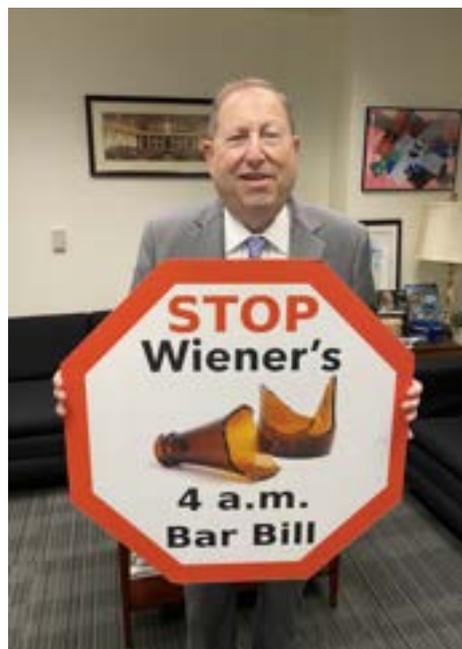




September 1, 2022

Dear Friends,

I am relieved to let you know that the latest version of the “4 AM Bar Bill” was defeated last week in the State Assembly. Since 2013 there have been five versions of bills authored by State Senator Scott Wiener that would allow bars and nightclubs to extend drinking hours from 2AM to 4AM, grossly endangering the safety of Californians and doing so without any added financial provisions to help boost public safety from compounded late-night drinking. I have worked to stop each one of these bills with the knowledge that Los Angeles would pay dearly in public safety and human lives for the profits of a few bars, restaurants and clubs.



This latest version, SB 930 was rewritten as a "pilot project" in 7 cities: San Francisco,

Oakland, West Hollywood, Cathedral City, Coachella, Palm Springs and Fresno. Los Angeles was excluded from the list, I believe due to our City's repeated dissension on previous versions of the bill, the author was possibly hoping we would then just allow it to go through. Fresno soon after requested to be removed from the bill due to intense opposition and concerns among Fresno city leaders who then passed a formal resolution of opposition.

The truth is that this bill threatened public safety in Los Angeles - MORE than before because it not only put consumers of alcohol in more danger but also all the innocent bystanders that would have been impacted. Current data shows that we could expect a SPLASH effect of more DUIs, more drunk driving and more deaths in L.A. because drivers are willing to drive up to 40 miles from their Place of Last Drink (POLD) to and from West Hollywood which increases their chances for an accident the more time that they are on the road. According to the Berkeley Safe Transportation Research and Education Center, the greatest number of alcohol-involved fatal and severe injuries in California are already concentrated in Los Angeles County.

Last month, I once again led the effort to pass a resolution of opposition by the Los Angeles City Council that was reinforced by a letter of opposition from the Los Angeles County Democratic Party to send a strong message to Sacramento that carving LA out of the bill was not going to make us safer or less strongly opposed.

Thank you to the Alcohol Justice Coalition, the California Highway Patrol, and the leadership of 31 Assemblymembers who stood together and voted NO for the safety of Californians.



Excessive Heat Warning

The National Weather Service has issued an excessive heat warning for Southern California that is expected to continue through Labor Day. Temperatures could reach up to 112 degrees in the San Fernando Valley, while hovering just below triple digits closer to the coast.

While temperatures will be cooler in the beach cities, in the 80s, all inland areas will experience hotter temperatures, even on the Westside. Please also note that during an extended heat wave, levels of ground-level ozone, aka smog, are likely to be unusually high.

As such, Mayor Eric Garcetti has announced the opening of nine cooling centers in the City of Los Angeles, including Westwood Recreation Center at [1350 S Sepulveda Blvd](#), and urged Angelenos to also take advantage of libraries, Recreation and Parks facilities, and senior centers to escape dangerous temperatures in the upcoming days. The City's recreation and senior centers and libraries will be open during regular operating hours. Information on hydration stations and tips for staying cool is available at [emergency.lacity.org/heat](#) or by calling 311. In addition, the State's power grid manager has issued a Flex Alert urging residents to voluntarily conserve as much electricity as possible from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

And finally, **don't forget your animals**. I have made sure to include hot weather tips for caring for your pets at the bottom of this newsletter.

