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October 20, 2015

Honorable Councilmember Jose Huizar
Chair, Planning and Land Use Management Committee
Los Angeles City Council

RE: ✓ ✓
Clean Up Green Up Ordinance (CF# 11-0112 and CF# 15-1026)

Dear Councilmember Huizar and members of the Planning and Land Use Management Committee:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust (Land Trust), I submit this letter in strong support of the Clean Up Green Up Ordinance, which I understand will be heard by your committee in October.

The mission of the Land Trust is to build healthier, stronger, and safer neighborhoods through the creation of urban parks and gardens in Los Angeles' low-income communities of color. As such, we work with communities in the same three pilot Green Zones of the Clean Up Green Up ordinance: Boyle Heights, Pacoima/Sun Valley, and Wilmington. We strongly support the proposed new development standards for these three pilot Green Zones because the standards will provide much needed local regulatory tools to address issues arising from the proximity of incompatible land uses—largely industrial uses close to homes, schools, parks, and other places where vulnerable populations gather. The new development standards also deal with the cumulative adverse impacts that result from concentrations of certain land uses.

In addition, the Land Trust supports the Los Angeles Collaborative for Environmental Justice (Communities for a Better Environment, Coalition for a Safe Environment, Pacoima Beautiful, and Union de Vecinos) in its effort to monitor the ordinance as it moves forward to ensure it contains the strongest local regulatory and land use tools possible, especially regarding the proposed conditional use permit for oil refineries and asphalt manufacturers.

We eagerly await the passage of the Clean Up Green Up policies, and we look forward to the success of the three pilot zones, which will lead the way to economic innovations and a healthier, safer, greener Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alina Bokde".

Alina Bokde
Executive Director

cc: Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson
Councilmember Mitchell Englander
Councilmember Gilbert Cedillo
Councilmember Felipe Fuentes
City Clerk