



August 6, 2018

The Hon. Jackie Lacey  
Public Integrity Division  
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office  
211 West Temple Street, Ste 1000  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear District Attorney Lacey,

We are writing to request an investigation by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Public Integrity Division into whether Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia attempted to place unconstitutional restrictions on members of the public as to their First Amendment rights to free speech and to petition their government for a redress of grievances. Mayor Garcia appears to have hidden social media posts by people who express opinions that differ from his Administration's positions on issues affecting municipal services; specifically, the need to reform the Long Beach Animal Care Services animal shelter. If that is the case, we believe the Mayor is engaging in viewpoint discrimination in violation of both the First Amendment and federal law, 42 U.S. Code Sec. 1983.

### **Factual Basis for Complaint**

On April 4, 2018, just six days prior to an election in which he was a candidate, Mayor Garcia made a post (<https://goo.gl/tKRZyf>) on his "public figure" Facebook page ([facebook.com/pg/robertgarcialb](https://facebook.com/pg/robertgarcialb)) and an identical post (<https://goo.gl/4n1K8u>) on the official Facebook page of the Long Beach Mayor ([facebook.com/LongBeachMayor](https://facebook.com/LongBeachMayor)) which took credit for progress the shelter has made in saving animals' lives. In this post, he solicited applications to a mayoral task force that was to be formed after the election. This elicited a large number of comments and replies to the post. Mayor Garcia responded to many of the comments, in some cases inviting people individually in his capacity as mayor to join the task force, as can be seen in Screen Capture 1 below.

When the comments were critical of his Administration, by contrast, Mayor Garcia appears to have engaged in viewpoint discrimination by removing them from public view, violating the civil rights of citizens under the First Amendment and federal law, as can be seen in Screen Captures 2-10, also below.

The “hiding” of posts on Facebook is more damaging to a person’s right to free speech than simply blocking them or deleting their comments because the person is not always aware of the infringement of his or her free speech. When an individual’s comment has been hidden, he or she is *not* notified that it has been hidden, and if he/she returns to the comment to look at the post, the post will appear to still be available and readable by the general public. However, it is not. It is only visible to the commenter and his or her “Friends” on Facebook. Unless the commenter makes an effort to look at the post and his/her comment while logged into the account of someone who is not his/her “Friend” on Facebook (a circumstance that is not likely because it is difficult to achieve) the commenter will believe that his or her comment is still visible to the public because it will remain visible on his/her page and on the pages of his/her Friends. Thus, the commenter will not be aware that any viewpoint discrimination has taken place and will not know to seek redress.

To the extent that he has done so, Mayor Garcia hiding of comments disagreeing with his stance on changes at the shelter, and specifically, his hiding of a comment pointing out the timing of the announcement just before an election, suggest that Mayor Garcia was suppressing people’s right to free speech in an attempt to eliminate any negative impact their statements may have on his bid for re-election.

### **Legal Basis for Complaint**

42 U.S. Code Sec. 1983 reads, in pertinent part,

Every person who, under color of any statute, ordinance, regulation, custom, or usage, of any State . . . subjects, or causes to be subjected, any citizen of the United States or other person within the jurisdiction thereof to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured by the Constitution and laws, shall be liable to the party injured in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress...

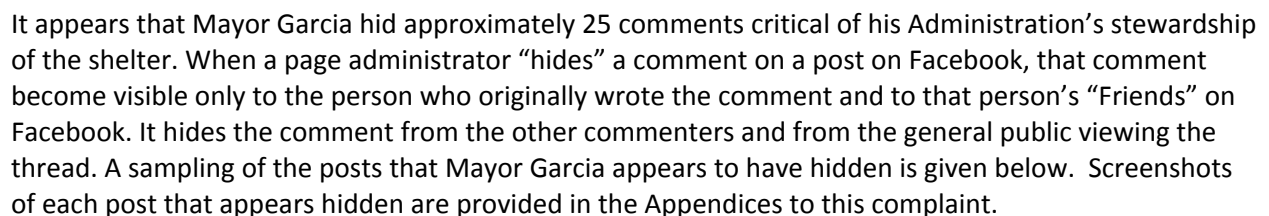
A recent court ruling, in a proceeding against President Trump for blocking them from commenting on his Twitter account, found that public officials may not block users from commenting on their social media accounts because doing so “based on their [the commenters’] political speech constitutes viewpoint discrimination that violates the First Amendment.” (*Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University v. Donald J. Trump*.) In *Davidson v. Loudoun County Board of Supervisors*, the court likewise found that by blocking plaintiff from commenting on her public Facebook page, County Supervisor Phyllis J. Randall violated plaintiff’s right to free speech under the First Amendment:

If the Supreme Court’s First Amendment jurisprudence makes anything clear, it is that speech may not be disfavored by the government simply because it offends. *See Matal v. Tam*, 137 S. Ct. 1744, 1763 (2017) (listing cases). Here, as discussed above, Defendant acted in her governmental capacity.

Defendant’s offense at Plaintiff’s views was therefore an illegitimate basis for her actions – particularly given that Plaintiff earned Defendant’s ire by criticizing the County government. Indeed, the suppression of critical commentary regarding elected officials is the quintessential form of viewpoint discrimination against which the First Amendment guards. *See Rossignol*, 316 F.3d at 521–22. By prohibiting Plaintiff from participating in her online forum because she took offense at his claim that her colleagues in the County government had acted unethically, Defendant committed a cardinal sin under the First Amendment.

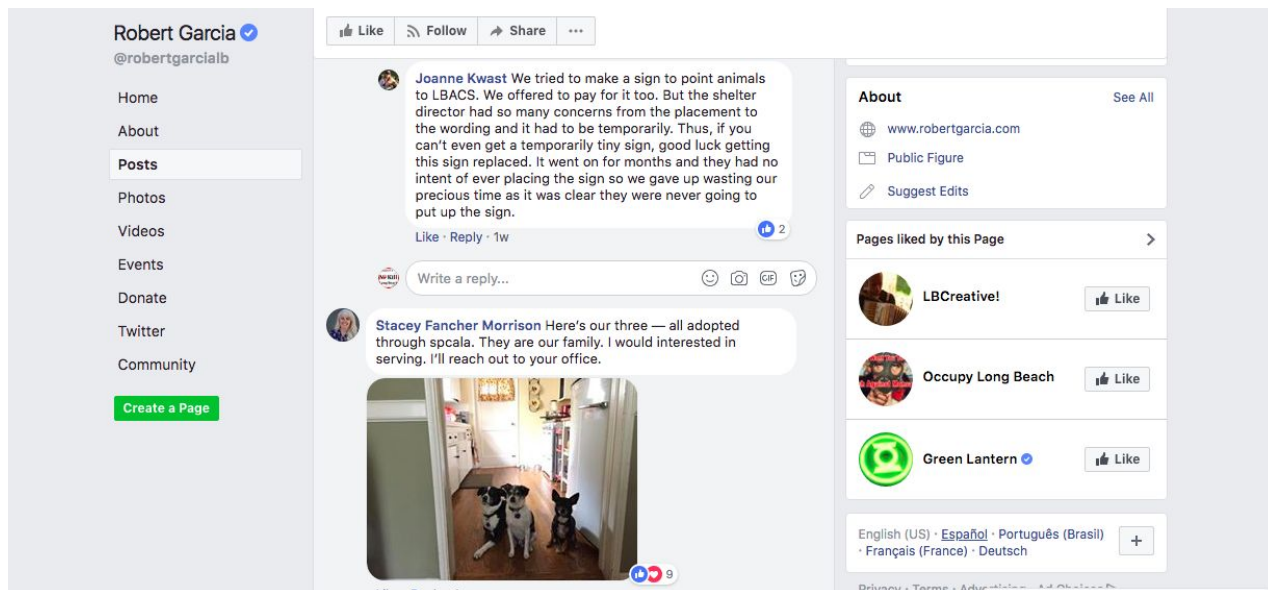
Mayor Garcia routinely engages people in communications and interactions about city business on both his mayoral page and his public figure page. Mayor Garcia’s “Long Beach Mayor” page is the official page of the Mayor of Long Beach. Mayor Garcia treats his public figure page as an extension of the Long Beach Mayor page, posting announcements about city initiatives and city business, links to newspaper articles about the city and his work as mayor, videos in which he speaks as mayor, and responses to community requests in which he at times “tags” city departments and asks them to respond to the request. Therefore, both of these pages appear to be public forums and comments by members of the public on those pages are protected by the First Amendment and federal law, 42 U.S. Code Sec. 1983.

*Screen Capture 1: Mayor Garcia solicits participation in a mayoral task force on his public figure page*



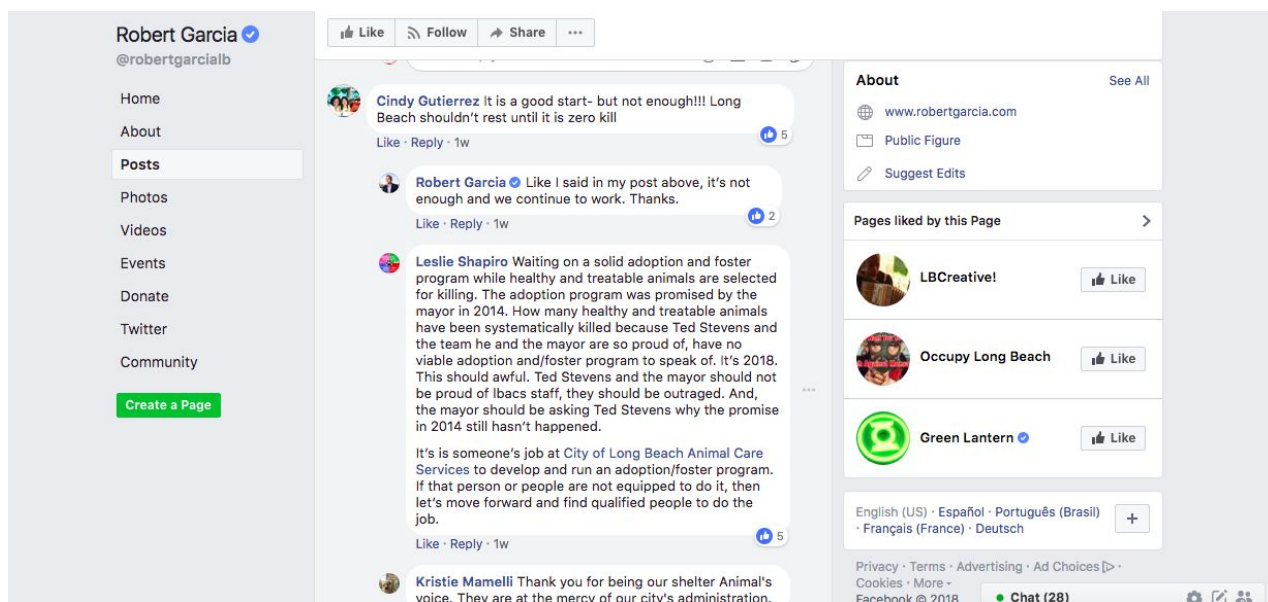
Ms. Kwast is a resident of Long Beach. Ms. Kwast commented on the thread that her rescue group had requested and offered to pay for a sign that would provide clear directions to the animal shelter. She recounted the difficulty her group had in getting the City of Long Beach to place this sign in a place that

was visible to the public. She noted that a sign was never mounted. Ms. Kwast's comment was on-topic, factual and respectful in tone, and yet it appears to have been hidden.



Screen Capture 3: Leslie Shapiro

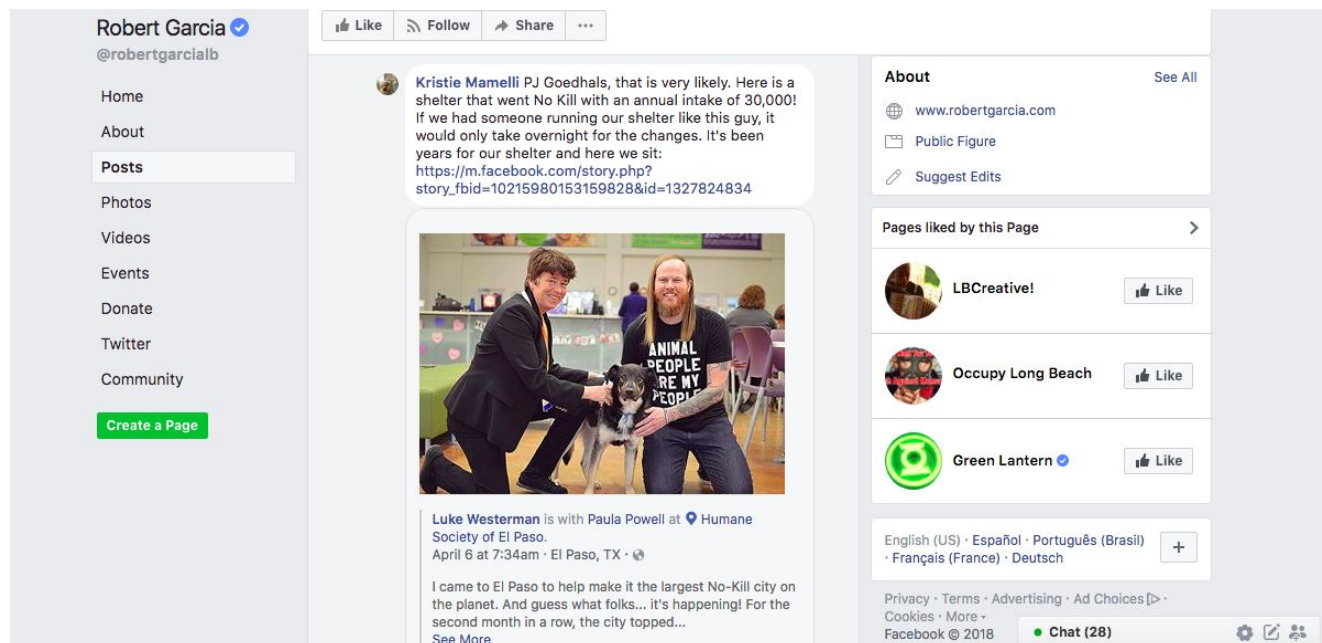
Ms. Shapiro is a resident of Los Angeles and volunteers for rescue groups in Long Beach. Ms. Shapiro posted a comment discussing the lack of a “solid adoption and foster program” at the animal shelter. She noted that Mayor Garcia had promised to put in place an adoption program in 2014. Her comment was on-topic, respectful in tone and factual in its content. Mayor Garcia appears to have hidden it so that the general public could not see it.





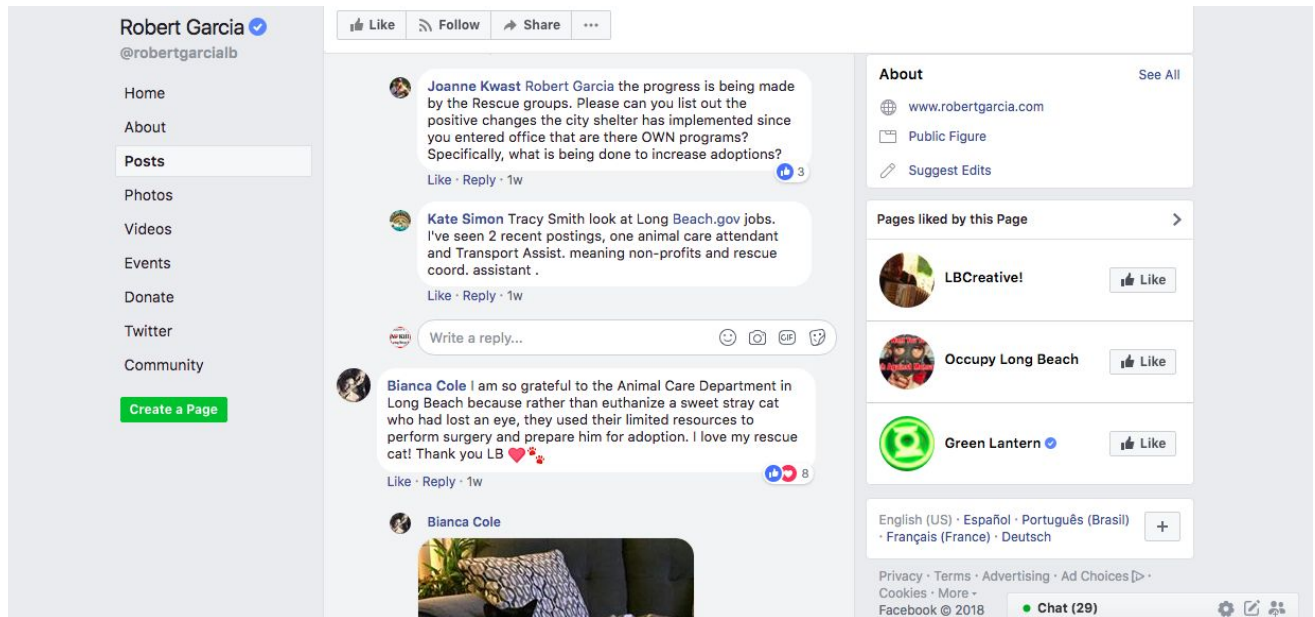
#### Screen Capture 4: Kristie Mamelli

Ms. Mamelli is a resident of Long Beach and advocates publicly for shelter animals. Ms. Mamelli posted the example of a shelter that had a larger intake than Long Beach and was nevertheless able to significantly increase the number of animals it placed. In her comment, she noted, "If we had someone running our shelter like this guy, it would only take overnight for the changes. It's been years for our shelter and here we sit." Ms. Mamelli's post was on-topic, factual and respectful in tone. Mayor Garcia appears to have hidden this post from the general public.



