

Communication from Public

Name: Nataly Rios Gutierrez

Date Submitted: 04/29/2025 09:22 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, my name is Nataly Rios Gutiérrez. I've worked for the City for nearly three years as a transportation planner with LADOT and I am a CD13 resident. I'm writing in a personal capacity. In my work, I focus on making sure our transportation systems are safe, coordinated, and equitable — so Angelenos can get where they need to go safely, whether by walking, biking, transit, or driving. Transportation is critical infrastructure. It's about public safety, public health, and basic daily life. I've helped lead citywide efforts to prioritize safety improvements and investment strategies. Without planners like me — without the people who manage these systems — we leave gaps that cost lives and cost the City more in lawsuits and liability. I find it unacceptable that while civilian workers across departments are being cut, the LAPD's budget continues to grow, even after paying out over \$100 million in settlements last year. Meanwhile, the people who work every day to prevent harm and connect this city are treated like we're expendable. We show up because we believe in public service. We believe in making Los Angeles better, safer, and more just. Cutting these jobs is not budget responsibility — it's bad leadership. I urge you to stop these cuts. Invest in the people who actually serve and protect Angelenos every day. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/03/2025 10:00 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to adamantly protect the budget cuts to the animal services. It is unconscionable to close these essential services at a time when the city is still recovering from the fires. Animals are an essential part of our city. We cannot abandon them. Restore the budget and ensure full access and support for the incredible work done by animal services. Thanks.

Communication from Public

Name: Hayley Case

Date Submitted: 04/30/2025 07:54 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: SAVE OUR ANIMALS! Do not close our city's shelters!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Michael Russell
Date Submitted: 04/29/2025 11:10 AM
Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: The Westwood Village Business Improvement District (BID) is excited to participate in the LADOT Special Parking Revenue Fund (SPRF) Local Return pilot program that was approved by the City Council in 2019. This pilot program will return a portion (15%) of locally generated parking (meter) revenues back to the community to fund important pedestrian safety, transportation, public space, and access projects that the City can no longer fund due to 2025-2026 budget constraints. The Westwood Village BID began working in 2014 to establish this program in the city and strongly advocated for BIDs to be able to direct a percentage of locally generated revenue back into their respective districts. The Westwood Village BID has also been in close contact with LADOT since the beginning and has spoken in support of their efforts to define the pilot program at meetings of the Transportation Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee. Unfortunately, the LADOT Transportation Planning Associate position needed to implement the approved SPRF Local Return program was eliminated during the pandemic. A Transportation Planning Associate position is required to coordinate with the BIDs, conduct public outreach, reporting, oversight, processing reimbursements, auditing, etc. Because the existing LADOT staff cannot accommodate this work, the Westwood Village BID respectfully requests that funding for an administrative support position be included in the Budget and Finance Committees' consideration of the Mayor's 2025-26 proposed budget. It would also be worth exploring if a portion of the (15%) shared meter revenue could be used to help fund the position. Returning 15% of meter revenues to the three BIDS in the pilot program, Lincoln Heights, Pacific Palisades, and Westwood Village, can increase the city's total meter revenue for three reasons: 1. BIDs that don't have meters can request them to get 15% of the new revenue, and the city will get 85%. 2. BIDs that already have meters can request running them in the evening and on Sundays to get 15% of the added revenue, and the city will get 85%. 3. BIDS can request vigorous parking enforcement to reduce nonpayment at meters, and the city will get all the ticket revenue. Implementing this program to return a portion of parking meter revenue that our district generates for the City each year is one of the top priorities for the Westwood Village BID. Our

organization is intimately knowledgeable of shovel-ready projects and programs that need attention in our community yet lack funding. Therefore, we are asking you to help ensure that LADOT has the resources necessary to identify and/or hire an administrative support position to see through the implementation of the Special Parking Revenue Fund Local Return program, as directed by the City Council (Transportation & Budget & Finance Committees), in Council File: 15-1450-S4.



- COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT -

Council File: [15-1450-S4](#)

Title: Parking Reform / Proposed Pilot Program / Keeping Meter Money in Local Neighborhoods

Position: For

Summary:

In 2019, the City of Los Angeles was preparing to establish a pilot Special Parking Revenue Fund (SPRF) Local Return Program that would return 15% of parking meter revenue to the business improvement districts (BIDs) that generate the meter revenue in order to reinvest the funding for local projects and services that would improve business conditions. The Westwood Village Improvement Association (WVIA) was one of three BIDs included in the pilot. Despite being ready for implementation, the pilot was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the elimination of the LADOT administrative support position required to coordinate with the BIDs, conduct outreach, etc.

Local BIDs are intimately knowledgeable on shovel-ready projects that lack funding. For example, SPRF local return to the WVIA would potentially fund activation, upgrades, and expansion of Broxton Plaza, repairs and new greenery for sidewalks, enhanced bicycle parking, or new Westwood Village “gateway signage.” The public services and improvements funded by the returned parking revenue will improve business conditions and increase sales tax revenue for the City. As an example, Old Pasadena implemented a parking revenue return program in 1982, and sales tax revenue tripled in the next five years.

The North Westwood Neighborhood Council requests that the City resume implementation of the Special Parking Revenue Fund Local Return Program and ensure that LADOT has the resources necessary to hire the required administrative support position. We believe this position can be kept budget-neutral by funding the LADOT position out of the 15% return.

Communication from Public

Name: Kelly Verrinder
Date Submitted: 04/29/2025 11:24 AM
Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: If the mayors drastic and devastating one third budget cuts to animal services were to move forward, a broken system would only get worse. After the LA fires this year I cannot imagine how this decision could ethically be made. Knowing how much animal services were involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of their communities displaced pets. They reunited and rehomed so many scared and singed animals who had gotten separated from their loving homes and families. Saving the budget for animal services will mean saving these emergency services as well. Beyond that, their regular day to day services are also essential. Cutting this budget and to this degree will mean inhumane treatment or loss of life of many animals due to a simple lack of resources. Those that will feel this strain the most will be the less affluent of the population. Do you really want to continue to underserve the underserved? Do you want to help people and helpless pets or simply crunch numbers with a cold heart?

