Statement from Beya Alcaraz:

When I went into politics I just wanted to fix the broken neighborhood I loved so much, because it felt like nobody was even trying. I expected people to be shocked, to doubt me, but I hoped I'd prove them wrong.

I poured my soul into the Animal Connection for years, because I love that place. It was dirty, and chaotic, and exhausting, because that's what pet stores are. Like most business owners in the Sunset, I struggled to make ends meet. But for 6 years I did my best to keep things running at a very difficult time, for the animals, for my employees, and for the neighbors that relied on us. I regret the conditions it was left in, and am saddened to see the store's reputation tarnished.

I gave up my career as an educator for this appointment. I hope to return to my former life teaching music and art to children, because I know I can continue to make a positive impact on my community, even if I'm not doing so as Supervisor.

And for the Filipino community: to be the first of anything is hard. My heart breaks for all the Filipinos that are disappointed in my service. I wish I had done better for you all.

I hope the Sunset's next leader genuinely cares about the neighborhood and commits themselves to bridging the divide that is growing everyday. We deserve someone who understands what this district needs to heal, not just a politician trying to climb the ladder.

It's true that I was a political outsider with no connections to the Mayor when I approached him about the appointment at Sunset After Dark. I wanted to be the person that would finally listen to this amazing community. I'm sorry for breaking the trust that was placed in me. I promise to keep working hard and fighting for change on behalf of my neighbors, and I wish the next Supervisor well.