

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Pierce O'Toole

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 04:35 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** The idea that the funding to the animal shelters would be so dramatically reduced is unconscionable. These are already underfunded and over capacity. Also, the fires displaced animals as well as people. These services especially need this funding right now. It would seem to me that no one part of the budget should take up nearly 50%. Perhaps if policing was reduced there would be a way to fund all other services and recovery efforts. Rather than create a system of economic euthanasia for pets.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Samantha Mathis  
**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 04:56 PM  
**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to strongly oppose Mayor Karen Bass's proposed budget cuts to Los Angeles Animal Services. Reducing funding for our city's animal shelters would have devastating consequences for both animals and our communities. Our shelters are already under immense strain—understaffed, overcrowded, and struggling to provide basic care for the thousands of homeless, abandoned, and injured animals that rely on them. Cutting their budget will only worsen this crisis, leading to increased neglect, suffering, and potentially higher euthanasia rates. It is unacceptable for a city as large and resourceful as Los Angeles to turn its back on its most vulnerable creatures. These shelters also serve the public—supporting pet owners, reducing stray animal populations, and protecting public health and safety. Budget cuts would limit essential services like adoptions, spay/neuter programs, and emergency response. The impact will be felt citywide. I urge you to reject any proposal that cuts funding to animal services. Instead, we should be investing in solutions that address this crisis humanely and effectively. Our city must do better—for the animals, and for the people who care about them.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 04:59 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Day labor centers provide preventative services to workers who otherwise wouldn't be reached - pop up health centers. A real sanctuary city supports all workers! Day laborers are on the frontlines during climate and political disasters like Covid and wildfires but haven't been recognized as an important part of the city. Mayor Bass, not funding day labor centers makes workers' contributions to the economy of Los Angeles invisible.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 05:03 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I urge the committee to restore the 5 filled positions cut from the Office of Historic Resources in the proposed budget. I know, firsthand, how critical these positions are based on my experiences as a homeowner participating in the Mills Act and the city's critical HPOZ program. Although City Planning is only 1.6% of the City's total workforce, the Department will account for 7.2% of the proposed layoffs. Cuts to the Office of Historic Resources will strain the City's capacity to enforce protections for historic resources and will lead to delays for homeowners, small businesses and developers. I urge you to help protect our neighborhoods by restoring these positions. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Bethany

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 05:04 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to strongly oppose Mayor Karen Bass's proposed budget cuts to Los Angeles Animal Services. Reducing funding for our city's animal shelters would have devastating consequences for both animals and our communities. Our shelters are already under immense strain—understaffed, overcrowded, and struggling to provide basic care for the thousands of homeless, abandoned, and injured animals that rely on them. Cutting their budget will only worsen this crisis, leading to increased neglect, suffering, and potentially higher euthanasia rates. It is unacceptable for a city as large and resourceful as Los Angeles to turn its back on its most vulnerable creatures. These shelters also serve the public—supporting pet owners, reducing stray animal populations, and protecting public health and safety. Budget cuts would limit essential services like adoptions, spay/neuter programs, and emergency response. The impact will be felt citywide. I urge you to reject any proposal that cuts funding to animal services. Instead, we should be investing in solutions that address this crisis humanely and effectively. Our city must do better—for the animals, and for the people who care about them. Why not take money from the insanely overfunded homeless assistance program and redistribute it to cover these costs. Why not completely restart these bloated programs where those put in charge were proven to have stolen millions over more than a decade, and start them with trusted (aka not friends of Ms. Bass) nonprofit leaders with proven track records. Why not build a public transit system that actually gets people across the city effectively and efficiently. Imminent domain should be used to avoid NIMBYs and to build quickly and efficiently. We are the only major city in the world with a laughable public transit system, and we're going to host the Olympics with buses?? Build more light rail. Build more subways. Do it now. It would give a massive economic boost to those out of work as well. Do not take what little resources we have from the animal shelters (which already have to turn away thousands of animals and euthanize more) in order to give Ms. Bass a political boost. Stop toying with innocent lives.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Melanie Lee

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 05:24 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, My name is Melanie and I am a citizen of Los Angeles, and I am speaking out on behalf of all of the homeless animals in the city that do not have a voice. The proposed 2025-2026 City of Los Angeles budget falls short of meeting the needs of our city's already overstretched animal shelters. Interim General Manager Annette Ramirez has made it clear: without significant increases in funding, three animal shelters may be forced to close — a move that would put the lives of both dogs and cats at even greater risk. If this budget is passed without amendments, the result will be catastrophic for both dogs and cats. We cannot in good conscience pass this budget with these severe cuts to the animal shelters. The shelters are already overcrowded, and underfunded, and this would cause irreparable harm to animals of all kinds. I am adamantly opposed to the budget cut to our city shelters, and am instead seeking an increase in funding. Thank you, Melanie Lee

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Elizabeth

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 05:47 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** California was just named the 4th largest economy in the world but Los Angeles proposed budget is cutting millions towards animal shelters and programs. Animal shelters are over crowded and under funded, this proposed budget will be at the expense of hundreds of innocent animals lives. Euthanization is at an all time high and will drastically increase if this is budget is approved. I bed of you to revise this budget cut. These animals are deserving of better care and a chance of living.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Neha

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 06:11 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am absolutely appalled by Mayor Bass' proposed budget. The slashes to critical services will lead to a reduced quality of life for Angelenos, fewer resources for youth, and more dead animals. Mayor Bass is abandoning her responsibility to this city and its people in favor of trying to buy an endorsement from the police union. In what world does it make sense for the police to get almost half of this city's budget? While critical services are cut left and right? On what planet does it make sense for LAPD to have more money for their liability payments while 3 shelters will have to close, 62 people will lose their jobs? Mayor Bass, is your ego worth the havoc you are wreaking on our city? Is a potential police union endorsement worth more than the lives of everyday people and animals trying to get back in this city? Los Angeles deserves better than this. We, the people of LA, deserve better than this. Shame on you Karen.



## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 11:44 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Funding the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office Request: Keep Chief Heat Officer Marta Segura and her staff funded. Chief Heat Officer Marta Segura is essential to fostering a climate-resilient LA that protects Angelenos from debilitating economic and health impacts in the face of more frequent and severe climate hazards. CEMO and Chief Heat Officer Segura are on the precipice of receiving a grant award from the California Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation for the development of a Blueprint, Extreme Heat Plan. This would be the first City in California to prepare a Heat Action Plan, which would then be shared with other cities in peer-to-peer sessions established by the Governor's Office. The City of LA's Heat Action Plan can both expand the city's capacity to prepare, respond, and adapt to the ongoing extreme heat crisis and create a coveted leadership role at the state, national, and global level to lead extreme heat innovation and infrastructural solutions. Furthermore, this award would leverage additional Extreme Heat funding from the State and the Governor's Office and also raise our profile as a city to receive more Climate Bond dollars. With Chief Heat Officer Segura in the lead, this State grant will open up more opportunities for the City of Los Angeles to receive Climate Bond and Cal OES funding. Segura has been cultivating these relationships in her role as Chief Heat Officer for over 3 years and throughout her professional career for over 30 years. CEMO has additionally shown their commitment to engaging voices from climate-impacted communities across the City of Los Angeles to reduce health disparities among heat injuries and heat-related deaths that impact low-income communities and the unhoused at much higher rates, as illustrated in the UCLA Heat Risk Map. CEMO also enlists the support of a selection of respected vendors to be evaluated and selected at a later time, as per City policy. The City of Los Angeles is the only city across the West Coast with this dedicated focus on extreme heat and is therefore providing thought leadership, policy leadership, and a blueprint to ensure that our ever-increasing extreme heat risks don't destroy the City's livability, economy, and walkability. Keeping Chief Segura and CEMO staff is critical to ensure that our most heat-vulnerable areas and communities are safe from preventable injuries and death due to the extreme heat crisis.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Concerned Employee and City Resident

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 11:55 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** As a long-time Los Angeles resident and city employee, I urge you to closely examine the Mayor's Proposed Budget and reject the majority of the significant proposed cuts and consolidations. City employees are the backbone of city services, and this budget was developed with an arbitrary goal to slash positions and consolidate departments without performing the due diligence and investigation into what those positions or departments do and whether they can be cut or combined without a negative impact to the City. Labor has a cost and the City and employees have agreed to that cost. Instead of deleting 1600+ positions or asking for labor concessions, how about we: - Continue advocating at the state level to cap the liability payout amounts that are truly crippling the budget and will continue to do so; - Take actions to limit our risk of further liability lawsuits by 1) not allowing police officers to take their service weapons home; 2) requiring malpractice insurance for police officers so the City doesn't have to keep footing the bill for their actions; 3) properly staff our Street Services and other related departments to keep our streets and roads in good repair; - Eliminate the hundreds of new positions authorized for the Fire Department—Mayor Bass herself said she had enough fire resources just a few months ago! Why are we deleting filled positions in other departments to provide funding for new positions at Fire? - Cut sworn positions at the Police Department—how do you expect the department to hire new officers when the proposed budget cuts the background investigators needed to process their hiring? - Stop or place a hold on the outrageously expensive Convention Center project. Why are we throwing money at this when we are in such dire financial straits already? Please do your due diligence in analyzing the proposed budget and the trade-offs therein.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jassenia Gonzalez

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 12:09 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** It is our duty, as a community to be the voice for the voiceless! This awful proposed budget cut will sentence thousands of defenseless animals to their deaths! Their blood will be on your hands if this is passed. Los Angeles is the city of angels, so lets be the angels that these animals need! The angels that will protect them from harm and provide hope! Lets show that their lives matter as much as ours!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 12:54 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please keep the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office - I think it would be a big mistake for the City of Los Angeles to eliminate it. As a Pasadena resident who mourns the destruction of my community from the horrific and catastrophic fires we just experienced in January that are a direct result of climate change, a department like the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office is something that is essential for the Greater LA area - not to mention the fact that it would also be unwise for the city to forfeit a \$750,000 state grant to create L.A.'s first heat action and resilience plan as a result of eliminating the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office. Please, please keep it.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Joe Lombardi

