

ENVIR. QUAL. and WASTE MGT.
 PLANNING and LAND USE DEPT.

MOTION

Sun Valley in the Northeast San Fernando Valley within Council District 6 is home to approximately 46,000 residents and a significant business community. Sun Valley is located southeast of Pacoima where the 5 and 170 Freeways meet and is bisected by the Union Pacific Railway along San Fernando Road. Ten elementary and secondary schools are located in the community. Recent census reports indicate that approximately 70% of Sun Valley residents are Latino and 17% live in poverty.

The City of Los Angeles General Plan recognizes the goal of "assurance of environmental justice and a healthful living environment." So too, the Sun Valley Community Plan identifies the purpose of contributing to "a healthful and pleasant environment" in Sun Valley.

At recent public meetings, residents of Sun Valley allege that poor air quality negatively affects the health of children and people living, working and attending schools in the community. South Coast Air Quality Management District modeling indicates that Sun Valley contains one of the top 100 excess cancer risk grids for stationary sources in the South Coast Air Basin. The UCLA Department of Family Medicine is conducting a Sun Valley Asthma Screening and Early Intervention Program, and preliminary results indicate a significant prevalence of asthma among Middle School students in Sun Valley. Furthermore, the community is concerned about accidental releases from industrial facilities that use hazardous materials

The City Environmental Affairs Department as Local Enforcement Agency regulates permitting and inspection of solid waste and certain recycling facilities within the City. The Department is a member of the City of Los Angeles Brownfields Resource Team, which provides technical and financial assistance to environmentally impaired industrial sites. The Department also operates a business assistance program to foster and provide incentives for the use of alternative and green technology. Thirty-three facilities in Sun Valley have permits from the Department as waste transfer stations, open or closed landfills, and solid waste vehicle yards. The Department estimates that in the next two years between ten and twenty additional facilities in Sun Valley will apply for such permits.

The City of Los Angeles Planning Department regulates zoning and land use permitting decisions within the City. Currently, land use applications are pending before the Department concerning the expansion and/or re-use of industrial facilities in Sun Valley including, but not limited to, the Bradley and Penrose Landfills.

The City of Los Angeles Fire Department as the City's Certified Unified Program Agency regulates industrial use of hazardous materials within the City. The Department also enforces the requirements for proper storage and emergency planning regarding the accidental release of hazardous materials.

The Los Angeles City Attorney's Office in January 2003 formed a Sun Valley Environmental Taskforce to address environmental issues relating to auto-dismantling businesses in Sun Valley. City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo's Taskforce includes numerous State and local regulatory agencies that collectively provide a network of investigative and prosecutorial offices.

The concentration of industrial, solid waste and recycling facilities in Sun Valley and the incidence of cancer and asthma in the community underscore the need to apply coordinated planning and environmental justice principles and practices to the siting of new industrial and

waste facilities in the area and the importance of strict enforcement of existing environmental laws and regulations.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the geographic area within Sun Valley bounded by Glenoaks Blvd. to Sunland Boulevard/Vineland Avenue to Strathern Street to Lankershim Boulevard to Haddon Avenue to Montague Avenue to Glenoaks Boulevard be identified as "the Sun Valley Environmental Justice Improvement Area."

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Attorney's Office report within sixty (60) days on the status of the multi-agency Sun Valley Environmental Taskforce, including a description of inspections to date and pending enforcement actions.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City of Los Angeles Planning Department immediately and timely refer to the City Environmental Affairs Department all pending and future land use applications relating to active or closed landfills, solid waste, auto-dismantling or recycling facilities within the Sun Valley Environmental Justice Improvement Area. The Environmental Affairs Department shall review the applications and supporting documentation and provide timely written comments to the Planning Department on the environmental impacts of the proposed activity and recommended mitigation measures. The Environmental Affairs Department shall report within sixty days on the resources and funding that it will need to comply with this Motion.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Planning Department immediately and timely refer to the Los Angeles Fire Department all pending and future land use applications for facilities proposing to use non-exempt quantities of listed hazardous materials within the Sun Valley Environmental Improvement Area. The Fire Department shall timely review the applications and supporting documentation and provide comments to the Planning Department regarding the proposed activity and recommended mitigation measures. The Fire Department shall report within sixty days on the resources and funding that it will need to comply with this Motion.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Planning Department immediately and timely post and/or deposit in a binder at the Sun Valley Public Library a copy of all pending and future discretionary land use applications for industrial facilities within the Sun Valley Environmental Improvement Area, along with a notice to the public identifying applicable dates for public hearings and timelines for receipt of written public comments.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Planning Department conduct a written study to be completed by May 31, 2004, including no less than three (3) local public hearings in Sun Valley, that proposes design guidelines and standards for the establishment, expansion, continuation and/or reuse of industrial facilities within the Sun Valley Environmental Improvement Area. The Department shall consult with the local Neighborhood and Community Advisory Councils, residents, businesses and the Chamber of Commerce, and other City Departments, including but not limited to the City Attorney, Environmental Affairs Department and Community Development Department. This study shall contain a comprehensive review of the issue and propose recommendations that may include, but are not limited to, a Community Design Overlay District, a Business Improvement District to enhance the Sun Valley business community, "Q" Conditioned Zoning and/or additional public notification requirements to address environmental concerns.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Planning Department provide a status report to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee within ninety days regarding its efforts to improve coordination of comprehensive planning efforts within the Sun Valley Environmental

Justice Improvement Area. The City Planning Department shall report within sixty days on the resources and funding that it will need to comply with this Motion

I FURTHER MOVE that the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks provide a report to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee within ninety days on the existing inventory of parks and recreation centers within Sun Valley and whether and to what extent Sun Valley is included in anticipated park construction efforts. The Department shall also report on tree services performed by its Forestry Division in Sun Valley.

PRESENTED BY: Tony Cardenas
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Councilmember, 6th District

SECONDED BY: Wesley Hill

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