



January 20, 2020

Re: Item 20-0021, January 21, 2020 meeting

Dear Mayor Garcia and City Council,

We are writing with regard to the following three items that City Council is scheduled to consider at its Jan. 21 meeting:

1. Proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with SpcaLA;
2. Amendment of Title 6 of the Long Beach Municipal Code (LBMC) regarding animals (Ordinance) to add a provision that regulates bringing dogs and cats from outside Long Beach for the purposes of adopting them in Long Beach; and,
3. Amendment of Ordinance increasing the number of pets for each household from four to six pets (all cats, all dogs, or a combination of the two).

1. MOU with SpcaLA

With regard to an MOU with SpcaLA, No Kill Long Beach respectfully submits that any MOU needs to establish LBACS' full independence of SpcaLA so that LBACS can operate at scale and fully meet the needs of the residents of Long Beach, as recommended by the 2017/2018 audits. There are several reasons for this. City staff have informed animal advocates for several years now that SpcaLA has made it clear to city staff that SpcaLA does not want LBACS to have a fully-operational adoption program. This was supported by a statement in the Signal Tribune newspaper by SpcaLA leadership in January of 2018, where SpcaLA stated that it believes LBACS' goal is to be animal control, while SpcaLA is the entity that "only worries about adopting...the animals" (Signal Tribune, Jan. 5, 2018). This division of roles between SpcaLA and has resulted in the deaths of tens of thousands of animals at LBACS over the last 20 years, according to city records. It has also put an increased financial burden on the City, as LBACS, without a full adoption program in place, often holds animals much longer than required by law, and these longer stays incur veterinary and food bills. If a fully-operational adoption program were in place at LBACS, costs would be decreased and more animals would be placed into homes. LBACS needs the freedom to implement its own adoption program and other programs to meet the needs of Long Beach residents.

LBACS needs to have a strong adoption program and foster program, as well as other lifesaving programs, and if SpcaLA is hindering this process, as City staff allege, LBACS must separate its operations entirely from SpcaLA. Because the lease agreement between SpcaLA and LBACS is silent on the issue of operations, we believe this separation of the two entities can be done through an MOU or by simply implementing the separation. By “independent,” we mean fully operationally-independent. We are not informed of the full extent to which LBACS and SpcaLA are intertwined operationally, but we have been informed by City staff that SpcaLA has keys to LBACS’ kennels and that SpcaLA takes custody of City-held animals without informing City staff that they are doing so. This chaotic state of affairs makes it difficult for LBACS staff to maintain adequate control over animals in their custody. It also reverses the proper relationship that should exist between LBACS and SpcaLA. Long Beach Municipal Code 6.16.190(k) states that “[e]mployees of the Animal Care Services Bureau shall have the right to inspect, on more than one (1) occasion, the property of any permittee used for breeding, whelping or holding any animals during reasonable hours and without advance notice.” This clearly states that LBACS has the ability to enter SpcaLA’s kennels to check on the welfare of SpcaLA animals. SpcaLA does not have any similar right that we can identify. Instead, if what City staff say is true, SpcaLA has committed great overreach in their function as lease-back agent to the City and is using LBACS as its own facility, taking animals without consulting LBACS and placing operational restrictions on LBACS that SpcaLA has no contractual standing to impose. We believe that the reported imbalance of operational authority between SpcaLA and LBACS has cost taxpayers thousands of dollars over the past 20 years and will continue to be a source of lost revenue and increased cost to the City until 2053, when the current lease expires. This could potentially amount to hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of dollars.

Whatever vehicle the City chooses to use to effect LBACS’ independence from SpcaLA, be it MOU, ordinance or simply enforcing the City’s lease with SpcaLA, which clearly states in Section 35(M) that the City and SpcaLA are landlord and tenant respectively, with no partnership, joint-venture, principal-agent, association or employer-employee relationship between them, No Kill Long Beach respectfully requests that the City do what is necessary to make LBACS independent of SpcaLA so that it can be fully operational and meet the needs of the people of Long Beach. We further request that the City enact an ordinance requiring SpcaLA to be fully transparent and report all of its outcomes (e.g., euthanasia, adoption, transfer to rescue, transfer to other shelter, return to owner, missing) for all animals in its custody.

