

Communication from Public

Name: SFV Voter - CE
Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 11:23 AM
Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: 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. Irresponsable 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

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. The lack of response from members of PAWS committee members and Mayor's office is alarming. In particular Mr. Koretz who is chair. Where you Mr. Koretz? the public is about to lose a resource they fund, from a department that answers to you. You are supposed to answer to tax payers and all modes of contacting your office have been ignored. I understand you have goals of running for controller, but it is probably best to at least serve your current position before eyeing the next one.

Communication from Public

Name: Pamela Finley

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 01:43 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I want our West Valley Animal Shelter reopened as it was, not a public/private hybrid. Animal Services are critical and should be attended to by the Agency created for this purpose. Our animals shouldn't be compromised because of the "budget"

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 01:45 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: West Valley shelter needs to be reopened as a municipal shelter. Our tax dollars have paid for it. Closing it and giving it to a non profit will not benefit the community, it's just a way for the city and Brenda Barnette to pass the buck and not take responsibility for the lives of the many lost or homeless animals.

Communication from Public

Name: Madison Grady

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 01:46 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I am requesting that the West Valley shelter be reopened. Private rescue groups are being inundated with animals due to Brenda Barnette “temporarily” closing the West Valley Shelter. West Valley Shelter is the facility with air conditioning, which East Valley does not have. With temperatures 100-117 degrees, it is irresponsible and a mismanagement of resources to close the West Valley Shelter. Repurposing West Valley shelter in any way is negligent, irresponsible, and a disservice to the animals, local private service groups, and the public.

Communication from Public

Name: Belinda L.

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 01:48 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I would like to see West Valley animal shelter reinstated as a full time municipal animal shelter. The San Fernando Valley is too vast to have only East Valley animal shelter open. It made no sense to close it in the first place (why do I even pay taxes for it to be closed).

Communication from Public

Name: Michelle M

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

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: You have to reopen as a full municipal shelter!! No hybrid proposal! Brenda Barnett's has no sympathy/empathy for the animals! How can someone who does not care for the animals be in charge?? She must be replaced! The people have spoken!

Communication from Public

Name: Adriana Becerra

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 01:58 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, as a resident of San Fernando Valley and community foster, I believe that it is important and urgent for the West Valley animal shelter to remain a full municipal shelter and to open its doors asap to accommodate loose animals and lost pets on the west side of the valley. COVID 19 is a poor excuse to keep the shelter closed as many essential places have reopened including hair salons, and restaurants. There is absolutely no reason to remain closed and this is a corrupt move on Brenda Barnette to use COVID 19 to turn a municipal shelter into a hybrid facility.

Communication from Public

Name: Donna Lewis

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 02:20 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I am a LAAS volunteer. Up until April of this year a volunteer at West Valley. I saw no reason WV should of closed and all the dogs and cats move to East Valley. There was already speculations of Brenda's plans but nothing in writing and to hide it from the public is a disgrace and a slap in the face to volunteers. Even with full ACO's volunteers are heavily needed and I thought appreciated. I oppose this hybrid for several reasons. One is East Valley can not handle all calls and strays in the San Fernando Valley. Secondly, how long will it take an ACO to answer a call to the west side for a dangerous dog from East Valley when they hardly answer the phone as it is? WV is also used for fire evacuees pets. Do you think when fleeing there homes from fire they will drive 15 miles to East Valley and will strays already in the shelter put to sleep to make room for them? Brenda mentioned she will have an ACO stationed at the hybrid shelter for strays or lost pets to ship to other shelters? How will the owner find their list pets if they are spread all over the other shelters? Will they be given more time to find and claim their list let before adopted out of put to sleep. As soon as more people lose their homes from evictions they will be dumping their pets. How will Brenda keep pets in the home if they lose their homes? I have asked Brenda many of these questions to her in Facebook and she has ignored me. She has lied saying the WV was temporary closed and she is lying now to the public. California is ranked #1 in euthanizing healthy pets. We have no business getting involved and participating in American Pets Alive HAAS model Project! We need West Valley to reopen as an intake animal shelter like before.

Communication from Public

Name: Annie Covell

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 02:00 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose Brenda Barnette's proposal of a hybrid West Valley Shelter. Brenda Barnett is a liar and a disgrace. These animals are suffering in multiple ways at her hands and mismanagement of our shelters. We need to open West Valley Shelter NOW. We as tax payers have funded the shelters for the animals, not for corrupt people like Brenda Barnett to line her pockets. I'm outraged and horrified at what is becoming of our city. Fire Brenda Barnett and please open the West Valley Shelter ASAP. The animals are suffering.