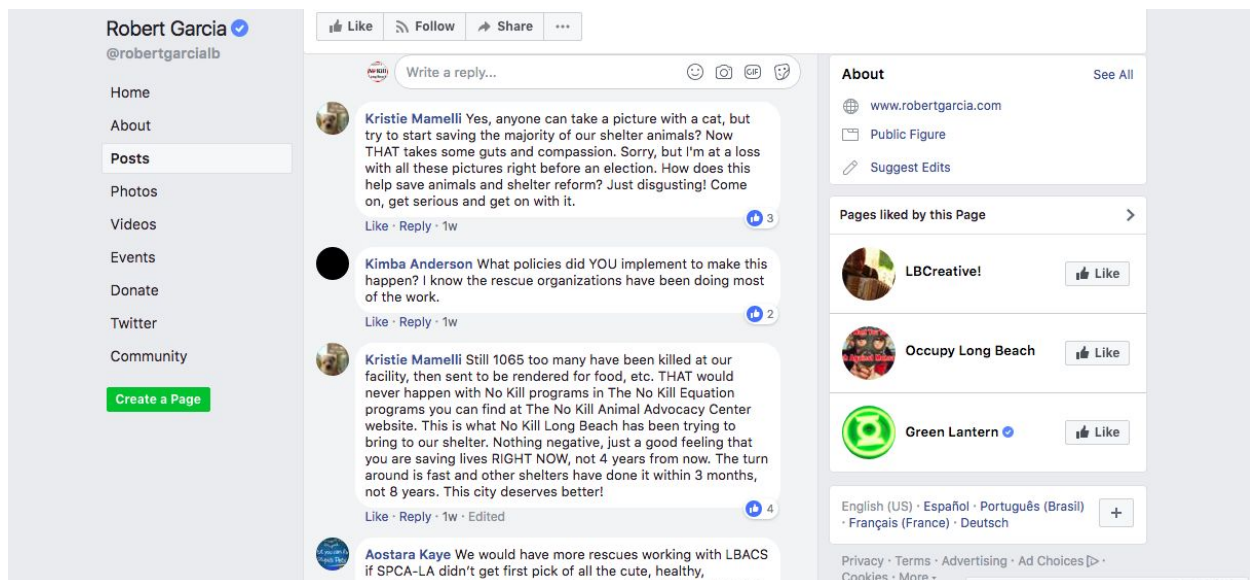
#### Screen Capture 5: Joanne Kwast

Ms. Kwast commented that the progress at the Long Beach shelter was due to the work of rescue groups and asked Mayor Garcia to list the positive changes that the shelter itself has put in place since Mayor Garcia was first elected in 2014. Mayor Garcia had specifically campaigned as an animal-friendly candidate in the 2014 election (see, e.g, <https://goo.gl/MmDJEX>) and had said that he would increase adoptions at the shelter ([lbreport.com/news/oct14/nokill.htm](http://lbreport.com/news/oct14/nokill.htm)). However, adoptions remain low since Mayor Garcia was elected in 2014. Indeed, cities of similar size do thousands of adoptions more than the Long Beach city shelter. Ms. Kwast's comment was on-topic, factual and respectful in tone. Mayor Garcia appears to have hidden her comment so that the public could not see it.



Screen Capture 6: Kimba Anderson

Kimba Anderson's city of residence is not known. Like Ms. Kwast in Screen Capture 5, Ms. Anderson asked Mayor Garcia to enumerate the policies he had put in place at the shelter. As with the other comment, Ms. Anderson's comment was on-topic and respectful in tone. This comment appears to have been hidden from the general public. Ms. Mamelli's two comments before and after Ms. Anderson's also appear to have been hidden.



Screen Capture 7: No Kill Long Beach

No Kill Long Beach is an animal advocacy organization in Long Beach composed of individuals concerned about the kill rate and lack of lifesaving programs at the city animal shelter. In their post, they reminded

Mayor Garcia of his past statements regarding the adoption program at the Long Beach shelter and asked him about his intentions with regard to the adoption program in the future. These comments were on-topic, factual and respectful in tone. Mayor Garcia appears to have hidden this comment.

The screenshot shows a Facebook profile for Robert Garcia (@robertgarcialb). The post is titled "No Kill Long Beach - Stayin' Alive" and discusses a new full-time adoptions coordinator. A comment from Patricia Turner criticizes the adoption program, comparing it to the City of Sacramento's program and questioning the shelter's budget and adoption statistics. The comment is highlighted in blue, indicating it is the one being discussed in the document. The post has 6 likes and 0 replies. The right sidebar shows related pages like California Democrats, Gazette Newspapers, and LBReport.com.

## Official Page of the Long Beach Mayor Screenshots

On April 4, the same day he posted on his public figure page, Mayor Garcia made the same post about shelter progress and solicited interest in serving on the mayoral task force on the Long Beach Mayor's official page. The post elicited several responses from the public. Those responses that were positive about the post were permitted to be viewed by the general public. However, Mayor Garcia hid one response by Tracy Smith, who advocates for shelter animals in Long Beach. In it, Ms. Smith criticizes Mayor Garcia's announcement of an animal task force as "a flurry of back peddling disguised as pro-animal activism." Ms. Smith's comment, though critical, was on topic and is an example of protected political speech. Yet Mayor Garcia appears to have hidden and to continue to hide her post.

*Screen Capture 8: Tracy Smith*

**Long Beach Mayor**  
@LongBeachMayor

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Like · Reply · 8w

**Teresa Troutman** Let's reduce this number even further this year.

Like · Reply · 8w

**Tracy Smith** These statistics are encouraging, and hopefully, as a result of the audit, perhaps we will see improvement in next year's outcomes as well. I just wonder if the statistics will get as much attention in a non-election year. It seems it takes an election to get the council to take action on behalf of homeless animals in Long Beach. It should be noted that at in the hours and days following No Kill Long Beach's publication of its voter information guide, Suzie Price finds \$3,200 in funding for Fix Long Beach's next spay neuter event, Robert Garcia announces he's putting together a task force to which he begins inviting his supporters on Facebook, and a political action committee, whose clients include Roberto Uranga and other democrats with ties to Long Beach, posts its "endorsements" countering NKL's recommendations. It is absolutely disgusting and egregious to witness such a flurry of back peddling disguised as pro-animal activism when they could have stepped up and made a difference at the shelter years ago. Now, when their feet are held to fire, they bring out the money, promises of seats at the table with the mayor, and a PAC disguised as an advocacy group to defend them. Funny how things change when it's the incumbents' heads on a platter. Why not take all that energy and use it where it's needed most? A little more attention to the animals and the shelter and a lot less inaction on ineffective shelter management may have resulted in significantly fewer recommendations made by Auditor Doud.  
<https://www.facebook.com/LBReport/posts/10155335411997109>

Like · Reply · 7w

dog green walls.JPG · dog with flag.jpg

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- No Kill Long Beach - Sta...

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- Meghan Turner
- Suzie Sayre
- Staci Cash
- Kathy Darnell-Warner
- Saskia Boisot
- Michele Bilbao
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To the extent they are hidden, each of the preceding posts limit the freedom of speech of people whose comments reflect poorly on his efforts as Mayor. Further, the apparent hiding of the posts occurred just prior to an election. And to the extent that they were, they suppress citizens' speech in order to limit a potential negative impact on Mayor Garcia's campaign for re-election which was then underway.

Screen Captures 9 & 10: Number of Comments

**Long Beach Mayor**  
@LongBeachMayor

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4,500  
3,500  
2,500  
1,500  
500

2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

4,383  
3,254  
2,379  
1,662  
1,065

Tealeye Cornejo, Maria Elena and 108 others · 17 Comments · 17 Shares

Like · Comment · Share · ...

Oldest

**Abhay Maniar** Thanks for the great work on reducing the euthanization rate (1/6 2017 vs 4/8 2013).

Like · Reply · 15w · Edited

**Sylvia Ibarra Saucedo** Thank you!

Like · Reply · 15w

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Jacqueline Case and 17 other friends like this

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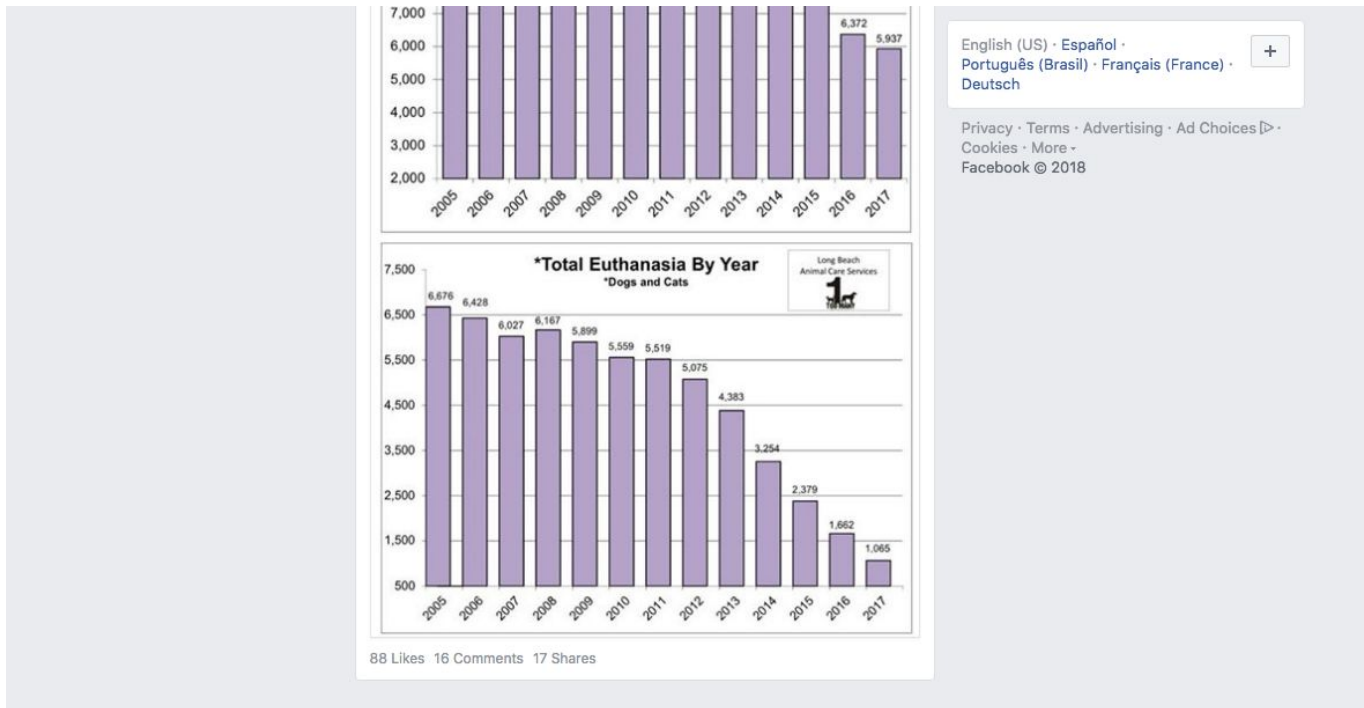
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- Long Beach CA Real E...

The post notes there are 17 comments when signed in on an account connected to Tracy Smith.





The post notes there are 16 comments when the general public views it as Ms. Smith’s comment no longer appears.

An index of all suspected hidden comments, as well as screenshots of comments, are further enclosed in the appendices.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

Nathan J. Winograd

## **Index of Hidden Comments – Exhibits A and C**

### **Exhibit A – Index of hidden comments/Mayor’s Page**

| # | Page Number      | Writer’s Name | First line of comment                              |
|---|------------------|---------------|--|
| 1 | Pages 5, 6 and 7 | Tracy Smith   | These statistics are encouraging, and hopefully... |

### **Exhibit C – Index of hidden comments/Public Figure Page**

| #  | Page Number    | Writer’s Name     | First line of comment   |
|----|----------------|-------------------|---|
| 1  | Page 5         | Kristie Mamelli   | Yes, anyone can take a picture with a cat...                            |
| 2  | Page 7         | Kristie Mamelli   | How is this task force going to implement...                            |
| 3  | Page 8         | Darlene McInerney | I thought I would vomit after reading the...                            |
| 4  | Pages 8, 9, 10 | Leslie Shapiro    | Robert Garcia Long Beach Mayor can you explain...                       |
| 5  | Page 11        | Beverly Leifer    | When I asked to speak to the rehoming...                                |
| 6  | Page 11        | Leslie Shapiro    | Beverly Leifer I have no clue what her real...                          |
| 7  | Page 12        | Beverly Leifer    | Leslie Shapiro “Rehoming Coordinator” is...                             |
| 8  | Page 12        | Leslie Shapiro    | Beverly Leifer yes one would think...                                   |
| 9  | Page 13        | Beverly Leifer    | This is Manny (aka Seltzer at LBACS)...                                 |
| 10 | Page 13        | Beverly Leifer    | Leslie Shapiro I read somewhere along...                                |
| 11 | Page 14        | Leslie Shapiro    | Beverly Leifer Wonderful outcome. Manny...                              |
| 12 | Page 15        | Kristie Mamelli   | Yes, anyone can take a picture with a cat, but...(2 <sup>nd</sup> time) |
| 13 | Page 15        | Kimba Anderson    | What policies did YOU implement to make this...                         |
| 14 | Page 15        | Kristie Mamelli   | Still 1065 too many have been killed at our...                          |
| 15 | Page 16        | Leslie Shapiro    | Link to “Patch” article by No Kill Long Beach                           |
| 16 | Page 16        | Aostara Kaye      | We would have more rescues working with LBACS...                        |
| 17 | Page 27        | Kristie Mamelli   | If you would read the No Kill Equation...                               |
| 18 | Page 27        | Kristie Mamelli   | And we asked this over 4 years ago. This...                             |
| 19 | Page 28        | Kristie Mamelli   | Brandy Gaunt HowH else is a shelter...                                  |
| 20 | Page 28        | Kristie Mamelli   | Brandy Gaunt We’re all for fostering. Why...                            |
| 21 | Page 29        | Joanne Kwast      | Robert Garcia The progress is being made...                             |
| 22 | Page 33        | Kristie Mamelli   | PJ Goedhals, that is very likely. Here is a...                          |
| 23 | Page 38        | Leslie Shapiro    | Waiting on a solid adoption and foster...                               |



|        |         |                    |   |
|--------|---------|--------------------|---|
| 2<br>4 | Page 39 | Kristie Mamelli    | Thank you for being our shelter Animal's (sic) voice. |
| 2<br>5 | Page 45 | Aostara Kaye       | We would have more rescues working with...            |
| 2<br>6 | Page 49 | Joanne Kwast       | We tried to make a sign to point animals...           |
| 2<br>7 | Page 51 | No Kill Long Beach | Robert, Back in 2014, you announced...                |