If the MOU with SpcaLA does anything but make LBACS fully independent of SpcaLA, with separate office spaces, policies, programs and full operational autonomy, No Kill Long Beach would ask that you *not* support that MOU.

2. Amendment regulating bringing dogs and cats from outside Long Beach for the purposes of adopting them in Long Beach.

Without being able to review said ordinance because it was not provided to the public prior to the January 21st City Council meeting, No Kill Long Beach respectfully asks City Council to refrain from enacting such an ordinance for two reasons.

First, it appears that the goal of the ordinance is to prohibit SpcaLA from bringing animals into the City, thereby increasing cage space at SpcaLA so that LBACS can then transfer more animals to SpcaLA. No Kill Long Beach does not support LBACS' turning over more animals to SpcaLA. SpcaLA does not adhere to the No Kill animal sheltering approach, according to its website. To our knowledge, it also does not provide its outcome numbers (e.g., number of animals euthanized vs. adopted out) to the City, in spite of the fact that it benefits greatly from taxpayer dollars in the form of nearly free rent on prime City property, and transparency is a stated goal of the City of Long Beach. No Kill Long Beach submits that, based on what City staff has said about SpcaLA, turning over more animals to SpcaLA has great potential to harm our shelter animals if there is no transparency and no inspections of SpcaLA by LBACS.

Furthermore, as one of the organizations that has historically opposed No Kill (according to its websites), SpcaLA is not in alignment with Governor Newsom's recent call to make California a No Kill state. For these reasons, we do not believe SpcaLA to be an appropriate depository for LBACS shelter animals.

Second, requiring individuals and organizations to obtain City approval to bring animals into Long Beach for adoption places an undue burden on Good Samaritans and rescues in Long Beach. These groups and individuals perform an important service for the City of Long Beach by reducing the number of animals surrendered to LBACS and taking animals from LBACS. Such an ordinance would create more work for rescues and others who wish to help animals, and will discourage the very helping behaviors that currently drive rescues' assistance, which is significant, to the City. Rescues increased their intake of animals from LBACS in 2019 by nearly 9 percentage points. This type of ordinance puts unnecessary constraints on rescues and generous and compassionate city residents. In addition, it is an inhumane stance at its root: a truly compassionate city understands that animals know no geographic bounds, and any animal that a citizen is willing to help should, indeed, be helped. That is the humane and compassionate stance that we hope Long Beach will take. No Kill Long Beach therefore opposes any ordinance regulating animals coming into Long Beach for adoption.

3. Amendment of Ordinance increasing the number of pets for each household from four to six pets (all cats, all dogs, or a combination of the two).

No Kill Long Beach supports this proposal to increase the number of pets for each household from four to six.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Best regards,

Patricia Turner, Ph.D.
No Kill Long Beach
NoKillLongBeach@gmail.com

From: Joanne Kwast [<mailto:fishmjo@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 4:04 PM

To: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>

Cc: CityAttorney <CityAttorney@longbeach.gov>; Art Sanchez <Art.Sanchez@longbeach.gov>

Subject: SpcaLA lease violations

Dear Mayor Garcia and City Council,

Thank you for your increased attention to Long Beach Animal Care Services (LBACS) this past year. I have been advocating for LBACS shelter reform for the past twelve years. After all these years, I finally feel a glimmer of hope thanks to many of you recently meeting with me, and patiently listening to this unfortunately complex issue.

Although, LBACS obtained the highest animal save rate in its history, this was achieved primarily due to rescue organizations stepping up and pulling animals. Our wonderful shelter manager, is forced to rely on the threat of killing animals, as the main solution to move animals out of our shelter. This is not a sustainable approach, and certainly not an industry best practice. Rescues should be a part of the solution, not the only solution. The “kill cry”, will inevitably fall on deaf ears as rescues become anesthetized to the constant emails begging and threatening death.

What the animal community would like to see happen THIS year, is for our experienced shelter manager to be able to implement proven shelter best practices and the lifesaving programs that are the foundation for a shelter’s success. A robust adoption program that includes aggressive marketing on social media and throughout our wonderful LB community must occur to attract volunteers, fosters, and gain access to the generous grants and donations that are readily available to shelters committed to no kill.