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/29/2025 12:28 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not cut the already limited resources for animals in need. As a foster based in Sacramento, I personally stepped in to help by taking in a foster from the LA area during the wildfires because of the urgent need for support. These shelters are already overwhelmed and underfunded — cutting their resources even further will cost innocent lives. Please don't make animals pay the price for budget shortfalls. We must do better.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/29/2025 04:34 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: There needs to be more funding going to L.A. animal shelters and not less. If funding was cut to these shelters, there will be more animals on the streets, with more accidents happening rather it is swerving around animals or even hitting them. Cutting funding is not simply just cutting funding for shelters.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/29/2025 05:18 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: LOSING VOTES HERE KAREN!!!! Shutting down ANY animal shelters and FORCING euthanasia due to these closures/"budget cuts" is BARBARIC, uncalled for and actually laughable. Council members agreeing with this should be ashamed and will no longer have the vote of ANY animal lover in this county. How dare you put the lives of innocent animals at risk. These are creatures without a voice and have no one but the human population to rely on...and we're bad enough. Be a good human. Do the right thing. Don't vote for Karen Bass jfc.

Communication from Public

Name: Patricia Heilmann

Date Submitted: 04/29/2025 07:32 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: It's really hard to believe that our mayor is cutting the amount of animal shelters in half. As it is now many of the animals put to sleep(murdered) in less than a week. If the existing shelters are on overload now I can't image what it will be like when half of them are closed. It's inhumane. What's wrong with our major.? I adopted a dog 2 months ago & will adopt a cat in the near future. I wonder if major Bass has any animals. She must not or she would not do such an inhumane thing. Please vote no to cut the animal shelters & kill these innocent creatures. Patricia Heilmann

Communication from Public

Name: Ashley Ramos
Date Submitted: 05/02/2025 10:13 AM
Council File No: 25-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Allocate \$890,000 from the City's \$27.5 million opioid settlement fund to restore HIV services and retain critical staff. These funds are eligible, available, and unspent.

Communication from Public

Name: Erika Quintana
Date Submitted: 04/29/2025 08:55 PM
Council File No: 25-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Hello! Please do not move forward with the proposed 5M budget cut to animal services. It is unacceptable to allow 3 of the 6 shelters in LA county close.

Communication from Public

Name: Trinity Tran

Date Submitted: 05/02/2025 01:13 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Fund the Public Bank Feasibility Study. On behalf of over 70 organizations who have signed on to the attached budget request letter from the Public Bank LA Coalition, we urge the Council to fund the public bank feasibility study. Los Angeles faces urgent financial challenges, including budget shortfalls, wildfire recovery, and federal uncertainty, making long-term financing more critical than ever. Each year, LA pays \$3 to \$4 million in banking fees and interest and \$1.4 billion annually in debt service, including over \$300 million in interest and fees paid to commercial banks and financial firms. These are funds that could instead be invested locally to build affordable housing, support small businesses, repair roads, and strengthen climate resilience. We need a plan to give the city a tool to save money, lower borrowing costs, and keep public funds working for Angelenos. Fund the Public Bank Feasibility Study and give Los Angeles a roadmap to reinvest in its people.

PUBLIC BANK LA COALITION

Mayor Karen Bass
200 N Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

May 2, 2025

Re: Fund the Public Bank Plan and Invest in Our Future

Dear Mayor Bass and the Honorable Los Angeles City Councilmembers,

On behalf of over 70 organizations that have signed on, the Public Bank LA Coalition is urging the LA City Council to immediately fund the Public Bank feasibility study. Los Angeles stands at the intersection of multiple crises: soaring housing costs, wildfire threats, aging infrastructure, and economic inequities. Every year, the City spends [\\$1.4 billion in debt service](#)—including [over \\$300 million in interest payments and banking fees](#) to Wall Street banks and financial firms. These are public funds we desperately need to protect homes from the next disaster, fast-track affordable housing construction, and empower workers and local businesses. It's time we build a financial system that invests in us: **a Los Angeles Public Bank.**

A Public Bank is a nonprofit, city-owned, tax-exempt institution with one mission: **keep public dollars working for the public good.** Operating on a wholesale model—no branches, ATMs, or checking accounts—it maintains low overhead and reinvests resources, keeping profits in LA. Rather than competing with local lenders, it partners with them to bundle and leverage City funds for transformative, equitable projects. From new affordable housing to sustainable infrastructure, every loan aligns with our City's goals, accountable to the public interest, not private shareholders.

The Public Bank is governed by an independent board and managed by financial experts separate from City Hall, ensuring strict state and federal regulatory oversight while aligning every dollar with the City's equity and sustainability goals.

By leveraging its own resources, **a Public Bank can fund city needs without raising taxes, cutting essential services, or increasing debt.** It's a practical solution to bridge the gap in our perpetual budget deficit and immediately fund local priorities.

Why a Public Bank Deserves Immediate Priority

1. **Supercharge affordable housing.**

Today's affordable housing projects stagger under dozens of convoluted funding sources, slowing construction and inflating costs. By providing a streamlined "one-stop shop" for loans, the Public Bank can accelerate projects from concept to completion, helping families avoid the cascade into homelessness.

2. **Strengthen disaster response and resilience.**

Wildfires, floods, and earthquakes repeatedly strike with crippling effects. Relying on private banks in an emergency drags out financing, when time is critical. A Public Bank ensures rapid response funding stays at home, fueling fire-resistant infrastructure, landslide-prevention projects, and relief loans for families and small businesses.

3. **Save millions annually.**

Nearly half of our housing and infrastructure costs stem from private bank interest and fees, funds that should stay in LA. Financing through our own Public Bank cuts these extraneous costs. Through fractional reserve lending, **each dollar deposited can generate up to ten dollars in lending power—10 times the impact**, with loan repayments reinvesting back into the Public Bank.

4. **A proven model: Bank of North Dakota.**

The Bank of North Dakota (BND) is a century-tested blueprint for public-driven finance. Publicly owned since 1919, BND generated an [18% return on equity](#) in 2023 and has transferred [over \\$1 billion to the state's general fund](#). From home mortgages, to student and agricultural loans, it invests over \$1 billion in schools, water infrastructure, and healthcare. Its [A+ S&P rating](#) shows that a people-first, locally accountable Public Bank can be profitable, stable, and resilient.

The City Council has already unanimously approved the RFP funding and selected consultants. Now, we urge you to allocate \$460,000 funds for Phase 1 of the RFP and launch the feasibility study. This critical step, made possible by the California Public Banking Act, will develop financial models, detail the bank's business lines, mission, and capitalization strategies, showing how a Public Bank can create affordable housing, support labor, and build local wealth in Los Angeles. This small line item holds enormous potential to save millions in the short term, and reshape how we finance critical city projects.

Our Money, Our Values, Our Bank.