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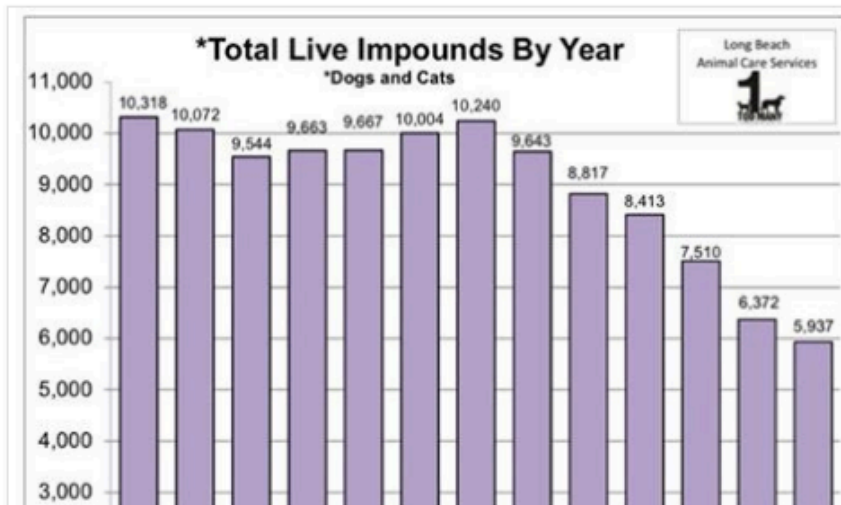


Long Beach Mayor

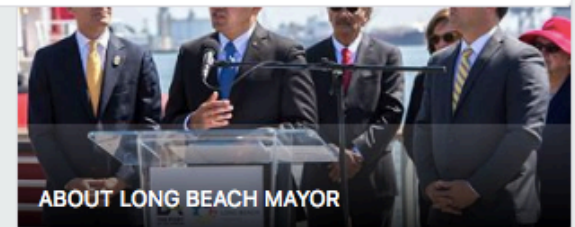
April 4 at 12:12pm · 🌐

In 2013, the number of animals euthanized at our animal shelter was more than 4,000. Last year, there were 1,065. This progress is thanks to the hard work by our animal advocates, [City of Long Beach Animal Care Services](#), and animal rescue organizations. 🐕 🐈 🐰

But our work is far from done, we won't stop until every precious animal life is saved. As part of our requested audit, we are launching a new visioning process for the shelter and are putting together a task force to help create this vision. If you are interested in serving, please email [mayor@longbeach.gov](mailto:mayor@longbeach.gov)



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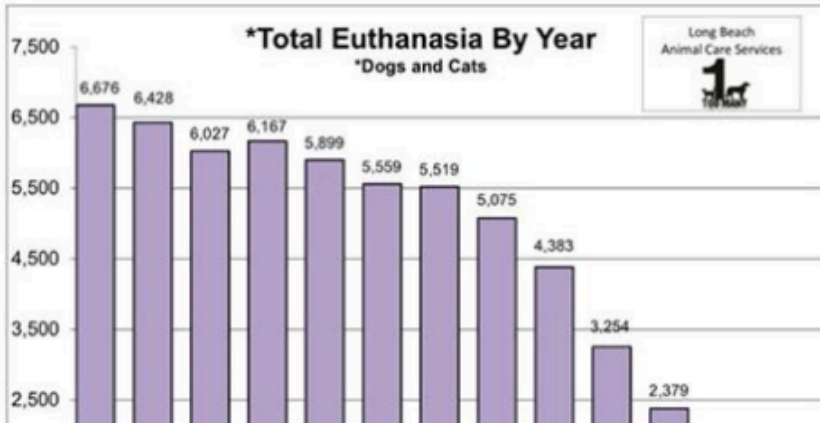
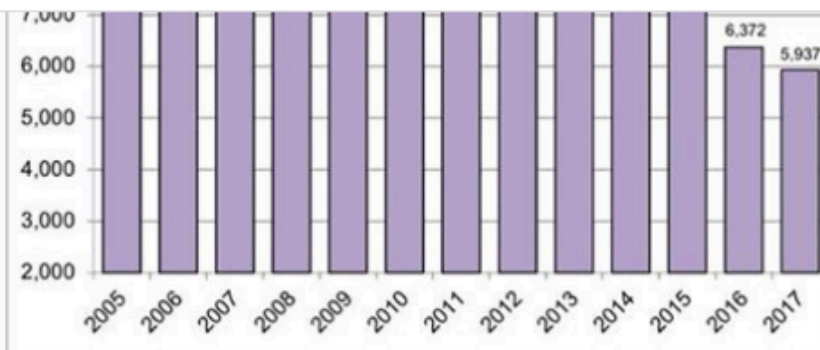
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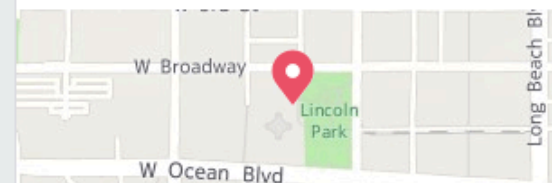


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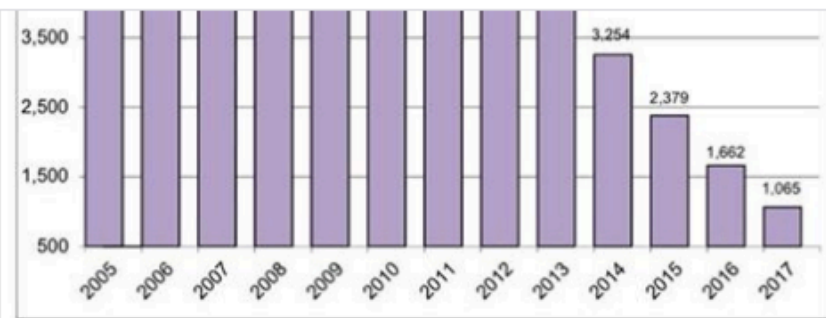
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Tealeye Cornejo, Teresa Troutman and 107 others

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**Abhay Maniar** Thanks for the great work on reducing the euthanization rate (1/6 2017 vs 4/8 2013).

Like · Reply · 2w · Edited

1

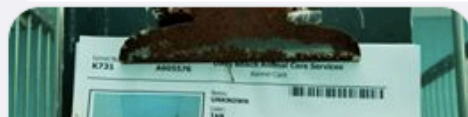


**Sylvia Ibarra Saucedo** Thank you!

Like · Reply · 2w



**Carla J Maciel** I'm trying to adopt this baby today!



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**Abhay Maniar** Thanks for the great work on reducing the euthanization rate (1/6 2017 vs 4/8 2013).

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1



**Sylvia Ibarra Saucedo** Thank you!

Like · Reply · 2w



**Carla J Maciel** I'm trying to adopt this baby today!



6

Like · Reply · 2w



**Aunt Kim** Thank goodness. We are charged to take care of animals

Like · Reply · 2w



**Justin Fisk** As soon as I can afford one (hopefully very soon) I want to adopt a fur baby and help reduce that number!

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animals

Like · Reply · 2w



**Justin Fisk** As soon as I can afford one (hopefully very soon) I want to adopt a fur baby and help reduce that number!

Like · Reply · 2w



**Alma Elizabeth Ramos Ruiz** I rescued a mama cat and adopted her and one her baby furs and still involve in feeding the homeless cat in my community. North Long Beach needs more advocacy and education so we all can make a difference. I would love to get involved. I will email you Mr. Garcia. Thank you for caring!

Like · Reply · 2w



1



**Pat Pettijohn** So great! Would like to be part of this!

Like · Reply · 2w



**Teresa Troutman** Let's reduce this number even further this year.

Like · Reply · 2w



**Tracy Smith** These statistics are encouraging, and hopefully, as a result of the audit, perhaps we will see improvement in next year's outcomes as well. I just wonder if the statistics will get as much attention in a non-election year. It seems it takes an election to get the council to take action on behalf of homeless animals in Long Beach. It should be noted that at in the hours and days following No Kill Long Beach's publication of its voter information guide, Suzie Price finds \$3,200 in funding for Fix Long Beach's anti-homelessness trust. Robert Garcia announced

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**Teresa Troutman** Let's reduce this number even further this year.

Like · Reply · 2w



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**Tracy Smith** These statistics are encouraging, and hopefully, as a result of the audit, perhaps we will see improvement in next year's outcomes as well. I just wonder if the statistics will get as much attention in a non-election year. It seems it takes an election to get the council to take action on behalf of homeless animals in Long Beach. It should be noted that at in the hours and days following No Kill Long Beach's publication of its voter information guide, Suzie Price finds \$3,200 in funding for Fix Long Beach's next spay neuter event, Robert Garcia announces he's putting together a task force to which he begins inviting his supporters on Facebook, and a political action committee, whose clients include Roberto Uranga and other democrats with ties to Long Beach, posts its "endorsements" countering NKL's recommendations. It is absolutely disgusting and egregious to witness such a flurry of back peddling disguised as pro-animal activism when they could have stepped up and made a difference at the shelter years ago. Now, when their feet are held to fire, they bring out the money, promises of seats at the table with the mayor, and a PAC disguised as an advocacy group to defend them. Funny how things change when it's the incumbents' heads on a platter. Why not take all that energy and use it where it's needed most? A little more attention to the animals and the shelter and a lot less inaction on ineffective shelter management may have resulted in significantly fewer recommendations made by Auditor Doud.  
<https://www.facebook.com/LBReport/posts/10155335411997109>

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**Kim DeCelles** Progress is good. Sad that any animal has to b3 euthanized.

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**Kim DeCelles** Progress is good. Sad that any animal has to b3 euthanized.

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**Kate Simon** Absolutely want to be a part! Great job getting those numbers down. Because shelters must take in Every animal the no kill threshold is %90 adoptions and return to owners. Way to go LB!! As a disaster animal responder, I'll be emailing your, mayor Garcia.

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



**Chris Kearley** sobering when you think of what this means nationally.

Like · Reply · 1w



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**Long Beach Mayor**

April 4 at 10:40am · 🌐

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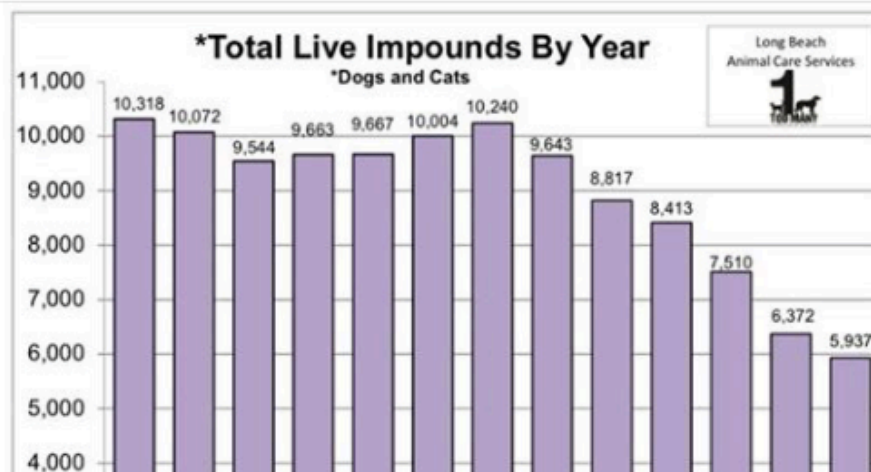


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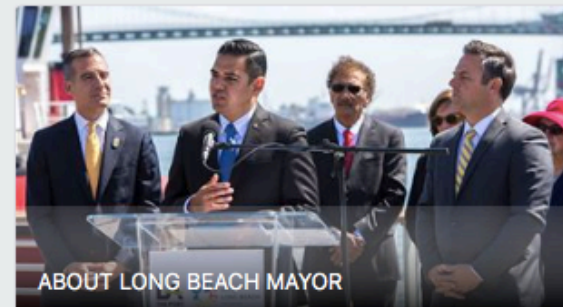
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In 2013, the number of animals euthanized at our animal shelter was more than 4,000. Last year, there were 1,065. This progress is thanks to the hard work by our animal advocates, [City of Long Beach Animal Care Services](#), and animal rescue organizations. 🐾🐱🐶

But our work is far from done, we won't stop until every precious animal life is saved. As part of our requested audit, we are launching a new visioning process for the shelter and are putting together a task force to help create this vision. If you are interested in serving, please email [mayor@longbeach.gov](mailto:mayor@longbeach.gov)



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Mayor Garcia is the 28th Mayor of @LongBeachCity, a leading city for innovation, green jobs, and eco...

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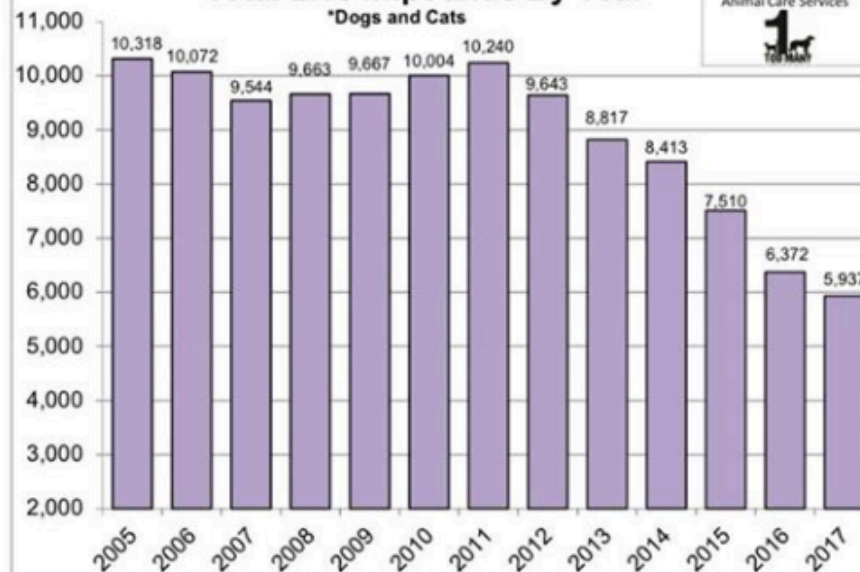
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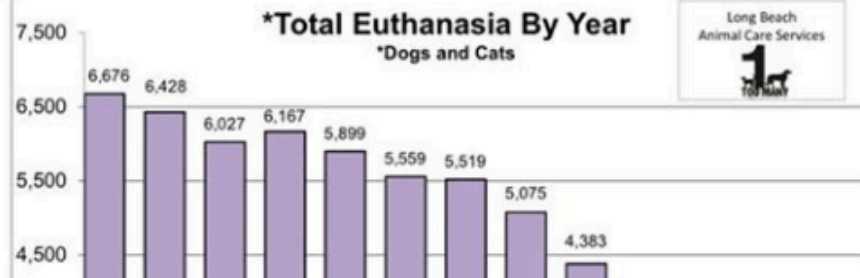
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### \*Total Euthanasia By Year

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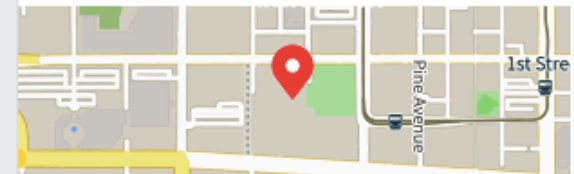
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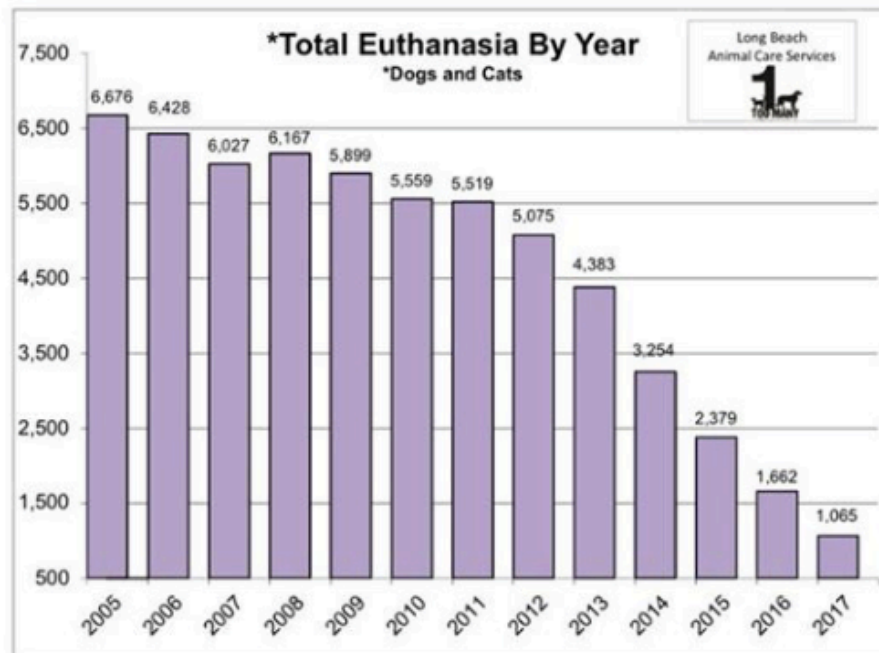
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**Abhay Maniar**  Thanks for the great work on reducing the euthanization rate (1/6 2017 vs 4/8 2013).

