the golden hour because of the extremely long wait times. All of the positions eliminated affect the service and quality of service we are able to provide as Department. On a personal note, I've worked hard to become a management analyst and now that may be taken away, like for so many other people. If that happens, I will return to my previous position as a CCP. That means two CCPs will be displaced. The one already slated to be eliminated and the one that will be bumped. Then those two CCPs will return to PCP I & II positions, so now 19 will be affected in that class, etc... Of the 17 PCP I & II positions being eliminated, all of which are critical, not only in the Area's but at Personnel, PSB, R&I and who knows where else. They directly manage, supervise, direct and train the clerical staff. So that work now falls on the CCP, or whoever is over them because no acting positions will be available since the spots will be eliminated. And

in the Area's who does that fall on? The sworn? R&I and TID have no sworn, so that's not even an option for them. Everyone already has a job they are doing, so who is going to do the eliminated positions job? And how long will it take to get these positions back through the budget process? We have made all these gains over the years, just to be thrust back into the 80's-90's workforce. I say that because I was hired in 1986. At the time, they were hiring like crazy trying to get sworn back into the field and get the support staff the Department needed. Keep in mind these eliminated CCP & PCP positions SME in their roles, as well as the other positions being eliminated. Who is going to make decisions for these vacated positions? Will they have the knowledge to do? Some may be. Additional work and changes are always being thrown at the workforce to make improvements and keep up with times. Without the SMEs, uninformed decisions could be costly. Are they going to rely on the remaining staff who have now become the SME? The majority of them do not have training and understanding of the next level to make decisions knowledgeably. I say this having trained & overseen the training of numerous PCP, SAC & AC positions. This is not a dig at any of them. We only know what we know and what we have been trained to do. Often times we are so bogged down by the work that growth & understanding are slowed down or stagnated. While I am fully capable and have already proven that i can do the job of a CCP, I am already sick to my stomach thinking how I will work the transition out. So much has changed since 2019 and I won't have the supervisory staff to bring me up to task and support a smooth transition. The amount of stress being placed on the remaining workforce is monumental and will probably cost the City way more than they think. As a civilian employees in the police department, we are always doing so much more work than we signed up for because we can't even hire to attrition and now this. On any given day, that leaves the remaining workforce to fill in those gaps. I have worked for the PD for over 38 years and the amount of stress that I have been through and witnessed is immense and some seem never to get over it. They continue carrying it for years and that is hard on the body and for those that work around the walking wounded, for the lack of a better term. It is taxing.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Beth Ebner  
**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 08:35 AM  
**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Members of the Los Angeles City Council, I am writing to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the proposed budget cuts to Los Angeles Animal Services (LAAS). These cuts threaten not only the closure of vital shelter facilities, but the health, safety, and dignity of thousands of companion animals who depend on these services—and on us—for their survival and care. In 2024, LAAS already experienced a \$1.4 million budget reduction, which severely impacted its operations. Since then, we've seen disturbing signs of strain, from overcrowding and staff shortages to rising euthanasia rates. Now, with additional cuts on the table, the future of humane animal care in our city hangs in the balance. Let us not forget how far we have come. Over the past decade, Los Angeles has worked hard to become a leader in animal welfare. We've increased our shelter live-release rate by over 30%, reaching no-kill status citywide—a milestone that made Angelenos proud. But today, these hard-earned gains are slipping away. Recent data shows the live-release rate has already declined to around 85%, due in part to under-resourced spay/neuter programs and staffing deficits. If this trend continues, we risk undoing a decade of progress. Further budget reductions would lead to the closure of desperately needed shelters, worsening conditions for animals, higher euthanasia rates, and the loss of employment for passionate, purpose-driven staff who have dedicated their lives to caring for our city's most vulnerable. These individuals are not just workers—they are advocates, caregivers, and heroes in our communities. Los Angeles has long held itself to a higher standard—one rooted in compassion, equity, and service. Cutting funding for LAAS betrays that standard and puts innocent lives at risk. The animals in our shelters cannot speak for themselves. They rely on us. They are not just strays or statistics—they are companions, family, and fellow living beings who deserve protection, not abandonment. I urge you: do not approve these devastating cuts. Instead, invest in LAAS. Protect the progress we've made. Safeguard the lives of animals who have no voice but ours. Sincerely, Beth Ebner Proud parent of cats and dogs rescued in Los Angeles

