



October 28, 2022

Dear Friends,

The work to help the City heal continues. This week I served as Vice-Chair on the newly created Ad-Hoc Censure committee in response to the recent City Hall scandals. Per the Committee's recommendations, the Los Angeles City Council moved to censure Councilmembers Kevin de Leon, Gil Cedillo and Nury Martinez for their harmful remarks that have caused emotional and psychological damage. There is financial harm, too, as we've seen from the multi-million dollar price tag attached to the special election we're going to need for at least one council district.

My staff and I have spent time talking about those Councilmembers' harmful actions and its reflection on LA's leadership and we are all reeling – hurt, angry, and incredibly disappointed. Based on the conversations I've been having outside of my office, so are the residents of the Fifth Council District, and Angelenos throughout the City of LA. With this censure we are saying Kevin de Leon and Gil Cedillo must resign.

You can watch my full speech on the censure vote here on my [Facebook page by clicking here](#).



We have heard the deafening from members of the public who have held demonstrations in City Council chambers demanding that we stop our City Council business until Councilmembers Gil Cedillo and de Leon step down. While I have been consistent in my call for their resignations, as have my colleagues, the reality is that it is our responsibility as elected leaders to ensure that we continue to represent our constituents by moving legislation forward on a wide of variety of issues that are both neighborhood-based and citywide. The best way to heal is to strip away the power of those two Councilmembers and to try to set up safeguards against such future recurrences and move toward a better City. Their committee positions have been stripped and they have been censured.

An additional part of the healing process and forward movement occurred this week when the City Council unanimously voted for new Council leadership in Councilmember Paul Krekorian (CD2) who now serves as Council President, while Curren Price (CD9) will serve as City Council President Pro Tempore. Whether it has been my decades of work with Council President Krekorian on reducing gun violence or standing with Councilmember Price to ensure that minimum wage workers are afforded adequate protections in a [Fair Work Week](#) ordinance. These are elected officials who put principles over politics and lead with a spirit of public service.

### Battling antisemitism in CD5, Greater Los Angeles and nationwide



Following last weekends' compounding of a social media post from the rapper Ye, aka Kanye West, threatening to take violent action against Jewish people, antisemitic hate groups capitalized on the media attention garnered by the incident to hang an antisemitic banner over the 405 freeway that read "Kanye is right about the Jews" and to distribute flyers spreading vile and hateful messages about Jews. This demonstration is subsequent to an overall 217% rise in antisemitic incidents in the Los Angeles area from 2017 to 2021.

Disgusted and disheartened are just two words that describe my feelings about the latest acts of antisemitism in Council District Five. Unfortunately, these types of incidents have become all too common in Los Angeles and nationwide. As a son of a Holocaust survivor who has made "never forget" central to my personal mission to lead with compassion and treat all others with dignity, I am incredibly dismayed that this kind of discrimination and hateful propaganda continues to grow in today's day and age. I think of my late father and whether this is similar to what he saw in late 1920s Germany when antisemitism was unfolding but hadn't taken over. We can't let it happen here.

This is why last week I introduced [legislation](#) seeking to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's working definition of antisemitism in the City of LA. If adopted, City departments, staff, elected and appointed officials, and contract agencies would be required to familiarize themselves with the IHRA definition of antisemitism, associated IHRA reference materials, examples, and articles, and incorporate their use and guidance in day-to-day operations. Please read the [press release here](#).

Even so the Kanye West drumbeat of antisemitism carried by the media grew louder this week. Today, I joined Councilmembers Nithya Raman and Bob Blumenfield in introducing a resolution condemning the recent rise in acts of Antisemitism across Los Angeles and affirming the that the City of Los Angeles stands in solidarity with the Jewish community. The resolution further commits to leveraging City resources and the City's Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department to fight antisemitism, along with all other forms of hate and prejudice, to ensure that the City is a welcoming and safe home to all people.

Together, we continue to work on policy that moves the city forward as one.



**Remembering Rosalind "Roz" Wiener Wyman (1930-2022)  
Former City Councilmember**



My good friend Councilmember Roz Wyman passed away on Wednesday at 92 years old. Messages of love, respect and admiration have been pouring in describing her as a woman whose esteemed record is forever sealed in the annals of Los Angeles history. Elected to the Los Angeles City Council's 5th District at 22 years old, she was the youngest person to have been elected to the Council and second woman ever to sit on the City Council, as well as the first Jewish Council Member in 53 years.

