

ElephantVoices
Buskhellinga 3
3236 Sandefjord
Norway
www.elephantvoices.org



Mayor Tom Leppert and the Dallas City Council
Dallas City Hall
1500 Marilla Street
Dallas, TX 75201-6390
USA

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council of Dallas:

I have joined colleagues from around the world in calling for sending Jenny to The Elephant Sanctuary. My opinion is based on 33 years of experience studying the behavior of free-living elephants and working for their conservation and welfare. As Director of Research and Conservation for ElephantVoices and as a member of the Amboseli Elephant Research Project, the longest study of elephants in the world, I can speak with some authority on the natural behavior of elephants and their interests.

I have visited many zoos in the United States and observed the behavior of elephants in these institutions and I have observed the behavior of the elephants on the video from Africam that has been circulating on the web. I have also visited both sanctuaries in the United States. As an elephant expert I was given the opportunity to observe the elephants up closely at The Elephant Sanctuary. In my opinion, the behavior of elephants at The Elephant Sanctuary most closely approaches natural behavior because the elephants have space to roam, autonomy over their daily lives and the peace within which to make choices.

If kindness to Jenny is what you and the Dallas community seek to address by transferring her from Dallas, then sending her to The Elephant Sanctuary is the best possible choice available. I would applaud that decision.

August 5, 2008

Joyce Poole, PhD
Director of Research and Conservation of ElephantVoices
Member of the Scientific Advisory Committee for the Amboseli Elephant Research Project
(Kenya), the world's longest-running study of elephants.

www.ElephantVoices.org