The Los Angeles Public Bank will build long-term equity, transforming the way we invest in our communities, and will:

- **Put equity and good jobs first** by investing in neglected neighborhoods, creating well-paying, union jobs, and uplifting marginalized communities.
- **Accelerate housing and climate resilience** by cutting out private lender bottlenecks and swiftly funding affordable housing and climate-ready infrastructure, without piling on new fees or debt.
- **Reinvest LA's wealth locally** by multiplying every deposit into local loans, **fixing our streets** and infrastructure, expanding public services, strengthening small businesses, and keeping millions from flowing to big banks.

On behalf of the working families, labor unions, and community organizations who keep Los Angeles running, we urge you to prioritize funding for the Public Bank feasibility study in the budget. As we brace for the next wildfire season and grapple with a deepening housing crisis, the time to act is now. Let's keep our money where our hopes—and our homes—are.

Thank you for your leadership and for recognizing the historic opportunity before us.

Sincerely,

Public Bank LA Coalition
SEIU Local 721
LA County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
Public Bank Los Angeles
ACCE Action
Inclusive Action for the City
Move LA
United Parents and Students
Destination Crenshaw

ACCE Action (Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment)
ACT-LA (Alliance for Community Transit-Los Angeles)
Africa Town Enterprise
AFSCME District Council 36
Americans for Democratic Action (ADA) Southern California

Americans for Democratic Action Foundation of Southern California
Bend the Arc
Brotherhood Crusade
California Progressive Alliance
California Public Banking Alliance
CARECEN-LA (Central American Resource Center)
CHIRLA (Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights)
CLUE (Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice)
CoCo South LA (Community Coalition)
Community Power Collective
Courage California
Creating Justice LA
Democratic Socialists of America - Los Angeles
Destination Crenshaw
Eastside Leads
Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council
End Homelessness California
FIX LA
Friends of the Earth US
Greater Cypress Park Neighborhood Council
Green Party of Los Angeles County
Ground Game LA
Housing Now! California
Inclusive Action for the City
Indivisible California
Inner City Struggle
International Union Of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 501
KIWA (Koreatown Immigrants Workers Advocates)
LA County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
LA Forward Institute
LA Voice
LAANE (Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy)
LA/OC Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO
Librarians Guild
Little Tokyo Service Center
LIUNA Local 777
Living Urban Ventures
Los Angeles Black Worker Center (LABWC)
Los Feliz Neighborhood Council

McCarty Memorial Christian Church
Move LA
Movement Legal
National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON)
Pasadena City College CORE Program
Public Bank LA (PBLA)
Public Bank Pomona Valley
Rise Economy
SAJE (Strategic Actions for a Just Economy)
SCOPE LA (Strategic Concepts in Organizing & Policy Education)
SEIU Local 721
SEIU-USWW
SoCal 350
South Asian Network
Southern Christian Leadership Conference
Sunrise Movement LA
Teamsters Local 911
Thai Community Development Center
The Academy of Financial Education
The Church Without Walls - Skid Row
The Democracy Collaborative, Joe Guinan, President
The Row LA
United Parents and Students (UPAS)
United Teacher Los Angeles (UTLA)
United to House LA
United Way LA
US Solidarity Economy Network
USC Credit Union
Venice Community Housing Corporation
Voters of Tomorrow CA

CC:

- Mayor Karen Bass
- Council President Marqueece Harris-Dawson
- President Pro Tempore Bob Blumenfield
- Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez
- Councilmember Adrin Nazarian
- Councilmember Nithya Raman

- Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky
- Councilmember Ackley Padilla
- Councilmember Monica Rodriguez
- Councilmember Curren Price
- Councilmember Heather Hutt
- Councilmember Traci Park
- Councilmember John Lee
- Councilmember Hugo-Soto Martinez
- Councilmember Ysabel Jurado
- Councilmember Tim McOsker

Communication from Public

Name: Ashleigh Dawson

Date Submitted: 04/30/2025 09:15 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I am absolutely incensed that the Mayor's office is proposing to eliminate the landmark Climate Emergency Mobilization Office. Climate work, preparation, and advocacy is what we need to be focusing on to be a resilient city so we can be prepared in a warming world. It is unconscionable that the city wants to forfeit the \$750,000 of grant funding already awarded to CEMO and try 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 can not be cut from the LA budget!

Communication from Public

Name: Jennifer Lee

Date Submitted: 04/30/2025 09:36 AM

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: Ben Browning

Date Submitted: 05/02/2025 01:15 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not cut the budget for the Los Angeles Animal Services. Any kind of animal support is already underfunded and overcrowded as it is. When you decrease their budget and lay off employees, thousands of living, breathing animals suffer as a result. There is less food, less shelter, less medical care leading to more animals on the streets and more animals suffering. Please find a different way to meet your budget plan that doesn't directly lead to the death of thousands of animals.

Communication from Public

Name: Santiago Perez
Date Submitted: 05/02/2025 01:20 PM
Council File No: 25-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Please don't cut money to the department of aging. Seniors need help and services to maintain alive and healthy.

Communication from Public

Name: Laura Brody

Date Submitted: 05/02/2025 02:24 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Cutting the funds for the Department of Disability will harm so many people in Los Angeles who rely on the department for their health, well-being, and safety. There are alternative sources of funds available right now, so there is no need for these cuts. Allocate \$890,000 from the City's \$27.5 million opioid settlement fund to restore HIV services and retain critical staff. These funds are eligible, available, and unspent. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Kate
Date Submitted: 04/27/2025 07:01 PM
Council File No: 25-0600
Comments for Public Posting: I am opposed to the proposed LAAS budget cuts and closing of Harbor and two other shelters.

Communication from Public

Name: Stav Geffner

Date Submitted: 04/27/2025 07:49 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please see attached PDF for tomorrow's budget meeting. Replace with prior submission, as I forgot to include my information in the precious PDF. Thank you!

Dear Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

As a deeply concerned Los Angeles resident I am writing you this letter regarding the proposed budget cuts to Los Angeles Animal Shelters and the upcoming vote that will determine whether more animals will make it out of LA's shelters alive or dead.

It is no surprise that the public distrust of LAAS is the result of years of increased animal deaths and failure in care, caused by budget cuts and structural and operational failures. LAAS used to lead the country in live outcomes for shelter pets and now due to the recent euthanasia protocols (changing the two week red alerts to 72 hour death notices for instance) have caused a 72% increase in dog euthanasia and a 17% increase in cat euthanasia from January to September 2024, compared to the 2023, as stated in the story published by the Los Angeles Times. I also want to clear up the use of the term euthanasia. "Euthanasia" refers to the humane ending of an animal's life due to irreversible suffering or a truly dangerous dog. However, that is not what is happening at Los Angeles shelters. LAAS is killing animals. Under the current system, no-kill L.A. is a pipedream.