However, the complexity of LBACs lies not in implementing the programs above, but in the faux partnership with spcaLA. NOW is the time to remedy the ongoing violations of the City’s lease with SpcaLA. The City has to put a stop to SpcaLA’s control over our shelter. For too long, SpcaLA has been violating the terms of the lease agreements. The lease is very clear that there is no partnership between the City and SpcaLA. Yet the SpcaLA has spent millions of dollars, marketing an illusion that the parties to the lease are “married.”

The LB public still cannot find our City shelter when they arrive at the village. LBACS animals are hidden away in the back of the village due to there being no distinct permanent signage. This is a requirement of both the lease and lease back, and thus the City and spcaLA are in violation. The signage issues needs to be immediately addressed so the public can find LBACS. How can we attract volunteers, adopters, and donations if the public is led to believe spcaLA is our City shelter? Not only does the signage need to be immediately addressed, but the city must require spcaLa to cease and desist (and remove from their website) their false claims touting benefits they provide to LBACS that are verified as false even by our shelter manager.

H-28 Correspondence - Kwast

I urge the City to review and evaluate the continuing serious violations to the Lease Agreement with the spcaLA. There are costly inequities of facility space requiring immediate remedy. In times of shrinking budgets, getting what we pay for is more critical than ever. An example is in the main building at the village. The City pays 50% overhead, 50% maintenance, 50% improvements and 100% of the debt service. The City is not allowed to use 90% of the high-value shelter specific rooms including the veterinary suites. It begs the question, why is our City giving millions of dollars in public funds to spcaLA?

I am vehemently against entering into any additional agreements (i.e. a MOU or Operating Agreement) with spcaLA until the violations of the current lease agreements are remedied. Past behavior is the best predictor of future behavior. Thus, it is a complete waste of time to have our City staff, negotiate another agreement before we enforce the existing agreements. Let's start with our City Attorney thoroughly understanding our current agreements and having spcaLA abide by the terms. If spcaLA will not abide by the current agreements, then why enter into further negotiations with this entity? Our City needs to take a strong position to stop the abuse by this bully; and if necessary terminate or invalidate the agreement based on the violations, noncompliance, and possibly illegal activities.

Our City shelter has so much potential. If only our City would stand up to spcaLA...then we can implement the lifesaving programs that are being thwarted by spcaLA's undue control, undermining behavior and constant retaliations as our shelter manager attempts to implement Compassion Saves.

At tonight's council meeting, I urge you to come together for these innocent voiceless animals, and correct the wrongs of the past (sadly, 50,000+ animals unnecessarily lost their lives due to Pat West's relationship with the spcaLA; council was kept in the dark, advocates invalidated, and city staff were not told to "get along" with the spcaLA).

Please empower the City Attorney to carefully evaluate and remedy all the violations of the lease agreement with the SpcaLA and stop the blank check gift of public funds to the spcaLA.

I welcome you to contact me with any additional questions or if you would like to meet.

Sincerely,

Joanne Kwast, District 3

H-28 Correspondence - Armstrong

From: Malcolm Armstrong [mailto:ma_9.1939@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 10:41 PM

To: Jeannine Pearce <Jeannine.Pearce@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; CityAttorney <CityAttorney@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Attachment re LBACS

Monday, January 20, 2020

Dear Councilwoman Jeanine Pearce:

As the husband of Lorraine Fishman, co-founder of Long Beach Spay and Neuter Foundation (LBSN) which was created in 2003 and took non-profit status in 2006, I have become aware of an improper relationship between Long Beach Animal Care Services (LBACS) and SpcaLA. Apparently, a past Council signed a lease committing LBACS to a specific relationship with SpcaLA. Over the years SpcaLA has encroached on LBACS rights and privileges under the lease terms subordinating the City department to its control. For instance, it recently changed the locks on shared rooms without LBACS permission and wouldn't give them the keys. Please take back control of our animal care department. Enforce the terms of the lease!

