

Jim Norris President David W. Campbell Secretary-Treasurer

UNITY AND STRENGTH FOR WORKERS -

March 20, 2013

Los Angeles City Council City Hall 200 N. Main Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Clean Up Green Up motion – CF 11-0112

Dear Councilmembers:

United Steelworkers Local 675 urges members of the Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee and the full City Council to VOTE IN FAVOR of the Clean Up, Green Up motion, CF 11-0112. We support the changes to the Planning Department's proposed work plan as outlined by the Clean Up Green Up Campaign so that all three target communities—Boyle Heights, Pacoima and Wilmington—are included in a timely and cost effective policy development and implementation process.

Last May, over 150 residents, community leaders and business owners attended the PLUM Committee hearing on the CUGU policy to express their support for this innovative and balanced solution to the problem of the overconcentration of polluting land uses adjacent to homes, schools, parks and other sensitive uses. Over 200 community organizations and businesses have endorsed this policy and the creation of Green Zones or overlay districts in the three pilot communities, combining economic incentives with traditional planning tools, and promoting collaboration among government agencies, residents and businesses.

It makes good sense in difficult economic times to reduce existing levels of pollution while providing incentives to encourage local businesses to clean up and green up, and to attract new green businesses and jobs to our community. Not taking action on this pervasive problem has its own costs—we all pay for air pollution with health problems and direct economic losses. According to the California Air Resources Board, exposure to air pollution costs business 1.9 million lost workdays every year.

United Steelworkers Local 675 thanks the PLUM Committee for its previous action on the Clean Up Green Up motion. We encourage the PLUM Committee to vote in favor of the motion and revised work plan because it demonstrates that working together, business, government and residents can develop meaningfully solutions to the problem of air pollution that not only protect public health but also ensure a healthy economic climate where businesses can thrive.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely David W. Campbell Secretary-Treasurer

United Steel, Paper, and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union

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