

Communication from Public

Name: Joney Gasbarro

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 10:53 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: To whom it may concern - I am writing to make it known that my family vehemently opposes the closure West Valley Animal Shelter. In my opinion, it is extremely important that West Valley remain a full municipal shelter (not hybrid) and we feel that it is imperative that Brenda Barnette be replaced as it doesn't seem that she is not concerned with the best interest of the families and animals in our community. We feel very strongly about being heard on this issue as our taxpayer dollars funded the construction of this much needed, updated facility. Thank you for this motion, Councilman Lee. It is imperative that the Valley shelter remain in operation. We support you in this effort.

Communication from Public

Name: Sally

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 10:59 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please keep the West Valley Animal Shelter open as a Full Municipal Shelter! I have used this shelter many times over the years and donate blankets for animals there. We pay for this facility and it is much needed for lost animals and adoptions! Brenda Barnett should be replaced. This is a community necessity!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 11:06 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: We want the West Valley animal shelter to remain open. The facility is already well-built and our residents need their services.

Communication from Public

Name: Linda Levy

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 11:51 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Mr. LEE, Please do not close our West Valley Shelter. We have to keep it open S.F. Valley is very big and we need shelters to cover all this area. Also this shelter was renovated from our tax dollars and it is the only shelter in the area that has A/C. We adopted our dog from this shelter and I will hate to see gone. Also Ms. Burnette needs to be replaced. Thank you for all your hard work.

Communication from Public

Name: Rosemarie Shamieh

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 12:52 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please save our West Valley Animal Shelter. I oppose your hybrid proposal and the shelter to reopen as a municipal shelter! Consider replacing Ms. Barnette who seems to be making ill informed decisions affecting our community. THANK YOU!

Communication from Public

Name: Tanya

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 01:07 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please, I want West Valley Animal Shelter to reopen as municipal shelter, and I oppose Brenda Barnette's hybrid proposal and want her replaced.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 01:38 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: West Valley Animal shelter should remain a full municipal shelter! Brenda Barnette needs to be replaced as she does not represent the communitys view on animal welfare.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 01:38 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I am a police officer for the City of Los Angeles speaking on my own behalf, the opinions here are strictly my own, I am also an LAAS volunteer of over 15 years, as well as being a New Hope Rescue, and tax paying resident of the the City of Los Angeles: I vehemently oppose the closure of the West Valley Animal Shelter. The Valley contains 45% of the city's population, over 1.75 million residents and growing and covers 200 square miles. This area is serviced by only two animal shelters. Closing the West Valley Animal shelter will leave almost 1 million residents trying to obtain services from one of the already busiest and overburdened animal shelters, East Valley. Among other services, the West Valley currently provides essential services to the community such as -Taking in strays and owner surrenders -Reuniting animals with owners -Animal Control related enforcements -Provides low cost or free spay and neuter certificates -Pays for dog licencing In addition to the above services West Valley is the newest and most modernized shelter. Why are we even proposing giving it away to private organizations [while we, the taxpayers, foot the bill for the the building's upkeep and energy] when most of the services proposed are ALREADY in existence from local non-profits that currently collaborate with LA Animal Services. These services should be offered on top of the essential services that the city run municipal Animal shelter provides so there is law enforcement as well as public and animal safety for the citizens of the West Valley jurisdiction. In addition, West Valley services an area with agriculture animals such as horses and it is the only shelter with horse corrals and an area for seized or stray agriculture animals. We heard from one brave AC officer who spoke out and stated that she is seeing more and more horses abandoned as the city is braces for even harder times ahead. Where are these animals to go? In over 15 years as a volunteer I have never seen the closure of a city animal shelter [until we gave away the Mission shelter to private enterprise several years ago], and as our population increases we need these services more than ever. We also heard from an animal control officer who stated that it took her an hour to drive the distance from Tujunga to Woodland Hills to pick up an injured animal, and that was in these times of Covid. I can tell you from personal experience when I worked patrol how

agonizing it is to watch a grievously injured animal lying there suffering and crying while waiting for AC to arrive. In addition, West Valley had 100% of the hoarder cases in 2019, over 50 animals. West Valley also had 59% of the PDA [Potentially Dangerous Dogs] hearings, as well as 69% of the administrative citations. The idea that we are going to "partner with the community" and have them do the job that Animal Control does is simply ridiculous. As a volunteer I can tell you that every weekend you would see the public lining up to dump their dogs, many of them abused, with injuries and years of neglect. Where are these dogs and cats going when they do not have a shelter to go to? Do you really think that in this time of Covid, with more and more job and income loss, that we can afford to give up essential services and tell the public that they must keep found dogs? And to say that the new privatized community center will be supporting communities of color is just double speak intended on obscuring the fact that LAAS is already an equal opportunity employer and does so as well as servicing those communities. Please, for the sake of the humans and animals PLEASE keep West Valley Animal shelter open as a shelter [AND OPEN NORTH CENTRAL, also currently closed].

