

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Samantha

**Date Submitted:** 09/08/2020 07:39 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** This shelter has air conditioning. Most of the other shelters don't. We just had a heat wave where temperatures were 107-121. Ok??? It's CRAZY to close a shelter that can accommodate our changing climate. That should be reason enough to open this shelter. And Brenda Barnette doesn't deserve our tax payer dollars paying her salary. She closed the only modern shelter with air conditioning. Dumbest move ever. We're all watching what you do... If you support her, and make the wrong decision we'll mobilize and make sure all your constituents know come voting time. Just saying... Help the animals. Do the right thing!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Teresa Williams

**Date Submitted:** 09/08/2020 11:59 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** It is imperative that the West Valley Animal Shelter remains a municipal shelter, and open once again to serve the needs of the community. It was paid for with taxpayer dollars, and it BELONGS to the COMMUNITY. We are in fire season and the WV Shelter is a valuable resource for evacuees and lost animals. It is also air conditioned, which East Valley is not, during days of 115°. I am appalled by the behavior of Brenda Barnette, and I would like her to be replaced by someone with more integrity. She is deceitful, manipulative, and without shame.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Trudi

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 08:09 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please re-open West Valley Shelter this is ridiculous that they closed it and moved all dogs to East Valley shelter. We voted for re doing shelters and building new one since they are old and horrible. Get rid of Brenda Barnett she does not care about anything to do with animals. I have dealt with her regarding the dog park. She will not listen to anything but what SHE wants. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ray Dean

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 03:38 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** We, the community, want West Valley Animal Shelter to Tropen as a full municipal shelter. The hybrid solution should not even be considered. I also ask that Brenda Barnette be removed and replaced with someone better equipped for the job and who has empathy for our homeless animals. Barnette's decision-making skills are faulty and she does not understand the department's or animal's needs. We require someone more logical, efficiency-minded, budget aware, and animal-friendly overseeing such a vital department. While looking for cost cutting opportunities, she should be focusing on her staff and her own salaries, which are ridiculously bloated. Please consider these words as you move forward. Barnette should NOT be managing a department she continues to fail. Thank you for your time, Ray Dean

## Communication from Public

**Name:** nancy

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 08:27 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** it's not okay to close a SHELTER ! that we need at the SFV!!  
where is our tax payer money going too?! Open the west valley  
animal shelter!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Xochil Morales

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 07:23 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** The shelter needs to reopen and remain as is. Brenda Barnette needs to be removed.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Susan Ellis

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 11:53 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** West Valley Shelter MUST be reopened as a full municipal shelter. NOT as a hybrid as the incompetent Brenda Barnette proposes. Ms Barnette is not fit to hold the position she currently holds. She does not have the animals' best interest in mind. She only wants to collect her bloated paycheck. BRENDA BARNETTE MUST GO AND THE WEST VALLEY SHELTER MUST REOPEN ASAP AS A MUNICIPAL SHELTER. It is what is best for the community and what taxpayers pay for. And by the way, her reports are full of current popular buzz words that have nothing to do with keeping the shelter open as a full municipal shelter. OPEN THE WEST VALLEY SHELTER AS A FULL MUNICIPAL SHELTER AND REPLACE THE INCOMPETENT BRENDA BARNETTE.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Daniel Rice

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

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** I have had a couple personal experiences at West Valley shelter and I had mixed feelings about it. The building and the lobby areas looked newly remodeled but the dog kennels and small play areas in back did not have the same glow to them. Hopefully I just saw this before the dog areas had gotten their touch up. I rescue pulled a young small female chihuahua that had behavior notes for being vicious and aggressive during her examination to the point where she couldn't be fully checked out. The woman that got her out of her cage and into my carrier wouldn't even try to handle her with the bite gloves on. She just opened my carrier and pushed it into the cage til the dog had no choice but to go into the carrier. When we got home and into the yard she was the happiest and sweetest little girl. No aggression. No lunging. No barking. No growling, and she loved the rest of the foster dogs. She slept curled up against my stomach under the covers the first night she was at my home. A few months later she was adopted. A couple weeks after that she went to work with her new Mom and met her Moms boss. The dog became aggressive and lunged and snapped at him out of nowhere. After deducing what could have triggered her, the only consistent variable we could find was that her boss was a larger bodied person and some of the staff I saw were also larger bodied people. I know shelter environments are not ideal for animals and they induce stress, but if the kennel staff amplifies that stress by rough handling animals they are not doing anyone any favors. As for the idea of closing this shelter or having it anything other than an open intake public service would absolutely hurt the cities ability to maintain its animal welfare standard. I've heard and read plenty of negative comments about the manager, Brenda, and sadly her responses to criticism and inactions speak volumes to her character and how she truly feels about saving animals and their welfare under her care. We can do better, and we must do better. For the voiceless animals, and for our own humanity.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** John C. Kruise

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 12:41 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly oppose the closing of the West Valley Animal Shelter and allowing its takeover by so-called 'rescue partners.' This is a vital public facility paid for with our tax dollars. It serves an urgent need of the community, and to turn it over to a privately-operated business is a terrible idea; a forfeiture of the public trust. Charitable animal adoption agencies like Best Friends have their place, but they do not deserve to have taxpayer-funded facilities handed over to them on a silver platter. If the city's Animal Services department is having budget difficulties, then trim the bloated bureaucracy of some of its ludicrously overpaid employees. Start with that arrogant do-nothing, Brenda Barnett.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Guillermo Paramount

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 12:54 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** This shelter needs to reopen as a full municipal shelter. The San Fernando Valley is too large to have this shelter remain closed or have it's services reduced. It is very likely that after the covid pandemic settles down there will be a huge surge of animals in need. This shelter would help alleviate some of the future problems that will arise.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Chester Kido

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 05:16 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** Keep the West Valley Shelter open as a FULL MUNICIPAL SHELTER. From what i have read, Barnette is not responsive to the public and does not seem to do what is in the best interest of the community she serves.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Laurie MacDonald

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

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly oppose the plan to give the West Valley Animal Shelter to third parties. This taxpayer funded and supported facility plays a vital role in animal safety and welfare in this community. Professional animal control officers are needed to continue their role in managing stray animals, law enforcement for animal cruelty and neglect, and to ensure public safety. The facility is also needed for animal evacuees. Please reopen this facility, continue to serve the animals and families that depend on you and do not abdicate your vital role in the community.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Cristina

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 02:18 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing you to let you know that I, along with my community, oppose the hybrid model for the West Valley Shelter. I/we want it to remain a municipal animal shelter, and to reopen it as it was. A regular animal shelter with kennel space belonging to homeless or lost animals. Please, please, please, I/we beg of you to keep this shelter as a municipal shelter. I have lived here my entire life. This is our only shelter for thousands of residents in this area and surrounding areas. I have relied on this shelter for many years! Donated goods and brought lost animals that I've find on the streets to this location. Please think of the animals and the people in this community. Our voice matters, their voice matters. You will hurt this area and the animals if you take our shelter away. Please save the West Valley Shelter!!!! This is a necessity to our community. Please reopen this shelter as a municipal shelter. PLEASE!!!! Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Yaniv

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 02:34 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** To whom it may concern, my North Valley community including friends, neighbors and colleagues agree that the municipal shelter needs to remain due its direct benefits to our local neighborhood. Brenda Barnette needs to be replaced as well considering her reasoning for closure.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Chris McDonald

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 02:53 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** I was appalled when I first read about the proposed "repurposing" of the West Valley Animal Shelter, and I cannot emphasize strongly enough my support of keeping it open as a municipal shelter. Please, DO NOT allow the West Valley Animal Shelter to close. It is a much needed resource in the San Fernando Valley, paid for by taxpayers, and which the taxpayers deserve.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 04:01 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** Reopen West Valley Animal Shelter as a full municipal shelter. Councilman Lee, we are counting on you to refuse Brenda Barnette's hybrid model proposal. She does not have your constituents' best interests at heart. Please protect your supporters and their pets.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Laurie Bellman

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 04:11 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** I would like the West Valley Animal Shelter that we helped pay for to remain a city shelter. I do not want it to become a hybrid as suggested by Brenda Barnette. Please replace her with someone who actually cares about the West Valley and our animals. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Anna McIntosh  
**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 05:25 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-1114  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Please note I would like West Valley Animal Shelter to reopen as a full municipal shelter (Not hybrid) and I want Brenda Barnette replaced.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Evelin Monroy

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 05:59 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** As a neighbor of this shelter, I choose and vote to keep West Valley Animal Shelter fully open as a full municipal shelter. The lives of animals depend on us citizens to speak up for them. This shelter needs to reopen and continue to function as a full shelter. I oppose Ms. Bernadettes proposal of a hybrid shelter! No way! This shelter needs to reopen/remain a full municipal shelter. She needs to be replaced with someone who will do this for the love of the animals and not for the love of personal or monetary gain.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mike Root

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 11:21 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** I want the W. Valley shelter to remain open as a Full Municipal shelter. It's the only shelter the W. Valley has, and serves as an important place in my heart.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Morgan Hall

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 07:35 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** Previous comment from city voter CE said it so well that I am reiterating what they said here: I vehemently oppose the closure, as well as an hybrid models, for West Valley Animal Shelter. This is a municipal shelter built by tax payers, in fact, the public is STILL paying on bond (prop F) that paid for this shelter. The valley is over 40% of the city, and the intake of animals at East and West Valley are 42% of the total. So the population correlates to animal intakes. West Valley Shelter is a beautiful newer shelter, and the ONLY shelter with Air Conditioning for outside dog kennels, and as some of you may be aware, we have record breaking heat in the valley. This past weekend, the valley clocked in at over 115 degrees and it is negligent and half witted to leave an air condition shelter sitting empty, only to be given away to private organization to cure racism. Contrary to what Ms. Barnette states in her proposal, giving away an animal shelter does not resolve systemic racism. West Valley was the shelter with third highest intake out of 6 shelters, so it is NOT a small shelter (as falsely represented by Ms Barnette during community zoom meetings). It is an very important and a much needed resource for our community and the animals. This shelter operated at 90% capacity as a FULL MUNICIPAL shelter, and certain months of the year, at over 100% capacity with dogs kenneled in grooming room and hallways. We need this shelter to remain a full municipal shelter, because that is how it was presented and charged to us tax payers. Anything else is defrauding voters and tax payers. East Valley cannot absorb the entire region of the SFV, especially when Porter Ranch residents need a place for their animals during fire season. Constituents of SFV will be grossly under-served and over taxed. The public needs ALL the kennel space we currently have, and at times, even that is not enough. To give away much needed kennel space is liking throwing away your winter coat at the first chill of autumn. Irresponsible management that lacks foresight. Makes zero fiscal sense and is clear case of negligent mismanagement. This department is top heavy and over-bloated. Over the last few years, there has been no change in the # of staff that directly deals with animals (the boots on the ground). All the changes were the additions of top salaried upper management and redundant director positions (1.8 million in UPPER management staff that rarely sets foot inside a shelter

or positions filled with no relevant background. For example, Ms. Ramirez. If we want to look into Communication from Public cuts, that would be the judicious place to look. It makes zero sense why Ms. Barnette was given special permission to hire a second assistant, when the rest of dept is under hiring freeze. To give away public land for free to private organizations is defrauding the tax payers that built this shelter and continue to fund this department. The general manager has failed to look at any other options, and simply wants to push this corrupt deal thru. Once her secret proposal to solve systemic racism by giving away a public shelter was ridiculed publicly, she clung to the notion of possible budget cuts. I urge any an all council members to vote AGAINST such hybrid proposals from Ms. Barnette and reopen West Valley Animal shelter as it was, a full and much needed municipal shelter. To reopen it the way it was presented to the public when the voted for Prop F. While attending the Neighborhood Alliance Council in August of 2020, the mayor incorrectly stated that by giving away West Valley shelter, he would be "expanding" on the services offered. However, that is simply not correct. Those services were already offered, and he just didn't know. There is nothing to gain, but everything to lose. The community is against this hybrid idea. Please feel free to listen to the recorded meetings from staff, volunteers, public...., or check with various neighborhood councils to get a feel of public's sentiments on corruption from Ms. Barnette's office.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Scarlett Nye

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 07:37 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please reopen West Valley as a municipal shelter. I oppose Miss Barnette's hybrid proposal and Do Not believe she has the best interest of the shelter. During our recent extreme heat it would have been very valuable to have a shelter with air conditioning. Our homeless pets deserve better. I am also very concerned that as people return to work, there may be a flux of surrendered pets. Put simply, WE NEED MORE ROOM FOR THESE ABANDONED PETS! It's the right thing to do.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Annette Dalton

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 08:00 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** It is imperative that this shelter remain a full municipal shelter and Brenda Barnette has proved herself unfit for her position. She should be asked to resign immediately or be replaced with a reputable replacement that has more urgency for the issue at hand. 1.8 million dollars worth of funds have been misallocated under Barnette. I want her replaced and the community supports and is rallying behind this decision. Open the West Valley Shelter; animals need this location more than ever! With fires raging across CA domesticated animals are being brought in my the hundreds. This shelter must open!



## Communication from Public

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**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 08:00 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

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## Communication from Public

**Name:** Holly Weber

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 08:15 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** We need the West Valley Animal Shelter to stay open as a full municipal shelter!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Cathy Michaud

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 08:32 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** Councilman Lee--Please do not let them close the WV Animal Shelter. My family and friends have made use of the Shelter's services many times. We need a PUBLIC shelter in the West Valley. I cannot wrap my head around the idea of closing or privatizing it. It makes no sense. It continues to sound like there is a conflict of interest involved. Please fight for our interests in this matter. I will continue to follow this closely. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 08:51 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** The west valley shelter needs to remain a municipal shelter. This is the only shelter in the west valley. The shelter was build because of the need that existed then and for the need now. It has a place for big and small animals during times of need and emergencies. It seems Barnette doesn't understand this and she needs to be replaced. Please save the west valley animal shelter. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sherry H

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 09:00 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please reopen the Chatsworth Animal Shelter as a municipal shelter. The number of animals that need shelter has not decreased and will only keep increasing as more people are displaced from their homes. Our citizens and their animals need a place in the West Valley - not in the center of the valley or east valley.

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:** Sharon Novins  
**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 09:12 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-1114  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Old don't close this shelter

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Una Hu

**Date Submitted:** 09/09/2020 09:26 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1114

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please make this a municipal shelter and reject Ms. Barnette's proposal for a hybrid shelter. Also, please replace Ms. Barnette. The animals in our neighborhoods deserve better.