LBSN has facilitated an average of 450 cat neuters a year for feral cats, and lower income residents' cats. It has found homes for 175 cats and kittens per year. As donations have grown, it has been able to pay or help with vet bills for lower income residents. LBSN is entirely staffed by volunteers. As a sometime volunteer, I have helped with trap, neuter, return (TNR), driving cats to their new homes, and contributing financially. My wife helped co-found LBSN because there was such a problem with feral cats in the city and LBACS was ill equipped to deal with it.

While LBACS tends to be subordinate to SpcaLA, it will not be able to initiate programs that it needs. Groups like LBSN will form and act separately to fill in some of our city's needs, but they will not do it in concert with LBACS. No one wants to trap feral cats if they are going to be killed. Groups don't want to deal with a shelter that kills healthy or curable cats. Volunteers don't tend to volunteer for such a shelter. Yet a healthy city shelter needs volunteers and volunteer groups helping it to truly care for the animals and fulfill the council's recently passed promise of 'Compassion Saves.'

Please make it a priority for the city to examine all the violations to the city's lease, lease-back and amendment with SpcaLA. I urge you to keep a record of such violations, warn SpcaLA that violations will not be tolerated, and if they are not remedied in a timely manner to inform SpcaLA that they are subject to punishment under the terms of the lease,

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm Armstrong

H-28 Correspondence - Campos

From: Claudia Campos [<mailto:camposclaudia133@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 11:49 AM

To: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; CityAttorney <CityAttorney@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Sácala is bad for LB shelter animals

Dear honorable mayor and council members,

Como residente de la ciudad de Long Beach durante más de 40 años. Recientemente visité el refugio en Spring Street y personalmente vi la diferencia de cómo los gatos son tratados y alojados. Hace poco me educaron sobre por qué y estoy furioso y horrorizado!!!

Pedí ver a los gatos de la ciudad de Long Beach y me dirigieron a un edificio trasero donde los gatos estaban apilados en pequeñas jaulas en habitaciones oscuras que apestaban al cielo.

Entonces me dirigieron al "otro lado" y había hermosos "habitaciones de gato" que los gatitos incluso podían disfrutar de salir de puertas y gatos individuales en jaulas dobles que tenían rascadores y juguetes. Cuando me preguntaron por estos gatos me dijeron que son SpcaLA. ¿¿¿Eh???

Los gatos de la ciudad de Long Beach en la propiedad de Long Beach, metidos en pequeñas jaulas, mientras que los gatos de OTRAS CIUDADES, están en lujo, en LB PROPIEDAD!! ¿No lo entiendo? Los gatos son gatos, los perros son perros, un animal lo que diablos está pasando???!?

¿Quién hizo el trato con el diablo?

Please get our shelter back and out from under the control of spcala

Muchas gracias por su attention tu log beach animals.

Yours,

Claudia Campos

District 1

From: Norma Ann Dawson [<mailto:nadlaw@kidlike.com>]

Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 4:32 PM

To: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Dee Andrews <Dee.Andrews@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Cc: CityAttorney <CityAttorney@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: SpcaLA's Violation of Lease With the City of Long Beach

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members:

Thank you for your leadership with Long Beach Animal Care Services purportedly achieving the highest live release rate in the City's history. It is wonderful that 2019 saw the City turning this life affirming corner.

It is now to time remedy ongoing violations of the City's lease with the SpcaLA. The City has to put a stop to the SpcaLA's control over our shelter. For too long, SpcaLA has been violating the terms of the lease agreement. The lease is very clear that there is no partnership between the City and SpcaLA. Yet the SpcaLA has spent millions of dollars, marketing an illusion that the parties to the lease are "married."

What makes this deeply troubling is it can be argued that SpcaLA might be using the Village to break laws. It has been reported that SpcaLA has transferred its contract animals to the Village, not for adoption, but for euthanasia. This practice is intended to create a false paper trail by reporting the animal is "transferred," when the animal is really "euthanized." If the City has knowledge of this scheme, which includes providing false information to other municipalities, is there not a duty to stop it?

It is critical that the City carefully evaluate and remedy all the violations of the lease agreement with the SpcaLA.

