

Communication from Public

Name: Renee Hassija

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 01:49 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Good Afternoon, I am extremely disappointed in the temporary closure of the West Valley animal shelter as well as the rumblings that it may be closed going forward. We need this for our community and our animals and I really feel like maybe the people in charge do not have the best interest of the animals at hand but rather their own agendas. I have adopted many times from this shelter and I feel like I pay taxes to ensure these services are available in my area.

Communication from Public

Name: Karen Weimer

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 05:04 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of West Valley and a West Valley Animal Shelter volunteer, I know first hand how important it is to keep the West Valley Animal Shelter open and operating as a city shelter. Not only is the West Valley Animal Shelter the most updated, including air conditioning, but they do intake and house thousands of animals yearly. Most of the year they are at full capacity and during busy months you can see crates stacked in the hallways with dogs. Last year, we had dogs housed in the grooming area, the hallways in the back, and the main public area. To give this shelter to rescue groups, would be a huge disservice to the community. East Valley would be burdened in caring for all of the animals in the Valley and West Valley residents would experience delays in public assistance with emergencies, etc. Our communities pay taxes to support our Los Angeles Animal Services and expect stray, abandoned, and injured animals to receive compassionate care and housing. A solution to the budget cuts would be to decrease salaries at the top. No one needs to be paid several hundred thousand a year to manage these shelters, because frankly, the manager you hired is not doing her job. Our shelters are in crisis and no one seems to be paying attention. Community members, businesses, rescues, and other organizations have attended zooms, supported animals, and brought it to the City Council's attention, but nothing is being done! These are the people at ground level. These are the people taking care of the animals, that the shelter system has forgotten. It is time for L.A. Animal Services to open the shelters they closed during this pandemic and do what the public pays for...their job! West Valley needs to be reopened immediately as a City shelter, not a community center. Our community and animals need West Valley Animal Shelter open! Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Javier Suarez

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 08:41 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: “I want the West Valley Animal Shelter to remain a full municipal shelter, just as it was prior to its closing in April 2020.” “Prop F was a bond measure passed to in 2000 to build, expand, and renovate the city’s animal shelters. The San Fernando Valley was supposed to have 3 shelters but one was already given to a rescue. If West Valley is also given away, that would leave only one shelter to serve over 1.5 million people and 260 square miles in the SFV and that is not acceptable.”

Communication from Public

Name: Jess P.

Date Submitted: 09/22/2020 06:18 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I want the West Valley Animal Shelter to remain a full municipal shelter, just as it was prior to its closing in April 2020. Prop F was a bond measure passed to in 2000 to build, expand, and renovate the city's animal shelters. The San Fernando Valley was supposed to have 3 shelters but one was already given to a rescue. If West Valley is also given away, that would leave only one shelter to serve over 1.5 million people and 260 square miles in the SFV and that is not acceptable. The animals and the community need this shelter!

Communication from Public

Name: Caroline Manion

Date Submitted: 09/22/2020 07:58 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: What are you doing here? The purpose of an animal shelter is to actually shelter the animals in need. This is a complete failure of our system.

Communication from Public

Name: Paula Hamerman

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 01:02 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I want the West Valley Animal Shelter to remain a full municipal shelter, just as it was prior to its closing in April 2020.