Roz Wyman was best known for her crucial role in bringing the Dodgers here from Brooklyn in 1957. It is hard to overstate the level of difficulty for a little-known 22-year-old to have persuaded the Dodgers to move to LA. It is also true, but less well known, that she was instrumental in getting the Lakers to move here from Minnesota.

It was my honor to have Palms Recreation Center renamed as the Rosalind "Roz" Wyman Recreation Center and to have recognized her with the City's Pioneer Woman Award during my term as Councilmember of the Fifth District for her trusted advocacy for our civic good. She was a trailblazer of female political involvement, and set a wondrous example for girls and women by virtue of her compassionate activism and profound leadership. I personally appreciated her advice, mentorship and friendship.



She will forever be beloved as a magnificent and effective champion for the progress, prosperity and betterment of Los Angeles, and is treasured for her eloquent advocacy and dignified determination promoting opportunity, equality, justice and civility.

Sincerely,



### Animal Services Reforms and Support



One of the centerpieces of Councilmember Koretz's recently-released report on the City's animal shelters was a recommendation to provide shelter dogs with more exercise and enhancement and to generally improve their quality of life during their stay in a City animal shelter. In addition to simply being the humane thing to do, it can also make the dogs more attractive to potential adopters.

Last week the City Council approved Councilmember Koretz's motion allocating \$100,000 of his office's Neighborhood Services Fund to the Department of Animal Services to be used specifically to address this issue. The funds are to be used only to fund bringing in dog training and behavior specialists to help the department upgrade its dog-walking and kennel enhancement programs, and to work with behaviorally-challenged dogs to make them more walkable and ultimately, presentable to the public. The funds will be used to expand and enhance the department's already growing programs.

With this Council approval, the funds should be transferred to the Animal Welfare Trust Fund before the end of December.

Additionally, the Personnel, Audits and Animal Welfare Committee on October 24th held a two-hour plus hearing on ten Koretz motions aimed at beginning the implementation of proposals from the Councilmember's recent report on the shelters. The motions covered a variety of issues from dog-walking and training, to how the shelters care for cats, rabbits and other small animals, and the state of the Animal Services volunteer program. The motions were approved and sent to the full City Council for further consideration.

### Increasing Funding for LAPD Overtime in CD5

Councilmember Koretz and members of his staff were proud to join LAPD command staff to

announce that he is allocating a latest tranche of \$250,000 for LAPD overtime from Councilmember Koretz's discretionary funds. These total allocations of \$750,000 to date since June of 2020 that will be used to prevent and fight crime in multiple areas of the Fifth Council District.



In addition, Councilmember Koretz had the distinct honor of joining LAPD's annual Wilshire Division Inspection where he had the opportunity to greet each one of our brave officers and express his gratitude for their commitment to our city.



As he shook their hands, he expressed his gratitude for their bravery, service and sacrifice to our communities.



**Hillside Construction Regulations expansion to Franklin Canyon, Coldwater Canyon, and Bowmont Hazen Scheduled at City Planning Commission on November 3rd**



Los Angeles City Planning has continued its work over the past months to apply the Hillside Construction Regulations (HCR) to the hillside communities of Coldwater Canyon, Franklin Canyon, and Bowmont Hazen. The HCR applies specific supplemental development restrictions related to construction, grading quantities, and hauling requirements.

If interested, you are encouraged to visit the [program website](#) to view maps of the proposed new HCR areas. In addition, stakeholders can view the work program's [Fact Sheet and Frequently Asked Questions](#), as well as a number of other maps and resources.

The proposed expansion will be heard by the City Planning Commission on November 3rd after 8:30am; this will be item 8 on the [Agenda](#). You can also review the [Staff Report](#) for more detailed information.

### **Revised Wildlife Ordinance & Staff Report Now Available City Planning Commission Hearing - November 17**



The Department of City Planning is pleased to announce that the proposed Wildlife Ordinance is expected to be heard by the City Planning Commission (CPC) on November 17, 2022. An official CPC agenda will be released one week prior to the meeting date. In advance of this meeting, City Planning prepared materials for public review:

- [A Revised Version of the Proposed Wildlife Ordinance](#)
- [The Staff Recommendation Report to CPC](#)
- [A Summary of the Ordinance and Revisions](#)

Since holding the staff-level public hearing for the Wildlife Ordinance in July of this year, City Planning has received a large volume of questions, comments, and suggested revisions to the ordinance, as well as statements of support. In response to this feedback, City Planning has revised the ordinance to address comments received. Key changes to the proposed ordinance are provided in the Summary of Ordinance and Revisions, and are further explained in detail in

the Staff Report. The Staff Report also includes information regarding the background of the project, the basis for the proposed regulations, summary of outreach and engagement activities, and much more.

