

# Mayor Andrew Stern Speaks Out Against Cat Declaw Ban!

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**Malibu City Council  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, October 12, 2009  
6:30 P.M.  
City Hall - Council Chambers  
23815 Stuart Ranch Road**

“In my case, and it’s nice to hear your theory, but in my case we did have a cat declawed and I’ll tell you why. The cat would have gone to a shelter. I know what you say and what other doctors say but my wife has a medical condition. And if my wife is scratched or anything like that by a cat or the dog, if she isn’t immediately treated with something, she can become seriously ill. And we made a decision. It was keeping the cat, and keeping the cat alive or possibly jeopardizing my wife’s life.

“So in my case we made that decision, and that was a few years ago. The cat is in great shape. (My wife is not watching; she asked me not to discuss this in public, but it’s true.) So, I am opposed to a cat declawing [ban] basically on my personal experience.

“But I will tell you something else, while this is yours and certain people’s thing, I don’t think the City should be getting involved in this because right now we’re talking about it, its emotional, but we have huge problems in this City. And I think the people of Malibu would rather we focused our time and our energy on the regional water quality control issues, on the Coastal Commission, and all the other traditional problems this City is facing. And I would really not want to see this City venture off into this area, deal with this, pass an ordinance, spend more time, have the City Attorney having more meetings and possibly facing costly litigation over some ordinance that may be valid or may not. So I am going to oppose us going down that road.”