Paul



City Hall and LAX Iconic Pylons Glow Purple for International Overdose Awareness Day (8/31)



Last night, for the third year in a row, Los Angeles City Hall and the iconic LAX pylons were illuminated in purple lights for [International Overdose Awareness Day](#), a global event held annually on August 31st that aims to raise awareness of overdose and reduce the stigma of

drug-related death. It also acknowledges the grief felt by those who have lost loved ones to overdose and letting them know they are not alone.

Yesterday, Councilmember Koretz invited Juli Shamash, founder of the [Drug Awareness Foundation](#), to speak at City Council and share how she lost her 19 year old son, Tyler, to drug overdose compounded by fentanyl poisoning. She and her family gathered up their heartbreak and dedicated themselves to a mission working to promote drug abuse awareness, overdose prevention, and to provide resources and support for others who want to put on awareness events in their neighborhoods. [Please watch Councilmember Koretz's presentation on the importance of Overdose Awareness here.](#)

Because of Juli's advocacy, the California legislature has passed [SB 864, aka "Tyler's Law,"](#) requiring acute care hospitals and the hospital conducts a urine drug screening to assist in diagnosing the patient's condition, the hospital shall include testing for fentanyl in the urine drug screening treating a person who is receiving a urine drug screening to also include testing for fentanyl. Current routine drug screens do not capture fentanyl use and many patients are unaware that they are using fentanyl, as it has been found in methamphetamine, cocaine, and counterfeit versions of drugs such as Xanax.

Overdose is now the leading cause of death for Americans ages 18-50. No one in America is immune from stories like Juli and Tyler's devastating story because addiction and overdose do not discriminate. They effect families from every race, religion, and socioeconomic group. Drug deaths for 15-24 year olds have increased 52% from 2019 to 2020 and 14-18 year olds drug deaths have increased 92%. This is because fentanyl is being put into every illicit drug and it only takes 3 grains to kill you. These drugs are available on social media and can be delivered to your house like a pizza.

Overdose and fentanyl poisoning affects those suffering from substance use disorder as well as recreational and first time users. No one is immune. In fact just yesterday the Drug Enforcement Administration sent of an advisory of an alarming emerging trend of colorful fentanyl available across the United States. Dubbed "rainbow fentanyl" in the media, this trend appears to be a new method used by drug cartels to sell highly addictive and potentially deadly fentanyl made to look like candy to children and young people.

If you, or someone you know, is struggling with addiction, please remember that you are not alone and please keep talking about the dangers of addiction and fentanyl.

Please visit <https://drugawarenessfoundation.com/> for more information.

City Council to Vote on Next Step Toward Implementation of City's Local Business Preference Program (Measure BB) TOMORROW (9/2)

On June 7, 2022, Angelenos resoundingly passed Measure BB, authored by Councilmember Koretz, which amends the City Charter to add “City of Los Angeles” to the definition of “local” in Section 371a. of the Charter, thereby permitting the City to implement an additional contracting bid preference for businesses that are located in the City of Los Angeles.

Currently, businesses operating in the City of LA, paying City of Los Angeles wages, City of Los Angeles rents, City of Los Angeles insurance, and City of Los Angeles business tax, receive the same point preference on bids to do business with the City as businesses operating in Santa Clarita or Lancaster. The result is that during the 2018-19 full fiscal year before the COVID-19 pandemic, only 7%, or one in fifteen, local business enterprise awards went to City of LA businesses (and less than 1% of the dollars awarded) as a result of the City's Local Business Preference Program.

Tomorrow (Friday), the City Council will vote on the next step in the process by opening the City's financial purse and contracting dollars to local businesses in order to help LA business community regain some of the stability they had before the pandemic.

Monkeypox Awareness and Vaccine Updates



LA County Department of Public Health has been updating their Monkeypox webpage when more information becomes available.

- The Eligibility List for vaccinations is available on the Monkeypox webpage. Those who **are eligible for vaccination can sign up online using the [vaccination portal](#)**

Last week, [Los Angeles County Department of Public Health](#) provided an update on Monkeypox and vaccinations to the LA City Council. Medical Director Dr. Nava Yeganeh and members from her team discussed the County's current testing procedures along with their vaccination administration and treatment. Due to the increased spread of monkeypox in Los Angeles, Councilmember Koretz introduced a resolution that encourages the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to secure additional vaccines along with establishing reimbursement levels for monkeypox testing, vaccine administration, and treatment, including uninsured residents in Los Angeles.