Communication from Public

Name: Norene Pollack-Roxbury

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 01:39 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please bring our West Valley Animal Shelter back into operation. I can't imagine why the West Valley shelter was chosen to be closed. The shelter was always full of pets awaiting pick up by their owners after being turned in by a good sanitarian, as well as lots of homeless but hopeful pets looking for their forever homes. Every time I came to visit the shelter, whether it was to adopt a pet, to pay my licensing fees, to ask a question or to donate towels and blankets, I was always impressed with the friendly staff and how clean the facility was kept. We need a more local shelter to take lost dogs and cats we find wandering and frightened on our streets so that they can quickly be reconnected with their families. It will be more difficult for most people to take the time and spend the money to drive a long distance to turn lost pets into the more distant shelters. I fear less people will be willing to rescue a lost pet if they have to take it so far away from the community where they live and from where the lost pet was found. I've adopted both of my dogs from the West Valley Shelter and both were listed as strays that someone made the effort to pick up and then took the time to bring to the shelter. I am thankful every day that someone made sure they were taken somewhere they would be safe and where they could be cared for until they could find a permanent home. When I was looking to adopt, I made multiple trips in search of the right dog, and then more trips in search of the perfect playmate for her. It was such a comfortable setting to be able to observe the dogs and to be able to get a sense of their personality and temperament at the West Valley Shelter. I did visit the Van Nuys facility once during my search, and it was crowded, difficult to get a parking space, and not nearly as nicely kept as West Valley was. Also with all the evacuations from the fires we often have in the hills surrounding the West, and Northwest Valley the shelter is a necessary part of our community to be able to bring animals to that need a temporary place to stay until they can be re-united with their evacuated families. And where will animals made homeless by major earthquakes go when their families need to evacuate their homes? Also, the shelters are always bursting at the seams in the days, even weeks, leading up to the Fourth of July because of all of the people in residential neighborhoods who are setting off illegal fireworks nightly and terrifying pets into escaping and running away from their yards and homes. These

events, although temporary, are all to regular situations that would completely overwhelm the few shelters we have left in the Valley. Please consider re-opening the West Valley Animal Shelter.

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Lysholm

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 01:40 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please reopen the West Valley Animal Shelter and reinstate it as a full municipal shelter, just as it was prior to its closing in April 2020. Prop F was a bond measure passed to in 2000 to build, expand, and renovate the city's animal shelters. The San Fernando Valley was supposed to have 3 shelters but one was already given to a rescue. If West Valley is also given away, that would leave only one shelter to serve over 1.5 million people and 260 square miles in the SFV and that is not acceptable. This shelter has helped so many of us over the years , been a part of our community, and created an opportunity for families to grow by permitting us to adopt animals in need. This shelter has also aided in reuniting family members over the years. Please give us back our local shelter and help to save so many animals throughout this part of the SFV in need of the care our shelter offered. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Susan Winsberg
Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 01:58 AM
Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please keep the West Valley Animal Shelter OPEN as a full municipal shelter [NOT HYBRID]. The Valley contains 45% of the City's population, over 1.75 million residents and growing, and covers 200 square miles. The area was serviced by only two animal shelters and one has been closed, with an attempt to make this permanent, and have East Valley, already one the most overburdened of our shelters, carry this entire load. It is disastrous for the animals. And PLEASE replace GM Brenda Barnett. She's TERRIBLE. Thank you for your consideration, Susan Winsberg
Los Angeles, CA

Communication from Public

Name: Jamie Bartholomew

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 05:53 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: We need to keep the West Valley Animal Shelter as a full municipal facility. Our community and the pets it serves should be taken care of in a facility that treats them humanely and has air conditioning.

Communication from Public

Name: Jennifer Evans

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 11:19 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Prop F was a bond measure passed to in 2000 to build, expand, and renovate the city's animal shelters. The San Fernando Valley was supposed to have 3 shelters but one was already given to a rescue. If West Valley is also given away, that would leave only one shelter to serve over 1.5 million people and 260 square miles in the SFV and that is not acceptable. I want the West Valley Animal Shelter to remain a full municipal shelter, just as it was prior to its closing in April 2020. The fur babies need this shelter!

Communication from Public

Name: Lanore Breakenridge

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 11:57 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: The West Valley Animal Shelter NEEDS to reopen and remain open. Indefinitely! Forever! There's no reason for it's closure. Even with Covid-19, certain precautions could've/SHOULD'VE been in place. To put the burden on another shelter who's overwhelmed and understaffed is ludacris! You have a beautiful, functioning shelter with many workers AND volunteers ready to help our animals! Non profit "Rescues" have literally become FOR PROFIT and have no place here. Brenda Barnette is clearly "helping/aiding/advising" rescues, where in reality it's her job to adapt and help City Shelters open and function. That's HER JOB. Rescues can continue to rescue on their time and dollar. A City funded Animal Shelter belongs to the city. OUR CITY. OUR animals! Let the West Valley Animal Shelter DO IT'S JOB! And maybe, just maybe Brenda Barnette can be replaced for NOT doing hers! She should be held accountable. Period. This isn't a "Covid-19" thing, it's become her personal "Pet Project". Open West Valley!