Given the scope of the ordinance and Staff Report, City Planning sought to provide the public as much time to review these materials as possible. To this end, the ordinance and Staff Report are being released four weeks before the anticipated CPC meeting, rather than the standard 10 days. Great effort has been made to provide additional time for public review of the proposed ordinance and Staff Report.

Comments on the revised draft ordinance can be emailed to [cpc@lacity.org](mailto:cpc@lacity.org) by 4:00 p.m. on November 14, 2022. Thank you again for your engagement with this important effort to protect wildlife habitat and connectivity in Los Angeles.



### Westwood Library Annual Concert



Councilmember Koretz was pleased to attend the free concert at the Westwood library last weekend where he presented a special recognition to Marlene Klansek for her generous donation of a baby grand piano to the library. He also recognized Mark Rogo for his many years of activism on behalf of the library.

### Celebrating Melrose Trading Post

Councilmember Koretz had the honor of celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Melrose Trading Post along with [Greenway Arts Alliance](#). Melrose Trading Post started as a small one-off fundraiser for Fairfax High School Students but has grown into a true community pillar. A big thank you to Pierson Blaetz and Whitney Westin and the entire Greenway Arts Alliance board for their vision and dedication to Fairfax High students. Kudos to the students who performed an amazing number from Hamilton as part of the festivities!



### Los Angeles For All



This week, Councilmember Koretz's Director of Public Safety convened an urgent meeting with the [Los Angeles Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department](#) General Manager Capri Maddox and members of her staff, along with the Los Angeles Police Department Operations West Bureau Deputy Chief Blake Chow, due to the recent sharp increase in antisemitic and discriminatory incidents and propaganda being spread throughout the region and nationwide.

Hate has no place in our community and as such we will continue to work diligently in the pursuit to eradicate such vile incidents and acts. In addition, Councilmember Koretz and staff have been proud to support the "LA FOR ALL" campaign. Despite the recent uptick in fear and violent and discriminatory rhetoric, LA remains a City of compassion, inclusion and kindness, where diversity is part of the fabric of who we are. LA is truly for all.

### Halloween Festivities This Weekend

Join the festivities at Poinsettia Park this weekend for their Halloween Family Festival and Movie night taking place this Saturday, October 29th from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at 7341 Willoughby Ave. This free community event will include carnival games, face painting, arts and crafts, costume contests, a movie screening, and more!

Poinsettia Recreation Center  
7341 Willoughby Ave.  
LA, CA 90046  
323-876-5014

# HALLOWEEN FAMILY FESTIVAL & MOVIE NIGHT

CARNIVAL START AT 4 PM | MOVIE START AT 7:30 PM

**FREE**

Carnival games, face painting, arts & crafts, movie screening, costume contest, prizes, candy for the first 500 kids in attendance.

In Partnership with:

FOLLOW US @POINSETTIALA

Other participating LA recreation centers will also be offering Halloween festivities this weekend. Please see locations and details below or [click here](#) for a Citywide list and have a safe and Happy Halloween!

RECREATION CENTER	DATE	TIME	AGE	ACTIVITIES	PRICE
<b>Charter Hills Recreation Center</b> 2011 Maple Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90006 (323) 877-3000	10/29/2022	12:00pm-4:00pm	All Ages	Games, Arts & Crafts, Single Chair Theater, Costume Parade, Tiddler Contest & Costume Contest	\$0.00
<b>Palms Recreation Center</b> 2090 Overland Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90004 (323) 618-3000	10/29/2022	1:00pm-3:00pm	Ages 2-4	Carnival Games, Trick or Treat, Movie Screenings, Costume Contest, Arts & Crafts & Snack Booth	Private - \$2 Day of - \$1
<b>Pasadena Recreation Center</b> 780 Beverly Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90010 (323) 939-8074	10/29/2022	12:00pm-4:00 pm	Ages 9-15	Games, Costume Contest, Prizes, Double Bag & Balloons	\$800
<b>Poinsettia Recreation Center</b> 7341 Willoughby Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90046 (323) 876-5014	10/29/2022	1:00pm-7:00 pm	Ages 9-15	Carnival Games, Face Painting, Movie Screening, Arts & Crafts, costume contest, Prizes & Candy to the first 500 kids in attendance	\$800
<b>Westwood Recreation Center</b> 1550 S. Sepulveda Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90027 (323) 471-3000	10/29/2022	11:00am-1:00pm	All Ages	Games, Movie Screenings, Arts & Crafts, Costume Contest & Snack Bar	\$800
<b>Westwood Recreation Center - Historical Hallway</b> 1550 S. Sepulveda Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90027 (323) 939-3000	10/29/2022 & 10/31/2022	4:00pm-6:00pm	All Ages	Westwood BC Historical Hallway	\$800
<b>Edgewater Recreation Center</b> 1041 Fresno Road Los Angeles, CA 90005 (323) 279-3300	10/31/2022	7:00pm-1:00pm	All Ages	Full Festival Dance Battle, Arts & Crafts, Costume Contests (1-5, 4-8, 9-12 yrs), Live Entertainment, Music, Light Shows, Prizes, Candy & Free Booth	\$800