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 01:18 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to strongly oppose Mayor Karen Bass's proposed budget cuts to Los Angeles Animal Services. Reducing funding for our city's animal shelters would have devastating consequences for both animals and our communities. Our shelters are already under immense strain—understaffed, overcrowded, and struggling to provide basic care for the thousands of homeless, abandoned, and injured animals that rely on them. Cutting their budget will only worsen this crisis, leading to increased neglect, suffering, and potentially higher euthanasia rates. It is unacceptable for a city as large and resourceful as Los Angeles to turn its back on its most vulnerable creatures. These shelters also serve the public—supporting pet owners, reducing stray animal populations, and protecting public health and safety. Budget cuts would limit essential services like adoptions, spay/neuter programs, and emergency response. The impact will be felt citywide. I urge you to reject any proposal that cuts funding to animal services. Instead, we should be investing in solutions that address this crisis humanely and effectively. Our city must do better—for the animals, and for the people who care about them.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Amanda Lehman  
**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 01:53 PM  
**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to strongly oppose Mayor Karen Bass's proposed budget cuts to Los Angeles Animal Services. Reducing funding for our city's animal shelters would have devastating consequences for both animals and our communities. Our shelters are already under immense strain—understaffed, overcrowded, and struggling to provide basic care for the thousands of homeless, abandoned, and injured animals that rely on them. Cutting their budget will only worsen this crisis, leading to increased neglect, suffering, and potentially higher euthanasia rates. It is unacceptable for a city as large and resourceful as Los Angeles to turn its back on its most vulnerable creatures. These shelters also serve the public—supporting pet owners, reducing stray animal populations, and protecting public health and safety. Budget cuts would limit essential services like adoptions, spay/neuter programs, and emergency response. The impact will be felt citywide. I urge you to reject any proposal that cuts funding to animal services. Instead, we should be investing in solutions that address this crisis humanely and effectively. Our city must do better—for the animals, and for the people who care about them.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Camille Jones

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 01:57 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Reopen previously closed animal shelters. It's cruel and inhumane to euthanize helpless and innocent animals who deserve our compassion and support in finding loving homes. To close even more shelters/reduce funding for their care sends a message that our City's leadership is cruel and uncaring. This is especially damning as hungry coyotes are running through residential neighborhoods killing pets on their own properties and endangering the lives of residents as well while the City does nothing to address this escalating situation. Do the right thing and help our innocent shelter animals!

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 02:02 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please save these animals Please don't cut the budgets Humans MADE them depend on us we need help to HELP THEM Please



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Gail Wirth

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 02:29 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Madams & Sirs, Please do not further defund our animal shelters. They are desperately needed during our current challenging times, when folks realize they can't care for a dog or cat. Or an animal is found wandering loose. Shelters are a hopeful respite for these animals. Rescue organizations are also full to capacity and over run with pets needing homes. Be kind. Take care of these animals. Do not cut funding for City Animal Shelters. Thank you Gail Wirth

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Oscar Montiel

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 02:35 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Day labor centers are essential for the public health of LA, for the workforce of LA, for the immigrant community of LA, for the renters of LA. They are necessary because they are a hub of resources and education. Resources & education that often people don't have access to, yet the day labor centers are the bridge for that information.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** ALICIA ESKEN  
**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 02:48 PM  
**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Good Day Chair Yaroslavsky and other council members, I am one of the human voices for the LA City Shelter Animals. The Mayor's proposed budget cuts are irresponsible and inhumane. The current proposal CLOSSES THREE SHELTERS AND ELIMINATES 62 POSITIONS. We are already at crisis levels and the euthanasia rates have increased by 72%. We are greatly understaffed, supplies have been reduced, increased FAS in animals particularly dogs as they are not being walked or exercised. This has created an untenable dangerous situation. While the city and the county are paying billions of dollars for sex abuse, child abuse, wrong deaths, animals are suffering. When it comes to the animals, the city doesn't have Animal Welfare Professional on board. Rather line items are being cut based on funds without the regard for health and welfare of our animals. Why is there no one with the background in our Animal commission? This is shameful. Instead the city hires consultants who do not have our animals at the forefront or best interest (and often a waste of money) The animal welfare professionals are OFTEN left out. Nationwide groups such as ASPCA should have some involvement to guide and help revise the budget (and maybe system) in a way that makes sense. There is no transparency in these shelter related situations. The experience is just not there. This has been ongoing. Mayor Bass interviewed ONE candidate with a troubled history and hired her as GM for the LA CITY SHELTER System. She was on the job for 3-4 months and then on paid leave before she was out? Why isn't someone policing these ridiculous decisions that eat up our dollars. We could have a gold standard shelter system with robust support of Rescue groups, Volunteers, Veterinary partners etc. What is everyone afraid of? Stop the pencil pushing, these are innocent precious lives. Time to act responsibly. Thank you for your consideration. Alicia Esken

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Melissa Butts

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 04:05 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I ask that the 5 filled positions up for elimination in the OHR be restored in a revised budget. I live in a 1940s era courtyard apartment building that was in danger of being torn down by a short-sighted owner in 2024. We as tenants organized and with the support of OHR and the LA Conservancy were granted HCM status with unanimous votes at every hearing. This would not have been possible if the staffing at OHR was downsized. An important piece of LA history and architecture would have been lost. The OHR supports so many in our community that reducing their staff would make it near impossible for any other LA residents to save their historic neighborhoods and buildings. I urge you to seriously reconsider this proposal and reinstate those 5 positions up for elimination within the OHR. Thank you for your time.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Susan Grossman  
**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 04:05 PM  
**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing as a member of the Hancock Park Homeowners Association Board of Directors, as an over 15 year member of the Hancock Park HPOZ Board and as an over 40 year resident of Hancock Park (and a lifetime resident of Los Angeles) to ask that you oppose the proposed cutbacks to the City's Office of Historic Resources (OHR) and City Planning. The cuts would: 1) Eliminate three Historic Preservation Overlay Zone (HPOZ) planners; 2) Elimination of the staff position maintaining the HistoricPlacesLA office, ending the City's 15-year partnership with the Getty Foundation; and 3) Elimination of one administrative staff position. I was part of the effort to establish Hancock Park's HPOZ decades ago and our partners at Planning were indispensable to our efforts to protect Hancock Park's unique historic neighborhood. And, as an HPOZ Board member I worked closely with our HPOZ City Planner who has been the critical resource and liaison with homeowners, the City and the Board. Eliminating these positions will result in backlogs, frustration and loss of support for LA's history and character. Los Angeles is a world respected and admired city for many reasons but one of them is the rich and deep historic buildings that we have preserved. The loss of the protection for these treasures will destroy LA's uniqueness and beauty and make life in the City and for citizens duller, poorer and less inspiring. I recognize that these are extremely difficult times for the City, but to sacrifice what makes LA the beautiful, unique and desirable place to live to get through some tough times would be a great tragedy. Thank you for your help and dedication to LA and its citizens.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Evan Puziss