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**Abhay Maniar** Thanks for the great work on reducing the euthanization rate (1/6 2017 vs 4/8 2013).

Like · Reply · 13w · Edited



**Sylvia Ibarra Saucedo** Thank you!

Like · Reply · 13w



**Carla J Maciel** I'm trying to adopt this baby today!



Like · Reply · 13w



**Aunt Kim** Thank goodness. We are charged to take care of animals

Like · Reply · 13w



**Justin Fisk** As soon as I can afford one (hopefully very soon) I want to adopt a fur baby and help reduce that number!

Like · Reply · 13w

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**Justin Fisk** As soon as I can afford one (hopefully very soon) I want to adopt a fur baby and help reduce that number!

Like · Reply · 13w



**Alma Elizabeth Ramos Ruiz** I rescued a mama cat and adopted her and one her baby furs and still involve in feeding the homeless cat in my community. North Long Beach needs more advocacy and education so we all can make a difference. I would love to get involved. I will email you Mr. Garcia. Thank you for caring!

Like · Reply · 13w



**Pat Pettijohn** So great! Would like to be part of this!

Like · Reply · 13w



**Teresa Troutman** Let's reduce this number even further this year.


Like · Reply · 13w



**Kim DeCelles** Progress is good. Sad that any animal has to be euthanized.

Like · Reply · 12w



**Kate Simon**  Absolutely want to be a part! Great job getting those numbers down. Because shelters must take in Every animal the no kill threshold is %90 adoptions and return to owners. Way to go LB!! As a disaster animal responder, I'll be emailing your, mayor Garcia.

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**Chris Kearley** sobering when you think of what this means nationally.

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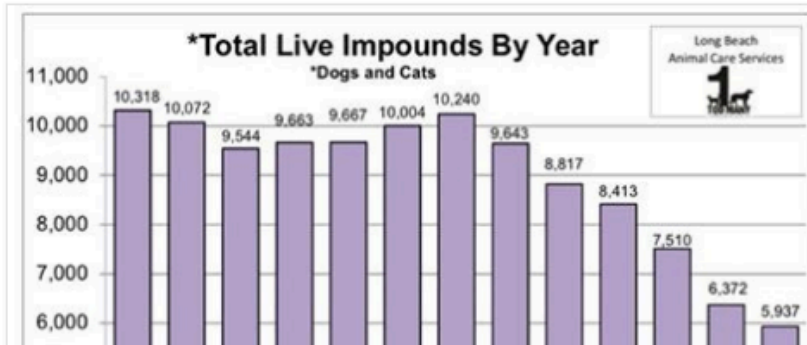
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**Robert Garcia**

April 4 at 9:35am · 🌐

In 2013, the year before I was elected, we were euthanizing over 4,000 animals a year at our shelter. This last year we euthanized 1,065 animals at the shelter and made progress every single year. Our amazing animal rescue & spay/neuter organizations, our animal advocates, the team and volunteers at the Animal Care Department, and our City Council have done great work. But we're not done - we have a lot more work to do, and we won't stop until every possible life is saved. Every animal life is precious. We are starting to implement the recommendations of the audit I asked for and I'll be appointing a mayoral task force to help us with a new vision for the shelter as recommended by our audit. If you are interested in serving, let me know. Looking forward to even more progress this year.



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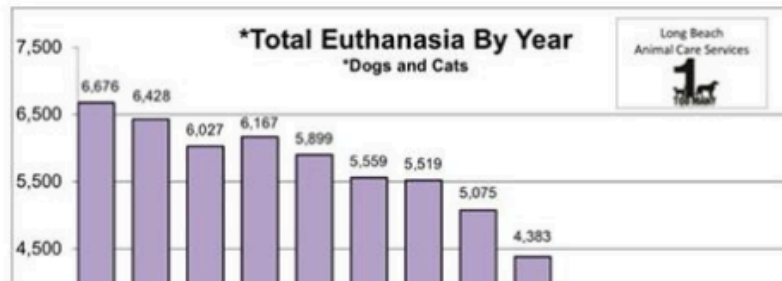
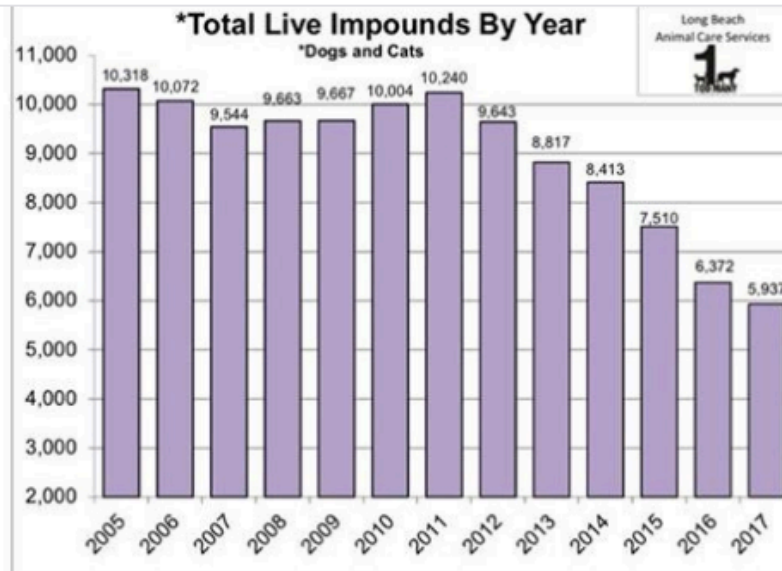
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Posts

Photos

Videos

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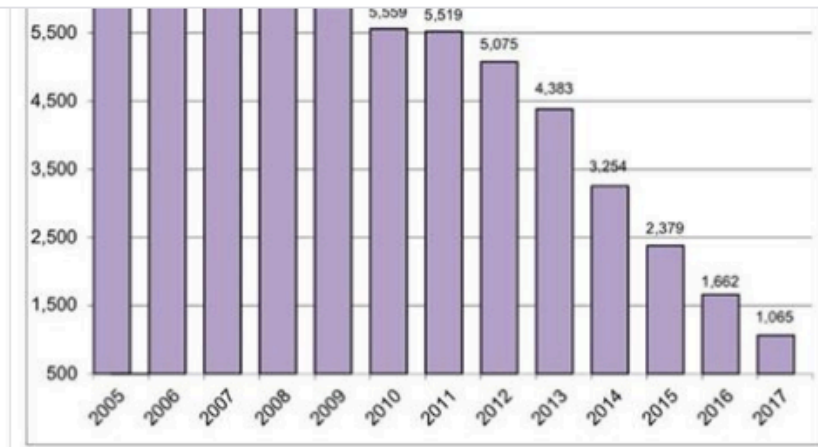
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**Robert Garcia** ✓ This little guy was one of the kittens rescued in 2013 from our shelter. He runs our home now.



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**Robert Garcia** ✓ This little guy was one of the kittens rescued in 2013 from our shelter. He runs our home now.



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**Elliot Gonzales** I love that you're always hugging and

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**Elliot Gonzales** I love that you're always hugging and kitties at city council meetings.

Like · Reply · 1w



**Kristie Mamelli** Yes, anyone can take a picture with a cat, but try to start saving the majority of our shelter animals? Now THAT takes some guts and compassion. Sorry, but I'm at a loss with all these pictures right before an election. How does this help save animals and shelter reform? Just disgusting! Come on, get serious and get on with it.

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited

4



Write a reply...



**April Smith Devane** Hi Robert...I would like very much to be considered for your task force. Looking forward to hearing from your office and hopefully being a part of the team.

Like · Reply · 1w

6



**Robert Garcia** ✓ April, I was already thinking about you serving.

Like · Reply · 1w

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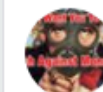
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**Robert Garcia** ✓ April, I was already thinking about you serving.

Like · Reply · 1w



4



**April Smith Devane** Robert Garcia ...thanks much!

Like · Reply · 1w



4



**Allison Kripp** 🙌🙌🙌🙌!!!!

Like · Reply · 1w



**Tamara N Sal Lopez** Yes.

Like · Reply · 1w



Write a reply...



**Beverly Leifer** Mr Mayor, I'd like more details about the task force. Will they be focusing only on the audit recommendations? How will members be selected? Will only those involved in rescue be allowed in the task force? What about those not involved but are interested in the welfare of shelter animals? Will the city pronounce an intention to become a no-kill city and shelter?

The definition of no-kill is to not kill healthy, adoptable pets, or those that are not severely ill, like kittens with ringworms.

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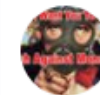
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The definition of no-kill is to not kill healthy, adoptable pets, or those that are not severely ill, like kittens with ringworms.

Like · Reply · 1w



**Tracy Smith** Beverly, I'm sure we'll see the same clique of people we always see. And indeed, a commitment to No-Kill in the form of a resolution would go a long way to turning things around at the shelter.

Like · Reply · 1w



**Kristie Mamelli** How is this task force going to implement No Kill without people who implement No Kill programs? The vast majority of the rescue community are just beginning to know what it is about and the shelter manager certainly isn't trained in implementing these programs.

Like · Reply · 1w



Write a reply...



**Kristie Mamelli** A big problem with pet rentals poked it's ugly head up around 2012 (or that's when it became very apparent

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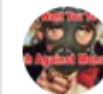
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Write a reply...



**Kristie Mamelli** A big problem with pet rentals poked it's ugly head up around 2012 (or, that's when it became very apparent that our adoptions were lacking) when landlords not only charged the pet deposit (the best way), but they started charging an extra monthly amount for each pet. This made it difficult for renters to afford most of those places and the renters just moved out of the area. I think a security deposit is enough, and this monthly fee per pet is taking advantage of pet owners. There ought to be a way to regulate this.



2

Like · Reply · 10h



**Darlene McInerney** I thought I would vomit after reading the LBACS audit evaluation recommendation that the medical staff needs assistance with euthanasia. The Rehoming Behavior coordinator and Volunteer coordinator..Yes, that is the adoption department, mind you ...presently assist medical with euthanasia. How can they represent their titles & department? Digusting....



13

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**Leslie Shapiro** Robert Garcia Long Beach Mayor can you explain why the Rehoming Coordinator and the Volunteer Coordinator have been trained to be Euthanasia Certified? This training was done during work hours. Work hours paid by tax payers. Work hours that could have been used to Rehome animals and to get another volunteer training class started.

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**Leslie Shapiro** Robert Garcia Long Beach Mayor can you explain why the Rehoming Coordinator and the Volunteer Coordinator have been trained to be Euthanasia Certified? This training was done during work hours. Work hours paid by tax payers. Work hours that could have been used to Rehome animals and to get another volunteer training class started.

Why is the Rehoming Coordinator getting paid with tax dollars being trained to kill animals? Shouldn't 100% of her work time be spent finding fosters, adopters? Shouldn't she be working on a plan to to have viable adoption and foster program? That plan was supposed to be in place in 2014-2015. But, the Rehoming Coordinator's work hours were squandered training to become Euthanasia Certified. I am very confused. This was obviously okayed by Ted Stevens. Shameful. This is so repulsive and, Mayor it is now part of your legacy.

And, even more confusing... why is the Volunteer Coordinator training to be euthanasia certified? Why would you allow this? City of Long Beach Animal Care Services needs more volunteers not more killers.

If a true no kill mentality is accepted by lbacs and you and viable and active adoption and foster programs are implemented now, then maybe the city can save money by not paying a monthly fee to the rendering plant to cart away the many healthy and adoptable animals that were killed for space, for behavior, for unknown reasons.

>side note, why did it take a journalist to inform the public that

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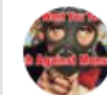
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>side note, why did it take a journalist to inform the public that hidden cameras were found in the public restrooms? Restrooms that children use. Restrooms that employees use. It should be the duty of Ted Stevens, Marie Knights office (no longer with lb city to inform schools, employees, your community.<

There is a shocking amount of mismanagement at LBACS. Too many to list here.

This is all on you, Mayor. And, you have a chance to turning this mess around today.

Like · Reply · 1w

7



**Beverly Leifer** When I asked to speak to the rehoming coordinator to find out about a cat that was listed "red alert medical" I was told to go see spcaLA. When I insisted the reception tell the rehoming coordinator I wanted to speak with her, she said to see spcaLA. What exactly is the "rehoming Coordinator's" responsibilities if not to speak to people about adopting LBACS animals?

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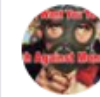
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2

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**Leslie Shapiro** Beverly Leifer i have no clue what her real title is or what she does all day long. She should be cultivating relationships with rescues, fosters, etc. She does goes to weekly meetings to figure who shall live and who shall die.

City of Long Beach Animal Care Services needs to get rid of Ted Stevens and the rehoming coordinator. Today.

There are so many amazing and highly qualified animal shelter professionals that deserve their jobs.

Sadly, I do not see how the animals at lbacs will survive unless lbacs revamps their management with true shelter professionals.

1

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**Beverly Leifer** Leslie Shapiro "Rehoming Coordinator" is the official title. I would think that getting an animal

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@robertgarcialb

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City of Long Beach Animal Care Services needs to get rid of Ted Stevens and the rehoming coordinator. Today.

There are so many amazing and highly qualified animal shelter professionals that deserve their jobs.

Sadly, I do not see how the animals at lbacs will survive unless lbacs revamps their management with true shelter professionals.

Like · Reply · 1w



**Beverly Leifer** Leslie Shapiro "Rehoming Coordinator" is the official title. I would think that getting an animal adopted would be priority.

Like · Reply · 1w



**Leslie Shapiro** Beverly Leifer yes, one would think. And, one would NOT think that the job title includes becoming euthanasia certified. Your tax dollars at work.

Like · Reply · 1w



**Beverly Leifer** This is Manny (aka Seltzer at LBACS). Thankfully Helen Sanders Cat Paws pulled him for me before he was killed. He had diarrhea but was gaining weight and otherwise healthy. But the shelter was going to kill him if a rescue didn't take him for hospice care. He's. Ow up to 11.5 lbs, as healthy as he ever was and a bundle of fun and love!

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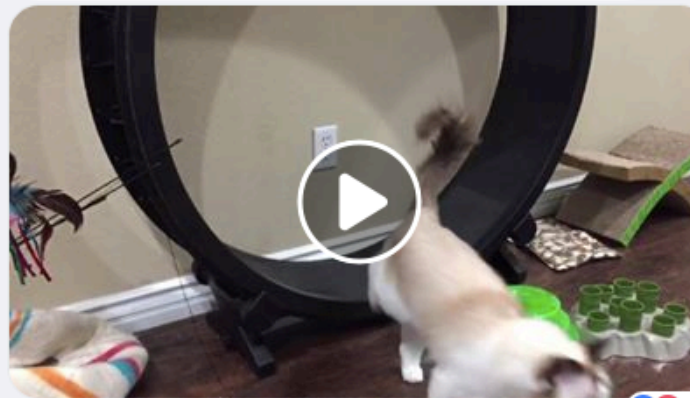
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**Beverly Leifer** [Leslie Shapiro](#) I read somewhere along these threads that Ted stated they only were observing the training and don't euthanize the animals. Just stated what I read.

Like · Reply · 1w

[Leslie Shapiro](#) and 77 other friends like this

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**Beverly Leifer** **Leslie Shapiro** I read somewhere along these threads that Ted stated they only were observing the training and don't euthanize the animals. Just stated what I read.

Like · Reply · 1w



**Leslie Shapiro** **Beverly Leifer** wonderful outcome. Manny has a cool ride!

Ted is not telling the entire story.

And, Ted's former boss, Marie Knight, said that the Rehoming Coordinator and the Volunteer Coordinator we're learning about euthanasia so that they can educate the public. Yup... makes no sense. Shouldn't they be out in the community explaining spay and neuter???

