

Communication from Public

Name: Michelle Cornelius

Date Submitted: 09/17/2020 05:07 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to support the re-opening of the West Valley Animal Shelter as the municipal shelter it was prior to its closing in April 2020. In 2000, voters in Los Angeles passed Prop F, a bond measure which included \$154.1 million to build, expand and renovate the city's animal shelters, increasing the total number of shelters from 6 to 8. In the voter guide I obtained from the City's website it says, "The new facilities will give animal control officers space to solve problems of stray, abandoned, and dangerous animals." Two city shelters – Northeast Valley in Mission Hills and Jefferson Park in South LA – have already been converted into private adoption centers thereby denying city services promised to residents in those areas. Given that East Valley and Chesterfield Square must cover the areas no longer served by the Northeast Valley and Jefferson Park shelters, it should come as no surprise that those two shelters also had the highest animal intakes of all 6 shelters in 2019. Perhaps not coincidentally, East Valley – which had the highest intake – also had the worst save rate; Chesterfield Square had the third-worst save rate. In 2019, the West Valley shelter took in 9,320 animals and East Valley took in 14,605 – how can East Valley possibly handle nearly 24,000 intakes annually without an increase in the euthanasia rate? The West Valley shelter has about 90 general population cat cages while East Valley only has around 30. Between the 2 shelters, approximately 10,200 cats and kittens were impounded in 2019. If West Valley is closed, where are all these cats and kittens going to be held? The West Valley shelter has 152 dog kennels and the East Valley shelter has 165. In 2019, West Valley impounded 3,276 dogs and East Valley impounded 5,450 for a total of 8,726. That is an average of 727 dogs per month. How can 165 dog kennels at East Valley possibly accommodate such a large number of dogs without dangerous overcrowding? Prior to the expanded section of West Valley opening in late 2007, due to overcrowding about 3 large dogs had to be housed together in a single kennel and this sometimes led to dog fights in which dogs were seriously injured or killed. Prop F was passed to address overcrowding which was dangerous to staff, volunteers, and the animals; it would be irresponsible to close yet another shelter and create the conditions Prop F was meant to alleviate.

Communication from Public

Name: Zelig 'Ziggy' Borszczewer

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 07:00 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please do not close down the S. F. Valley shelters. They are and have been such a key part of the community and with the recent renovations to accommodate it does not justify to close it down and then offer it to another charity or foundation and not pay for the facility. We have been donating towels and food to the shelters since I can remember and closing down will only cause more animals to suffer especially in the valley where it recently reached triple digits and a record 121 degrees Fahrenheit in Woodland Hills!! Please Please Please Please keep our shelter open forever and understand the reason why! It's for the animals and for the employees and volunteers to keep moving and working and helping those poor animals!! Thank you!