

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

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Date of NC Board Action: 07/16/2015

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 07/18/2015

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 14-0002-s81

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Brief Summary: HHPNC on 7/16/2015 voted in support to ask that the City Council strongly oppose efforts by San Luis Obispo to approve the expansion of the Philip's 66'facilities.

Additional Information:

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Post Office Box 50791
Los Angeles, CA 90050
<http://www.highlandparknc.com>
Certified as NC #33 May 28, 2002

CALIFORNIA



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DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

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July 16, 2015

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and the Members of the Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: **Oppose Phillips 66 plans to increase shipment of toxic crude**

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in our neighborhood. Less than a year ago, the Los Angeles City Council voted to support increased regulation and oversight of oil transport by rail statewide (14-0002-S81).

San Luis Obispo is about to make a decision that could affect the health and safety of our LA neighborhoods. Many cities and counties have written letters opposing this project on the basis of inadequate measures to protect the public and the natural resources at risk. As we watch the devastating spill on the Santa Barbara coast, we don't want to see the same happen along the Los Angeles River, which is now undergoing a \$1 billion facelift, and is part of our long-term water sustainability plan.

As trains carrying dangerous and volatile crude oil keep exploding across North America, we urge you to act on this and write a letter of opposition to the San Luis Obispo County Planning Commission/Board of Supervisors to deny an expansion permit to the Phillips 66 Santa Maria refinery crude by rail operation which would allow them to move 20,800 crude tankers to and from their Nipomo facility every year. These can be eighty-car trains that stretch a mile-and-a-half long.

We are concerned that expanding the shipment of volatile and toxic crude by rail in outdated and unsafe oil tank cars to and from this refinery and facilities in southern California, especially through densely populated neighborhoods in the Los Angeles basin, puts our City at significantly increased risk.

Five major accidents have happened in the first five months of 2015 in North America, and despite federal moves to improve safety, trains keep exploding. We don't want the next fiery blast to happen near our schools, our parks, our homes. Or poisonous spill to pollute our Los Angeles River.

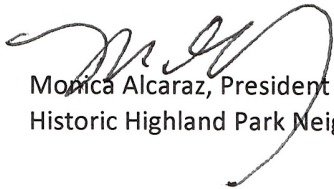
The only San Luis Obispo County Planning Commission/Board of Supervisors action that would avoid this public safety risk to Los Angeles County and beyond is to DENY the expansion.

HHPNC on opposing expansion of Phillips 66 shipments

The expansion, the shipping and the use of Phillips 66 product will only expand carbon emissions in California. Washington State has recently ruled in favor of a group of young people who filed a lawsuit last year asking that the state be required to develop a science-based plan for limiting carbon emissions in order to protect the climate for future generations. Can California do less? Can Los Angeles do less?

Therefore, the Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council respectfully requests that the Mayor and the Los Angeles City Council write a strongly-worded letter to the San Luis Obispo County Planning Commission opposing this permit for Phillips 66 to expand their facility, and take all actions necessary to ensure that these dangerous trains never cross our City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Monica Alcaraz', is written over the printed name and title.

Monica Alcaraz, President
Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council