It's all political-speak. And, healthy and treatable and adoptable animals continue to be killed because no one at [City of Long Beach Animal Care Services](#) or the Mayor has the courage to speak the true truth.

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



5



Write a reply...



**Kristie Mamelli** Yes, anyone can take a picture with a cat, but try to start saving the majority of our shelter animals? Now THAT takes some guts and compassion. Sorry, but I'm at a loss

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Write a reply...



**Kristie Mamelli** Yes, anyone can take a picture with a cat, but try to start saving the majority of our shelter animals? Now THAT takes some guts and compassion. Sorry, but I'm at a loss with all these pictures right before an election. How does this help save animals and shelter reform? Just disgusting! Come on, get serious and get on with it.

Like · Reply · 1w



3



**Kimba Anderson** What policies did YOU implement to make this happen? I know the rescue organizations have been doing most of the work.

Like · Reply · 1w



2



**Kristie Mamelli** Still 1065 too many have been killed at our facility, then sent to be rendered for food, etc. THAT would never happen with No Kill programs in The No Kill Equation programs you can find at The No Kill Animal Advocacy Center website. This is what No Kill Long Beach has been trying to bring to our shelter. Nothing negative, just a good feeling that you are saving lives RIGHT NOW, not 4 years from now. The turn around is fast and other shelters have done it within 3 months, not 8 years. This city deserves better!

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



4



**Aostara Kaye** We would have more rescues working with LBACS if SPCA-LA didn't get first pick of all the cute, healthy, cheap easy to adopt out animals. Small volunteer run rescue

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**Aostara Kaye** We would have more rescues working with LBACS if SPCA-LA didn't get first pick of all the cute, healthy, cheap&easy to adopt out animals. Small, volunteer run Rescues can't survive when all they are allowed to take are the underaged, senior and medical cases. Heck, you can't even ADOPT from LBACS until after SPCA-LA turns it down. Shouldn't getting an animal into a HOME take priority?

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



4



**Leslie Shapiro** <https://patch.com/.../politically-motivated-animal...>

Like · Reply · 1w



**Aostara Kaye** Dear Mr. Mayor - using numbers from Ted, I was able to put together this more detailed look at the 2017 outcomes from LBACS. Thought you might like to see how it all breaks down. <https://public.tableau.com/profile/aostara.kaye...>

Like · Reply · 1w



1



**Kristie Mamelli** Here is a community that services 30,000 annually and they have reached No Kill. This is what it looks like:

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=10215980153159828&id=1327824834](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10215980153159828&id=1327824834)

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**Jim Nista** I'd be happy to be involved in this task force. The positive changes are so amazing, and we're almost there

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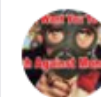
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Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



3



**Jim Nista** I'd be happy to be involved in this task force. The positive changes are so amazing, and we're almost there.

Like · Reply · 1w



4



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Absolutely Jim - we will talk soon.

Like · Reply · 1w



1



**Leah Martinez** This is great! If more apartments in LB allowed pets this could go down even more!

Like · Reply · 1w



7



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Thanks Leah - we will look at this.

Like · Reply · 1w



4



**Sarah Rogers** **Robert Garcia** especially if there isn't so much size and breed restriction. Owning bully breeds (and I have more than one) it's a needle in a haystack to find a place that would accept them AND won't cost an arm and a leg. It should really be about the animals behavior not what they look like.

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**Nikol Summerfield** Mr. Mayor- I've often wondered if you could introduce a law that would make breed restrictions and pet restrictions illegal in Long Beach. For many of us our pets are our children. Apartments can't say no to human children (which have the potential to... See More

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**Chely Bachmann** I agree with you. Many pets abandoned at the shelters are pets given up by their owners because the properties they rent do not allow them. It would be incredible if there were an ordinance that would protect pets in this instance. I am sure the abandonment of pets in shelters will decrease

Like · Reply · 1w

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**Nikol Summerfield** Chely Bachmann - and I'm sure that some of the homeless we see with pets are because they

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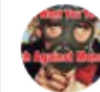
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Like · Reply · 1w

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**Nikol Summerfield** Chely Bachmann - and I'm sure that some of the homeless we see with pets are because they chose to be homeless with their pet rather than surrendering them to a shelter.

Like · Reply · 1w

7



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Nikol, thanks for this. I'm going to look at issue and something I will address with the task force as well.

Like · Reply · 1w

7



**Chely Bachmann** Nikol Summerfield yes I agree I know I would do he same if it came down to it

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited

2



**Chely Bachmann** **Robert Garcia** thank you I'm sure this will save a lot of pets and heartaches

Like · Reply · 1w

3



**Nikol Summerfield** **Robert Garcia** - thanks mayor - let me know if there is anything I can do to help

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**Nikol Summerfield** Robert Garcia - thanks mayor - let me know if there is anything I can do to help.

3

Like · Reply · 1w



**Nikol Summerfield** Deborah Felin - thank you so much for this. I've been wanting to propose this for awhile but I was worried about the backlash from landlords.

2

Like · Reply · 1w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Deborah Felin - let's meet and discuss. Send me an email at mayor@longbeach.gov. Would love to learn more.

7

Like · Reply · 1w



**Nikol Summerfield** This is Zaya. We adopted her from a rescue in February. If we would have waited it wouldn't have been possible. Our HOA is rewriting the bi-laws to include breed restrictions. Both huskies and German shepherds are on the list. We spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on our condo. It's unfair to restrict what breed of dog I have in it.



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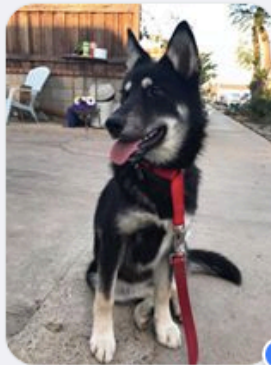
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4

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David Martinez Nikol Summerfield amazing insight...

Like · Reply · 1w



Sheila Finch When I owned rental property in Belmont Shore, I used to put out a "For Rent" sign that added I was willing to take cats. A wouldbe renter persuaded me to take a chance on his (big) dog and I did, with a damage deposit. We had no problems at all from t... See More

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Sheila Finch Nikol Summerfield Mv condo association

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**Sheila Finch** Nikol Summerfield My condo association was considering restricting breeds because of the "noise issue." I managed to get them to see that the bigger breeds aren't the ones that whine and yap all day. Nor are they the ones that tend to bite when anxious.

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



Write a reply...



**Mary Ellen Hobbs** Important to also note that impounds have gone down as well! Would love to see that number drastically reduced this year as well. To what do you attribute the decrease in that number?

Like · Reply · 2w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ We have some incredible animal spay/neuter groups and foster organizations that do much of this work. The shelter works with them and has programs like TnR, spay & neuter vouchers, etc.

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**Robert Garcia** ✓ We have some incredible animal spay/neuter groups and foster organizations that do much of this work. The shelter works with them and has programs like TnR, spay & neuter vouchers, etc.

Like · Reply · 2w · Edited

7



**Paul Napolitano** Robert Garcia Yes, like **FIX LONG BEACH**. Keep up the good work everyone. Lets get that number lower

Like · Reply · 1w

2



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Paul Napolitano - **FIX LONG BEACH** is amazing and I'm a huge fan. They deserve much of the credit for the numbers.

Like · Reply · 1w

3



**Kim Sicklick Tankersley** Mayor, all due respect, I voted for you, and I'm disappointed. You're simply not doing enough. I have had 5 rescue pets over the years, no thanks to anything done by

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**Kim Sicklick Tankersley** Mayor, all due respect, I voted for you, and I'm disappointed. You're simply not doing enough. I have had 5 rescue pets over the years, no thanks to anything done by the City of Long Beach. Relying on small non-profits who depend on \$5 and \$10 donations is not a foster or adoption action plan... What is the plan?

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



2



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Kim, thanks for reaching out. Our staff and volunteers work hard at the shelter. We have dramatically reduced euthanasia thanks to so many animal rescue and organization partnerships. We have launched new programs, opened up mobile and off site adoptio... [See More](#)

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**Kim Sicklick Tankersley** Thanks for your response. Still 1,100 dogs and cats killed last year. We need to do better...



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**Kim Sicklick Tankersley** Thanks for your response. Still 1,100 dogs and cats killed last year. We need to do better...



Like · Reply · 1w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Kim Sicklick Tankersley and we are. 2018 will have less and we will keep working until we save every possible life.

Like · Reply · 1w



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**Nancy LeLacheur Huntington** Should be zero with more time spent on adoptions.

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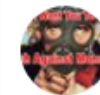
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**Nancy LeLacheur Huntington** Should be zero with more time spent on adoptions.

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**Robert Garcia** ✓ I agree Nancy, it should be zero. I hope you can agree that there is significant progress being made.

Like · Reply · 1w

2



**Nancy LeLacheur Huntington** I do. Just wish it was a no kill shelter and more people were responsible pet owners.

Like · Reply · 1w

4



**Brandy Gaunt** And I wish we had a city government that would give LBACS enough resources to actually hire a volunteer or foster coordinator.

Like · Reply · 1w

13



**Robert Garcia** ✓ **Brandy Gaunt** - we've actually increased resources at LBACS and they are currently hiring 3 new positions. We expect we will need to make additional investments to meet the audit recommendations.

Like · Reply · 1w

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**Robert Garcia** ✓ **Brandy Gaunt** - we've actually increased resources at LBACS and they are currently hiring 3 new positions. We expect we will need to make additional investments to meet the audit recommendations.

Like · Reply · 1w



6



**Brandy Gaunt** **Robert Garcia** that is excellent news that most of us were unaware of! Thank you!

Like · Reply · 1w



1



**Tracy Smith** **Robert Garcia** What are the new positions? I've been hearing "we're going to do this" and "we're going to do that" for 4 years.

Like · Reply · 1w



5



**Kristie Mamelli** If you would read The No Kill Equation, you would see that it doesn't take the resources you intend to spend on the shelter. The programs were intended to be very low to no cost. Why wouldn't we use it, especially if this city is in such debt? Low to no cost. When you turn a killing shelter into a No Kill shelter, history shows the volunteers come out of the woodwork.

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**Kristie Mamelli** And we asked this over 4 years ago. This is just taking too long!



2



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Like · Reply · 1w



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**Kristie Mamelli** And we asked this over 4 years ago. This is just taking too long!

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



2



**Kristie Mamelli** Brandy Gaunt HowH else is a shelter going to introduce new programs? I'm not understanding what you are saying.

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



2



**Kristie Mamelli** Brandy Gaunt We're all for fostering. Why doesn't the ACS side of our shelter engage in adoptions , fostering, and enrichment to help these animals make their way out. It would be great, but putting the pressure on our local rescues, especially with ki... [See More](#)

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**Joanne Kwast** Robert Garcia the progress is being made by the Rescue groups. Please can you list out the positive changes the city shelter has implemented since

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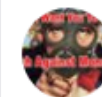
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Videos

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**Joanne Kwast** Robert Garcia the progress is being made by the Rescue groups. Please can you list out the positive changes the city shelter has implemented since you entered office that are there OWN programs? Specifically, what is being done to increase adoptions?

Like · Reply · 1w



**Kate Simon** Tracy Smith look at Long Beach.gov jobs. I've seen 2 recent postings, one animal care attendant and Transport Assist. meaning non-profits and rescue coord. assistant .

Like · Reply · 1w



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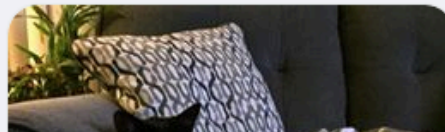


**Bianca Cole** I am so grateful to the Animal Care Department in Long Beach because rather than euthanize a sweet stray cat who had lost an eye, they used their limited resources to perform surgery and prepare him for adoption. I love my rescue cat! Thank you LB ❤️🐾

Like · Reply · 1w



**Bianca Cole**



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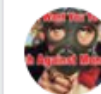
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**Bianca Cole** I am so grateful to the Animal Care Department in Long Beach because rather than euthanize a sweet stray cat who had lost an eye, they used their limited resources to perform surgery and prepare him for adoption. I love my rescue cat! Thank you LB ❤️🐾

Like · Reply · 1w



8



**Bianca Cole**



4

Like · Reply · 1w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Thank you! 🙌



3

Like · Reply · 1w



Write a reply...



Molly Martens Robert Garcia the percentage of animals

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Robert Garcia ✓ Thank you! 3

Like · Reply · 1w



Write a reply...



**Molly Martens** Robert Garcia the percentage of animals euthanized in LB in 2017 was still DOUBLE that of the city of LA. Long Beach euthanized 18% of their dog and cat intake, while the city of LA euthanized around 9% of their dog and cat intake in 2017. Although [City of Long Beach Animal Care Services](#) has seen some improvement since 2014 (and every life saved makes a difference!), we're still nowhere near the incredible progress made by [LA Animal Services](#) (thanks to [NKLA](#) and [Best Friends Animal Society](#))

I was thrilled your office took the initiative to conduct the audit and look forward to seeing some of their recommendations implemented ASAP. In particular, I'd love to see a foster program at LBACS!

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



Robert Garcia ✓ Thanks Molly - we can still make significant progress and I expect even better results this year.

Like · Reply · 1w



PJ Goedhals Molly, I had someone (who works at NKLA

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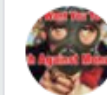
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**Robert Garcia** ✓ Thanks Molly - we can still make significant progress and I expect even better results this year.

Like · Reply · 1w



**PJ Goedhals** Molly, I had someone (who works at NKLA in San Pedro) tell me that if they euthanize a feral cat it doesn't count towards the overall kill stats.

They also told me that every year, ~ 500 000 cats and dogs will end up in Shelters in LA County. Not sure how true those statements are, hopefully they are false... 🙄

Like · Reply · 1w



**Kristie Mamelli** PJ Goedhals, that is very likely. Here is a shelter that went No Kill with an annual intake of 30,000! If we had someone running our shelter like this guy, it would only take overnight for the changes. It's been years for our shelter and here we sit:  
[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=10215980153159828&id=1327824834](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10215980153159828&id=1327824834)



**Leslie Shapiro** and 77 other friends like this



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**Kristie Mamelli** PJ Goedhals, that is very likely. Here is a shelter that went No Kill with an annual intake of 30,000! If we had someone running our shelter like this guy, it would only take overnight for the changes. It's been years for our shelter and here we sit:  
[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=10215980153159828&id=1327824834](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10215980153159828&id=1327824834)



**Luke Westerman** is with Paula Powell at [Humane Society of El Paso](#).  
April 6 at 7:34am · El Paso, TX · 🌐

I came to El Paso to help make it the largest No-Kill city on the planet. And guess what folks... it's happening! For the second month in a row, the city topped...  
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April 6 at 7:34am · El Paso, TX · 🌐

I came to El Paso to help make it the largest No-Kill city on the planet. And guess what folks... it's happening! For the second month in a row, the city topped...

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1



**Kym Cloughesy** PJ - I am not so sure that the person you spoke with is with Best Friends and NKLA, as they do not have an adoption center in San Pedro. The NKLA adoption center is in West Los Angeles and the Best Friends Adoption Center is in Mission Hills.

Like · Reply · 1w

2



**Kym Cloughesy** I would like to encourage the mayor, as well as community leaders, city council members and LBACS staff to attend the Best Friends National No-Kill conference this year. It is being held in Los Angeles in July. It is a three day conference that is absolutely amazing and inspiring.

Like · Reply · 1w

2

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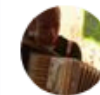
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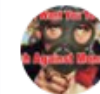
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Like · Reply · 1w

2



Write a reply...



**Carolyn Riley** Here's my little girl- thanks to a local TnR rescue group she found her way to my door and into our hearts ❤️



5

Like · Reply · 2w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ She's beautiful. Thank you. 1

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Videos

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 **Robert Garcia** ✓ She's beautiful. Thank you. 1  
Like · Reply · 2w

 **Jenny Waldkirch Sersion** makes me sad to think we were euthanizing over 6,600 in 2005 😞 makes me sick to my stomach  
Like · Reply · 2w 2

 **Robert Garcia** ✓ The numbers back then were horrific. It's important to acknowledge the progress - but not be satisfied until we can save every life possible.  
Like · Reply · 2w 12

 **Jenny Waldkirch Sersion** **Robert Garcia** I completely agree, every life is important! We need to do better.  
Like · Reply · 2w 3

 **Denise Walters** Those numbers are down primarily due to the selfless rescues that are full to the brim with animals. My senior dog would have been euthanized in a heartbeat if LiveLove rescue hadn't pulled her.  
Like · Reply · 1w 8

 **Jenny Waldkirch Sersion** yes, the rescues play a HUGE part... I foster baby kittens for Little Lion Foundation  
Like · Reply · 1w 4

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Posts

Photos

Videos

Events

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**Jenny Waldkirch Sersion** yes, the rescues play a HUGE part... I foster baby kittens for Little Lion Foundation

Like · Reply · 1w



**Aostara Kaye** I also foster kittens - over 350 underaged kittens were killed at LBACS last year just for being under 2 pounds. Hoping to hear good news about programs like an underage foster program and a kitten nursery someday soon!