Healthy treatable cats and dogs are being killed for: a) lack of kennel space; b) "behavioral" issues like kennel stress, caused by overcrowding and natural fear that animals develop at shelters; c) "medical" issues treatable illnesses like diarrhea or upper respiratory infections caused by unsanitary and unlivable conditions. LAAS is killing healthy treatable animals without sedatives, giving them a "stick" to the heart as it is a speedier way to get through the 200 dogs and cats that are alerted each week.

We understand shelters are facing increased owner surrender rates up 30% in 2024 from 2019 and this has placed an extreme toll on the city's shelter system. In order to combat this, we must look to structural solutions that center around animal welfare not killing more animals:

Structural Reorganization

- **Accountability:** Utilize an independent committee to hire, contract, and appoint new staff. Which will lead to improved shelter operations and increased live outcomes (adoptions and fostering)
- **Cross-Training Staff to Increase Operational Efficiency.**
- **Incentivizing Adoptions and Fosters:** Currently, life saving liaisons systematically choose to kill the dogs or cats rather than facilitate adoptions, even when adopters or fosters call directly and beg them for help on how to get the dog or cat out of the shelter if they cannot go to the shelter in the limited time shelters provide. Liaisons also do not refer interested fosters and adopters for rescue only pets opting instead to kill the animal rather than facilitate its release to a rescue partner who rely on fosters to save lives.
- **Shelter Hours:** Increase shelter visitation hours to be in the evening and both weekend days to accommodate working people.
- **Digitizing Services:**
 1. Online adoption system that allows adoptions to be processed online and facilitate out-of-area adoptions. This is done successfully at shelters such as Stanislaus Animal Services and they have a dedicated staff member who helps adopters facilitate transports. Currently this is being done by volunteers, "networkers", and hundreds of others across the country who work tirelessly to save LA City and County shelter pets.
 2. Virtual services for licensing and lost and found pets to inform the community in real time about found animals and strays.

3. A transparent public facing website that displays real-time metrics—animal intakes, red-alerted animals for euthanasia, and adoption/foster rates—so LAAS operations are accountable to the public and encourage community involvement.
 4. Process volunteer applications to increase volunteer numbers and have new volunteers trained by senior level volunteers to decrease workload on paid staff. Shelter volunteers are harassed and threatened by LAAS shelter management for publicly promoting red alerted dogs and cats. This culture must change. Volunteers should work in tandem with life saving liaisons to bolster their social media postings, have outings with the dogs, work with rescue partners to find fosters and adopters for dogs that have been there over 30 days or are in danger of being red listed. By giving volunteers adequate notice if a dog will be alerted *before* it's euth listed, volunteers can properly network those animals to improve live outcomes as opposed to the current high stress “concentration camp” culture that’s currently employed. A robust volunteer program helps the general public to make better choices about adoption because the volunteers spend a lot of time with every animal and get to know their temperaments to better guide people.
 5. Leverage the Chameleon shelter management system already in place to enhance coordination between staff, officers and rescue partners, and to increase data availability that can enable higher standards of animal care and case management.
- Foster Program: Bolster the outreach by utilizing rescue partners, celebrities, education via PSAs and billboards, and social media networking. Each shelter needs a dedicated staff position whose sole responsibility is to find and facilitate dogs into foster homes in Los Angeles. Recruiting from the senior volunteers who already do this would guarantee that this person is dedicated and wants to improve live outcomes as opposed to the current culture of the life saving liaisons who often work against volunteers and rescue partners trying to save animals. Jurisdictions that have invested in a robust foster network see massive upticks in live outcomes and reduced euthanasia rates. Incentivizing long term fosters via tax credits, partnerships with LAUSD’s civic responsibility programs, free training, and waived adoption fees if fosters decide to keep their foster animal will help move animals into homes and out of cement kennels. People who are fostering directly with the shelter can send dogs to the Paws 4 Life Prison program; it should be available not just for adopters but also fosters with the shelter program. Pasadena Humane runs a successful foster program.
 - Treating Rescue Partners like Partners: relations between the shelters and local rescues are fraught. Shelters work against rescues not with them. This must change if we are going to lead in live outcomes and stop using taxpayer dollars to kill animals instead of saving them. LAAS needs to increase the number of rescue partners, partner with more rescue for off site adoption events, facilitate partnerships with medical sponsors and vet clinics to provide free or reduced vet care to injured or sick animals so rescues can take more and offset their vet costs.
 - Utilizing Animal Control to Crack Down on Backyard Breeders: In order to free up Animal Control officers, LAAS can utilize a **Neighborhood Animal Resource Team (NART)**: Training community volunteers to handle low-risk animal complaints—such as loose pets or minor nuisance issues—which frees up Animal Control Officers to focus on emergencies, cruelty investigations, urgent calls and backyard breeders. This model has proven effective in other jurisdictions, where community-based teams improve response times, increase public engagement, and reduce staff burnout. NARTs also foster stronger community relationships and empower residents to take active roles in local animal welfare, making the system more resilient and responsive.

Community Partnerships

- Preventive Care Network: Partnering with 50+ local veterinary clinics to offer subsidized spay/neuter, vaccines, and pet supplies in underserved neighborhoods directly addresses the root causes of shelter overpopulation. Most animals entering shelters are unaltered and from communities with limited access to affordable veterinary care. Comprehensive spay and neuter programs have been shown to lower intake rates up to 30% within three years. Shelters can send these mobile clinics to areas with high rates of pet surrenders and stray intakes using hotspot mapping. *This alone would radically change the animal overpopulation crisis in California.*
- State Legislation Advocacy: Lobbying for a California Animal Welfare Stability Act would create statewide protections for animal shelters by prohibiting budget cuts exceeding 5% annually for accredited facilities. This legislative safeguard would help prevent the kind of drastic funding reductions that can cripple shelter operations, ensuring a baseline of stability and continuity in animal care regardless of economic downturns or political changes.
- Regional Mutual Aid Pact: Formalizing mutual aid agreements with cities whose shelters are not at critical levels would enable LAAS to share critical resources—such as staff, equipment, and shelter space—during large-scale disasters or overwhelming surges in animal intake. This collaborative approach mirrors successful models in public safety and emergency management, ensuring that no single city is left to face a crisis alone. Such pacts foster regional solidarity, improve response times, and enhance the collective ability to protect animals and public health during emergencies.