Communication from Public

Name: Melinda W. Isaacson

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 12:19 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: RE Council File: 20-1114 I am stunned and outraged at the news that L.A. City Council member John Lee has introduced a motion to City Council that the West Valley Animal Shelter be closed and may be repurposed. The West Valley Animal Shelter must remain a full Municipal Shelter. It must REMAIN OPEN. The West Valley Animal Shelter is the most modernized, e.g. equipped with vital Air Conditioning. It serves 45% of the City's population that live in the Valley. That is over 1.75 million residents covering more than 200 square miles. This facility is of great value. It is an essential component of strong community animal registration, adoption and rescue in our City. This action is unconscionable. Please STOP any consideration of this deadly action. Perhaps management of the West Valley Animal Shelter by GM Brenda Barnett needs to be revisited and new leadership and stewardship put in place now. The West Valley Animal Shelter must remain OPEN as a full Municipal Shelter (NOT HYBRID)! NOTE: I am unable to download and attach the Council File: 20-1114. I was able to review the docs but unable to attach to this comment. I did try!

Communication from Public

Name: Suzanne

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 12:19 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I want the West Valley Animal Shelter to remain a full municipal shelter, just as it was prior to its closing in April 2020.

Communication from Public

Name: Laurie Holeman

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 12:40 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please, for the love of animals, re-open this shelter!

Communication from Public

Name: Gower Walizadah

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 10:56 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I want the West Valley Animal Shelter to remain a full municipal shelter, just as it was prior to its closing in April 2020. Prop F was a bond measure passed in 2000 to build, expand, and renovate the city's animal shelters. The San Fernando Valley was supposed to have 3 shelters but one was already given to a rescue. If West Valley is also given away, that would leave only one shelter to serve over 1.5 million people and 260 square miles in the SFV and that is not acceptable.

Communication from Public

Name: Justin P.

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 11:22 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Prop F was a bond measure passed to in 2000 to build, expand, and renovate the city's animal shelters. The San Fernando Valley was supposed to have 3 shelters but one was already given to a rescue. If West Valley is also given away, that would leave only one shelter to serve over 1.5 million people and 260 square miles in the SFV and that is not acceptable. I want the West Valley Animal Shelter to remain a full municipal shelter, just as it was prior to its closing in April 2020. Our community and the animals need this shelter!!

Communication from Public

Name: Cristina

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 06:05 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: PLEASE OPEN THE WEST VALLEY SHELTER AS A MUNICIPAL SHELTER. We need this shelter open NOW!!!! Currently there is a horse being held at the EVS in a dog kennel area :-(NO COVER, small area! We have space and covered shelter for horses at the West Valley Shelter. Brenda Barnett needs to go! She is not fit to be in the position she is in. Please help us and our community and our animals. Open the WVS (as a municipal shelter).

Communication from Public

Name: Cristina

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 06:13 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please open the West Valley Shelter as a municipal shelter. We desperately need this shelter to remain and open as it was before it closed.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 06:14 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please reopen the shelter. We need it in this area.

Communication from Public

Name: Katherine Magwene

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 08:20 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: It was heartbreaking to hear last month that the city may not keep the West Valley Animal Shelter a full municipal shelter, as it was prior to its closing in April 2020. Our family is fond of this shelter, its staff and volunteers, and its well-planned, attractive and clean premises. We are taxpayers who voted for Proposition F in 2000 and proud that it is a city facility. We adopted our two kittens through West Valley Shelter two years ago and I attended the kitten bottle-feeding class there. Every few months I used to stop by to donate food, toys, or other pet items for the feline and canine residents or new adopters. The San Fernando Valley was supposed to have three animal shelters; one has already been contracted out and run by a rescue organization. If West Valley is also contracted out, we would have only one City of Los Angeles shelter to serve over 1.5 million people and 260 square miles in the SFV. Please, please consider the wishes of West San Fernando Valley residents, pet owners, and animal lovers. Please keep the West Valley Shelter a full city facility!

Communication from Public

Name: Terry Kaplan

Date Submitted: 09/23/2020 08:52 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please reopen the West Valley animal shelter. Animals are being euthenized because of a lack of space while the West Valley shelter sits empty.