- LA County Department of Public Health has a [resource page](#) where you can find flyers on Monkeypox guidance including:
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [How to Get Tested for Monkeypox](#)
- [Know the Signs of Monkeypox](#)
- [Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#)
- [Pet Frequently Asked Questions](#)

MONKEYPOX VACCINE UPDATE

Although monkeypox vaccine supply remains low, LA County will begin administering **second doses**.

Residents who received their first dose more than 28 days ago can:

- Contact their healthcare provider if they received their first doses through them.
- If they registered through the Public Health system and were vaccinated at a Public Health location, they will receive a text message with instructions on where to receive their second dose.

For additional information, visit ph.lacounty.gov/monkeypox or call 833-540-0473.

Wildlife District Ordinance Comment Period Now Closed



The City Planning Department has held numerous public information meetings since 2018 on the Wildlife District Ordinance that Councilmember Koretz introduced as a motion in 2014 that aims to protect wildlife connectivity in the eastern Santa Monica Mountains between the 101 freeway on the east and the 405 to the west.

The public comment period for LA City Planning is closed and the department is now reviewing all comments and compiling a staff report including revisions to the Ordinance. A Planning Commission meeting is expected to be scheduled some time in September or October which will be another opportunity for public comments.

You can review the [draft ordinance](#) text as well as the [FAQ](#) focused on the impacts to [Biodiversity](#) of the draft ordinance as well as the [science](#) this effort is based upon.

Councilmember Koretz asked his Communications Director Alison Simard to address the benefits of our proposed wildlife habitat connectivity ordinance on City Channel 35's "LA This Week". The video is available to watch [here](#).



Los Angeles City Councilmember Paul Koretz Seeks Options for Fully Funding the City's Department of Animal Services Amidst Staff Shortage

Councilmember Koretz last week introduced a [motion](#) calling for a report from the Department of Animal Services, the CAO, the CLA, and other relevant departments and stakeholders to determine the Department's budgetary needs to fully staff the City's seven animal shelters, including programmatic and departmental administrative needs.

The Department of Animal Services (LAAS) is one of the few City Departments whose staff is directly responsible for the care of living beings, and for the 2022-23 fiscal year it has only received enough funding from the City's General Fund to fully operate four animal shelters, despite having to operate six. The City and DAS have faced periodic surges of COVID-19 causing staffing shortages and hindering the necessary coverage to properly care for the animals at the shelters.

"While the Department has been able to maintain a high live-release rate, especially for dogs and cats, the Department has not been able to obtain the budget it needs for staffing," said Councilmember Koretz. "This summer our shelters, volunteers, and animals have felt the brunt of staffing shortages and we need to address this issue through formal budgeting. This motion is the first step to identifying sustainable long-term solutions and relief for our shelters and animals. While the current problems are more acute, this is a Department that has NEVER been provided with an adequate budget."

The motion calls for the City departments to report back in 60 days to the City Council. Among the options suggested are considering a percentage of the City's annual General Fund expenditures, exploration of funding options including parcel tax, sales tax, general obligation bonds to obtain funding goals, and the possible creation of an oversight committee. In related news, Los Angeles Animal Services has announced that they will also partner with Wallis Annenberg PetSpace to begin a dual-pronged approach to help ensure the more than 1,000 dogs currently in city shelters are getting enrichment and exercise every day, and that animals are finding homes more quickly.

First, starting September 1, PetSpace will fund two new Canine Enrichment Coordinator positions within LA Animal Services. Second, also in September, PetSpace will begin a six-

month program of hosting weekly spay/neuter surgeries at their Playa Vista facility for LA Animal Services animals. (LA Animal Services animals must be spayed/neutered before they're adoptable.)

PetSpace's support will enable LA Animal Services to engage Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL), one of the nation's most respected and progressive dog behavior programs in the nation, with a mission to enhance the quality of life of shelter dogs to increase life-saving. Also, DPFL has proven metrics on the life-saving benefits of "playgroups" for kenneled animals, and on the methods for training staff and volunteers in establishing and conducting these ongoing enrichment activities.