Communication from Public

Name: Angela Iacobellis

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 08:29 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I am greatly disappointed and angry over the possibility of closing or hybrid model for the west valley animal shelter. Our tax dollars have gone to upgrade this facility and to see it closed is disgusting, especially after the recent heat waves and the east valley shelter not having air conditioning. This just highlights the exact reasons why we need the west valley shelter! To see posts asking for ice donations when we have a perfectly good shelter, sitting empty just goes to show me how incapable and dysfunctional this Department has become. You need NEW and better leadership that isn't looking to help out their buddies in the private sector, but rather SERVE the city they are being paid to serve.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 10:01 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please reopen West Valley Animal Shelter and let it stay open as a public animal shelter, owned by the taxpayers, instead of the proposed hybrid shelter. The recent renovation of the shelter was funded by tax payer dollars, I don't understand why donating the shelter would even be considered after the community paid for such a renovation. The logic behind closing the shelter the resolve racism issue also doesn't make any sense. We are experiencing record heat in LA, and animal shelters were established to help animals that can't survive otherwise. Looping in human problems and holding animal lives hostage is completely unreasonable. Please reopen the shelter immediately so the animals can have a safe place to stay. I personally donate to and foster from the shelter, it is an essential community function for me. If my tax dollars helped build this function and improved our community, please consider my voice as part of that contribution and reconsider the current proposal.

Communication from Public

Name: Donna Babaev

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 11:14 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please reopen the West Valley animal shelter as municipal shelter not a hybrid.

Communication from Public

Name: Charles A. Reynolds

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 03:35 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I support the keeping the West Valley Animal Shelter open. San Fernando Valley area always is looked at first for cutting of government services, in this case you need to find another area within LA City that could be combined with less of an effect.

Communication from Public

Name: Diane Monahan

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 02:15 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Our community requires the services of West Valley Animal Shelter. It's inhumane to deny refuge to lost, injured, or abandoned animals. Brenda Barnette has repeatedly shown disregard for those most in need. Please, someone must help!

Communication from Public

Name: Karen Hughes

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 09:13 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I want it to reopen West Valley as municipal shelter, oppose the hybrid proposal and want Barnette replaced. Brenda Barnette ignored 9000 signatures against closure. It is extremely important for City Council to know where the public stands. We must speak up for the animals. "lets not abandon the only shelter with AC when we have record heat of 115 - 121". Also only shelter for large animals.

Communication from Public

Name: HC

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 09:28 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: The West valley shelter needs to reopen. There are so many wonderful animals that need to be adopted. The adoption of an animal can bust your spirits during all this craziness. Please let the shelter open.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 06:28 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: The West Valley shelter needs to remain a full municipal shelter. The valley needs it, if not only for the fact that it can handle larger animals, but also, West Valley has air conditioning which is important for ALL the animals. Closing this shelter would be devastating to the care of the homeless and lost animals in The Valley. Also, please replace Brenda Barnette! She does not have the public interest in mind in her decision making!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Misty`

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 10:40 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please don't close the West Valley Animal Center! There are so many animals that need that shelter. I used to volunteer there and everyday we had numerous cats, dogs, rabbits, horses that depended on our help to make it through the day. Forcing all Valley animals to make the trek to East Valley Animal Shelter will lead to many animals having to be euthanized due to overcrowding. We were so proud when our West Valley Shelter became a no kill shelter. The animals were cared for by loving staff and volunteers who took the time to help train and socialize the animals to make them ready for adoption. Permanently closing the shelter will be catastrophic for everyone.

Communication from Public

Name: Kathy R

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 10:12 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: It is imperative that West Valley Animal Shelter operate as a FULL municipal shelter. The shelter played a vital role for our large west valley community and for our animals! Please reopen the shelter and also preserve the use as it was originally intended (i.e. do not make the facility into anything other than what it was). Thank you for your consideration.

Communication from Public

Name: Millicent Goldstein

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 09:36 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: We need to reopen the West Valley Shelter. Geographically, this is a big valley and the needs are diverse. West Valley has air conditioning while East Valley does not. Scrounging for fans and ice deliveries in hot weather is archaic. West Valley also is capable of accommodating larger animals. More animals would be saved and returned to owners if this shelter would reopen.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 04:10 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I am in support of West Valley Animal Shelter remaining a full municipal shelter and oppose Brenda Barnette's hybrid proposal. This will ensure maximum safety and survival of the animals.

Communication from Public

Name: Mark Ritz

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 04:30 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: This shelter should remain open and as a public shelter not a hybrid or closed. It is the only fully air conditioned shelter. Closing the shelter is a money grab. Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: Marina Vargas

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 06:45 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: This shelter is very important for the community and it needs to re open.

Communication from Public

Name: Beverley Radloff

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 08:43 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please reopen the West Valley Animal Shelter! This is a beautiful facility! There are numerous volunteers who help out there, but won't travel to the east valley shelter. The shelter personnel are very responsive to the community. I had a dog go missing after she dug her way out from under our fence. Everyday after work I went to the shelter to see if she had been found. One week after she went missing, I found my Cinnamon Bear at the shelter. If I had to travel across the Valley, I would not have been able to check every day. I have been to the east valley shelter to testify when a neighbor's dog was attacked by another neighbor's dog. I had to take the whole morning off work to do this. We always go in person to the West Valley Shelter to pay our dogs' license fees. Please, don't short change this side of the valley! We need our West Valley Animal Shelter!

Communication from Public

Name: Varooj Aivazian

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 08:47 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please stand up for animal rights on behalf of all of us who love animals. Please ensure that the West Valley Animal Shelter is kept open and not made private. It's the only shelter left in our area with AC and proper veterinary care. Please do not allow the profit-seeking selfish bureaucrats to ignore the tax dollars we have paid to shelter lost and suffering pets. Thank you. Varooj Aivazian
9746 Belmar Avenue, Northridge, CA 91324

Communication from Public

Name: Marie Aivazian

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 08:49 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please stand up for animal rights on behalf of all of us in your District. Please ensure that the West Valley Animal Shelter is kept open and not made private. It's the only shelter left in our area with AC (so important always, but especially in this hot hot summer) and proper veterinary care. Please do not allow profit-seeking selfish hardhearted bureaucrats to ignore the tax dollars we have paid to shelter lost and suffering pets. Thank you.
Marie Aivazian 9746 Belmar Avenue, Northridge, CA 91324

Communication from Public

Name: JOE KOZUL

Date Submitted: 09/09/2020 07:43 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I am opposed to the closing of the Shelter or turning it over to another entity. Please keep this service for our residents.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 02:03 AM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please re-open the West Valley Animal Shelter. It has Air-conditioning, whereas the East Valley Shelter does not. This is a very large valley; both shelters are needed, and not as a hybrid shelter. This needs to be a legitimate West Valley shelter since our tax dollars are paying for it.

Communication from Public

Name: Shari Sayed

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

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: We are in desperate need of the West Valley Animal Shelter and need it to reopen immediately. Our tax dollars went to the renovations of this shelter and we want it open immediately. With these record temperatures, it is animal abuse for Brenda Barnette to keep the dogs in East Valley shelter with only a block of ice in their kennel while we pay for air conditioned kennels to remain closed. Brenda Barnette needs to be fired. This is an outrage! She needs to stop closing animal shelters. Rescue groups will not take in strays, injured or lost animals off the street. They will turn you away at the door. West valley animal shelter is also equipped with handling the intake of large animals like it did with horses during the Malibu fires. East Valley does not have this capability. West valley animal shelter took in almost 10,000 animals in need last year. West valley animal shelter needs to open immediately. The public needs it!

Communication from Public

Name: TERESE TANIS

Date Submitted: 09/10/2020 05:38 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: PLEASE reopen the West Valley Animal Shelter. We have used it since 1999 when we found our first California pet ! I might add: every pet we've added to our family (both dogs & cats) have been from the West Valley Animal Shelter. Please remember the tremendous population explosion in the San Fernando Valley over the past 20 + years. The West Valley serves at least half of Valley residents ! This is not the time to "hybridize" the West Valley Animal Shelter. Remember the giant amount of taxpayers' dollars for refurbishing that was approved by the VOTERS and implemented. The East Valley Animal Shelter is smaller and non-air conditioned. It is hardly suitable & probably unable to care for any "overflow" animals (especially large ones) should the Council go in the ill-advised direction of approving the hybrid plan under discussion. Also, I urge you to fire the originator of this untenable plan. Thank you for reading message. Sincerely, Terese Tanis