I know what you're thinking. How are we going to do all of this? Continuing to rely on the General Fund leaves LAAS vulnerable to cyclical budget cuts such as this one proposed by Mayor Bass. These are achievable monetary solutions:

Sustainable Revenue

- Levy a 1% tax on dog food to generate tens of millions annually that would immediately go into a **dedicated Animal Welfare Fund** that could not be accessed by LAAS without approval from both the Committee and a second approval from an independent 3rd party not for profit organization that has a longstanding proven track record in animal welfare and dedicated interest in increasing live outcomes of shelter animals, to avoid rubber stamping budget approvals often seen at commission meetings. A nominal tax will minimize the burden on individual households and provide a dedicated revenue stream to LAAS.
- **Public-Private Endowment:** Private endowment campaign focused on partnerships with private organizations
- **Fee Modernization:** Provide income-based waivers and discounts for low-income residents, and offer periodic fee-reduction events to encourage adoptions and voluntary licensing compliance without creating financial barriers.
- **Animal Welfare Emergency Fund:** Dedicating 2% of the City's Reserve Fund specifically for LAAS crisis response would ensure the department has immediate, reliable resources during emergencies such as wildfires, earthquakes, or pandemics.
- **Increasing fines to breeders** from \$100 to \$1000 to \$1000 and \$3000 per violation.
- **More Volunteers.** The San Luis Obispo shelter has a program with a women's prison nearby where female prisoners are allowed to come to the shelter daily under prison staff supervision as volunteers to walk dogs, clean kennels, and spend quality time with the animals in play yards so they can have social interaction. It's another way for LAAS to tap into a volunteer workforce.

The current system of animal care in Los Angeles is failing. Killing is not care. Failure is not care. Causing uninhabitable conditions is not care. We are harming and failing Los Angeles animals. The solutions to this reality are clear: structural, sustainable, community-partnered change. A successful Los Angeles shelter system is completely attainable if the will is there. The issue seems to be that there is no will within the city council or LAAS to change. Our taxpayer dollars continue to fund killing animals, of which the public does not approve. None of us want to keep spending our money on murdering animals. I am one of many people aware of what needs changed within the city to create a more humane shelter system. We know it is possible. The question is; as my representative, are you willing to fight for it? Or will this just be another letter that falls on deaf ears?

Sincerely,

Stav

Communication from Public

Name: Melody Villamil
Date Submitted: 04/27/2025 09:44 PM
Council File No: 25-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Save the animal shelters, stop back yard breeders instead. Do what's right!

Communication from Public

Name: Monica Blackey
Date Submitted: 04/28/2025 12:46 PM
Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not cut any budget for Animal Services. Countless people volunteer everyday to try and help save all we can. Please dont let the voiceless sentient animals down. They don't deserve to be punished. They deserve love and care. So much has been wasted and misused.. more spay and neuter. Follow up on backyard breeders, follow up on hoarders. Harsher penalties for abuse and backyard breeding. More shelters, more programs for young people to learn about how they can get into the field of Animal Care. Compassion not killing! If you cut the budget we will surely be a horrible example for other shelters throughout the country. There isn't enough done for them as it is. Get corporate, large companies to sponsor, sell off unused property to American companies, stop wasting our taxpayers money. Stop letting animal abusers keep animals and hurt them. It's all documented day after day. Countless volunteers HELP ALL THEY CAN, YET YOU WANT TO CUT THE BUDGET AGAIN? Stop killing, get on board with loving and treating pets with love and dignity. Don't be a phony Mayor Bass.

Communication from Public

Name: Ruzanna Stambulyan

Date Submitted: 04/27/2025 10:24 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Will there ever be time where animals will be appreciated and given the care and the love that they so deserve? Instead of adding more funding, you want to cut from them?

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/28/2025 08:21 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Out of all the places to cut a budget why would you choose this one? These animals are in this mess not by their choice but by the choices of humans that cannot take responsibility and care for a living being. Humans have failed animals in all aspects. Don't let this be another fail. Do not cut the budget for these animal shelters. Instead you should be giving more to these shelters so that way the animals can get the better care they deserve. It is not their fault they are in this position in the first place.

Communication from Public

Name: Lesley M

Date Submitted: 04/28/2025 10:02 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Destroying the city/county of Los Angeles, by closing the animal shelters there will be another impact like those experiencing homelessness. There is going to be a massive shock and worsen the situation.

Communication from Public

Name: Eddie Williams
Date Submitted: 04/28/2025 04:16 PM
Council File No: 25-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Cutting GRYD funds would be detrimental to the community it's used for it helps me do better work in the community crime has cut down it has it's moments but over all crime is tremendously down,so let's keep doing the good work. 25-0609

Communication from Public

Name: Raul L martinez
Date Submitted: 04/28/2025 04:24 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: Jessica
Date Submitted: 04/27/2025 10:41 AM
Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I would like to voice my concern to the mayor and city of Los Angeles— as a resident of LA I am against cutting budget to the animal shelters. Our shelters are already overcrowded and if anything needs more fundings. It is unfair and cruel to do this to the many animals that do not have a voice. We have already failed these animals once please do not continue to treat our furry friends like this. I hope my tax dollars will increase the animal welfare budget not decrease it. If you have a heart you would reconsider the budget cut on these animals.

Communication from Public

Name: Nicholas Kenworthy

Date Submitted: 04/27/2025 11:40 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: LA is a city by and for the arts. Please recognize your concerned citizens' interest in the arts, education, and social services in these trying times as a country. Dedication to these crucial aspects of society is crucial, now more than ever.

Communication from Public

Name: Alvina Hurtado
Date Submitted: 04/26/2025 10:15 AM
Council File No: 25-0600
Comments for Public Posting: we can't not have budget cut for animal shelter

Communication from Public

Name: Adara Felix
Date Submitted: 04/28/2025 06:16 PM
Council File No: 25-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Save our furry friends!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 04/25/2025 07:52 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Before the City consider layout, has the City considered removing all the different pilot programs that has been in placed since the last MOU negotiation. The Paid Parental Time (PPT) Pilot Program which give staff 480 hours of paid time off, 100% sick payout instead of 50% which is doubling City's liability and the Hourly unspecified Holiday pilot program which is in additional to the floating holiday ?