LAUSD Kids Ride Free with Metro GoPass



With a registered [GoPass TAP card](#), students attending LAUSD schools can ride Metro and other participating systems to and from school, and for trips after school and on weekends. Using public transit to get to and from school has never been easier!

For more fare information and program details please visit Metro online at <https://www.metro.net/riding/fares/>

UCLA SAFE Centers Now Open for Household Hazardous Waste

1-800-773-2489



S.A.F.E. CENTER
 SOLVENTS | AUTOMOTIVE | FLAMMABLES | ELECTRONICS

Visit your local SAFE Center to safely and conveniently drop off electronic waste and household hazardous waste, including SHARPS.

UCLA SAFE Center
 550 Charles E. Young Drive, West LA
 Thursday-Sunday 8:00am to 2:00pm
 (electronic waste only on Saturdays)

lacitysan.org/safecenters



The Los Angeles Sanitation & Environment UCLA SAFE Center will reopen on Thursdays to collect household hazardous waste from residents.

Starting on September 1st, the UCLA SAFE Center operating schedule will be: Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Electronic Waste is accepted on Saturdays ONLY



Join the LA BioBlitz Challenge Throughout September

LA BioBlitz Challenge
 Explore • Observe • Connect
 September 1-30

Access to biodiversity is closer than you may think. More than 56% of the Los Angeles city population is within half a mile of a park or open space. Take a walk around your neighborhood

or local park to find and photograph animals, insects and plants for the #LABioBlitz Challenge.

To help protect and support wildlife in the City of Los Angeles, participants are encouraged to crowdsource photographs of animals, insects, and plants around their homes, neighborhoods, parks, and other areas across the city using the [iNaturalist app](#).

The observations contributed to the challenge will help map the city's existing native biodiversity, and assist researchers in determining the distribution of wildlife and health of the environment.

Upload at least 10 observations - including three or more indicator species and at least one observation in a data cold spot to complete the #LABioBlitz Challenge and qualify for a prize drawing. Please visit lapl.com/bioblitz to learn more..

Community Feedback Session for County Library Customers



Los Angeles libraries provide a wealth of resources and services for the community beyond educational materials. One of the benefits of living in Los Angeles is that we have both a City Library System (www.lapl.org) and a County Library System (LACountyLibrary.org) available in Los Angeles as well as adjacent cities from West Hollywood to Beverly Hills to Culver City that are amazing!

County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl will be hosting a live virtual Community Feedback Session with LA County Library on **September 26 at 5:30 pm** for library customers in the County's 3rd District.

Participants will also have an opportunity to win LA County Library swag, a Kindle, or gift cards generously donated by LA County Library Foundation.

[Click here to RSVP](#) for the Community Feedback Session and share your thoughts on services and programs via real-time polls and a virtual chat.

Help shape the future of LA County Library and RSVP today!



CBS Television City Draft EIR Comment Period Extended



Hackman Capital Partners, which purchased the CBS Television City property at the corner of Beverly and Fairfax from CBS in 2019, is proposing a major redevelopment of the site while preserving the historic building and features on the site. The proposed project would include additional studio sound stages and production facilities. The proposal is currently going through the city's entitlement process and a Draft Environmental Impact Report was recently published. In response to some comments from the community, and with the support of the applicant, Councilmember Koretz requested a 15-day extension of the public comment period from the Department of City Planning. The comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Report will now close on September 13, 2022. The Councilmember encourages the public to provide input on the project. For details on how to provide comment and other project information, see [here](#).

Repaving Westwood Blvd.



StreetsLA crews 152 & 156 are in the process of finishing up paving a portion of a resurfacing project on Westwood Blvd from Exposition Blvd to National Place.

A big thank you to the incredible StreetsLA team who have worked on this resurfacing project along Westwood Blvd and are improving the streets in the Fifth Council District.

Hot Weather Tips for Your Pets



When the temperature begins to climb in the Southland, don't forget that your furry friends need some extra assistance to help them stay cool and healthy. Your companion animals are less efficient at cooling themselves than humans. Dogs and cats can only cool their bodies by perspiring from their nose and footpads and by panting. But panting very hot air only accelerates

heatstroke. By taking some simple precautions, you can keep your companion animals happy and healthy when the temperature soars.