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 04:07 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please protect the LA Animal Services shelters from budget cuts. I understand the City is in tough financial straits but under no circumstances should the existing shelters be shut-down. Indeed, I'm amazed that a city of this size has so few as it is. I have recently taken an orientation session to familiarize myself with the dept and what they do in preparation for volunteering my time at the West LA local shelter. I was very impressed by the facilities and the professionalism of the staff in this important work. Not only is caring for lost/stray/homeless animals the humane thing to do but it makes sense in terms of public health and safety. Any money saved by cutting back on or worse, cutting out these facilities would prove to be a false economy as it will likely cost more down the line. SAVE OUR SHELTERS. Thank you for your consideration. -Evan Puziss

## Communication from Public

**Name:** J

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 10:15 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Writing in support of rescue shelters that are facing Mayor Karen Bass' \$5 million budget cuts for LA Animal Services. Due to insufficient funding the animals are not getting the care that they need and 3 shelters would face closure with the budget cut. Healthy animals are being euthanized every day. Shelters are in dire need of MORE spay/neuter clinics. MORE funding is needed, not less. The budget cut would be immensely detrimental to these animals and shelters and for the people who work and volunteer for these animals in need. Please do NOT allow the budget cut to go through! It would be a disastrous decision.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sara Walker

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 10:18 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please do not cut budgets for the animal shelters. We have sweet animals that need our help in these shelters. Cutting these budgets would be so beyond tragic. Please.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Patricia

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 10:30 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I urge you to not cut funding to our animal shelters, they save lives both for the animals they serve and the families that take them in. I've had shelter pups in my family my entire life and they have been the biggest blessings that add enrichment to my life. I'd urge you to visit a center and see where our dollars are going before moving forward with cuts. I believe we can take necessary cuts from the substantial budget allocated for law enforcement overtime. This not only keeps our workforce but also creates a more efficient work flow for the department. Doing so provides further good faith within the neighborhoods they serve.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dandy Beltran

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 10:33 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I really hope that the Budget & Finance Committee really reads this!!

Re: Council File# 25-0600

04/30/2025

Public Comment on Proposed Budget

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Dandy Beltran, and I'm a Management Analyst with the City of Los Angeles – Department of Aging and an EAA Union Member. I wish that I would be writing this under better circumstances, but the fact that so many employees have shared their opinions and concerns has prompted me to do the same.

I have proudly served the city for 9 years, working on Senior Employment Training Programs for the Department. In my time with the city I have assisted over 500 seniors who have enrolled our training programs. For the last 7 years I have been responsible for the day to day operations of the City Council approved Older Worker Employment Program (OWEP). In that time I have assisted over 150 homeless, low-income older adults enroll in the program, find them training sites to help them serve the community, and ensure that their timesheets are processed in Workday, so they may be paid their stipend in a timely manner. For years I was told how important my job was for the betterment of the City of Los Angeles and its citizens, now I'm being told my job doesn't matter — that it's expendable.

The Mayor's proposed layoffs would eliminate my position and those of my hard working colleagues that provide support to seniors enrolled in the City of Los Angeles' Older Worker Employment Program (OWEP). Management Analysts handle some of the more detailed, complicated duties for the city. We handle most of the invisible work that keeps, programs, departments, and the entire city running on a daily basis. These budget cuts not only *threatens* my family's livelihood — it also *threatens* the very services that help this city evolve and thrive. In addition, both Mayor Garcetti and Mayor Bass have devoted time, personnel, and funding to help fight and prevent homelessness – yet the only program that is targeted to assist Homeless, Low-Income, & Unemployed Older Adults is being targeted for elimination. Also, the proposed merger of the Department of Aging with other departments will have a significant negative impact on the service level provided to the seniors that live in the City of Los Angeles. With the proposed reductions to staff and then becoming part of a larger department with multiple functions to different demographics, this will take the focus away from helping and serving this growing, vulnerable population, Older Adults.

Without people like me, the City of Los Angeles will suffer a great decline in service levels to all senior citizens and homeless older adults will have no other City agency to turn to for assistance. Throughout the years I have seen LAHSA waste millions of dollars, while my very small program, at the Department of Aging, has been using all of its available manpower and funding to help this very vulnerable demographic. If the goal of the mayor is to help solve homelessness - cutting successful, award winning programs and the staff that supports these programs may not be the best approach.