Like · Reply · 1w



**Allison Kripp** Fantastic

Like · Reply · 1w



**Rebecca Mellaci** Denise Walters agreed

Like · Reply · 1w



**Kym Cloughesy** Aostara - kitten nursery programs will be a topic discussed at the Best Friends conference in July.

Like · Reply · 1w



Write a reply...



**Cindy Gutierrez** It is a good start- but not enough!!! Long Beach shouldn't rest until it is zero kill



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**Cindy Gutierrez** It is a good start- but not enough!!! Long Beach shouldn't rest until it is zero kill

Like · Reply · 1w



5



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Like I said in my post above, it's not enough and we continue to work. Thanks.

Like · Reply · 1w



2



**Leslie Shapiro** Waiting on a solid adoption and foster program while healthy and treatable animals are selected for killing. The adoption program was promised by the mayor in 2014. How many healthy and treatable animals have been systematically killed because Ted Stevens and the team he and the mayor are so proud of, have no viable adoption and/foster program to speak of. It's 2018. This should awful. Ted Stevens and the mayor should not be proud of Ibacs staff, they should be outraged. And, the mayor should be asking Ted Stevens why the promise in 2014 still hasn't happened.

It's is someone's job at [City of Long Beach Animal Care Services](#) to develop and run an adoption/foster program. If that person or people are not equipped to do it, then let's move forward and find qualified people to do the job.

Like · Reply · 1w



5



**Kristie Mamelli** Thank you for being our shelter Animal's voice. They are at the mercy of our city's administration.

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**Kristie Mamelli** Thank you for being our shelter Animal's voice. They are at the mercy of our city's administration.

Like · Reply · 1w



Write a reply...



**Michael Witt** Kizzie and Kofi. Both rescued from the Long Beach shelter. ❤️



16

Like · Reply · 2w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Amazing and thank you! 🙌

Like · Reply · 2w



**Tara Sievers** Adopted from LB shelter a few years ago 😊

...

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Posts

Photos

Videos

Events

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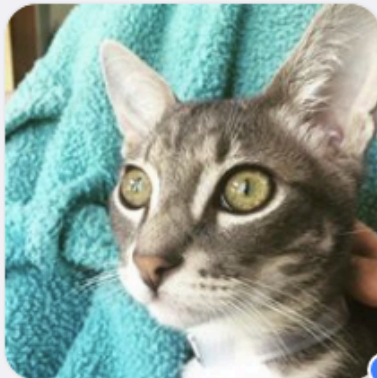
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Tara Sievers Adopted from LB shelter a few years ago 😊 ...



8

Like · Reply · 1w



Robert Garcia ✓ Adorable. Thank you! 🍷 4

Like · Reply · 1w



Douglas Jarvie Still 1,065 too many 🙄 10

Like · Reply · 2w



Robert Garcia ✓ I agree with you completely. And our goal is to get that number even lower in 2018 until we have reformed the shelter in a way that saves every life possible.

Like · Reply · 2w

6

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**Robert Garcia** ✓ I agree with you completely. And our goal is to get that number even lower in 2018 until we have reformed the shelter in a way that saves every life possible.

Like · Reply · 2w

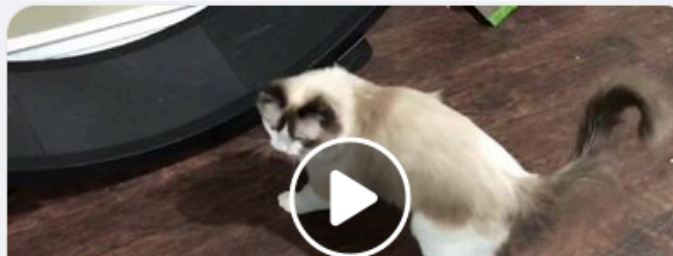


6



**Beverly Leifer** We can do it with robust, independent adoption and foster programs at the shelter. The rescues and Fix Long Beach have taken the heavy load for too long. Who know how long they can sustain what they have been doing on their own. Too many dog rescues have already shut down because they couldn't continue. The shelter itself needs to do more.

I'd also like to know the reasons for euthanasia's of each animal killed. I was able to pull a cat that was about 2 years old and healthy that was estimated to be 12 years old and diagnosed with possible cancer or IBD by shelter vet, who also recommended rescue only for hospice or to be killed. Incompetence at its worse. Here's a video of Seltzer (now Manny) showing "a cat on his deathbed?"



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Videos

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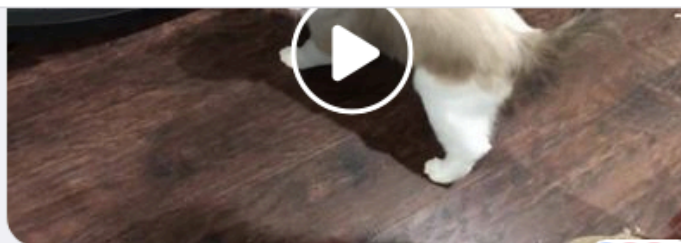
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**Aostara Kaye** Over 350 of the 1065 were kittens under two months old. Cat rescues overflow early in kitten season every year - fosters take on litter after litter of babies to bottle feed. we need a foster program at LBACS, and we need policies so that bridges sto... See More

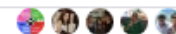
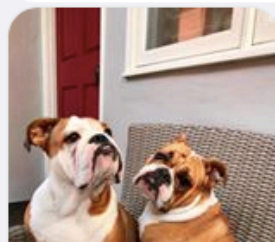
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**Marsha Naify** Thank you Mayor Garcia



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Marsha Naify Thank you Mayor Garcia



5

Like · Reply · 1w



Robert Garcia ✓ Love those two ❤️❤️



2

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



Mayra Galutza Still 1,065 too many.



2

Like · Reply · 1w



Robert Garcia ✓ I agree. But glad we went from over 4,000 to 1,065. Now we are working to get that number even lower.



1

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Leslie Shapiro and 77 other friends like this



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**Robert Garcia** ✓ I agree. But glad we went from over 4,000 to 1,065. Now we are working to get that number even lower.

Like · Reply · 1w



1



**Mayra Galutza** Robert Garcia Thank you. Keep up the good work.

Like · Reply · 1w



1



**Tracy Smith** You need an adoption program, you need a foster program, you need better hours at the shelter. All of these recommendations have been made. The kill rate could improve a lot faster if proactive measures were taken years ago, yesterday, today or tomorrow.

Like · Reply · 1w



6



Write a reply...



**Sheila Gibbons** Keep going

Like · Reply · 1w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Yup. Progress every single year, that's the goal.

Like · Reply · 1w



2



**Alexandra Rineberg** This is amazing progress! ❤️

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**Alexandra Rineberg** This is amazing progress! ❤️

Like · Reply · 1w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ It really is. We have so many rescue, foster, and spay & neuter groups that do great work and partner with our shelter.

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



**Aostara Kaye** We would have more rescues working with LBACS if SPCA-LA didn't get first pick of all the cute, healthy animals. Rescues can't survive when all they are allowed to take are the underaged, senior and medical cases. Heck, you can't even ADOPT from LBACS until after SPCA-LA turns it down. Shouldn't getting an animal into a HOME take priority?

Like · Reply · 1w



Write a reply...



**David Martinez** This is Sugar, found 12 years ago in North Long Beach, starving under a car... she protects our home and is the best company!



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**David Martinez** This is Sugar, found 12 years ago in North Long Beach, starving under a car... she protects our home and is the best company!



7

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



**John Novak** That is REAL progress, you should all be proud.



4

Like · Reply · 2w



**Keith Krupp** Something to be very proud of. Kudos to all involved!



2

Like · Reply · 1w



**Lucy Bal** Great job LB!!! Keep up the good work Robert Garcia 🙌



1

Like · Reply · 1w



**Herlinda Serret Hernandez** Awesome, great news.

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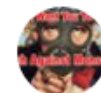
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**Herlinda Serret Hernandez** Awesome, great news.

Like · Reply · 2w

3



**Brandy Wayne** i'm interested in serving!

Like · Reply · 1w

1



**Tiffany Thompson** Bravo! 🍌🍌🍌

Like · Reply · 1w

1



**Aurelie Vanderhoek** Mr Mayor , let's start by changing this sign ...SPCALA has nothing to do with this portion of the building ...let's label it what it is so the public understands that this is the entrance to the Long Beach shelter ...where if you surrender an animal , it can be euthanized for space ...  
The conditions in this building have nothing to compare with the conditions on the other side , the SPCALA adoption building where no animal are ever threatened to be put down ...unless of course they decide to reject it because it is not " adoptable enough" and then it goes back to the shelter ....people need to know these things ....



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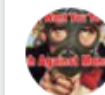
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Posts

Photos

Videos

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conditions on the other side, the SPCA adoption building where no animal are ever threatened to be put down ...unless of course they decide to reject it because it is not "adoptable enough" and then it goes back to the shelter ....people need to know these things ....



13

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited



**Beverly Leifer** SpcaLA is NOT a no-kill Shelter.

4

Like · Reply · 1w



**Joanne Kwast** We tried to make a sign to point animals to LBACS. We offered to pay for it too. But the shelter director had so many concerns from the placement to the wording and it had to be temporarily. Thus, if you can't even get a temporarily tiny sign, good luck getting this sign replaced. It went on for months and they had no intent of ever placing the sign so we gave up wasting our precious time as it was clear they were never going to put up the sign.

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**Joanne Kwast** We tried to make a sign to point animals to LBACS. We offered to pay for it too. But the shelter director had so many concerns from the placement to the wording and it had to be temporarily. Thus, if you can't even get a temporarily tiny sign, good luck getting this sign replaced. It went on for months and they had no intent of ever placing the sign so we gave up wasting our precious time as it was clear they were never going to put up the sign.

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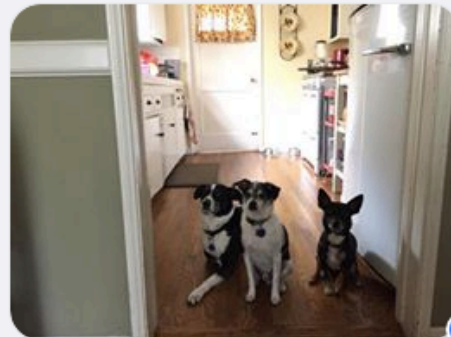
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Write a reply...



**Stacey Fancher Morrison** Here's our three — all adopted through spcala. They are our family. I would interested in serving. I'll reach out to your office.



9

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Like · Reply · 1w

**Kimba Anderson** So CUTE!

Like · Reply · 1w



**Jenny Waldkirch Sersion** did you know that SPCALA is NOT Long Beach Animal Care Services... two separate places

Like · Reply · 1w · Edited

5



**Stacey Fancher Morrison** YES! I know that. I link them together as a matter of convenience.

Like · Reply · 1w

2



**Beverly Leifer** Too many people don't realize the difference between the two entities. Hats a major problem.

Like · Reply · 1w



Write a reply...

😊 📷 GIF 🗨️

**Roben Rutherford Alarcón** This is great news - thank you!

32,020 people like this

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**Leslie Shapiro** and 77 other friends like this

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**Roben Rutherford Alarcón** This is great news - thank you!

Like · Reply · 2w



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**No Kill Long Beach - Stayin' Alive** Robert, back in 2014, you announced a new full-time adoptions coordinator in front of 200 animal advocates at a Town Hall Meeting and said that person would be tasked with strengthening, growing and developing a "really strong adoption program at the shelter." Last year, LBACS only adopted out 682 animals. That's a very low number, and with an adoption program, a large proportion of those 1065 animals would not have been killed.

I don't see you mentioning an adoption program in this discussion. Will you be working on increasing the adoption program to the level that [Front Street Animal Shelter - City of Sacramento](#) accomplishes with their adoption program? They have approximately the same budget at LBACS but they did 5,600 adoptions into actual homes last year, in addition to all of the returns-to-owner, transfers to rescues and transfers to other shelters that they do.

If LBACS did even 1/4 of those adoptions, LBACS would be no kill. Can we expect to see a significant increase in adoptions next year, and how can that happen, given that the audit identified 173 recommendations that are fairly troubling that need to be remedied, as well?

Like · Reply · Commented on by Patricia Turner [?] · 1w



6



**PJ Goedhals Sunny Rae**

Like · Reply · 1w

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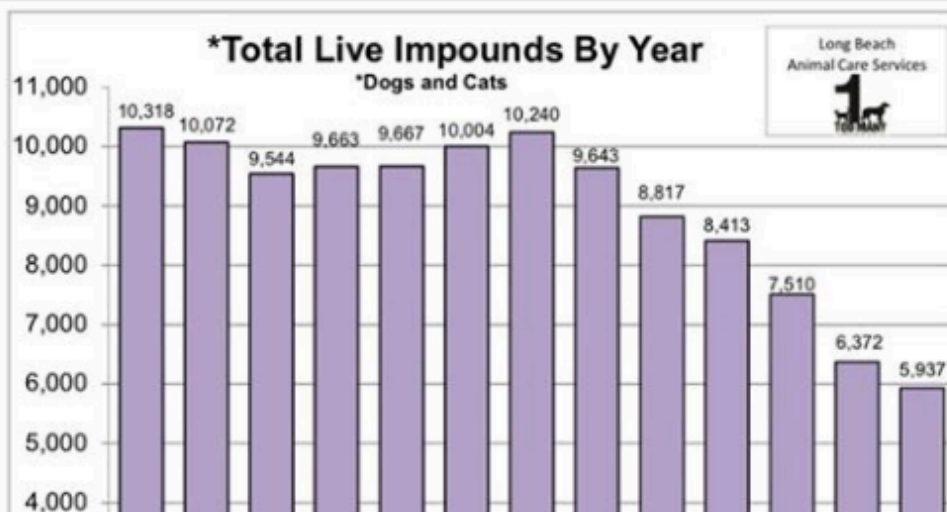


Robert Garcia

April 4 · 🌐



In 2013, the year before I was elected, we were euthanizing over 4,000 animals a year at our shelter. This last year we euthanized 1,065 animals at the shelter and made progress every single year. Our amazing animal rescue & spay/neuter organizations, our animal advocates, the team and volunteers at the Animal Care Department, and our City Council have done great work. But we're not done - we have a lot more work to do, and we won't stop until every possible life is saved. Every animal life is precious. We are starting to implement the recommendations of the audit I asked for and I'll be appointing a mayoral task force to help us with a new vision for the shelter as recommended by our audit. If you are interested in serving, let me know. Looking forward to even more progress this year.