- **Do not leave your companion animal alone in the car. Not only is it dangerous, it is now illegal in California.** [Senate Bill 1806](#) which became law January 1, 2007, says no animal may be left unattended in a vehicle under conditions that “endanger the health or well-being of an animal due to heat, cold, lack of adequate ventilation, lack of food or water, or other circumstances that could reasonably be expected to cause suffering, disability, or death to the animal.” Companion animal guardians who leave their animals unattended under dangerous conditions could face fines, jail time or both.
- **Reserve playtime and walks for the cool of the early morning or evening**, but never after a meal or when the weather is humid.
- **When the temperature is very high, don’t let your dog stand on hot asphalt.** Paw pads can easily blister and burn. Keep walks during these times to a minimum.
- If possible, keep your dog or cat inside in a cool part of the house,. Areas with tile floors are generally the coolest.
- Provide plenty of fresh water for all of your animals and move companion animal beds to shady areas, both indoors and out.

Be especially sensitive to senior and overweight cats and dogs in hot weather. Short muzzled dogs such as Bulldogs, Mastiffs, Pugs, Boston terriers, Lhasa Apsos and Shih Tzus, as well as those with heart or lung diseases, have more difficulty breathing during hot, humid days and should be kept cool in air-conditioned rooms as much as possible.

- **Don’t shave your companion animals** thinking that it will keep them cooler. Their fur protects them against sunburn and helps prevent overheating. Cats should be brushed often.
- When companion animals do go outside, **protect against sunburn by rubbing hypo-allergenic sunscreen on sensitive areas like the belly and ear tips.** Light colored noses or ears are especially susceptible to sunburn and skin cancer. Do not apply any sunscreen to your companion animal that is not labeled specifically for use on animals.
- **Be aware of the signs of heat stress in your companion animals** which include heavy panting, glazed eyes, rapid pulse, unsteadiness, staggering gait, vomiting or a deep red or purple tongue.

Hot weather tips for rabbits:

- Keep rabbits indoors on days that exceed 80 degrees.
- Keep rabbits indoors with the air conditioning on. Place frozen bottles of water in their hutch to help keep cool and make sure they have plenty of water accessible.
- Put a ceramic tile or marble slab in the corner of your rabbit's enclosure. The tile will provide a cool spot for your rabbit to lay on. To treat an overheated rabbit, wipe cool water

on their ears and wrap their head in a cool wet towel before taking them to a veterinarian.

If you do notice signs of heat stress, immediately:

Lower your companion animal's body temperature by moving the animal to the shade and applying cool (not cold) water over its body to gradually lower body temperature. Apply ice packs or cold towels only to a companion animal's head, neck and chest or have companion animals drink small amounts of cool water or lick ice cubes. This is a medical emergency, take your companion animal to a veterinarian as soon as possible.

LA ANIMAL SERVICES
LAANIMALSERVICES.COM
1-888-452-7381

Hot Weather Pet Safety Tips



Don't leave your pets in a hot car.



Don't leave your pets outdoors for a long time.



Avoid hot surfaces.



Give your pets extra water.



Know the signs of overheating.

[@LAAnimalServices](#) [@laanimalservices](#) [@lacitypets](#)

LA ANIMAL SERVICES
RABBIT HOT WEATHER SAFETY TIPS

Rabbit Hot Weather Safety Tips

Keep your rabbit cool on days that reach or exceed 80° F.
Keeping rabbits indoors with the air conditioning on, and also place frozen bottles of water in their hutch that will help them cool off. Make sure to keep their regular water easily accessible.



Put a ceramic tile or marble slab in the corner of your rabbit's living area.
The tile will provide a cool spot for your bunny to lie on. You can also cool the tile off in your fridge or freezer to make it even cooler.



What to do when your rabbit becomes overheated.
Wipe cool water on their ears and wrap their head in a cool wet towel before taking them to your veterinarian.



[@LAAnimalServices](#) [@laanimalservices](#) [@lacitypets](#)

Here to Serve

My staff and I can be reached by phone at **213-473-7005** (City Hall) or **323-866-1828** (District Office) and via email paul.koretz@lacity.org. Also, feel free to email the staff member you wish to contact directly [here](#).

Councilmember Paul Koretz

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