Communication from Public

Name: Robert Rodriguez

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 03:19 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Brenda Barnette, in her own words, has claimed LAAS “cannot support six fully staffed shelters this fiscal year.” Yet her pay and that of upper management is in the combined range of 1.8 MILLION. How can you sit there and tell us in the community that sacrifices have to be made before she and others sacrifice from their ridiculously inflated salaries? How do you expect us to react with nothing less than complete anger? Brenda Barnette has proven to be a failure time and again. She needs to be fired and replaced with someone that actually cares for the homeless animal population of our city. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Donna Walsh

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 03:29 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: We strongly urge you to keep West Valley as a FULL Municipal Shelter and NOT as a hybrid. There are many volunteers ready to assist getting it set up and open as it is badly needed. Especially in this extreme weather. It could have been done in hours and pets transported. Additionally, it is not understood how Brenda Barnett is allowed to continue to run and make decisions for the shelters. Her ego indeed gets in the way of what is best for the animals and our community as a functioning shelter. We have so many great citizens willing to pitch in their time and personal money in desperate attempts to humanely save and care for these animals as it is. NO animal should ever be turned away at the door! Shameful! It is clear that her actions are not in their best interest. Animals enter the system for shelter, safety, care and hopefully a new home. She has managed to make it anything but that as well as hindering the adoption process and relations within the communities. It is incomprehensible as to why this is the face you continue to ALLOW represent you and our County Shelter Systems. I ask why being the voice for the voiceless is so UNIMPORTANT to you??? And why is it that you do not value your community that you have been given the gift to SERVE! Sitting and being complacent is just as bad as her wrong doings. WE PLEAD...LISTEN TO US...SERVE US...BE THE ADVOCATE FOR THE ANIMALS!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Kelly Hill

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 03:32 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: We want the West Valley Shelter to reopen in the same capacity it was. We want this to be the full shelter not some kind of hybrid shelter. There are enough animals in the SFValley we need it open. Over this very hot Labor day weekend employees at EAST VALLEY were pleading for ice to try and keep the animals cool. Taxpayers were buying ice for 600.00 a day . Why is this is the shelter that is open?Ms Barnette does not care about the animals in the shelters. She needs to be fired.She has made it very obvious she does not care. West Valley Shelter is air conditioned for the animals so why is this the shelter closed?,She fights with people on her facebook group and says " No Dog Has Died Yet?" Meanwhile taxpayers are buying children's swimming pools to be filled with cool water and ice at the EAST VALLEY SHELTER.Complaints have been made that water pipes are on the roof at the East Valley ,any water for the pets is always hot for the animals. Is this how we treat our pets? I have heard people have been turned away at East Valley ,people with kittens could not leave them. We need WEST VALLEY SHELTER OPEN!! For the found pets in the West Valley, who is going to drive all the way to Van Nuys to turn in lost pets?. They won't ...people will just look the other way and many lost pets will not find their way home . Please Open West Valley Shelter for the animals!!! as Ms Barnette DOES NOT CARE! kelly Hill

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Donoho

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 03:32 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Dear LA City Council: Please keep the West Valley Animal Shelter a full municipal shelter. We need this shelter in our community, not a hybrid version of what it should be. Please reopen as a municipal shelter. On another note, there has been nothing but lies and abuse of information and promises by Ms. Brenda Barnette. There needs to be a new director, one who works with the community, not against. It is a shame that Ms. Barnette has abused her position and ignores the community she serves. Thank you, Lisa Donoho

Communication from Public

Name: Karole Velzy

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 03:43 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I am a West San Fernando Valley resident and strongly believe our community wants the West Valley Animal Shelter to remain a full municipal shelter to serve our community. I believe when open and available to the public West Valley plays a very important role in ensuring animal welfare and protecting our community. I am sincerely requesting you replace Ms Barnett with someone whose main focus is regarding the care and welfare of the lives of the animals solely. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Babbett Goss

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 03:54 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please keep West Valley open as a regular shelter it is much needed. I get all my dogs there and thats were I bring the stray dogs. I live in West Hills. East Valley to far. I voted for you. My exhusband was a police officer. My son is biracial. I work for LAUSD. I heard there was some kind of dirty work being done to get rid of West Valley dont do it. We need that shelter. I pay my taxes. Please do the right think. Thank you. Babbett Goss

Communication from Public

Name: Gabriele Hartel

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 03:57 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: The West Valley shelter is very much needed as a MUNICIPAL shelter for the citizens and animals in the San Fernando Valley. ONE shelter for the entire valley is not sufficient, statistics proof that the East and the West Valley shelter are both very busy shelters, field calls and stray animals/owner surrenders coming in never stopped. Before COVID 19 they were still killing animals because they did not have enough space for everybody. The West Valley shelter has already a low cost animal clinic and had service / assistance (The Rescue Train) to keep animals together with their owners who needed help in some way. There could be more low cost services added but having rescues take over does not serve the citizens who are still paying through Prop F. At a minimum, tax payers should be allowed to vote on any dispersion the city would like to make regarding the property that has been built and paid for at tax payers expense.