Sincerely,

Norma Ann Dawson
Law Office of Norma Ann Dawson

From: Lorraine Fishman [<mailto:lbn2006@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 5:52 PM

To: Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; CityAttorney <CityAttorney@longbeach.gov>

Subject: LBACS Concerns

Long Beach Spay & Neuter Foundation

Monday, January 20, 2020

Dear Jeannine Pearce

Congratulations on the historic progress at Long Beach Animal Care Services. Thank you for your leadership setting the stage for our shelter to have such a tremendous breakthrough. Compassion Saves could be a tremendous success story for our City if it could be allowed to implement life saving programs.

It is now time to come out from under the shadow of the SpcaLA. The City cannot continue to allow the SpcaLA to keep running roughshod over what should be an autonomous public agency. The City and SpcaLA have a Lease that needs to be enforced. Serious problems need to be solved, such as the SpcaLA's refusal to share half of the animal adoption galleries in a shared building where the City pays for half of the space. The Lease needs to be enforced. The violations cost the City hundreds of thousands of dollars a year and are at cross purposes with Compassion Saves.

Please make it a priority for the City to examine all the violations to the City's Lease, Lease-Back and Amendment with the SpcaLA . I urge the City to begin exercising all remedies to the Lease violations without further delay.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Fishman
Treasurer
Long Beach Spay & Neuter Foundation

"...Saving just one animal won't change the world
...but, surely, the world will change for that one animal".

From: Antje Hunt [<mailto:aljagd2018@gmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 2:12 PM

To: Suzie Price <Suzie.Price@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; CityAttorney <CityAttorney@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Spcala lease

Dear Councilmember Suzie Price

Congratulations on the historic progress at Long Beach Animal Care Services. Thank you for your leadership setting the stage for our shelter to have such a tremendous breakthrough. Compassion Saves could be a tremendous success story for our City if it could be allowed to implement life saving programs.

It is now time to come out from under the shadow of the SpcaLA. The City cannot continue to allow the SpcaLA to keep running roughshod over what should be an autonomous public agency. The City and SpcaLA have a Lease that needs to be enforced. Serious problems need to be solved, such as the SpcaLA's refusal to share half of the animal adoption galleries in a shared building where the City pays for half of the space. The Lease needs to be enforced. The violations cost the City hundreds of thousands of dollars a year and are at cross purposes with Compassion Saves.

Please make it a priority for the City to examine all the violations to the City's Lease, Lease-Back and Amendment with the SpcaLA . I urge the City to begin exercising all remedies to the Lease violations without further delay.

Sincerely,

Antje Hunt,

District 3

From: Patti Maurer [<mailto:pmaurer724@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 6:40 PM

To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Long Beach Animal Shelter

As a resident of the City of Long Beach for over 40 years. I recently visited the shelter on [Spring street](#) and personally saw the difference of how the cats are treated and housed. I was just recently educated on why and am both furious and appalled!!!

I asked to see the Long Beach city cats and was directed to a back building were the cats were stacked in small cages in dark rooms that stank to high heaven.

I was then directed to the "other side" and there was beautiful "cat rooms" that kitties could even enjoy going out doors and single cats in double cages that had scratchers and toys. When asked about these cats I was told they're SpcaLA. Huh???

Long Beach city cats on Long Beach property, stuffed in little cages, while cats from OTHER CITIES, are in luxury, on LB PROPERTY!! I don't get it? Cats are cats, dogs are dogs, an animals an animal what the heck is going on???!!

Who made the deal with the devil??

Cut the friggin red tape and make it right!!!

Very sincere,
Patricia Maurer

From: Wellness Chick [<mailto:cmmorton@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 3:07 PM

To: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; CityAttorney <CityAttorney@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Fwd: LB Shelter FREE of SPCALA

-- Dear Councilman Austin:

Congratulations on the historic progress at Long Beach Animal Care Services. Thank you for your leadership setting the stage for our shelter to have such a tremendous breakthrough. Compassion Saves could be a tremendous success story for our City if it could be allowed to implement life saving programs.