## Communication from Public

**Name:** William Gallu

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 08:40 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am extremely disappointed to learn that Mayor Bass's proposed budget for the City of Los Angeles would virtually decimate the staff for the city's chief heat officer and the Climate Emergency Management Project. Especially in these times of increased heat events and natural disasters these offices are essential especially for the Black and Brown communities that are most vulnerable to the impacts of the climate crisis. As a longtime environmental justice leader I am asking you to reconsider this terrible mistaken proposal and maintain full funding for these offices.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Melissa Klaskin  
**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 06:52 AM  
**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Cutting the budget by \$6 million for animal services and closing three shelters is a catastrophe about to be unleashed on the animals of our city. The six operating shelters are inadequate as is and are killing roughly 200 animals weekly and many just for lack of space. Where are these thousands of animals supposed to go? Back on the street to become strays? To other overcrowded shelters where they will be killed. This decision will lead to more suffering, abandonment and preventable death. You are making a terrible decision for creatures that cannot speak and cannot vote. The compassionate people of this city will be their voice and will not let this happen. Helpless animals should not have to pay the price for the cruel decisions of humans. We are already mobilizing to stop this terrible action

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 07:04 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please limit the reductions (in fact we should be increasing!) to anything transportation / street services related. LA would be so much more affordable as a city if we didn't have to rely on our cars as much and could get around by public transport, bikes, literally any other alternative method of transportation. By prioritizing people we make the city more livable and enjoyable. Who doesn't want to live in a more dynamic and fun place?

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Pratiksha

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 07:14 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not shut down the animal shelters. As it is we have too many stray dogs and over flooding shelters. Closing more will only exacerbate the problem. If we can spend billions on unhoused, we can share some of that for their pets. Many homeless people have pets so let's not add to that problem. It is possible to carve out some of the money for these poor animals who have no voice

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Angelo Mike

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 07:18 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello Council, Please resist Mayor Bass' proposed budget cuts to LADOT and across other departments that would make for worse traffic congestion, less transit funding, and that would cut positions that make sure sidewalks are repaired and street lights and signage work. As someone who lost two cars to hit and runs, both while the cars were parked on the street overnight in LA, and one in which I was homeless and sleeping in my car in the time, I think it shows a calloused disregard for people who need mobility options to cut these. The police budget isn't stopping people from being killed in crashes or going through crashes like what I did. It just lets the police respond afterward. But we have better ways of getting around. As a transit user now, car free for four years, and cyclist, the proposed cuts would put me and many people I care about at risk. But it puts everyone at risk. I feel so sorry for the other people I see waiting at the bus stop and metro while traffic passes us by. These are often our elders, people with disabilities, unhoused people, sick people, young people, and poor people. This is a barbaric proposal that ensures that there's always one way of getting around free - in the back of a police car. And that there's always a way to get a bed and food - in jail. Disgusting. We're the savage society. We're cruel, intolerant, chauvinistic, and dishing out death in order to make sure the police have over a dozen helicopters that they terrorize neighborhoods like my former one in Koreatown with. This is savagery. People will die in car crashes due to these cuts. You want safety? We need infrastructure on our streets and abundant bus and metro service. Buses that run every 2-5 minutes and metro trains as well. We need to pay bus and metro operators way more and cut police. I came to LA six years ago thinking it was the greatest city in the world. It is a sad punch in the gut to see our values discarded like this when we have so much potential to do better and instead are doing the work of dystopians who think police violence is the answer to problems that we create through our greed, racism, and hubris. We could house people with more dense housing and make that a public safety issue the way we do police. We could build apartments in neighborhoods that need them instead of caving to wealthy white homeowners who think they have a legal right to self-defense against poor people living among them. We could make it so people who can't drive like my mom aren't

prisoners in place in LA without a car. We can make it so veterans like my late father, who had to drive well into his 80s and crashed multiple cars because of his declining cognitive abilities, have the options to travel with dignity with frequent bus and metro service. Shame on Mayor Bass. The poor and sick and lonely deserve so much better. Trans people deserve better. People deserve sidewalks they can pass on. Sidewalks wide enough for two people in wheelchairs to pass each other. We deserve streets for people and not for Ford, Toyota, and Tesla executives. Mayor Bass is selling out our people to these greedy executives for whom endless expansion with free roads is their goal. Fight back against Mayor Bass. There is no other time and there is no other people who can do this. The time is now and the people are us as we descend into a militarist, police security state that can't even keep people safe from their own streets and sidewalks that the city designs for death at high speed and that they neglect. Thanks, Angelo Mike 90034

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 07:25 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Reducing funding and staff for city shelters is a move in the wrong direction. These facilities do not have sufficient funds or staff to care for the animals in their care as it is — why, during a nationwide pet overpopulation crisis, would we reduce their resources further? This will only lead to more suffering and trauma for the people and pets of LA.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Shannon Donahue

