



## **Opposition to Building on the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve**

**WHEREAS**, the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve is public land designated for the preservation of natural wetlands and wildlife habitat and the protection of native and endangered species; the Los Angeles County Democratic Party has stated our commitment to preserving this habitat in a resolution previously passed by this body; and

**WHEREAS**, the Annenberg Foundation seeks to obtain a long-term lease of this public land for the building of a 46,000 square foot facility within the Ecological Reserve; this private acquisition of public land stands in opposition to the purposes this land was set aside for by the State of California; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed facility would encroach on this habitat by building a dog and cat adoption center, veterinary hospital, office space, classrooms, an auditorium, an education center, public restrooms, parking and more; in exchange for obtaining this lease of public lands, the Annenberg Foundation is offering tens of millions of dollars to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Los Angeles County Democratic Party opposes the building of this project within the Ecological Reserve and also opposes any project that privatizes public land; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, a copy of this resolution will be sent to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and elected officials with oversight and interest in the Ballona Wetlands.

Tony Hale, 66AD Executive Board Member

Passed by LACDP Resolutions Committee

Passed by LACDP 2/11/14