It is now time to come out from under the shadow of the SpcaLA. The City cannot continue to allow the SpcaLA to keep running roughshod over what should be an autonomous public agency. The City and SpcaLA have a Lease that needs to be enforced. Serious problems need to be solved, such as the SpcaLA's refusal to share half of the animal adoption galleries in a shared building where the City pays for half of the space. The Lease needs to be enforced. The violations cost the City hundreds of thousands of dollars a year and are at cross purposes with Compassion Saves.

Please make it a priority for the City to examine all the violations to the City's Lease, Lease-Back and Amendment with the SpcaLA . I urge the City to begin exercising all remedies to the Lease violations without further delay.

Sincerely,
Christina Morton,
District 8

From: AOL [<mailto:fsali21013@aol.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 8:05 AM

To: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; CityAttorney <CityAttorney@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Dee Andrews <Dee.Andrews@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: SpcaLA lease violations with LABCS need review and remedy

Honorable Mayor Garcia and City Council,

Tonight, Tuesday, Jan 21, Please take action to ensure the City evaluates and remedies all of the spcaLA violations to Lease Agreement with the City. Long Beach Animal Care Services deserves to be protected from a landlord that runs roughshod over its tenant. You will accomplish much when the City remedies violations that are costing the City a lot of money.

The City Attorney needs to carefully evaluate the 'blank check' embedded in the Lease. Does this clause conform to the proper use of spending public money? According to SpcaLA the Lease obligates the City to pay 50% of whatever the spcaLA decides to spend. There is no prior approval for expenditures. Any municipal agency, obligated to safeguard the use of public funds, would be challenged to operate this way.

The City facility's maintenance and repairs are probably the biggest casualty. SpcaLA's interpretations of the Lease do not conform to the language in the Lease. The City's buildings have fallen in a state of disrepair while spcaLA invents clauses and little gets repaired.

Please ask the City Attorney to immediately defend the rights of LABCS and remedy the violations to the Lease.

Thank you.

Frank Salinas

From: Laura Sellmer [<mailto:laurasellmer@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 1:43 AM

To: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; CityAttorney <CityAttorney@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Long Beach Animal Care Services and Violations to SPCALA Lease Agreement

Dear Mayor Garcia and City Council

Thank you for a decade of leadership with Long Beach Animal Care Services and the historically low euthanasia rates in 2019. The landscape of animal welfare is changing across the nation and it is absolutely thrilling to see Long Beach positioning itself for greater success. Compassion Saves is a policy that many are confident will grow and improve.

I would like to urge the City to review and evaluate continuing and serious violations to the Lease Agreement with the spcaLA. There are costly inequities of facility space requiring a remedy. In times of shrinking budgets, getting what we pay for is more critical than ever. An example is in the main building at the village. The City pays 50% overhead, 50% maintenance, 50% improvements and 100% of the debt service. The City is not allowed to use 90% of the high-value shelter specific rooms.

In September, spcaLA unilaterally decided to take over rooms that were housing LBACS animals. In an scene of chaos, LABCS animals in their cages were launched into the hall (there are witnesses), locks were changed, and spcaLA refused to share new keys (all violation to the LEASE,) SpcaLA presented LBACS with an invoice to pay 50% of the cost of the locksmith. The shelter manager was told to 'approve and pay the invoice. This is not a path we can afford to stay on.

Please make it a high priority for the City Attorney's office to examine and remedy all violations to the Lease Agreement between the City and spcaLA . Any MOU or operational agreement must come after there are remedies to spcaLA's LEASE violations.

Thank you for your service to Long Beach,

Laura Sellmer

From: Stace [<mailto:restace@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 5:06 PM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: Please get rid of the corrupt SpcaLA!

Dear City Clerk,

Congratulations on the historic progress at Long Beach Animal Care Services. Thank you for your leadership setting the stage for our shelter to have such a tremendous breakthrough. Compassion Saves could be a tremendous success story for our City if it could be allowed to implement life saving programs.

It is now time to come out from under the shadow of the SpcaLA. The City cannot continue to allow the SpcaLA to keep running roughshod over what should be an autonomous public agency. The City and SpcaLA have a Lease that needs to be enforced. Serious problems need to be solved, such as the SpcaLA's refusal to share half of the animal adoption galleries in a shared building where the City pays for half of the space.