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 07:32 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** In light of the City's budget deficit and the Controller's recent public comments on liability costs and fiscal risk, I urge City Council and Budget & Finance Committee members to ensure that upcoming large-scale financings reflect the City's public values—not just internal processes. Specifically, I raise concern regarding the Department of Water and Power's upcoming \$1 billion bond issuance scheduled for pricing on May 1. Public information indicates the lead underwriter is a foreign-based bank that appears to be operating under a Local Business Enterprise (LBE) designation. If accurate, this deserves serious scrutiny: • Is this firm truly LBE-eligible under City criteria? • Were local or minority-owned financial institutions given a meaningful opportunity to compete for the senior role? This is especially relevant in light of Mayor Bass's remarks just this week at LAX, celebrating City progress in expanding contracts to local and veteran-owned businesses. Appointing a foreign bank with minimal Los Angeles presence to lead the largest bond deal since the wildfires sends a very different message. This isn't about any one institution—it's about accountability, consistency, and ensuring that our largest public deals reflect the principles of fairness, transparency, and local investment. Please ensure this transaction receives the full due diligence it deserves.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Danielle Ball

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 01:38 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear City Councilmembers, I urge you to reject Mayor Bass' proposal to cut funding to LA Animal Services in the next budget. I hope by now every councilmember recognizes the absolute state of emergency the City is in with regard to animal welfare. The overcrowding in our shelters is appalling. The amount of domestic animals being born and abandoned to the streets is staggering. The suffering and preventable deaths are unconscionable. Animals are living beings that feel pain and fear. They cannot advocate for themselves. The crisis is not their fault, but caused by human irresponsibility. We need: increased reimbursements for spay/neuter vouchers, fully staffed and supplied shelters, support and education for TNR and community cat programs, enforcement of the breeding moratorium, and much, much more. As a City resident (CD 13) and City employee, I understand that we are facing a major financial crisis and painful cuts will have to be made. I urge you to consider that these cuts come from anywhere else but Animal Services. It is difficult to imagine the state of animal welfare in LA getting any worse, and we can't let that happen. Any cuts to Animal Services would be a deeply immoral choice for Los Angeles.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Parag Shah

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 03:10 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not reduce the animal services budget. We need these essential services in our communities. It's virtually no impact on the overall budget but will have a disproportionate impact if staffing and program cuts are made.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Joanne Mestaz

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 12:16 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Mayor Bass, Please do not reduce staff and funding for our animal shelters. In fact, please add funding and re-organize the system, build bigger animal shelters and hire more workers so that we can save and treat our animals in need better. They have no one but humans to help them. Make Los Angeles a model in saving animals for the rest of our country. Make Angelinos proud of our city and mayor in the way we care for animals. We're counting on you. Thank you

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 12:28 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello to everyone here in this meeting and those listening in. My name is Jennifer Trinidad. I began working for the City 19 years ago as an Administrative Clerk and am currently a Senior Management Analyst with the Police Department. I have been a member of the Engineers and Architects Association (EAA) for almost ten years. I oversee four sections in my division: two that offer direct support to officers and detention officers and two that respond to requests from the public and from other government agencies. My division has not recovered from the previous retirements, layoffs, and hiring freezes. Requests for reports are backlogged by 28 weeks (7 months) and government requests are backlogged over a year and a half. Our Fingerprint Identification Experts are stretched so thin that court appearances must be postponed in order to prioritize comparing fingerprints for detention officers and performing identifications for sworn officers. Data that should be sent to the state and county are not because employees need to prioritize processing the registrations of sex offenders. The clerical staff I oversee (admin, senior admin, principal, and chiefs) are doing their best, and I can see how frustrated they feel when they look at our backlogs. Because each of those requests represents a community member who needs help. I used to feel the same frustration when I was an Admin Clerk and the backlog was 12 weeks at its worst. However, it is not mentally or physically sustainable to do the job of two or three people. Layoffs would cause that one employee to handle the work of four or five employees. An exhausted or burnt out employee is not at the top of their game. This is not good customer service for our community members or other City and agency partners. The Targeted Local Hire program was embraced by my division. This program was designed to give people an alternative pathway to the city and targeted vulnerable and undeserved members of the community. Now those same individuals will be most vulnerable to the effects of a layoff. There is a saying that for want of a nail, the kingdom was lost. Our employees are the unseen supports for the City of Los Angeles. We need them, all of them, so that the City can thrive and not merely survive. We need them to help our residents and to assist our tourists. We need them energized so that they can see ways to make improvements and offer suggestions. We need them