**HALLOWEEN**

# RESOURCES

## Domestic Violence Awareness & Resources



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and an opportunity for us all to do our part to help build a culture where abuse is not tolerated, survivors have access to the resources they need, and most importantly, survivors have a voice and are heard.

For resources in LA, please call the County of LA Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-978-3600 or visit [LACity.gov/residents](https://www.lacity.gov/residents)

Nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the US. In one year, this equates to 10+ million women and men. If you are in need of assistance, the city has resources available to you.

Please call Los Angeles County DV Hotline: 800-978-3600 for assistance.

For shelter and services: [LACity.gov/residents](https://www.lacity.gov/residents)

# Student Loan Debt Relief Resources



President Biden recently announced that the application for student loan debt relief is officially open! Borrowers have the opportunity to receive up to \$20,000 in student loan debt relief, if they received a Pell Grant and up to \$10,000 to other borrowers. More than 40 million borrowers are

eligible for this relief, and nearly 20 million borrowers could see their entire remaining balance discharged.

Filling out the application is easy and takes less than five minutes. The deadline to apply for the Student Loan Debt Relief program is December 31st, 2022.

[StudentAid.gov/DebtRelief/Apply](https://studentaid.gov/DebtRelief/Apply)

## **RESOURCES**

**PSLF Help Tool** - <https://studentaid.gov/pslf/>. For the best experience using this tool, we recommend reading this blog, "[Become a Public Service Loan Forgiveness \(PSLF\) Help Tool Ninja](#)"

**PSLF FAQ page** - <http://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/public-service/questions>

**Tutorials:** [www.ForgiveMyStudentDebt.org](http://www.ForgiveMyStudentDebt.org)

**Webinars:** <https://protectborrowers.org/events/>

**Phone number:** The Federal Student Aid department has a hotline reachable at 1-855-265-4038.

## **LA Animal Services First Playgroup Rock Star Adoption Event Saturday, Oct. 29, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**



On Saturday, Oct. 29, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., LA Animal Services will host the first ever Playgroup Rock Stars Adoption Event at the Chesterfield Square / South L.A. Animal Shelter. This marks the largest shelter adoption event in Los Angeles during "National Adopt-a-Shelter Dog Month."

The event will focus on dogs who have participated in ongoing socialization and playgroup activities at the South L.A. shelter, made possible by Wallis Annenberg PetSpace and the California Community Foundation.

Thanks to the Los Angeles Chargers and Lazy Dog Restaurants who will be covering adoption fees for the first 30 dog adoptions. There will be reduced fees for all additional adoptions, as well as adoption gift bags with collars, leashes, bowls and other giveaways

These playgroup rock stars are the dogs who have been participating in the enrichment program led by Dogs Playing for Life (DPFL), which launched last month at the Chesterfield/South LA shelter thanks to a partnership with Wallis Annenberg Petspace. DPFL is 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. DPFL has proven metrics on the life-saving benefits of "playgroups" for kennel animals, and on the methods for training staff and volunteers in establishing and conducting these ongoing enrichment activities.

To encourage pet adoption, LA Animal Services will be offering reduced adoption fees at all six of our LA Animal Services Centers on Saturday, October 29 and Sunday, October 30, adoption fees for dogs will be \$51, and \$75 for puppies, which does not include the \$20 licensing fee for dogs older than four months. Adoption fees for cats and kittens will be waived thanks to a generous donation from the ASPCA. Our six locations are open on the weekends with no appointments needed, from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.





### Here to Serve

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

Councilmember Paul Koretz

200 N. Spring Street, Suite 440, Los Angeles, CA 90012