Communication from Public

Name: Karen Kleinberg

Date Submitted: 04/26/2025 02:03 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I beg you to not cut funding for services for the animals of Los Angeles. The services are minimal at the current state and to reduce them will be catastrophic.

Communication from Public

Name: kristin candelora

Date Submitted: 05/04/2025 09:12 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: It is imperative that we restore funding to our animal services immediately. The closure of any shelters would have a devastating impact on our communities as there would not be shelters within miles to receive lost and stray animals. Additionally, it is deplorable that CA, one of the largest economies is still euthanizing animals at an alarming rates while multiple, less prosperous states have no kill policies. There is so much waste in this government, why not start by reducing the exorbitant salaries of appointed positions.

Communication from Public

Name: Gabriela Frias

Date Submitted: 05/01/2025 12:22 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Fund the Public Bank Feasibility Study — and Protect GBI. My name is Gabriela Frias, and I'm a [LA resident / member of Council District 9/ representative of UPAS organization]. The LA City Council has already approved funding for the public bank feasibility study. I urge the Council to immediately fund the next phase. This plan will show how LA can use its own balance sheet to save money, cut borrowing costs, and reinvest in priorities like affordable housing, green energy, small businesses, and community development. At the same time, we urge the Council to preserve and expand funding for Guaranteed Basic Income programs. GBI is a proven strategy to stabilize families, reduce poverty, and lower the long-term demand on public services — ultimately saving the city money. Both the public bank and GBI are fiscally responsible solutions that move us away from costly band-aids and toward lasting change. As LA faces a \$1 billion deficit, we need bold, community-centered investments that protect our future and serve Angelenos directly.

Communication from Public

Name: Lexi A.

Date Submitted: 05/05/2025 07:24 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I'm a resident of Los Angeles. I'm calling to strongly OPPOSE the proposed budget cuts to Los Angeles Animal Services. Our shelters are already at over-capacity and SEVERELY underfunded. We need more support for LA Animal Services, not less. Los Angeles should NOT BECOME A KILL CITY. I urge you to reject these cuts and work toward a long-term, humane solution for our city's animals. Please fund our shelters so they can continue to serve our communities and protect the animals that rely on them.

Communication from Public

Name: Max

Date Submitted: 05/01/2025 01:33 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Good afternoon. I'm a lifelong Angeleno who for 7 years has been an E-A-A union member and a planner with the Department of City Planning. I currently work in the Case Management unit within the Development Services Center's Specialized Services division. Case Management works with applicants, other planners, and other departments to identify potential zoning issues early in the project review process. It is currently proposed to have its staff cut by half, even though it is a revenue generating unit. The huge layoffs proposed for City Planning are devastating. Layoffs would devastate our department's work to... ..create thoughtful and innovative new plans that guide development in our communities; ...promote mobility, sustainability, and disaster resilience; ...protect our historic-cultural resources, many of which contain housing units and legacy businesses; ...and streamline the building of new affordable housing so that the working and middle class families who make our City run can afford to live here And that's just some of what City Planning does on a daily basis. Layoffs would also devastate all of us on the chopping block as well as our families. Gutting City Planning is a costly move that will make L.A. less safe, less mobile, less just, and more costly to build in and to live in. Angelenos inside and outside this chamber are counting on you not to delete your workers. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Camden

Date Submitted: 05/01/2025 11:12 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I would like the reversal of proposed budget cuts for the Department of Disability and the addition of a \$5 million budget line item specifically dedicated to Long COVID

Communication from Public

Name: Mona Goldstein
Date Submitted: 04/30/2025 02:10 PM
Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I beg you to reconsider your budgetary priorities and keep these facilities open. Animal welfare is critical and closing needing resources will dramatically increase euthanasia which is not what we need in this city. Thanks for your consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Michelle Ornelas

Date Submitted: 05/02/2025 06:43 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Disability services are a right they are preventative services that provide a cost savings for long term higher level of care services. Without these essential services death rates, hospitalizations, and homelessness will increase and reduce the quality of life. These are tax payer dollars being cut and we demand transparency in where funds are being reallocated!!!!!! Submit new propositions, protest, speak on behalf of your constituents!!!! This is genocide to deny basic rights and services to those who are most vulnerable in society to eradicate people with disabilities is a hate crime and unconstitutional! We demand transparency, justice, and legal and legislative action to block these cuts!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Brandi Bookhammer
Date Submitted: 05/02/2025 08:02 AM
Council File No: 25-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Please don't close our animal shelters. These are important to our community and saving animals.

Communication from Public

Name: Karen smith

Date Submitted: 05/01/2025 04:07 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilwoman Yaroslavsky and Los Angeles City Councilmembers, I am writing to urge you to fully and immediately implement the increased reimbursement rates for the Los Angeles City spay and neuter voucher program. As you know, our City is facing a severe shortage of spay and neuter for dogs and cats, resulting in overcrowded shelters and avoidable animal euthanasia. Legislators, veterinarians, and animal welfare experts agree that expanding spay and neuter services is the most effective way to address this crisis. To help families who cannot afford these essential services, the City has long offered a voucher program. Unfortunately, the reimbursement rates have remained unchanged since 2015. Recognizing that these outdated rates no longer cover the actual costs of spay or neuter surgeries, the City Council voted unanimously in 2024 to increase the voucher reimbursement rates. While this decision was met with widespread approval, the City Administrative Officer (CAO) has yet to approve the budget increase. This leaves families and rescue organizations without access to vital spay and neuter services, leading to unwanted litters and thousands of shelter animals at risk of euthanasia. Although Los Angeles law mandates that all dogs and cats over four months old be spayed or neutered, many pet owners are not able to afford to do so. The spay and neuter voucher program is the solution. By fully implementing the voucher rate increase, you will immediately improve animal welfare across our City. More veterinarians will join the program, more families will receive essential assistance, and fewer animals will face euthanasia. Together, we have the opportunity to make a direct and positive impact on the well-being of pets and families throughout Los Angeles. Sincerely, Karen K Smith