I urge you to reject these cuts and preserve the jobs that keep LA running and moving forward. The hard working City staff is not responsible for these budget gaps, yet we are being asked to pay the price for others' lack of foresight when it comes to the budget. Please do better for us — and for the city we serve. Layoffs are **NOT** the answer. The constituents and your employees deserve better.

Sincerely,



Dandy Beltran

Management Analyst

City of Los Angeles – Department of Aging

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mathilda Tennysdotter

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 10:41 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to express deep concern and frustration over the recent decision to cut funding for animal welfare services and shelters in Los Angeles. This decision is not only deeply disappointing but also dangerous and inhumane, especially given the already overwhelmed state of our city's animal shelters. Los Angeles has long struggled with overcrowded, underfunded shelters, staff shortages, and inadequate resources to care for the thousands of animals in need. Reducing the budget further will exacerbate these issues and lead to tragic outcomes, more animals being euthanized, increased cases of neglect, and a rising number of stray animals on our streets. Animal services are a fundamental public responsibility. These shelters serve as a vital safety net for abandoned and abused animals, while also playing a key role in public health, safety, and community wellbeing. I urge you to reconsider this harmful budget decision and instead prioritize humane, sustainable solutions that reflect the values of a compassionate city. Our animals and the hardworking shelter staff and volunteers who care for them, deserve everything to be able to stay open and care for the animals.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ali Koehler

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 10:55 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** As the owner of a dog who came from LA's shelters, and somebody who visited all of LA's shelters while looking for a family dog, there is no way Karen Bass' proposed budget cuts could be considered at all humane. The current state of the shelter system is already abysmal and they are completely understaffed and have no space for all of the unwanted animals in the city. Rescues can barely keep up. I witnessed five dogs to a kennel filled with poop. And that's happening in multiple kennels at every shelter location. Some locations even had to close off parts of their lobby in order to house more animals. There has to be a better more humane way and removing funding is not it. I typically vote democrat but could not in good conscience support this.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 10:59 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello: I am expressing my deep concern about the closing of animal shelters. The animal crisis is huge and this will make it worse. Instead, reform our shelters and stop all the euthanizing of healthy puppies, kittens and adults. This system in place now is truly heartless. Do the right thing!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Melissa Rocco

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 10:59 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Requesting you Do NOT close the shelters and layoff staff. There is a huge necessity for these shelter to remain open. These animals have no voice . Please help them. Your consideration is appreciated.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dan  
**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 11:09 AM  
**Council File No:** 25-0600  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Please restore Historic Preservation positions. These are essential investments for the City's future.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Marie-Aimee Brajeux

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 11:19 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Facing budget cuts since 2008, the Day Laborer Program has been sustaining its 7 centers with a limited allocation of just over a million dollars. These cuts would mean losing money and staff livelihoods. Day Labor Centers are more than just places to find employment, Day Labor Centers act as leadership and workforce development hubs for migrant workers, where workers are empowered to take action, including but not limited to setting their own wages and setting agreements on job distribution to ensure equitable opportunity in an inequitable job market rife with wage theft and health and safety violations. They are safe and trusted spaces at a time when immigrant workers are being targeted and criminalized by the current federal administration. If this funding is not secured, IDEPSCA will be forced to close down its Van Nuys, Cypress Park, and Harbor Community Job Centers, forcing already vulnerable day laborers onto the streets. In the current political climate, with federal law enforcement team indiscriminately targeting citizens and immigrants based on the color of their skin and little else, it is absolutely crucial that Los Angeles remains a true sanctuary city and spends its budget where those that need it most can benefit from it. Please make sure that those centers remain funded through the budget!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sandy Reyes

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2025 12:05 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am an administrative clerk with the Petroleum Office under the Board of Public Works. I was hired through the Targeted Local Hire (TLH) program, I made the decision to leave my long time job at LAUSD working with youth for more growth and opportunity with the City of L.A. I was fortunate to be offered this opportunity, working with the Petroleum Office were I have learned about drill sites and oil wells throughout Los Angeles communities, including my own. The Amortization study in our office will inform policy for the proper capping of these oil wells, which is crucially important to the communities that have been affected by Oil drilling for generations. My children swim at the John Argue C. Stadium at Exposition Park which is near the Murphy Drill site. I am extremely concerned about the toxic emissions that my children and surrounding residents are exposed to. My children also went to schools nearby and have participated in community centers near this site. I have roots in this community, and am strongly opposed the proposed budget which will cut funding for the Petroleum Office monitoring and oversight. I ask you to please keep community safety and health a priority, thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Anne

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2025 05:46 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Council File Number 25-0600 MAJOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE CATASTROPHIC FOR OUR ANIMALS! I am sending this email to "express my deep concern about the proposed budget cuts to LA Animal Services. Our shelters are overwhelmed, and reducing funding will cause more suffering and unnecessary euthanasia. I urge city council members to oppose these cuts and protect our animals."

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Melody  
**Date Submitted:** 04/28/2025 09:38 PM  
**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed \$4.8 million in cuts to Los Angeles Animal Services under Council File 25-0600. These cuts are not just numbers on a spreadsheet — they represent the closure of three city shelters, the loss of critical animal care jobs, the decimation of medical teams, and a collapse of adoption, foster, and emergency response services. This is a direct threat to public safety and a devastating blow to animal welfare across our city. The City has more than \$5 million available. It is unconscionable to allow thousands of animals and the communities that care for them to suffer while funds sit unused. Protect Animal Services. Protect life. Fully fund Animal Services in the final budget.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jordana Arkin

**Date Submitted:** 04/27/2025 04:01 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I have lived in this city for decades and I have never been more disappointed than when I read that Mayor Karen Bass wants to close three animal shelters. Pinching pennies to spend dollars from killing more animals is cruel, heartless and unnecessary. How about substantial fines for backyard breeders and funding free spay and neutering and more shelters. Fix the problem rather than destroy this city.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/27/2025 07:21 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Now that California is the 4th largest economy in the world, we should be able to afford sheltering animals in Los Angeles. Los Angeles continues to make mistakes in budget cuts. First with the fires and now this animal shelter proposal. We need better leadership now!