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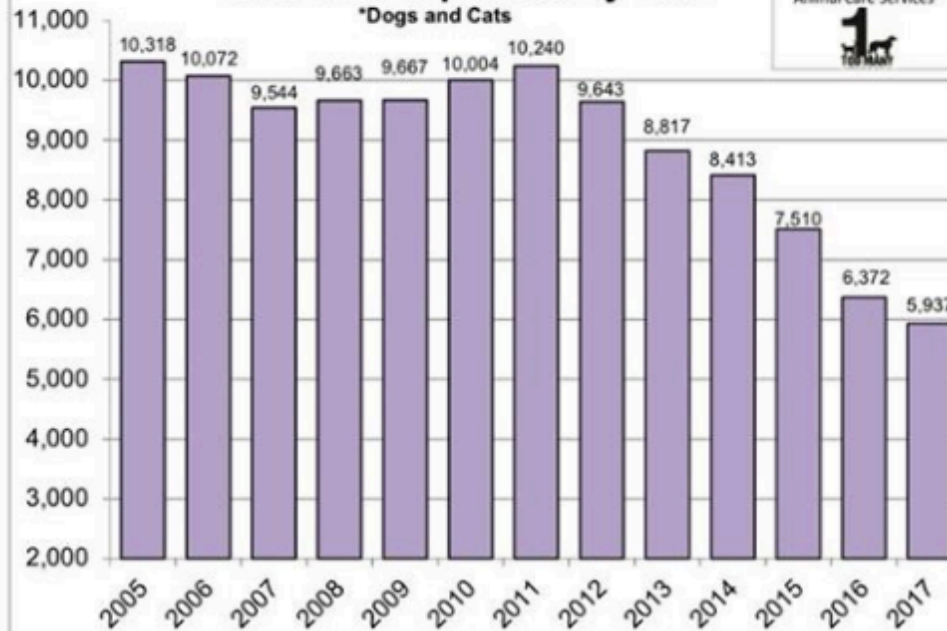
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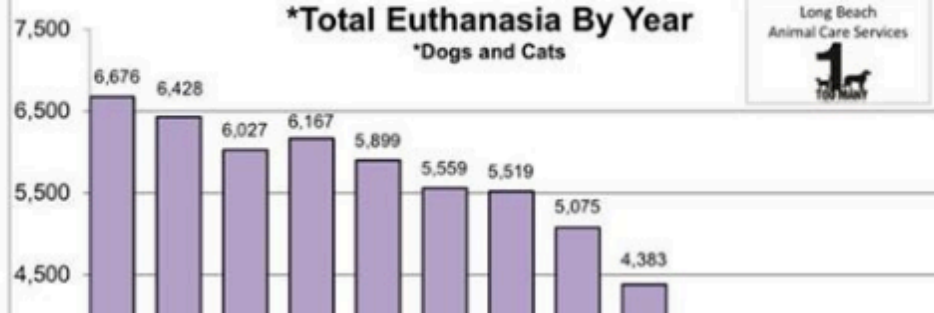
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\*Dogs and Cats



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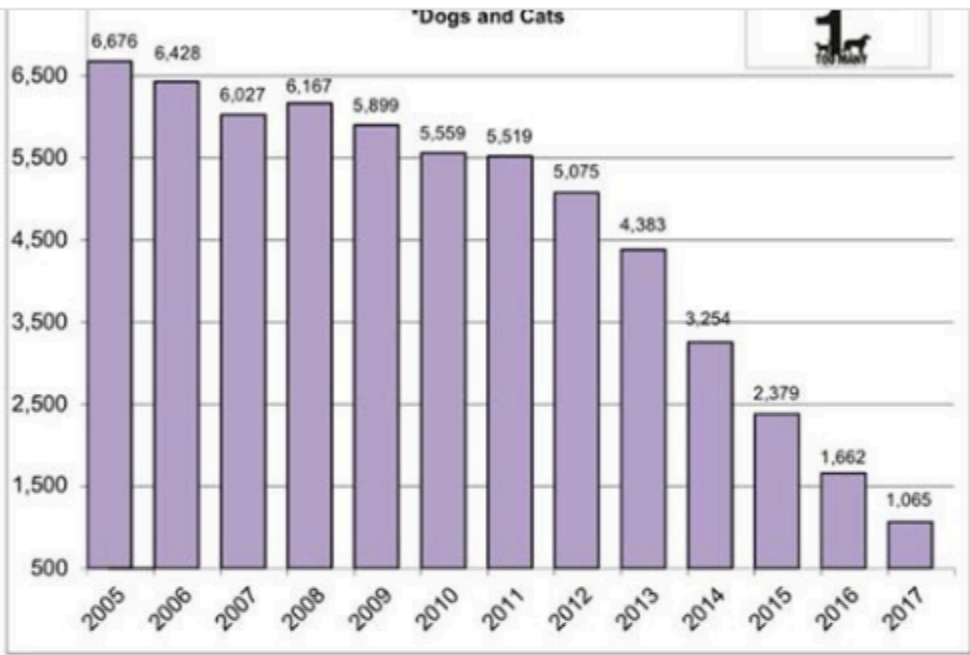


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**Robert Garcia** ✓ This little guy was one of the kittens rescued in 2013 from our shelter. He runs our home now.



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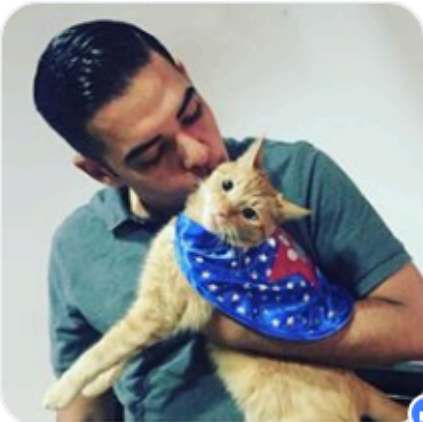
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**Robert Garcia** ✓ This little guy was one of the kittens rescued in 2013 from our shelter. He runs our home now.



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**Elliot Gonzales** I love that you're always hugging and kitties at city council meetings.

Like · Reply · 13w



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**Elliot Gonzales** I love that you're always hugging and kitties at city council meetings.

Like · Reply · 13w

Write a reply...



**Jim Nista** I'd be happy to be involved in this task force. The positive changes are so amazing, and we're almost there.

Like · Reply · 13w



**Robert Garcia** Absolutely Jim - we will talk soon.

Like · Reply · 13w



**Leah Martinez** This is great! If more apartments in LB allowed pets this could go down even more!

Like · Reply · 13w



**Robert Garcia** Thanks Leah - we will look at this.

Like · Reply · 13w



**Sarah Rogers** **Robert Garcia** especially if there isn't so much size and breed restriction. Owning bully breeds (and I have more than one) it's a needle in a haystack to find a place that would accept them AND won't cost an

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**Leah Martinez** This is great! If more apartments in LB allowed pets this could go down even more!

Like · Reply · 13w



7



**Robert Garcia** Thanks Leah - we will look at this.

Like · Reply · 13w



4



**Sarah Rogers** **Robert Garcia** especially if there isn't so much size and breed restriction. Owning bully breeds (and I have more than one) it's a needle in a haystack to find a place that would accept them AND won't cost an arm and a leg. It should really be about the animals behavior not what they look like.

Like · Reply · 12w



Write a reply...



**Nikol Summerfield** Mr. Mayor- I've often wondered if you could introduce a law that would make breed restrictions and pet restrictions illegal in Long Beach. For many of us our pets are our children. Apartments can't say no to human children (which have the potential to cause many problems as well) and I'd like to see the same for animals. I feel if we truly want to place all the shelter animals in homes we have to make all homes open to animals. Please consider making Long Beach the most animal friendly city in America.

Like · Reply · 13w · Edited



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Like · Reply · 13w · Edited



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**Chely Bachmann** I agree with you. Many pets abandoned at the shelters are pets given up by their owners because the properties they rent do not allow them. It would be incredible if there were an ordinance that would protect pets in this instance. I am sure the abandonment of pets in shelters will decrease

Like · Reply · 13w



4



**Nikol Summerfield** Chely Bachmann - and I'm sure that some of the homeless we see with pets are because they chose to be homeless with their pet rather than surrendering them to a shelter.

Like · Reply · 13w



7



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Nikol, thanks for this. I'm going to look at issue and something I will address with the task force as well.

Like · Reply · 13w



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**Robert Garcia** ✓ Nikol, thanks for this. I'm going to look at issue and something I will address with the task force as well.

Like · Reply · 13w



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**Chely Bachmann** Nikol Summerfield yes I agree I know I would do he same if it came down to it

Like · Reply · 13w · Edited



2



**Chely Bachmann** **Robert Garcia** thank you I'm sure this will save a lot of pets and heartaches

Like · Reply · 13w



3



**Nikol Summerfield** **Robert Garcia** - thanks mayor - let me know if there is anything I can do to help.

Like · Reply · 13w



3



**Deborah Felin** **Robert Garcia** this is one of my soapbox issues. I would welcome a city sponsored promotion to encourage property owners and managers to make their units pet friendly. I have had rentals in another state for years and being pet friendly has resulted in more stable tenancy and less turnover. Responsible pet people make responsible, solid renters and are usually ok with extra deposit required. It is the right thing to do and good business, too.

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**Nikol Summerfield** **Deborah Felin** - thank you so much for this. I've been wanting to propose this for awhile but I was worried about the backlash from landlords.

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Like · Reply · 13w · Edited



12



**Nikol Summerfield** Deborah Felin - thank you so much for this. I've been wanting to propose this for awhile but I was worried about the backlash from landlords.

Like · Reply · 13w



2



**Robert Garcia** ✓ **Deborah Felin** - let's meet and discuss. Send me an email at [mayor@longbeach.gov](mailto:mayor@longbeach.gov). Would love to learn more.

Like · Reply · 13w



7



**Deborah Felin** **Robert Garcia** will do

1

Like · Reply · 13w



**Nikol Summerfield** This is Zaya. We adopted her from a rescue in February. If we would have waited it wouldn't have been possible. Our HOA is rewriting the bi-laws to include breed restrictions. Both huskies and German shepherds are on the list. We spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on our condo. It's unfair to restrict what breed of dog I have in it.

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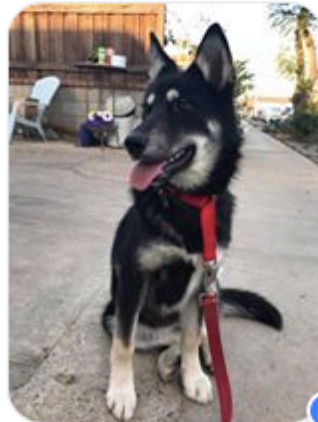
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Like · Reply · 13w



**David Martinez** Nikol Summerfield amazing insight...

Like · Reply · 13w



**Sheila Finch** When I owned rental property in Belmont Shore, I used to put out a "For Rent" sign that added I was willing to take cats. A wouldbe renter persuaded me to take a chance on his (big) dog and I did, with a damage deposit. We had no problems at all from this! After that, I advertised "pets welcome -- with damage deposit." The only tenant that lost her deposit was a lady

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Like · Reply · 13w



**Sheila Finch** Nikol Summerfield My condo association was considering restricting breeds because of the "noise issue." I managed to get them to see that the bigger breeds aren't the ones that whine and yap all day. Nor are they the ones that tend to bite when anxious.

Like · Reply · 13w · Edited



Write a reply...



**Mary Ellen Hobbs** Important to also note that impounds have gone down as well! Would love to see that number drastically reduced this year as well. To what do you attribute the decrease in that number?

Like · Reply · 13w



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**Mary Ellen Hobbs** Important to also note that impounds have gone down as well! Would love to see that number drastically reduced this year as well. To what do you attribute the decrease in that number?

Like · Reply · 13w



1



**Robert Garcia** ✓ We have some incredible animal spay/neuter groups and foster organizations that do much of this work. The shelter works with them and has programs like TnR, spay & neuter vouchers, etc.

Like · Reply · 13w · Edited



7



**Paul Napolitano** Robert Garcia Yes, like FIX LONG BEACH. Keep up the good work everyone. Lets get that number lower

Like · Reply · 13w



2



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Paul Napolitano - FIX LONG BEACH is amazing and I'm a huge fan. They deserve much of the credit for the numbers.

Like · Reply · 13w



3



Write a reply...



**Kim Sicklick Tankersley** Mayor, all due respect, I voted for you, and I'm disappointed. You're simply not doing enough. I have had 5 rescue pets over the years, no thanks to anything done by the City of Long Beach. Relying on small non-profits who depend on \$5 and \$10 donations is not a foster or adoption action plan... What is the plan?

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Like · Reply · 12w · Edited



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**Robert Garcia** ✓ Kim, thanks for reaching out. Our staff and volunteers work hard at the shelter. We have dramatically reduced euthanasia thanks to so many animal rescue and organization partnerships. We have launched new programs, opened up mobile and off site adoption centers, and the numbers show progress. The audit I commissioned is halfway done and we are beginning to implement the recommendations. A lot has been done and a lot more needs to get done. The team at the shelter works hard, and we hiring new staff as well. Thanks for having the rescue pets.

Like · Reply · 12w · Edited



**Kim Sicklick Tankersley** Thanks for your response. Still 1,100 dogs and cats killed last year. We need to do better...

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Like · Reply · 12w · Edited



**Kim Sicklick Tankersley** Thanks for your response. Still 1,100 dogs and cats killed last year. We need to do better...



Like · Reply · 12w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Kim Sicklick Tankersley and we are. 2018 will have less and we will keep working until we

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Robert Garcia ✓ Kim Sicklick Tankersley and we are. 2018 will have less and we will keep working until we save every possible life.

Like · Reply · 12w



Write a reply...



Nancy LeLacheur Huntington Should be zero with more time spent on adoptions.

Like · Reply · 13w



Robert Garcia ✓ I agree Nancy, it should be zero. I hope you can agree that there is significant progress being made.

Like · Reply · 13w



Nancy LeLacheur Huntington I do. Just wish it was a no kill shelter and more people were responsible pet owners.

Like · Reply · 13w



Brandy Gaunt And I wish we had a city government that would give LBACS enough resources to actually hire a volunteer or foster coordinator.

Like · Reply · 13w



Robert Garcia ✓ Brandy Gaunt - we've actually increased resources at LBACS and they are currently hiring 3 new positions. We expect we will need to make

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**Brandy Gaunt** And I wish we had a city government that would give LBACS enough resources to actually hire a volunteer or foster coordinator.

Like · Reply · 13w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ **Brandy Gaunt** - we've actually increased resources at LBACS and they are currently hiring 3 new positions. We expect we will need to make additional investments to meet the audit recommendations.

Like · Reply · 13w



**Brandy Gaunt** **Robert Garcia** that is excellent news that most of us were unaware of! Thank you!

Like · Reply · 13w



**Tracy Smith** **Robert Garcia** What are the new positions? I've been hearing "we're going to do this" and "we're going to do that" for 4 years.

Like · Reply · 13w



**Kate Simon** Tracy Smith look at [Long Beach.gov](#) jobs. I've seen 2 recent postings, one animal care attendant and Transport Assist. meaning non-profits and rescue coord. assistant .

Like · Reply · 12w



Write a reply...



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**Kate Simon** Tracy Smith look at Long Beach.gov jobs. I've seen 2 recent postings, one animal care attendant and Transport Assist. meaning non-profits and rescue coord. assistant .

Like · Reply · 12w



Write a reply...



**April Smith Devane** Hi Robert...I would like very much to be considered for your task force. Looking forward to hearing from your office and hopefully being a part of the team.

Like · Reply · 13w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ April, I was already thinking about you serving.

Like · Reply · 13w



**April Smith Devane** Robert Garcia ...thanks much!

Like · Reply · 13w



**Allison Kripp** 🙌👍👍!!!!

Like · Reply · 13w



**Tamara N Sal Lopez** Yes.

Like · Reply · 13w



Write a reply...



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Like · Reply · 13w



Tamara N Sal Lopez Yes.

Like · Reply · 13w



Write a reply...



Bianca Cole I am so grateful to the Animal Care Department in Long Beach because rather than euthanize a sweet stray cat who had lost an eye, they used their limited resources to perform surgery and prepare him for adoption. I love my rescue cat! Thank you LB ❤️🐾

Like · Reply · 13w



8



Bianca Cole



4

Like · Reply · 13w



Robert Garcia ✓ Thank you!



3

Like · Reply · 13w

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Robert Garcia ✓ Thank you! 3

Like · Reply · 13w



Write a reply...



**Molly Martens** Robert Garcia the percentage of animals euthanized in LB in 2017 was still DOUBLE that of the city of LA. Long Beach euthanized 18% of their dog and cat intake, while the city of LA euthanized around 9% of their dog and cat intake in 2017. Although [City of Long Beach Animal Care Services](#) has seen some improvement since 2014 (and every life saved makes a difference!), we're still nowhere near the incredible progress made by [LA Animal Services](#) (thanks to [NKLA](#) and [Best Friends Animal Society](#))

I was thrilled your office took the initiative to conduct the audit and look forward to seeing some of their recommendations implemented ASAP. In particular, I'd love to see a foster program at LBACS!

Like · Reply · 13w · Edited



5



Robert Garcia ✓ Thanks Molly - we can still make significant progress and I expect even better results this year.

Like · Reply · 13w



**PJ Goedhals** Molly, I had someone (who works at NKLA in San Pedro) tell me that if they euthanize a feral cat it doesn't count towards the overall kill stats.

