



August 26, 2014

Hon. Herb Wesson, President, Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street, Room 430
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Hon. Felipe Fuentes, Councilmember, Los Angeles City Council
Chair, Energy & Environment Committee
200 N. Spring Street, Room 455
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Hon. Tom LaBonge, Councilmember, Los Angeles City Council
Chair, Trade, Commerce & Tourism Committee
200 N. Spring Street, Room 480
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Support for Committee Consideration of Council Motion 14-0907

Dear Messrs. Wesson, Fuentes, and LaBonge:

The League of Women Voters of Los Angeles supports local efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate the effects of climate change. Therefore, the League urges consideration of Council Motion 14-0907 as soon as possible by both the Energy and Environment Committee and the Trade, Commerce & Tourism Committee. The League has noted cancellation of a number of E & E meetings at a time when urgency on those issues before it seems warranted. Hearing this motion begins a process wherein city council members and the community can be heard on the issue. Not hearing the motion denies this dialogue and decision opportunity.

The motion would establish a framework for developing a plan to reduce the City’s greenhouse gas emissions based on science and economics and encourages collaboration between City departments and researchers at our major universities. The resulting climate risk assessment and greenhouse gas inventories will inform an overall Climate Action Plan to guide City policy and development decisions.

Recent reports, including the National Climate Assessment, make clear climate change is happening now. UCLA studies inform us that Los Angeles faces significant increases in extreme heat days, smog and fire danger. California is already experiencing a serious drought and our dire water situation will only be exacerbated by unchecked global warming. Council Motion 14-0907 warrants prompt consideration.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth Ralston, President
League of Women Voters of Los Angeles

Marjorie Engel, Chair
Carbon Reduction and Climate Change Committee

cc: Mayor Eric Garcetti
Councilmembers, Los Angeles City Council