Communication from Public

Name: Worksafe

Date Submitted: 05/06/2025 11:26 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Mayor and City Council Members, My name is Karín Umfrey, and I am the Managing Attorney and Policy Advocacy Director at Worksafe. Worksafe is a statewide organization that engages in legal services and consultations, policy advocacy, and education and outreach solely on occupational health and safety issues. Worksafe is reaching out to express our deep concern regarding the complete elimination of funding for Day Laborer Community Job Centers/Centros Jornaleros in the recently released city budget. This decision directly contradicts LA's professed values and prior commitments to this vulnerable workforce. Worksafe has been in partnership and collaboration with Day Laborer Community Job Centers including those in Los Angeles and the Los Angeles area for many years. We have seen the significant contributions the Day Laborer Community Job Centers have been able to achieve related to building community, labor, and occupational safety and health, which must continue to be funded, to not leave this community of workers behind. It was just in 2019 that Los Angeles proudly declared May 3rd as "Día del Jornalero," recognizing the vital contributions day laborers make to our economy and communities. To now eliminate all funding for these centers represents not just a policy reversal but a betrayal of trust to thousands of workers who depend on these facilities. Day Laborer Community Job Centers provide far more than employment connections. They are essential community hubs that: ? Create safe, organized spaces where workers can connect with employers, eliminating the dangers of street-corner solicitation ? Establish fair wage standards and working conditions, preventing exploitation and wage theft ? Offer crucial educational resources including English classes, literacy programs, and information about health, labor, and immigration laws ? Serve as community gathering spaces that foster dignity, connection, and mutual support ? Function as public safety alternatives, reducing neighborhood concerns while protecting vulnerable workers Without these centers, we also lose valuable community infrastructure that supports economic mobility and integration. The cost of maintaining these centers is minimal compared to their enormous social and economic benefits. They help ensure that work is performed safely, that proper wages are paid, and that both workers and employers have a structured,

dignified system for connecting with one another. I strongly urge you to restore full funding for Day Laborer Community Job Centers in this year's budget. Respectfully submitted, Karín Umfrey Managing Attorney & Policy Advocacy Director
Worksafe



May 6, 2025

[FILE NUMBER: 25-0600]

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

My name is Karín Umfrey, and I am the Managing Attorney and Policy Advocacy Director at Worksafe. Worksafe is a statewide organization that engages in legal services and consultations, policy advocacy, and education and outreach solely on occupational health and safety issues.

Worksafe is reaching out to express our deep concern regarding the complete elimination of funding for Day Laborer Community Job Centers/Centros Jornaleros in the recently released city budget. This decision directly contradicts LA's professed values and prior commitments to this vulnerable workforce. Worksafe has been in partnership and collaboration with Day Laborer Community Job Centers including those in Los Angeles and the Los Angeles area for many years. We have seen the significant contributions the Day Laborer Community Job Centers have been able to achieve related to building community, labor, and occupational safety and health, which must continue to be funded, to not leave this community of workers behind.

It was just in 2019 that Los Angeles proudly declared May 3rd as "Día del Jornalero," recognizing the vital contributions day laborers make to our economy and communities. To now eliminate all funding for these centers represents not just a policy reversal but a betrayal of trust to thousands of workers who depend on these facilities.

Day Laborer Community Job Centers provide far more than employment connections. They are essential community hubs that:

- Create safe, organized spaces where workers can connect with employers, eliminating the dangers of street-corner solicitation
- Establish fair wage standards and working conditions, preventing exploitation and wage theft
- Offer crucial educational resources including English classes, literacy programs, and information about health, labor, and immigration laws
- Serve as community gathering spaces that foster dignity, connection, and mutual support
- Function as public safety alternatives, reducing neighborhood concerns while protecting vulnerable workers

Without these centers, we also lose valuable community infrastructure that supports economic mobility and integration. The cost of maintaining these centers is minimal compared to their enormous social and economic benefits. They help ensure that work is performed safely, that proper wages are paid, and that both workers and employers have a structured, dignified system for connecting with one another.

I strongly urge you to restore full funding for Day Laborer Community Job Centers in this year's budget.

Respectfully submitted,

Karín Umfrey
Managing Attorney & Policy Advocacy Director
Worksafe

Communication from Public

Name: Todd M

Date Submitted: 05/06/2025 11:02 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please continue to fund the LA Labor Centers. These services are vital to ensure people aren't slipping through the cracks. The Centers provide services that include, but are not limited to: Outreach and Job Placement Immigrant Integration and Paths to Citizenship Multi-Benefit Screening (such as tax credits, CalFresh, insurance options, and utilities discount programs) Employment Support and Soft-Skills Training Education Assistance Legal Services It will help people become productive citizens, which will lessen the need for further public assistance programs. This is an investment in people.

Communication from Public

Name: Susan Rich

Date Submitted: 05/06/2025 09:58 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.
Susan Rich 7777 W. 91 Street #154B, Playa del Rey, CA 90293

Communication from Public

Name: Tracy Wolfe

Date Submitted: 05/06/2025 04:41 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Mayor Bass and Councilmembers: Please do not cut the budget for animal shelters because animals are more vulnerable than people, and have no where to go but the animal shelters. Animals cannot go find an apartment to rent, nor can they look for a new job. Animals are the most vulnerable to your budget cuts than any other budget cuts. If you close even one animal shelter, more animals will be killed to make room for even more incoming animals who need shelter. Please realize people can always look for new jobs if you cut some services to people, but animals cannot look for a new job so they have money to live somewhere and buy food to eat. Shutting down animal shelters is the most cruel and unnecessary thing you can do. Please take the correct and humane action and DO NOT close any animal shelters or cut the budget for animal services. Instead, cut the bloated budget for other services, so you can protect animals, our most vulnerable resource. Thank you in advance for not cutting animal services' budget. Sincerely, Tracy Wolfe

Communication from Public

Name: Allison Higgins
Date Submitted: 05/06/2025 02:15 PM
Council File No: 25-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Please do not cut staff at the City Office of Petroleum and Natural Gas. I live near the Murphy oil drilling on western and the company has been performing many acid cleans and are not following the rules. I worry that cutting these oversight positions will just allow them to break the law with impunity, which only create more health issues. In the community. Please reconsider cutting these vital jobs.