They also told me that every year, ~ 500 000 cats and dogs will end up in shelters in LA County. Not sure how

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They also told me that every year, ~ 500 000 cats and dogs will end up in Shelters in LA County. Not sure how true those statements are, hopefully they are false... 🙄

Like · Reply · 13w



**Kym Cloughesy** PJ - I am not so sure that the person you spoke with is with Best Friends and NKLA, as they do not have an adoption center in San Pedro. The NKLA adoption center is in West Los Angeles and the Best Friends Adoption Center is in Mission Hills.

Like · Reply · 13w



**Kym Cloughesy** I would like to encourage the mayor, as well as community leaders, city council members and LBACS staff to attend the Best Friends National No-Kill conference this year. It is being held in Los Angeles in July. It is a three day conference that is absolutely amazing and inspiring.

Like · Reply · 13w



Write a reply...



**Carolyn Riley** Here's my little girl- thanks to a local TnR rescue group she found her way to my door and into our hearts ❤️

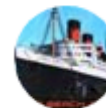
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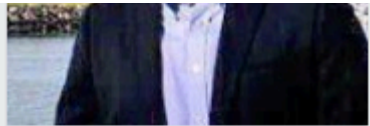
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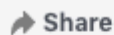
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Like · Reply · 13w



2



Write a reply...



**Carolyn Riley** Here's my little girl- thanks to a local TnR rescue group she found her way to my door and into our hearts ❤️



5

Like · Reply · 13w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ She's beautiful. Thank you.



1

Like · Reply · 13w



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**Robert Garcia** ✓ She's beautiful. Thank you.  1




Like · Reply · 13w




**Jenny Waldkirch Sersion** makes me sad to think we were euthanizing over 6,600 in 2005 😞 makes me sick to my stomach


Like · Reply · 13w  2




**Robert Garcia** ✓ The numbers back then were horrific. It's important to acknowledge the progress - but not be satisfied until we can save every life possible.    12


Like · Reply · 13w



**Jenny Waldkirch Sersion** **Robert Garcia** I completely agree, every life is important! We need to do better.  3

Like · Reply · 13w




**Denise Walters** Those numbers are down primarily due to the selfless rescues that are full to the brim with animals. My senior dog would have been euthanized in a heartbeat if LiveLove rescue hadn't pulled her.  8

Like · Reply · 13w




**Jenny Waldkirch Sersion** yes, the rescues play a HUGE part... I foster baby kittens for Little Lion Foundation   4


Like · Reply · 13w



**Aostara Kaye** I also foster kittens - over 350 underaged kittens were killed at LBACS last year just for being under

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**Jenny Waldkirch Sersion** yes, the rescues play a HUGE part... I foster baby kittens for Little Lion Foundation

Like · Reply · 13w



4



**Aostara Kaye** I also foster kittens - over 350 underage kittens were killed at LBACS last year just for being under 2 pounds. Hoping to hear good news about programs like an underage foster program and a kitten nursery someday soon!

Like · Reply · 13w



4



**Allison Kripp** Fantastic

Like · Reply · 13w



**Rebecca Mellaci** Denise Walters agreed



1

Like · Reply · 13w



**Kym Cloughesy** Aostara - kitten nursery programs will be a topic discussed at the Best Friends conference in July.

Like · Reply · 13w



1



Write a reply...



**Cindy Gutierrez** It is a good start- but not enough!!! Long Beach shouldn't rest until it is zero kill

Like · Reply · 13w



5



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Like I said in my post above, it's not enough and we continue to work. Thanks.

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**Cindy Gutierrez** It is a good start- but not enough!!! Long Beach shouldn't rest until it is zero kill

Like · Reply · 13w



5



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Like I said in my post above, it's not enough and we continue to work. Thanks.

Like · Reply · 13w



2



Write a reply...



**Michael Witt** Kizzie and Kofi. Both rescued from the Long Beach shelter. ❤️



16

Like · Reply · 13w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Amazing and thank you!

Like · Reply · 13w

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**Michael Witt** Kizzie and Kofi. Both rescued from the Long Beach shelter. ❤️



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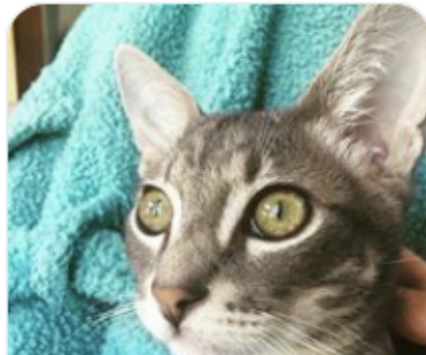


**Robert Garcia** ✓ Amazing and thank you! 🍷 1

Like · Reply · 13w



**Tara Sievers** Adopted from LB shelter a few years ago 😊



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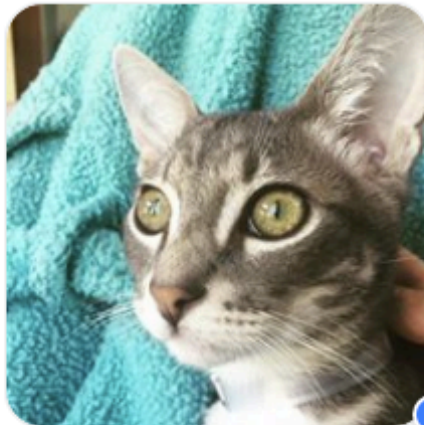
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**Tara Sievers** Adopted from LB shelter a few years ago 😊



8

Like · Reply · 13w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Adorable. Thank you! 🍷 4

Like · Reply · 13w



**Douglas Jarvie** Still 1,065 too many 😞 10

Like · Reply · 13w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ I agree with you completely. And our goal is to get that number even lower in 2018 until we have reformed the shelter in a way that saves every life possible.

Like · Reply · 13w



6



**Beverly Leifer** We can do it with robust, independent adoption and foster programs at the shelter. The rescues

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Like · Reply · 13w

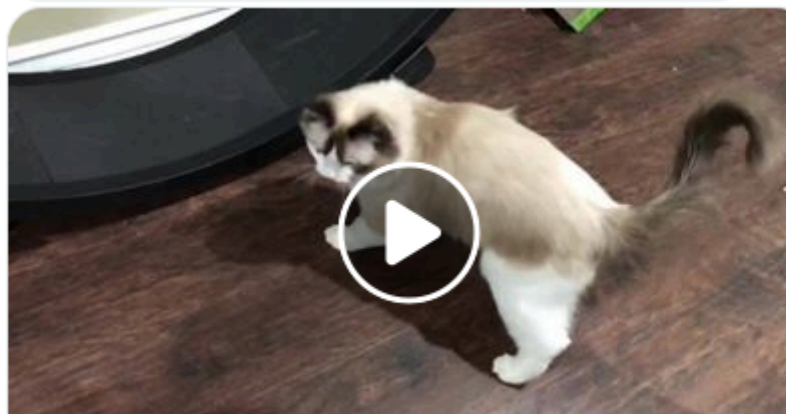


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**Beverly Leifer** We can do it with robust, independent adoption and foster programs at the shelter. The rescues and Fix Long Beach have taken the heavy load for too long. Who know how long they can sustain what they have been doing on their own. Too many dog rescues have already shut down because they couldn't continue. The shelter itself needs to do more.

I'd also like to know the reasons for euthanasia's of each animal killed. I was able to pull a cat that was about 2 years old and healthy that was estimated to be 12 years old and diagnosed with possible cancer or IBD by shelter vet, who also recommended rescue only for hospice or to be killed. Incompetence at its worse. Here's a video of Seltzer (now Manny) showing "a cat on his deathbed?"



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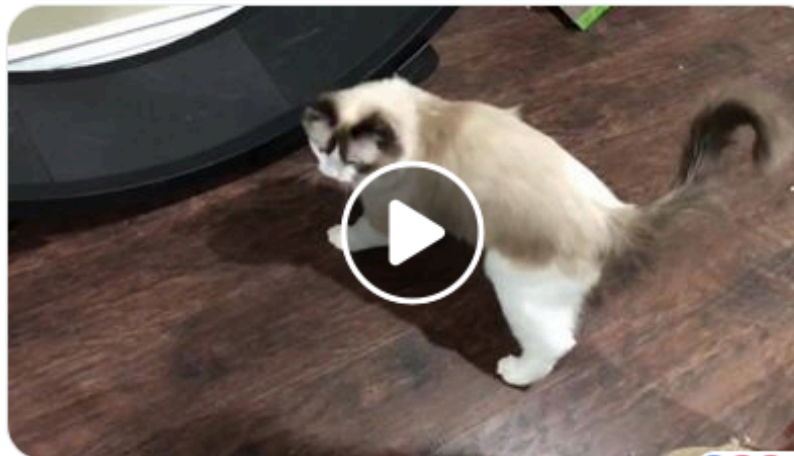
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Like · Reply · 13w



**Aostara Kaye** Over 350 of the 1065 were kittens under two months old. Cat rescues overflow early in kitten season every year - fosters take on litter after litter of babies to bottle feed. we need a foster program at LBACS, and we need policies so that bridges stop being burned with rescues - when SPCA-LA gets first pick of all the cute and healthy animals - even over Adopters! - rescues stop working with LBACS and animals are killed needlessly.



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Like · Reply · 13w



Write a reply...



**Marsha Naify** Thank you Mayor Garcia



Like · Reply · 13w

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Marsha Naify Thank you Mayor Garcia



5

Like · Reply · 13w



Robert Garcia ✓ Love those two ❤️❤️



2

Like · Reply · 13w · Edited



Mayra Galutza Still 1,065 too many. 🍷



2

Like · Reply · 13w



Robert Garcia ✓ I agree. But glad we went from over 4,000 to 1,065. Now we are working to get that number even lower.



1

Like · Reply · 13w



Mayra Galutza Robert Garcia Thank you. Keep up the good work.



1

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**Robert Garcia** ✓ I agree. But glad we went from over 4,000 to 1,065. Now we are working to get that number even lower.

Like · Reply · 13w



1



**Mayra Galutza** Robert Garcia Thank you. Keep up the good work.

Like · Reply · 13w



1



**Tracy Smith** You need an adoption program, you need a foster program, you need better hours at the shelter. All of these recommendations have been made. The kill rate could improve a lot faster if proactive measures were taken years ago, yesterday, today or tomorrow.

Like · Reply · 13w



6



Write a reply...



**Sheila Gibbons** Keep going

Like · Reply · 13w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ Yup. Progress every single year, that's the goal.

Like · Reply · 13w



2



**Alexandra Rineberg** This is amazing progress! ❤️ ...

Like · Reply · 13w



3

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**Alexandra Rineberg** This is amazing progress! ❤️

Like · Reply · 13w



**Robert Garcia** ✓ It really is. We have so many rescue, foster, and spay & neuter groups that do great work and partner with our shelter.

Like · Reply · 13w · Edited



Write a reply...



**David Martinez** This is Sugar, found 12 years ago in North Long Beach, starving under a car... she protects our home and is the best company!



Like · Reply · 13w · Edited



**John Novak** That is REAL progress, you should all be proud.

Like · Reply · 13w



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**John Novak** That is REAL progress, you should all be proud.

Like · Reply · 13w

4



**Keith Krupp** Something to be very proud of. Kudos to all involved!

Like · Reply · 13w

2



**Lucy Bal** Great job LB!!! Keep up the good work Robert Garcia 🙌🙌🙌

Like · Reply · 13w

1



**Herlinda Serret Hernandez** Awesome, great news.

Like · Reply · 13w

3



**Brandy Wayne** i'm interested in serving! 🙌

Like · Reply · 13w

1



**Tiffany Thompson** Bravo! 🙌🙌🙌

Like · Reply · 13w

1



**Aurelie Vanderhoek** Mr Mayor , let's start by changing this sign ...SPCALA has nothing to do with this portion of the building ...let's label it what it is so the public understands that this is the entrance to the Long Beach shelter ...where if you surrender an animal , it can be euthanized for space ... The conditions in this building have nothing to compare with the conditions on the other side , the SPCALA adoption building

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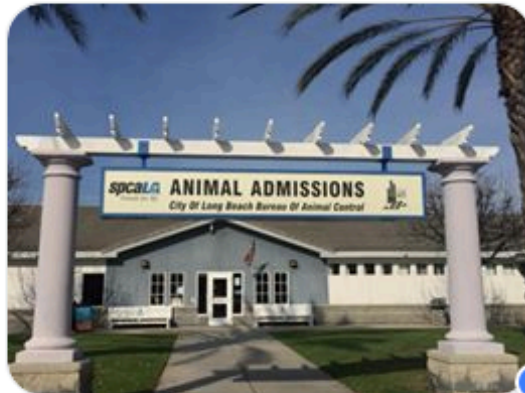
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The conditions in this building have nothing to compare with the conditions on the other side , the SPCALA adoption building where no animal are ever threatened to be put down ...unless of course they decide to reject it because it is not " adoptable enough" and then it goes back to the shelter ....people need to know these things ....



13

Like · Reply · 13w · Edited



**Beverly Leifer** SpcaLA is NOT a no-kill Shelter.

4

Like · Reply · 13w



Write a reply...



**Beverly Leifer** Mr Mayor, I'd like more details about the task force. Will there be focus on the audit recommendations?

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Beverly Leifer SpcaLA is NOT a no-kill Shelter.

Like · Reply · 13w 4

Write a reply...



Mr Mayor, I'd like more details about the task force. Will they be focusing only on the audit recommendations? How will members be selected? Will only those involved in rescue be allowed in the task force? What about those not involved but are interested in the welfare of shelter animals? Will the city pronounce an intention to become a no-kill city and shelter?

The definition of no-kill is to not kill healthy, adoptable pets, or those that are not severely ill, like kittens with ringworms.

Like · Reply · 13w 3



Beverly, I'm sure we'll see the same clique of people we always see. And indeed, a commitment to No-Kill in the form of a resolution would go a long way to turning things around at the shelter.

Like · Reply · 13w 2



Write a reply...

A big problem with pet rentals poked it's ugly head up around 2012 (or, that's when it became very apparent that our adoptions were lacking) when landlords not only

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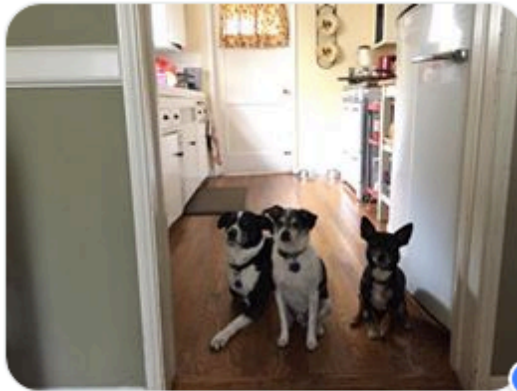
**Kristie Mamelli** A big problem with pet rentals poked it's ugly head up around 2012 (or, that's when it became very apparent that our adoptions were lacking) when landlords not only charged the pet deposit (the best way), but they started charging an extra monthly amount for each pet. This made it difficult for renters to afford most of those places and the renters just moved out of the area. I think a security deposit is enough, and this monthly fee per pet is taking advantage of pet owners. There ought to be a way to regulate this.

Like · Reply · 11w

2



**Stacey Fancher Morrison** Here's our three — all adopted through spcala. They are our family. I would interested in serving. I'll reach out to your office.



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9



**Kimba Anderson** So CUTE!

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Jenny Waldkirch Sersion did you know that SPCALA is NOT Long Beach Animal Care Services... two separate places  
Like · Reply · 13w · Edited 5

Stacey Fancher Morrison YES! I know that. I link them together as a matter of convenience.  
Like · Reply · 13w 2


Beverly Leifer Too many people don't realize the difference between the two entities. Hats a major problem.  
Like · Reply · 13w


Write a reply... 🗨️ 📷 GIF 🗨️

Roben Rutherford Alarcón This is great news - thank you!  
Like · Reply · 13w 4

Veronica Egan Robert Garcia any updates on the task force ? Its been 2 months already  
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**Veronica Egan** Robert Garcia any updates on the task force ? Its been 2 months already

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**Aostara Kaye** Dear Mr. Mayor - using numbers from Ted, I was able to put together this more detailed look at the 2017 outcomes from LBACS. Thought you might like to see how it all breaks down. <https://public.tableau.com/profile/aostara.kaye...>

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**PJ Goedhals** Sunny Rae

Like · Reply · 13w



**Kristie Mamelli** Here is a community that services 30,000 annually and they have reached No Kill. This is what it looks like:

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**PJ Goedhals** Sunny Rae

Like · Reply · 13w



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