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/27/2025 11:41 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Stop the attempt to underfund animal services !



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Brooke

**Date Submitted:** 04/27/2025 08:13 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please don't cut budgets for the animals. We are their voice. The ones in the shelters already don't have homes, don't take what is their home away and leave them for more suffering and death. We must not cut the budget for these innocent animals. Please help protect them!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Theresa Maysonet  
**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 11:44 PM  
**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I write to express strong opposition to the proposal in Mayor Bass's FY 2025–26 budget (Exhibit H) that would consolidate the Office of Forest Management (OFM) into the Urban Forestry Division (UFD) within StreetsLA. This consolidation risks eliminating the only city office whose sole mission is to develop long-range, interdepartmental urban forestry policy. The Office of Forest Management was established to advance a unified, citywide vision for a healthy and thriving urban forest—one that reflects environmental justice, climate resilience, and community health. It plays a fundamentally different role from that of the Urban Forestry Division, which is focused on day-to-day tree maintenance and operations. Crucially, OFM is leading the development of Los Angeles's first-ever Urban Forest Management Plan—a transformative document that reflects extensive community engagement, scientific research, and interagency collaboration. Dismantling or absorbing this office midstream jeopardizes not only the plan's completion but the city's credibility and leadership on climate equity. As one of the largest and most environmentally diverse cities in the nation, Los Angeles has a responsibility—and an opportunity—to lead on urban forestry policy. Maintaining an independent Office of Forest Management is essential to modeling best practices in equitable tree canopy expansion, climate adaptation, and long-term urban resilience. Other cities look to Los Angeles for innovation in environmental governance, and dismantling this office would be a step backward at a critical moment. We urge you to oppose this consolidation and instead advocate for the continued independence and appropriate resourcing of OFM. This office must remain empowered to guide urban forestry policy across departments—not just within the Bureau of Street Services—if Los Angeles is to meet its climate and equity goals.



April 30, 2025

Councilmember Heather Hutt  
Los Angeles City Council, 10<sup>th</sup> District  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: Opposition to Consolidation of the Office of Forest Management into  
the Urban Forestry Division**

Dear Councilmember Hutt,

I write to express strong opposition to the proposal in Mayor Bass's FY 2025–26 budget (Exhibit H) that would consolidate the Office of Forest Management (OFM) into the Urban Forestry Division (UFD) within StreetsLA.

This consolidation risks eliminating the only city office whose sole mission is to develop long-range, interdepartmental urban forestry policy. The Office of Forest Management was established to advance a unified, citywide vision for a healthy and thriving urban forest—one that reflects environmental justice, climate resilience, and community health. It plays a fundamentally different role from that of the Urban Forestry Division, which is focused on day-to-day tree maintenance and operations.

Crucially, OFM is leading the development of Los Angeles's first-ever Urban Forest Management Plan—a transformative document that reflects extensive community engagement, scientific research, and interagency collaboration. Dismantling or absorbing this office midstream jeopardizes not only the plan's completion but the city's credibility and leadership on climate equity.

As one of the largest and most environmentally diverse cities in the nation, Los Angeles has a responsibility—and an opportunity—to lead on urban forestry policy. Maintaining an independent Office of Forest Management is essential to modeling best practices in equitable tree canopy expansion, climate adaptation, and long-term urban resilience. Other cities look to Los Angeles for innovation in environmental governance, and dismantling this office would be a step backward at a critical moment.

We urge you to oppose this consolidation and instead advocate for the continued independence and appropriate resourcing of OFM. This office must remain empowered to guide urban forestry policy across departments—not just within the Bureau of Street Services—if Los Angeles is to meet its climate and equity goals.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to this important issue.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Theresa Maysonet". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Sincerely,  
Theresa Maysonet  
Co-Founder  
South LA Tree Coalition

## Communication from Public

**Name:** KB

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 09:07 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** It's unacceptable that the Mayor's office is proposing to eliminate the landmark Climate Emergency Mobilization Office. We MUST focus, as a city, on climate work, preparation, and advocacy so that we can mitigate the harmful effects of climate change. It is unconscionable that the city wants to forfeit the \$750,000 of grant funding already awarded to CEMO and to shutter this office, especially in light of the recent LA wildfires. We must continue the vital work of CEMO to make sure we are prepared for future disasters and the challenges of extreme weather. Many Angelenos live near oil and gas wells that are leaking hazardous chemicals that impact our health, as Los Angeles has the most urban oil wells in the nation. Downsizing the Office of Petroleum and Natural Gas and eliminating positions that oversee pollution from oil wells in the city and work to phase out urban oil drilling is a threat to our health and safety. CEMO MUST NOT be cut from the LA budget!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lucifer Phoenix Wolf