Communication from Public

Name: Howard K Brodwin

Date Submitted: 05/06/2025 11:50 AM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: As a business professional in the disability community, I am submitting this public comment regarding the projected budget cuts to the LA City Department on Disability. For more than a decade I've worked to establish sports and recreational programming for people with disabilities throughout the LA area, including the past 3 years supporting the LA City Department of Recreation and Parks' PlayLA adaptive youth sports program. One of the key factors in PlayLA's early success has been their ongoing engagement with the Department on Disability to provide a platform for outreach into the disability community. The DOD team provides a vital link and is a strong advocate for growing participation in adaptive sports programming, especially for youth with disabilities who are often left on the sidelines at school or club sports programs. The LA City Department on Disability is the conduit to resources that many people with disabilities would struggle to find elsewhere. A budget that significantly reduces staffing and drastically limits DOD's ability to operate existing programs will have a harmful effect on people with disabilities in Los Angeles while also putting a significant burden on family members and caregivers. This ripple effect cannot be understated. It's understandable that fiscal challenges within the City of LA must be addressed, but sacrificing people and resources that serve one of the city's highest need populations is not a viable solution. I urge the City Council to review other options to maintain the vital services DOD offers the LA community. Sincerely, Howard Brodwin Managing Director Sports and Social Change

Communication from Public

Name: Jaz Pinero

Date Submitted: 05/06/2025 12:00 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Please keep the Van Nuys job center open. It helps their clients with Outreach and job placement, immigration services, and pathways to citizenship, employment support, and so much more. Our society needs these types of centers for the people that need the help.

Communication from Public

Name: EWAC Board

Date Submitted: 05/06/2025 12:03 PM

Council File No: 25-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Honorable Yaroslavsky and the Budget and Finance Committee, Los Angeles City Planning plays a crucial role in addressing many of Los Angeles's most urgent challenges. As the City confronts these pressing challenges, it is imperative that Los Angeles City Planning have the staff and resources necessary to address them. Please see our attached letter outlining our comments and concerns. Best Regards, Employee Workplace Action Committee Board Department of City Planning

May 5, 2025

Honorable Katy Yaroslavsky, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee
Los Angeles City Council, c/o City Clerk
200 North Spring Street, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012-4801



Honorable Yaroslavsky and the Budget and Finance Committee,

The Employee Workplace Action Committee (EWAC) opposes the Budget Proposal Fiscal Year 2025-26 (CF-25-0600), particularly the disproportionate and significant reductions proposed to Los Angeles City Planning. If effectuated, these reductions would severely impact the short- and long-term goals of the City as laid out by Mayor Karen Bass through her executive orders, including but not limited to affordable housing (Executive Directives 1 and 7), small business development (Executive Directive 4), and improving access to city services (Executive Directive 5).

EWAC is an internal employee committee of Los Angeles City Planning that is dedicated to uplifting the department's workplace by providing opportunities for City Planning staff to thrive. EWAC reflects City Planning staff across bureaus, divisions, units and classifications. EWAC facilitates peer and senior professional relationship-building and professional development and fosters enriching, inclusive and safe work environments that appreciate diverse perspectives and capabilities.

City Planning plays a crucial role in addressing Los Angeles's ongoing housing crisis, rebuilding homes that have been impacted by the January 2025 Wildfires, implementing and approving proposed developments that support the local economy, improving transit infrastructure, and shaping a long-term vision for a more equitable, sustainable, and livable city for all Angelenos. As the City confronts these pressing challenges, it is imperative that the Department of City Planning have the staff and resources necessary to achieve the goals set forth in these directives.

EWAC supports the restoration of all eliminated positions, but specifically would like to highlight the value of the following positions.

- The Office of Racial Justice, Equity and Transformative Planning (3 positions)
 - The Office was created to address systemic injustices caused by historical planning practices. The unit provides policy and programmatic support to the Department, and is developing a strategic action plan to advance its land use and workplace equity initiatives.
- Citywide Policy (17 positions)
 - The Health & Environmental Justice team is tasked with centering environmental justice issues through a comprehensive review of the

General Plan's goals, policies, and programs related to land use, sustainability, and climate equity. The team is currently updating the Open Space Element and developing the City's first ever Environmental Justice Element. The Mayor's Proposed Budget reduces the team from six to one staff member.

- The Office of Historic Resources (OHR), which is slated to lose six full-time regular positions and one resolution position, is responsible for overseeing our City's Historic-Cultural Monuments (HCM), Historic Preservation Overlay Zones (HPOZ), and maintaining the 'Historic Places LA' database. With over 21,000 properties under HPOZ jurisdiction, the five proposed cuts to the HPOZ Unit will create backlogs and impact the department's ability to successfully assist the public and facilitate HPOZ Board meetings. Elimination of the only planning position assigned to Historic Places LA would hinder the department's capacity for managing the SurveyLA data and the Historic Resources Inventory that is often relied upon when evaluating potential impacts to historic resources.
- Government & Media Relations (4 positions)
 - These positions ensure equitable and inclusive public engagement through timely communication of planning initiatives, policies, and programs across traditional and digital media platforms.
- Graphics & GIS (19 positions)
 - These positions help translate technical planning work into inclusive and effective visual communication. Thoughtfully-designed infographics, maps, and illustrations are integral instruments to carry out constructive conversations during community outreach.
- Project Planning (17 positions)
 - **Central and Valley Project Planning positions support Mayor's Executive Directive 1 (ED1) and other affordable housing programs such as Density Bonus, AHIP (Affordable Housing Incentive Program), and CHIP (Community Housing Incentive Program) as follows:**
 - Central and Valley Project Planning positions are directly responsible for reviewing and processing affordable housing projects submitted under ED1, which mandates accelerated approvals for 100% affordable housing developments in line with the Mayor's goals to increase affordable housing production.
 - Central and Valley Project Planning positions ensure compliance with California State Density Bonus Law and the City's Transit Oriented Communities (TOC) Guidelines, contributing to the creation of mixed-income communities and facilitating affordable housing near transit.
 - Central and Valley Project Planning positions ensure timely approvals, maintain compliance with regulatory frameworks, and are **revenue generating positions that ensure Department sustainability.**

- Community Planning (38 positions)
 - The Proposed Budget eliminates active work programs (Southwest Valley Community Plan Update, East San Fernando Valley Transit Neighborhood Plan, Venice Local Coastal Program) and reduces staffing to inoperative levels. For example, proposed staff reductions would reduce the entire Harbor LA Community Plan to one Planner. This would severely impede Planning's ability in addressing the land use and environmental injustices that have plagued these neighborhoods for decades.

The City of Los Angeles faces urgent challenges related to housing, homelessness, climate change, and transportation. The Department of City Planning operates at the nexus of these challenges and accepting the proposed layoffs threatens the City's ability to address them. We strongly urge the Budget & Finance Committee to restore all positions to the Department of City Planning for the forthcoming fiscal year.

Best Regards,

Employee Workplace Action Committee Board
Department of City Planning

cc: Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Los Angeles City Council President
Vince Bertoni, Director of Planning, Los Angeles City Planning
Marleen Fonseca, Executive Director, Engineers & Architects Association
Matt Hale, Deputy Mayor of Finance, Operations, and Innovation
Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer