



July XX, 2022

Eric Garcetti, Mayor  
City of Los Angeles

Paul Koretz, Chair  
Personnel, Audits, and Animal Welfare Committee  
City of Los Angeles

Re: Treatment of Animals at City Shelters

Dear Mayor Garcetti and Councilmember Koretz,

Like most Angelenos, members of the Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council were appalled and disappointed by the reports in the *Los Angeles Times* of mistreatment of animals in the care of the Department of Animal Services. It appears that the Department is understaffed and lacks skilled managerial leadership. It is unfathomable how neither the PAAW Committee nor the Board of Animal Services Commissioners (made up entirely of Mayor Garcetti's appointees) gave any public indication of these problems and left it to a newspaper exposé and the honest words of volunteers to make these conditions known to the wider public. Smaller news outlets have documented these conditions before, including occupied animal living quarters [overrun by rats](#).

BABCNC has a liaison appointed to coordinate with the Department of Animal Services, but the Department has not communicated with Neighborhood Council representatives for years even before the pandemic.

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**STAKEHOLDER GROUPS**

Bel Air Association  
Bel Air Crest Master Association  
Bel Air Hills Association  
Bel Air Ridge Association  
Benedict Canyon Association  
Casiano Estates Association  
Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Assn.  
Holmby Hills Homeowners Association  
Laurel Canyon Association  
Residents of Beverly Glen

**RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS**

Bel Air District  
Bel Air Glen District  
Franklin-Coldwater District  
North of Sunset District  
**NON-RESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATION**  
At-Large Members  
Commercial or Office Enterprise Districts  
Custodians of Open Space  
Faith-Based Institutions  
Public Schools & Private Schools

The animals in the shelter system, and the taxpayers, deserve a better run department, and responsibility for delivering it falls to you and your appointees.

BABCNC will gather more information on this situation and engage with the Department directly. However, it seems clear that responsibility for the situation and a plan for action needs to be forthcoming from the Mayor's Office immediately.

Sincerely,

Travis Longcore, Ph.D., President  
Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council  
[tlongcore@babnc.org](mailto:tlongcore@babnc.org)