The Lease needs to be enforced. The violations cost the City hundreds of thousands of dollars a year and are at cross purposes with Compassion Saves. Please make it a priority for the City to examine all the violations to the City's Lease, Lease-Back and Amendment with the SpcaLA.

I urge the City to begin exercising all remedies to the Lease violations without further delay.

Sincerely,

Stace Aspey
90803

From: Danielle Steinberg [<mailto:deesteinberg@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 4:09 PM

To: Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>

Cc: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; CityAttorney <CityAttorney@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>

Subject: LBACS 1/21 Agenda Item Council Request

Dear Councilmember Price,

Thank you for all your efforts to date to support Long Beach Animal Care Services (LBACS). Your leadership is greatly appreciated...I am grateful for your involvement as how Long Beach cares for its homeless animals is near and dear to my heart.

I am thrilled to hear that there is an agenda item for this Tuesday's council meeting to discuss increasing the number of pets in Long Beach from four to six.

I am very concerned about our city shelter and that spcaLA has limited our shelter's ability to operate a compressive adoption program. Most Long Beach residents have no idea that spcaLA is not our City shelter and sadly Long Beach animals continue to pay the price with their lives.

We need city council to take our shelter back. SpcaLA has not only taken over the highly valued common areas (veterinary theater, the adoption center, adoption counseling rooms, animal housing rooms), but has dictated that our city shelter have no signage, no adoption program, no access to volunteers and donations, while undermining every effort the City makes to save LB animals lives.

Why has the City allowed this to happen? Why has our City allowed significant gifts of public funds to the SpcaLA?

This Tuesday, please can you request our city attorney to immediately enforce the lease agreements with spcaLA and do what is necessary to either remedy the violations or terminate the lease with spcaLA? Also, we do NOT want spcaLA to take more LB shelter animals as there are legitimate concerns that they euthanize healthy animals.

Thank you again for continued support and ongoing efforts to save LB shelter animals.

Sincerely Yours,

Danielle and Van Divort

From: Annie Van Ost [<mailto:annievanost@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 2:36 PM

To: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>; CityAttorney <CityAttorney@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>

Subject: LBACS

To Whom It May Concern,

Compassion Saves is a policy that sets the City apart.

It is now time to come out from under the shadow of the SpcaLA. The City cannot continue to allow the SpcaLA to keep running roughshod over what should be an autonomous public agency. The City and SpcaLA have a Lease that needs to be enforced. Serious problems need to be solved, such as the SpcaLA's refusal to share half of the animal adoption galleries in a shared building where the City pays for half of the space. The Lease needs to be enforced. The violations cost the City Hundreds of thousands of dollar a year and are at cross purposes with Compassion Saves.

Please make it a priority for the City to examine all the violations to the City's Lease, Lease-Back and Amendment with the SpcaLA . I urge the City to begin exercising all remedies to the Lease violations without further delay.

Sincerely,

Annie Van Ost

From: Anna Wong [<mailto:anna@straycatalliance.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 8:26 AM
To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>
Subject: SpCLA

Dear Ms. De La Garza,

Congratulations on the historic progress at Long Beach Animal Care Services. Thank you for your leadership setting the stage for our shelter to have such a tremendous breakthrough. Compassion Saves is a policy that sets the City apart.

It is now time to come out from under the shadow of the SpcaLA. The City cannot continue to allow the SpcaLA to keep running roughshod over what should be an autonomous public agency. The City and SpcaLA have a Lease that needs to be enforced. Serious problems need to be solved, such as the SpcaLA's refusal to share half of the animal adoption galleries in a shared building where the City pays for half of the space. The Lease needs to be enforced. The violations cost the City Hundreds of thousands of dollar a year and are at cross purposes with Compassion Saves.

Please make it a priority for the City to examine all the violations to the City's Lease, Lease-Back and Amendment with the SpcaLA. As not only the RTF Director responsible for the city's RTF program, a Task Force member as well as a person living in district 9, I urge the City to begin exercising all remedies to the Lease violations without further delay.

Anna Wong
RTF Director
Stray Cat Alliance