for the long-haul so that they can take their knowledge and experience to each job they promote to and turn those suggestions for improvements into a reality. This is how the City will thrive. This is how we can better serve the public. I ask that avenues other than layoffs be explored to manage the budget crisis.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 12:30 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm writing in SUPPORT of an important aspect of the Mayor's budget that allocates \$9.376 million to fund the Unarmed Model of Crisis Response (UMCR) pilot through the 2025-26 budget cycle, as part of a long-term commitment to establish a 24/7 comprehensive unarmed crisis response for LA City. Please retain these funds in the budget and keep UMCR as a dedicated budget line item rather than making UMCR compete with other programs for unappropriated funds. The allocation of \$9.376 million represents a strong investment in the future of this program, continuing important services for over a quarter of Angelenos, and maintaining the groundwork for ultimate coverage across the city. This program has already proven itself to be a wise and beneficial investment for L.A. residents. Let's keep this important program going. I understand that the budget is very tight this year, but I believe this program will save money for the city and continue to save lives.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Michael Fujimori

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 12:50 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Mayor Bass and City Council Members. Please do not cut 62 animal service positions from the proposed budget. These positions are needed as the LA animal services are already understaffed and many more animals will be needlessly euthanized and there will undoubtedly be more animals on the streets, abandoned and homeless and suffering because up to 3 shelters may be closed because of the budget cuts. I know all of you care about animals and do not want Los Angeles to become known as a city that has to euthanize thousands of animals simply because of a lack of workers. Surely you can find it in your hearts to protect the most innocent and voiceless citizens of our great city. Thank you. Poop

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 12:07 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Members of the City Council, First off, I'd like to thank you for your service. You have an impossible job that this great city doesn't properly recognize you for performing. You have my upmost respect and gratitude. I'd also like to add that the budget largely looks respectable. The layoffs are disappointing, but in the tumultuous time we find ourselves it is not shocking. The only place on this topic that I find concerning enough to write this is the LAPD budget, which can only be described as the fiscal equivalent of trying to shovel sand with a rake. Crime is a natural issue in a metropolitan area like LA, but you'd hope a political group as established as the LAPD\* would have found a way to be even remotely efficient with their budget. Recently, an LAPD helicopter\*\* hovered (quite loudly) over a McDonald's near a friend's apartment for 45 minutes and, as a citizen, I'm concerned that unexplained and nonsensical events such as these are simply too common and leave Angelenos embarrassed about their police force. The LAPD is a problem money simply cannot solve. Best wishes. \*LAPD was founded in 1869, you'd think an organization almost as old as the Civil War would be able to balance a checkbook. \*\*It's interesting how the Equipment section of the LAPD's budget is compacted so one doesn't really know what those millions are being spent on.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ginamarie Will

**Date Submitted:** 04/25/2025 12:09 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Honorable Council Members, Change is needed, and not just a band aid fix. For too long, LA Animal Services has been operating on a shoestring budget without enough staff or resources. The conditions LAAS has had to deal with are appalling, but not nearly as awful as the never ending number of animals currently entering the shelter system (and never making it out). To fix this crisis, we need to INCREASE the amount of support shelters receive, not reduce it. People cannot afford to spay and neuter their pets and are giving them up because they have too many, and/or cannot afford their care. Vouchers are not enough. There needs to be mandatory, FREE spay and neuter programs. There need to be more fully trained full time staff, not an outsourcing of LAAS problems to rescue organizations. That is not sustainable and not fair to rescue organizations or animals that enter the shelters. And the current number of LAAS shelters - which is already inadequate - cannot be reduced. Most shelters have been operating at over 100% (and sometimes 200%) capacity for YEARS. Where will all the animals being surrendered or taken to shelters go? Roam wild on the streets? That'd be a ticking time bomb (lawsuits and sanitation issues would be the least of your problems). We need leaders who will respond to this crisis by getting to the root of the issue with compassion and creativity instead of simply looking away or covering it up. Why can't free spay and neuter be financed by charging a special fee to licensed breeders, lab facilities, racetracks, AKC events and shows, companies that use pets in advertising, or other entities that profit in any way off of animals? There must be a way to fix this, but not enough effort and attention is being put towards it. I will remind you all of the notion (put forth by Gandhi) that "the greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated." By the looks of it, we are failing. While our animals suffer, we busy ourselves with preparing to host a multi billion dollar Olympics. It's just one example of astounding tone deafness and misguided focus in times of crisis. We should be ashamed of ourselves. We can do so much better. And the animals in our care deserve so much better, too. I urge you to not accept the proposed reductions in staffing and facilities for LAAS that are being explored by the Mayor's office. There is simply no way to hide



this situation under a rug, or cover it up. The situation is dire. If we truly think of ourselves as a leading example of what a modern, moral society should be, then we must act to help innocent animals that are entrusted to our care. The decision you make now about LAAS will play out in time, and will be laid bare for the world to see in 2028. Thank you for your consideration of my comments. With respect, Ginamarie Will