

Alison Foulis - City Clerk

From: Ganz, Peter
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2016 7:05 AM
To: Alison Foulis - City Clerk
Cc: Ganz, Peter
Subject: Deer sterilization

June 2, 2016

City Council
Belvedere, CA

Dear Members of the City Council,

I strenuously object to the proposal to sterilize the female deer in the City of Belvedere, for the following reasons:

- 1) I view the capture and surgical sterilization of female deer as **highly unethical**. We have deer that reside on our property that have become trusting and timid. For someone to force them to undergo a surgical procedure under substandard operating conditions with a chance of complications (including infection, hemorrhage or death) would never be approved by any animal research ethics committee at medical schools that I have been associated with (Harvard and UCSF). **Ethics are not for negotiations**. If even one person in our City thinks that this proposal is unethical, we should not do it and I am one such person (among many that I am aware of).
- 2) If implemented, this proposal will subject the City of Belvedere to **ridicule**. I can foresee the headlines of “wealthy, white elite of Belvedere mutilating deer for the sake of flowers”.
- 3) The proposal is highly **divisive** and will undoubtedly lead to confrontations. It is the last thing this city needs.

Sincerely,

Peter Ganz, MD
Chief, Division of Cardiology
Director, Center of Excellence in Vascular Research
Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital
Maurice Eliaser Distinguished Professor of Medicine
University of California, San Francisco

The City Council
City of Belvedere
Belvedere, California 94920

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JUN 02 2016

City of Belvedere

Re: Deer in Belvedere

Dear Mayor McAuliffe and members of the City Council:

It was with sadness I read in a recent ARK Newspaper article that the 2016 Deer Committee, after studying the current deer situation in Belvedere, had concluded that there is an over-population of deer in their community and that they have found a way to reduce their numbers humanely.

White Buffalo, Inc., a Connecticut based Company that claims to use a humane experimental process to remove the ovaries from does, is a company they recommend.

First of all, I feel that there is no deer population problem in Belvedere. The deer committee I was on seven years ago recommended fencing and planting of deer resistant plants, and this, combined with the draught, seems to have worked in most parts of Belvedere. . A month ago I asked my friends and neighbors if they had seen any deer lately, since I had not, and they agreed with me that they had nearly disappeared. Since I feel there is no deer problem and that the method of sterilization mentioned is inhumane (3% bled to death after the operation in the San Jose community that White Buffalo experimented in, according to a biologist who was there) I do not believe we should consider this proposal

In addition, and perhaps most importantly, this is a subject that might very well again divide the residents of this community into two vocal, antagonistic groups, and I would hate to see this happen.

Sincerely,



Virginia K. Doyle
Belvedere reside
June 1, 2016



Alison Foulis - City Clerk

From: Wyman Harris
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2016 3:17 PM
To: Alison Foulis - City Clerk; Mary Neilan - City Manager
Subject: Ethical treatment of deer in Belvedere (corrected copy)

June 3, 2016

City Council
Belvedere, CA

Dear Members of the City Council,

The 2016 deer committee is very committed to the ethical treatment of deer in Belvedere. That is why we only considered non-lethal means of managing the deer population and only decided to move forward with our proposal after thoroughly researching both the procedure and White Buffalo, Inc.

Cornell University conducted this exact procedure (approved by their Animal Care and Use Committee) for four years. The University of Wisconsin also approved the same protocol. White Buffalo has worked with numerous state agencies in order to come up with an alternative to lethal methods. The Humane Society of the US and Animal Welfare Institute and other major animal welfare groups find this procedure a sound alternative. They have seen the programs first hand.

The procedure is conducted by highly trained veterinarians in a sanitary environment where the risk of infection is minimal and is less invasive than spaying because the uterus is not removed. The process is identical to the one approved for use and monitored by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for use in The Villages in San Jose where there were no fatalities or other complications. Every effort will be made to treat the deer humanely.

Respectfully submitted,
Wyman Harris
[306 Bella Vista Ave](#)

Wyman
Sent from my iPad