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2025 09:10 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I believe this a blasphemy y'all need to understand that you could just go about this a different way. Endangered animals are where it's at. Just feed the animals some grass if y'all got a problem with it that's what we do in Iowa because we got the best FUCKING corn in all the Great ASS land of the MidFUCKINGWEST.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 09:31 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please reconsider the budget to avoid layoffs for the sake of City services and City workers.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 09:49 AM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** The City of Los Angeles must immediately halt any plans to lay off civilian employees, especially in the midst of a struggling economy where many are already on the brink of financial collapse. Replacing laid-off civilian workers with sworn LAPD officers is not only inefficient and costly, but it also will increase response times to emergencies and deteriorate the relationship between residents of LA and police. Laying employees off strips valuable jobs away from people who rely on these positions as their sole source of income. Many of these employees are already living paycheck to paycheck, and losing their jobs now could result in devastating consequences, including homelessness and the inability to provide for their families. At a time when the cost of living is at an all-time high and affordable housing is scarce, the City should be protecting its workers—not pushing them into crisis.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Andrew McGlennon  
**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 07:57 PM  
**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** The Day Labor Programs and Resource Centers are some of the most effective and valuable programs for LA and the city needs to defend this resource. The workers at these facilities go above and beyond to meet the needs of the people of this city to help them meet their life's goals with job security, and builds a community hub unlike anything I've seen in an of the other major city. I witnessed their strong organization after the fires, when they were deploying large cleanup teams and swiftly became distribution centers for all those coping with loss from the fires. This is exactly the type of program a city should be proud to fund, and it's short-term thinking to pull funds from this work. The problems our city faces are interconnected, and gutting effective programs that deal with the whole spectrum of our people's lives in favor of reactive restructuring will only lead to small savings and ultimately will incur more costs and debt on the budget. These are some of the best workers the city has ever produced and it's vital to build up the Day Labor Resources of Los Angeles by every means possibles. The city needs this program, amend the budget. Fund the Day Labor Programs and Resource Centers.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ariana Q

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 07:59 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** It is crucial that we provide adequate funding to our already overworked and understaffed LAAS shelters. Euthanasia rates in L.A. county are already catastrophic -- it's unfathomable how many more innocent animals will have to die due to overcrowding and limited resources. Please fund LAAS shelters! Shelter workers were heroes during our recent fires, caring for lost pets and reuniting families -- please give them the resources they need to continue doing their job.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Giving Voice to the Voiceless

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 08:08 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly OPOSSE Major Bass' proposal to cutting budget to the LA Animal Services. There are 5 million in unappropriated funds, these cuts are NOT necessary. This is cruelty and it is outrageous!!! SAVE THE ANIMALS!!! Major Bass thinks no one cares about animal welfare. She is WRONG!!! Just how wrong she was handling the recent fires, this is even more wrong. Karen Bass must GO as she has failed! Save the animals!!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Stephanie Stuart  
**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 08:19 PM  
**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, I am writing to strongly oppose Mayor Karen Bass's proposed budget cuts to Los Angeles Animal Services. Reducing funding for our city's animal shelters would have devastating consequences for both animals and our communities. Our shelters are already under immense strain—understaffed, overcrowded, and struggling to provide basic care for the thousands of homeless, abandoned, and injured animals that rely on them. Cutting their budget will only worsen this crisis, leading to increased neglect, suffering, and potentially higher euthanasia rates. It is unacceptable for a city as large and resourceful as Los Angeles to turn its back on its most vulnerable creatures. These shelters also serve the public—supporting pet owners, reducing stray animal populations, and protecting public health and safety. Budget cuts would limit essential services like adoptions, spay/neuter programs, and emergency response. The impact will be felt citywide. I urge you to reject any proposal that cuts funding to animal services. Instead, we should be investing in solutions that address this crisis humanely and effectively. Our city must do better—for the animals, and for the people who care about them.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Laurie Jacobs

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 08:53 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing in retaining funding in support of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO) which is currently being eliminated completely in the proposed budget. CEMO is catalyzing collaborative and equitable climate solutions to co-create community climate resilience & thriving, healthy communities for all of the City of Los Angeles. This group had been granted funds from the State of California to prepare the City's first Heat Action and Resilience Plan, with many community groups. So, the loss to the City and our communities is concerning to me. The climate emergency and extreme heat hazards, coupled with the dire impacts on frontline and historically disinvested communities in the City of Los Angeles, inspired the creation of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Office (CEMO). I know that Mayor Bass and the City Council are supportive of climate actions addressing severe global warming. While realizing that cuts do need to be made, I feel that what is at stake is that CEMO would have given the City more access to the Climate Bond and made the City a more likely candidate for that funding that will go to Climate Leading cities. Also, this State Grant would have funded community engagement and training for our Extreme Heat Priorities. It's quite possible that even the state grant we were offered will now have to be turned down. The CEMO focuses on addressing and engaging the voices of frontline communities and the broader LA community to create a dialogue and mobilize their voices to create equitable climate policies and initiatives. Climate change is adversely impacting frontline communities unequally and has created historical and direct health and economic threats to our communities of color. These communities are the most pollution burdened, health burdened, and have the least access to economic mobility. A clean energy transformation and infrastructure investments can bring affordable and subsidized options to fulfill the vision of this green transition for all. Also, I can't sing the praises enough of Marta Segura (THE CITY of LA's first Chief Heat Officer and CEMO Director) enough as well as her passionate and efficient team. Marta is policy thought leader in extreme heat, environmental justice, climate, public health and stakeholder engagement, and has extensive expertise in leading public, philanthropic, private, institutional, and non-profit sectors to design, implement, and

drive equitable climate policy promoting healthier and more engaged communities. Our City cannot afford to lose someone of her expertise. This office should have been set up under the Energy and Environment Committee, not under Public Works. I urge the City Council to review the work CEMO has been doing and find a way to keep this team, possibly consolidating with another committee. Please review the excellent work in progress with CEMO on Heat Relief. These programs will save lives. Thank you for your consideration.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Niesja Strongwolf

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 09:31 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Our public services for animals should not suffer because of Karen Bass' twisted idea of how to run a city. Her incompetence is astounding at this point. This is one of the largest Cities in the World, and as everyone already knows, there is a massive animal issue. Closing down three of the six shelters is beyond comprehension, not to mention cruel and embarrassing. The people of Los Angeles will absolutely not stand for this. We have bad roads, pipes, and public services, which make people suffer. Obviously, she doesn't care about us, and now she doesn't care for the animals either! Most of the time, you can judge a person's character by how they treat small animals.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Skye G.

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 09:54 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Mayor Bass and City Council Members, My name is Skye G. and I am a full-time college student at Cal State LA, student worker, a sister, and daughter. I am a dedicated pack leader to my own dogs and hope I can be a voice for any dog in need of a loving home. I suggest you do not close down any animal shelters because this would only hurt the innocent animals whom are in need of our support. Currently, my family and I are fostering a stray dog that we rescued off the street which means another dog to our pack. I shared and posted the dog all over in hopes of finding the owner though no one has shown keen interest. Instinctively, my family and I stepped in to care for this stray dog and educate ourselves on dog psychology and training to be responsible pet owners. This is one stray dog out of many, now what happens to all the other dogs who need refuge and the shelter is there only hope... With less animal shelters in Los Angeles, there will be even more dogs on the street in danger and an influx in overcrowding. Shelters are underfunded and understaffed already and in dire need of reform. The rapid rate at which dogs are being euthanized in shelters needs to be greatly reduced. Our shelters need better management and leadership that keeps animals alive and thriving so that euthanasia is prevented more than it occurs. I ask for your unwavering support to help keep LA animal shelters open and propose a reform to the people managing these shelters. A solution to improving shelters is by providing job opportunities for people to work at animal shelters and paying them to properly care for these animals in shelters and invite professional dog trainers/behaviorists so that the animals are more easily adoptable. By investing in the services and care of animal shelters, it will create a healthier environment for all involved. Then communities will want to donate or help out more at animal shelters which in turn can help raise funds to expand and reform these spaces. Thank you for your consideration. Respectfully, Skye G.



## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/30/2025 10:17 PM

**Council File No:** 25-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am a Planner within the Department of City Planning, a proud member of EAA, and a long time LA resident. I'm here to express my strong opposition to the Mayor's proposed budget. The proposed cuts to City Planning are disproportionate, unjustified, and dangerously shortsighted — eliminating over 35% of our staff. If this budget passes as proposed, everyone on my team will be affected — through layoffs, demotions, or displacements. Many of us are early in our careers. We chose this field because we believe in building a better Los Angeles — and now we're being pushed out just as we're starting to make an impact. Let me be clear: Planning is not an overhead department — it's essential infrastructure. We're on the front lines of housing production, land use reform, environmental planning, and zoning equity. We are a revenue-generating department. We process developments that bring in permits, fees, and long-term tax revenue. Every delay caused by these cuts slows that revenue — it doesn't save the City money; it costs us more. We are already understaffed. Our teams are stretched to the limit and still delivering critical services. Cutting over one-third of our workforce will bring essential Planning functions to a halt. This will cause massive productivity loss. Projects will stall. Housing approvals will be delayed. Community engagement will suffer. Retraining and reassigning displaced workers takes months, if not years. Once we lose institutional knowledge, we don't get it back. Planning also collaborates closely with other departments across the City — including Housing, Transportation, and Building and Safety — to ensure coordinated, efficient, and effective implementation of the City's housing, infrastructure, and climate goals. Weakening Planning weakens the whole system. These cuts will also jeopardize access to state and federal funding tied to strict planning and housing timelines — millions of dollars that could be lost due to missed deadlines and reduced capacity. City Planning is also central to the City's equity goals. We are one of the few departments actively working to reverse systemic inequalities in land use, zoning, and neighborhood investment. Cutting us sets back progress for the very communities the City claims to prioritize. Our work directly supports the goals of this Council — from affordable housing production to sustainability, mobility, and climate resilience. And with the 2028 Olympics on

the horizon, we are the ones ensuring the City is ready — through coordinated infrastructure, public space improvements, and long-term planning. These cuts don't just hurt staff — they threaten our city's future. When Planning is weakened, public trust suffers. Outdated community plans sit untouched. Community engagement gets delayed. Promises to residents remain unfulfilled. This is more than a budget decision — it's a statement about what kind of city we want to be. If the City claims to care about housing, equity, sustainability, and economic growth, then it must protect the people doing that work. I urge the Council to reject these devastating cuts and demand a better approach — one that doesn't gut a department critical to the city's future. Please seek more feasible alternatives rather than cutting the very workforce that supports your city. Planning is not the problem. Weak budgeting strategy is. And this department should not be made the scapegoat for poor long-term planning at the expense of housing production, public trust, and the City's own stated goals. Protect Planning. Protect Los Angeles. Thank you.