Communication from Public

Name: Caroline

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 03:58 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: The West Valley Shelter is a much needed and invaluable resource that the tax payers have more than paid for over the years. This is a beautiful shelter & it is vital that we get it back up and running for not only the humans of the Valley (and beyond) but more importantly for the animals. I question the original intent to shut West Valley down in light of the COVID pandemic but that's neither here nor there. It's time to reopen and to get this facility back up and running. East Valley can not continue to absorb the animals that are in need and the residents of the West Valley shouldn't be paying taxes and not getting animal control and welfare/public safety resources. On top of getting back open we need for the powers that be (yes, I'm talking to you Mr. Garcetti) to take a long look at the disgraceful mismanagement of ALL of L.A. Animal Services that Ms. Brenda Barnette has been destroying since she took over as GM 10 years ago. For 10 years we have watched her run LAAS into the ground...and now she wants to give West Valley Shelter back to "reconstitute" it to help with "ending institutional racism and injustice" and "support pet ownership"...so that having a companion animal in your life "does not become a matter of privilege". WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT BRENDA??? How would shutting down the West Valley Shelter combat racism? More than 1/2 of the Valley is made up of POC. You'd be taking resources away from the very people that need them! How would handing the shelter over to private entities help with "privilege" when the cost to adopt a cat or dog are beyond reasonable at the shelter? Your suggestion for this is more than ridiculous it is galling and insulting to those of us who have donated, fostered, volunteered and supported West Valley for many years (not to mention paid taxes for that shelter). You are proposing to take away Animal Control Officers, the citizens of the West Valley will have nowhere to bring/find lost pets, no one to call for suspicion of animal cruelty or barking dogs. The list goes on & on but Ms. Barnette is not living in the real world...she scoffs at valid plea's and suggestions made by the community (who are paying her over \$300,000.00 annual salary) and she was "annoyed" by the talk of there being no A/C @ East Valley as she sat in her air conditioned home or office and the dogs @ East Valley suffered in the SWELTERING HEAT when temps were around 115 degrees this past week. Ice blocks, fans &

misters had to be delivered to help the animals when just across town, West Valley shelter with A/C sat empty. She doesn't deserve to be entrusted with the care of innocent animals. She should work in politics since she seems to have plenty of time to tweet about her political point of view but no time to respond to citizens who are asking her valid questions. Councilmembers Koretz, Blumenfield, Krekorian, Martinez, and Lee: please know that your constituents will not rest until they get this Shelter back. You work for the people not the other way around. Pet lovers were already sick and tired of the shenanigans at the shelters and this latest stunt has awakened an angry crew of Pet Mom's & Dad's...you're being given notice now that if you don't fix this, you will surely be voted out. Mr. Garcetti, we have reached out to you countless times via email, tweets, phone calls...you clearly don't care about the animals of Los Angeles and you and Brenda are clearly in cahoots. We know you have bigger political aspirations & can't run again in 2020 (thank God) but we've got your number...we know how you operate & you will be judged harshly by all of the citizens whom you've ignored. If you head into the National area, this will follow you. I love West Valley...I have fostered for West Valley, I adopted 3 of my cats from West Valley & sponsored adoptions at West Valley to help during kitten season. This place is near & dear to my heart...to see it so callously disregarded really breaks my heart. Open West Valley Shelter back up, fire Brenda Barnette & her cronies who are all making 6-figure salaries and hire some truly caring people that give a damn about animal welfare. I hope & pray that someone who cares is reading these comments & will help us enact the changes that are so need. Thank you!

Communication from Public

Name: Meghan Leon
Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 02:27 PM
Council File No: 20-1114
Comments for Public Posting: Please keep this a fully functioning shelter!

Communication from Public

Name: Inez Anderson

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 02:27 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: West Valley shelter needs to remain as a fully opened municipal shelter not hybrid. If we need a hybrid shelter, we need to open one in SOUTH Los Angeles where the people need more help and resources.

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica Lott

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 02:40 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: ??ACTION NEEDED?? Hello LA City Councilmember John Lee, we need the West Valley Animal Shelter to open and remain a full municipal shelter (Not hybrid) and I do not feel Brenda Barnette is a capable executive with the best interest of my community and our animals. She must be It is extremely important for City Council to know where the public stands. If we don't speak up for the animals, Ms. Barnette will bulldoze her poor animal care ideas through. And why wouldn't bagel? She and her team make about \$1.8 million per year and they make decisions like "lets give the animal shelter away as a gift to solve racism!" or "lets abandon the only shelter with AC when we have record heat of 115. Please make the right decision! Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Diana Reiter

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 02:53 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilman Lee, I am writing to express my concern and disbelief that the West Valley Animal shelter remains closed with no access to help animals needing temporary care and should be re-opened immediately as a Municipal Shelter and not as a hybrid as she is proposing. After reading and listening to Ms. Barnette's statements, I as a citizen am appalled at her lack of concern for this shelter to be open and feel it would be in the best interest of our city to replace her with someone who has the experience and dedication to those animals in need. Respectfully, Diana Reiter

Communication from Public

Name: Annette Wynne

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 02:57 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please re open my local shelter. I can't imagine the level of suffering that has occurred by animals being abandoned at the door due to the closure. All day I see postings of missing dogs and found dogs where people are hopeless and do not know what to do. I also can't imagine the heat in the other shelters with no air conditioning. Why would an air conditioned shelter be closed while in the 115 degree heat the animals suffer. Please keep this necessary shelter open and remove Brenda Barnette. It is clear from everything I have read and learned that animal welfare is not at the top of her agenda. Please do the right thing for the residents and animals of the West Valley area.

Communication from Public

Name: Alanna Garman

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 09:58 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: DO NOT, LET ME REPEAT, DO NOT REMOVE WEST VALLEY ANIMAL SHELTER AS A PUBLIC SHELTER. You need funds then reduce the higher up salaries. We need this shelter. You change to Brenda's "plan" you will put thousands upon thousands of animals at risk, you will put people at risk, you will create a bigger mess than we already have. My tax dollars paid for that shelter. I expect my tax dollars so what they are designed to do. Protect my tax dollars, protect the animals, protect the public.

Communication from Public

Name: KB

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 10:03 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: We need West Valley shelter - and I oppose the proposed hybrid shelter for several reasons: 1) During the pandemic people who found lost or injured animals were told to "put them back where they were found". The other option was to take the injured/lost animal to East Valley shelter - not close. People need a shelter CLOSE to them - not 17 miles and 30 minutes away. 2) West Valley is air conditioned. When the temperature reaches up to 120 degrees, is it humane to have animals in kennels at East Valley in that heat? No it's not - so volunteers once again stepped up to provide ice to those poor animals - when they could have been in air conditioned kennels at West Valley. 3) Brenda Barnette makes almost \$350k in salary and benefits? WHAT? And has two manager assistants with big salaries? And all the management team has salaries of \$1.8m? Wow. This is not taxpayer money being used wisely. Please keep West Valley as an operating shelter - don't give it away to non-profits to do the job that LAAS should be doing. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Kristina Lee

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 09:40 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: We NEED this shelter to reopen. On record, West Valley may have less intakes BUT there are ALWAYS animals coming in non stop. There is mud hiding what goes on behind the scenes with scared voices in the shadows afraid to speak up due in fear of retaliation. Let me remind you of the veteran volunteers that were fired and silenced for advocating for better care of the animals. We live in a first world country and are one of the top cities in the country. We also need this shelter to be fully functional, operating and ready to take in evacuated pets from fires. As a shelter volunteer, a tax payer, an active member in the community, I demand better for the animals as we are morally obligated to do so. I am outraged it has come to a lawsuit, protests, demands, with constant outcry from the community to keep this shelter open.

Communication from Public

Name: Concerned

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 09:50 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: OPEN WEST VALLEY AS THE PUBLIC MUNICIPAL SHELTER IT WAS MEANT TO BE!! As we saw this past week with record breaking temperatures, West Valley needs to be open since it 1) had air conditioning and 2) can be used to evacuate animals in case of fires. We pay our taxes and deserve a local shelter. Brenda Barnette is incompetent and needs to be fired.

Communication from Public

Name: Amy Staskiel

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 07:54 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: The West Valley Animal Shelter offers vital services to the community and the multitude of large and small animals in the vast area it serves. This shelter is funded with our taxpayer money and needs to be reopened immediately for operations. There are wonderful people who work here but I do not believe that Brenda Barnette has the best intentions at heart for this shelter. Please do not let this vital community resource die- especially with fire season coming. Please move to restore this shelter at once! Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Emily

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 07:58 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I urge city officials to reopen the West Valley Animal Shelter for the well-being of the animals in the surrounding area. It has come to the public's attention that their taxpayer money is spent on inflated salaries other than the benefit of the actual animals.

Communication from Public

Name: Leegie Parker

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

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I want the west valley shelter reopened, in the same capacity as before, I want Brenda Barnette fired I want my tax payer dollars to continue to support the shelter in my community and utilize the facilities as intended. Brenda Barnette is an over paid , lazy, human who cares nothing about the animals in which she is supposed to care for.

Communication from Public

Name: Tiffany M. Castellanos

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

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: My family, community, and I want West Valley Animal Shelter to remain a full municipal shelter and for Brenda Barnette to be replaced. Her lack of care for animals suffering in 124 degree weather, closing shelters during fire season, and leaving a completely renovated shelter to collect dust is a disgrace. As a community we placed millions of tax dollars in the hands of people we have entrusted to take care of our Los Angelino animals and they have let us down. More importantly she and this situation has paved the way for animals to suffer, this needs to be corrected post haste. There are animals that need those AC kennels and a community that requires the necessities which are already paid for. Animals are being brought to shelters that are over crowded call me whatever you want but it seems as though opening west valley shelter could help to reduce the number of animals crowded in other shelters and better the environment of our Los Angelino Animals. If Ms. Barnette truly has no money how is she able to hire more faculty for over 100,000 USD with benefits. It seems to me that the funds to move the animals won't be too difficult. Sincerely, Tiffany Castellanos

Communication from Public

Name: Kristine Ashton-Magnuson

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 08:35 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I would like West Valley Animal Shelter to reopen as soon as possible and to remain a full municipal shelter (not a hybrid). I also feel that Brenda Barnette should be replaced. It is especially alarming that West Valley Animal Shelter is closed when it is the only valley shelter with air conditioning. I can't imagine how many animals were suffering at East Valley Shelter with no AC during the recent heat wave. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Samantha Paris

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

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I have worked in animal rescue for over a decade. West Valley Animal Services needs to remain a fully operating municipal animal shelter. It services a huge portion of the valley that East Valley simply cannot handle by itself. The community, but more importantly the animals, will suffer greatly from this loss and it is unacceptable.

Communication from Public

Name: Samantha Paris
Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 08:44 PM
Council File No: 20-1114
Comments for Public Posting: Brenda Barnette is a disgrace, there is no reason such an incompetent person should be a government official. Hire someone who actually represents the interest of the animals to head Animal Services. She has held this job for too long and done far too much harm as a result.

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Riccomini Clancy
Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 08:59 PM
Council File No: 20-1114
Comments for Public Posting: Please keep the shelter a municipal shelter. I do not have trust in Ms. Barnett's leadership and stewardship of some of our most vulnerable community members- shelter animals. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Trina M

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

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please reopen the Los Angeles City West Valley Animal Shelter as it was before. As a taxpayer, I feel that it should remain a full municipal shelter. I do not agree with Ms. Barnette's plan to change it and group it with non-profit organization. There are many animals that were helped by the West Valley Animal Shelter and cramming animals into other shelters puts too much of a burden on other shelters and creates poor conditions for these animals.

Communication from Public

Name: Jane

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

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please please please open up the West Valley Animal Shelter! There's absolutely no good reason why it's closed! We voted for measure F and need that shelter back as it was ASAP! It's completely insane that it's closed. It has air conditioning for the animals...where as the other shelters do not. Larger farm animals are able to be brought here when there are fires. It's so non sensical that it's closed! Who makes these ridiculous decisions? This is not what the residents of the West Valley want. We want our shelter back now! We voted for this. Enough is enough!
Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: Carmela Klein

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

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: West Valley Animal shelter should not be closed and should be a city facility and not a private entity, we deserve this service for the high taxes that we pay, and this facility was remodeled few years from our tax money and today it's closed and the animals are cramped in a shelter with no AC- in these , terrible heat. Ms. Brenda Barnette should be fired, the complaints about the animal shelter were , way before the pandemic, she is an evil person that should not be there. The West Valley animal Shelter should not be closed and should remained as a city facility!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Mariana Migliore

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 10:35 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please kindly note that the community needs and wants the West Valley Shelter to be immediately reopened as a FULL MUNICIPAL SHELTER, NO HYBRIDS. Closing the West Valley Shelter will leave an entire area of the valley without animal services support and cause the collapse of the East Valley Shelter. It is shocking and outrageous that a fully remodeled shelter funded by taxpayers' money is being given away to non-profit organizations. Closing the shelter will put the burden on the community and the East Valley shelter entirely and will only make more animals suffer. It's very sad to see that people in charge of animal services hired by our cities representatives are willing to make this compromise in the name of budgetary cuts. PLEASE REOPEN THE WEST VALLEY SHELTER AS PREVIOUSLY FUNDED, A FULL MUNICIPAL SHELTER. The community and the animals will thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Tracie Peddy

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 10:52 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: The shelter must remain open as a municipal shelter and not as a hybrid or some other nonsense. As a member of the rescue community, I have seen the toll closed shelters have taken. Animals have been abandoned to die, inhumanely destroyed, and the general public is not provided any assistance with Spay, neuter, vaccinations, etc. Brenda Barnett should be replaced. If this was a position that was publicly elected, she would not be there.

Communication from Public

Name: Natalie

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 11:03 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Requesting for LA West Valley Animal shelter to be reopened and function as a fully operating animal shelter. The west SFV needs this shelter. We cannot continue to overwhelm East Valley Animal Shelter. Brenda Barnette has conveniently chosen to have West Valley Shelter shut down after all of the attention the shelter was getting for euthanizing healthy and adoptable dogs when there were empty kennels. LA City cannot continue to ignore the complaints of its tax paying citizens. I request the reopening of LA West Valley Shelter with further investigating of Brenda Barnette and her management of LA City Shelters!

Communication from Public

Name: Cristel B.

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 11:43 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I would like West Valley Animal Shelter to remain open. I also demand Brenda Barnette to be removed in her position. She is clearly not fit to handle her position. She has zero compassion to animals. Animals are voiceless and that is why I will always be their voice. Please hear our pleas to keep this shelter open and to use taxpayers money for its rightful purposes and that is to help these animals in need! Brenda Barnette should be fired!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 04:21 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: My household and many others I know do now like Brenda Barnette's hybrid proposal for the West Valley Animal Shelter. We strongly believe it should reopen as municipal shelter and that Barnette's character and comments in handling the situation is corrupted and not in the best interest of the community.

Communication from Public

Name: Mark S.

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 04:25 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I am an employee of the Animal Services of Los Angeles, and I am requesting that the West Valley shelter be open once again. The cities around depend on that shelter to manage everyday life from stray drop off, to dog bites, and aggressive animal impounds. I worked at the West Valley shelter and would see the same citizens come in week in, and week out. They would come in for help with adoptions, or come in seeking advise about their animals, or a neighbors. Please see to it that West valley isnt clised down permanently. Thank you for your time.

Communication from Public

Name: Claudio Kusnier
Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 04:52 PM
Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Claudio Kusnier and I wanted to address councilman Lee and Blumenfield I have been an employee at Western Bagel for the past 24 years I am currently the store manager at the Woodland Hills location and managed the Northridge location for 8 years prior to that. I am a current West Valley volunteer and have been volunteering at the East Valley shelter as Disaster Relief Service Worker for the city of Los Angeles . I am writing because of my concerns about Closing The West Valley Shelter. The West Valley Shelter is a very important part of the community and is needed to house and intake animals , without this shelter the community in the West valley will have to go all the way to East Valley to turn in Stray, lost and unfortunately their own animals this is bad because of a couple of reasons 1 that people don't always do the right thing and would abandon their animals in ways that are not ethical. 2 this will cause overcrowding at the East Valley Shelter and this a very bad thing for the animals and could many animals to be euthanized because of lack of space and that would be very sad since we have a Shelter that can hold over 100 dogs and we are not using, it also has a large Cat room and a room for Rabbits, Guinee Pigs , Hamsters and Rats and Mice. I believe it it is necessary to keep both shelters open 2 shelters open means twice as many adoptions and of course that is the most important things we do as volunteers. If we were to close West Valley we would be closing the nicer of the two Shelters It has A/C and heat for the dogs this past week it has been over 100 . I was at East on Saturday 9/5 and it was 118 we fortunate to get an ice donation and we distributed to all the dogs but this does not cool down the kennels very much the kennels at East have a little metal cubby in the back compared West that has large Air conditioned and heated hallway with doors it can also get very cold in the winter .The yards At West are much nicer with turf at East the yard is always muddy , at West you can walk dogs off the premises which is very important for the dogs health at East the dogs never get to see the outside of the shelter which is a very stressful environment . I have made lots of friends at the Shelter and most if not all prefer to work at West versus East and giving up a city shelter paid for by taxpayers doesn't make any sense the city will still be paying to maintain a facility that they do not occupy . I know these are difficult Times

but the Animals can not speak for themselves The Volunteers are their voice I would love to have you join me to a visit to both Shelters and speak directly to the employees and see the noticeable differences between the two shelters and meet some of these wonderful Animals Thanks for taking the time to read my comment and hopefully it will Help , Claudio Kusnier
818-448-3282

Communication from Public

Name: Robin Skov

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 04:54 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please keep the West Valley Animal Shelter open as a municipal animal shelter and not as a hybrid organization as proposed by Brenda Barnette. The West Valley shelter is a high intake shelter and one of only two shelters serving the San Fernando Valley after Ms. Barnette gave the municipally funded North East Valley shelter away. The East Valley shelter cannot accommodate all animals from the SFV. Also, major revisions were made to the West Valley shelter with city bond money with the understanding that the bond was to fund city shelters. To do otherwise is a misuse of those monies.

Communication from Public

Name: amanda serrano
Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 05:05 PM
Council File No: 20-1114
Comments for Public Posting: Please reopen the shelter for the animals and fire Brenda Barnett!
This is ridiculous! I volunteer there and there are so many animals
that need help!

Communication from Public

Name: Lynne Robin Green

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

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Reopen West Valley Shelter, our lost animals are being turned away at East Valley, and there's no air conditioning either. It shouldn't be closed, it should be serving West Valley! It's a total travesty that Brenda Barnette closed this shelter for no reason in the middle of covid, fires, heat. She's causing grave suffering to West Valley animals in need !

Communication from Public

Name: Robin Simmons
Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 05:06 PM
Council File No: 20-1114
Comments for Public Posting: " I want West Valley Animal Shelter to reopen as municipal shelter, oppose Brenda Barnette's hybrid proposal and her replaced.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 04:01 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: The West Valley Shelter needs to remain a full municipal service to the citizens and taxpayers of the San Fernando Valley. It is a travesty that it remains closed. It is also unreasonable to think that the East Valley shelter is adequate to meet the needs of the San Fernando Valley. The West Valley Shelter is better equipped, especially with livestock facilities and A/C. The current General Manager's values seem to not align with the constituents of the San Fernando Valley and the City of Los Angeles. It may be time to rethink the position and org chart for the shelter rather than take away valuable and needed services.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 04:02 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Fire Brenda Barnette and all upper management in animal services! Open West Valley animal services. Stop the use of rat poisoning or alike to kill wildlife that is killing our personal pets! Start taking in all strays and fix or install air conditioning for all animals at East Valley animal shelter. Make your software user friendly when making payments to animal services for example dog licenses payments for 1 dog took 45 minutes! Open West Valley Animal Shelter Must be a coincidence that a mountain lion, bobcat, rats, and now pet owners are dealing with dead pets. Coincidentally all from the same area and cause of death rat poisoning! Now we have all these strays running the streets we have packs of coyotes using our streets as feeding grounds. A few weeks ago ch 5 news a coyote in early morning jumped the fence of a woman's yard in Woodland Hills and attacked two of her 3 dogs! The. The case of the Doberman killed by rat poisoning in same area as a mountain lion found dead of 6 different toxins of rat poisoning. Yet your not telling the public that some of these positions are highly toxic to humans if the animal vomits or defecats must be cleaned up immediately and require ventilation if exposed! Then a few weeks ago a man found a stray dog running on orange line around buses while on the phone with animal control they told him they are not taking strays and the dog was killed. What if that dog caused a major accident with a bus full of people? So if the rat poisons being used and coyotes eat it or rats eat it or any wildlife eat it the trail of poisons leave our city a death trap for all animals and people! On top of covid you now will have created something that you will not and cannot control! How affective will that be! You also have a lawsuit pending info@agwc501.org. What about the two bills in legislation AB1788 and SB1175. I mean does the city not think the public will figure out exactly your hidden agendas? Like using tax payer money to make modifications to West Valley animal shelter and now give it away? How about all the dead animals eaten by wildlife last few months and the public throwing the shredded pieces in public trash cans? Creating yet another health crisis of bugs, other vermin, and smells! When you try to call 311

one agency refers you to the other agency! I mean it's a joke!
There have been more dead animals in 2020 than in last ten years!
You can't use Brenda Barnettes hybrid plan for west valley
animal shelter that would only work if there was a brand new
undeveloped community. Not a community that has been
established for years! You want to use the Adams shelter as an
example well let me tell you..I worked there and that place was
unsafe for humans and animals! Do you know how many times
people broke into that building and the dead animals were left
around that building how dirty and hazardous it is for everyone!
Now you want to make it worse in another part of the county/city!
For example you have skid row in Los Angeles now you want
skid row in San Fernando? Your just creating more and more
problems! By keeping that shelter closed YOU HAVE BLOOD
ON YOUR HANDS! Open West Valley Animal Shelter! What is
Brenda Barnette protecting? FIRE HER and everyone under her!
She is an embarrassment to the community when on tv she can't
even tell the correct name of the pet up for adoption or provide the
correct phone number for shelter! Her lies about east valley
having air conditioning for outdoor animals is a lie. That facility
only has air conditioning for humans! It's a 45 minutes-1hour
drive one way trip to east valley from west valley animal shelter.
For many people they won't make that visit to pay fees or adopt
an animal..so how can animal services make money if you create
your own failure? Or is that the point? Then why do you need
employees like Brenda or Tammy Watson who make 6figures?
What are they protecting? From what I see there are postings
every minute on the ring app/next door/social media/ everywhere
of animals dead,missing, or found! Your all failing! Fire Brenda
Barnette Open West Valley Animal Shelter Open West Valley
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Animal Shelter Fire Brenda Barnette!

Communication from Public

Name: Vittorio

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 04:13 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Concilmember John Lee's motion dated 9/2/2020 states my concerns with the West Valley shelter. To quote part of his motion: "The City would be negligent in their obligation to provide necessary services to all stray or lost animals if the West Valley shelter no longer operates as a city shelter and the burden to accommodate and care for an estimated 24,000 animals is left to only the East Valley shelter." This shelter was paid by taxpayers for taxpayers in the valley community to benefit from. It should remain open so Los Angeles residents (especially from the SFV) could benefit from the services. It appears to me that, overall, LA Animal Services is being mismanaged. Brenda Barnette's proposal to make the West Valley Shelter a "hybrid" facility at the expense of taxpayers is a terrible idea. My understanding is that taxpayers would still pay for utilities and possibly insurance for one or two private rescue organizations to use the facility at somewhat their discretion. Even though she has cited a lack of funds to keep the shelter open, it is my understanding that she is proposing a second general manager animal regulation position which would receive a combined package of payment and benefits of over \$225,000. She also could have had the foresight (that is part of what those people in highly paid management positions are paid for) to have opened the West Valley facility early this summer (even if she had to close the East Valley facility temporarily) since the West Valley is the only one of the two with air conditioning. We have had several heat waves with triple digit temps over the summer during which animals suffered. Ms. Barnette's argument (as recorded in a phone conversation) is that in 10 years she has never known a dog to become sick from the heat or to become overheated because they are in those [East Valley dog runs]. But that's not the point! That's going against the spirit and intended mission of an animal shelter at a major city in a first world country. The shelter was sitting there UNUSED the whole summer! A good manager would have been able to orchestrate a move from the East to the West Valley facility, even during a pandemic. That's what she gets paid for. To figure those things out and manage to make it work. We need better leadership.

Communication from Public

Name: Maher M

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 03:10 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Me, my family, neighbors and community want the West Valley Animal shelter to remain a full municipal shelter (Not hybrid) and want Brenda Barnette replaced for lack of her incompetent decision making regarding this matter. We all have and love our pets in our community. And several times helped pet owners reunite with their pets through the ability and availability of the Local West Valley shelters. These poor animals can't speak for themselves and they need our support and our love. I want my tax dollars to continue supporting the shelters and I oppose to the hybrid proposal. Thank you

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 05:17 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Keep West Valley Animal Shelter a municipal shelter.

Communication from Public

Name: Frank J Nolan

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 05:26 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I want the West Valley Animal Shelter to reopen as municipal shelter; I oppose Brenda Barnette's hybrid proposal. Thank you for allowing my vote here.

Communication from Public

Name: Kara Wayne
Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 05:50 PM
Council File No: 20-1114
Comments for Public Posting: PLEASE keep the shelter open! The animals are depending on it!!!

Communication from Public

Name: Judi Stein
Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 03:59 PM
Council File No: 20-1114
Comments for Public Posting: I want West valley animal shelter to reopen as a municipal shelter, I oppose Brenda Burnett's hybrid proposal and watch her replaced.

Communication from Public

Name: Donna

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 04:18 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I want West Valley Animal Shelter to reopen as a municipal shelter. I oppose Brenda Barnette's hybrid proposal and think she should be replaced.

Communication from Public

Name: JOYCE VOLETTI
Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 07:32 PM
Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: The West Valley Animal Shelter needs to be reopened as a fully functional municipal shelter, not as some form of a hybrid model as has been proposed by Brenda Barnette. Having only one shelter (East Valley) to support the entire San Fernando Valley is ridiculous. When considering that East Valley has no air conditioning and we've just experienced all time record high temperatures in the San Fernando Valley, the notion of having East Valley be our only municipal shelter is even more outrageous. There have been two occasions in the last 30 days that members of Facebook groups have voluntarily banded together to pay for ice to be supplied to East Valley just to try to keep the dogs cool. The West Valley Shelter is also structured to support larger animals which is critical in evacuation scenarios which are becoming all too common with our increasing fire dangers. While I heartily support and donate to rescue organizations, rescues can choose which animals to accept. San Fernando Valley residents have paid tax dollars to support both municipal shelters in functioning as open admission shelters. The proposal put forth by Ms. Barnette is simply not acceptable. The well reasoned statements previously submitted by Shari Streb in support of reopening the West Valley Animal Shelter and replacing Ms Barnette are very compelling. Please listen to them!
Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: Holly Havlik

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 07:35 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: I want to let the city know that we need to keep West Valley shelter open. It's closure is going to cause a problem with strays that is more inhumane than already exists. We need these shelters because the city is doing such a terrible job of enforcing spay and neuter laws. We have a tremendously horrible problem with pet overpopulation and under the terrible "leadership" of Brenda Barnette, nothing has happened to make the shelters run more efficiently. Sadly, animals cannot control their own fate... it is completely up to us and the city is filled with irresponsible owners and government officials who do nothing to make sure that spay and neuter becomes the norm in Los Angeles. We need these shelters and it would be absolutely inhumane to close West Valley.

Communication from Public

Name: Sandra

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 07:36 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: We need west valley animal shelter open as a municipal shelter, we have had such high temperatures it makes no sense to have the only shelter w AC closed. We don't appreciate the lack of leadership & management from Brenda Barnette she needs to be replaced w someone who puts the animals needs first.

Communication from Public

Name: Roxanne Rodney

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 05:57 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: The community wants the West Valley Animal Shelter to remain a full municipal shelter (not a Hybrid bs) and I want Brenda Barnett replaced. She has no compassion for animals. Keeping a Shelter that has AC closed while the Valley as 106 - 121 degrees. Those poor animals!! Disgusting! And for her to state that the animals don't feel the heat. Brenda Barnett needs to be fired IMMEDIATELY!

Communication from Public

Name: Fawn

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 06:07 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please reopen the West Valley Shelter. Closing this facility was one of the largest mistakes Brenda Barnett could ever make. I realize there are budget concerns and restraints however Eastvalley cannot facilitate the needs of the entire valley. Our animals and pets deserve better. As taxpayers, animal lovers and residents of the valley for over 25 years I am pleading with the Mayor, Citu Council and Brenda Barnett to find the funds to re-open west valley animal shelter. Have compassion!!!! There is ALWAYS A WAY to make adjustments to a budget!!! Please FIND the way!!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 06:41 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: The West Valley shelter needs to be open as a municipal shelter and upper management all needs to be put under review. Why was the shelter not open on the weekend and why were animals OUTSIDE in the heat without AC? We are one of the richest cities in the world, there is no excuse to not do better.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 07:02 PM

Council File No: 20-1114

Comments for Public Posting: Please reopen the West Valley Animal Shelter. We need to be the voice for the voiceless. The East Valley shelter is not big enough AND it is not air conditioned. Allow volunteers to go back to work and let the community And animals continue to benefit from West Valley

Communication from Public

Name: Virginia Ebert
Date Submitted: 09/08/2020 07:06 PM
Council File No: 20-1114
Comments for Public Posting: I want West Valley Animal Shelter to reopen as municipal shelter, oppose Brenda Barnette's hybrid proposal and want her replaced.