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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, decades of unabated pollution from the Exide Technologies battery recycling plant in Vernon have frequently raised public alarm about public health impacts of the facility; and

WHEREAS, excessive lead contamination levels have been found in Boyle Heights and Southeast Los Angeles, widely attributed to Exide, and are the target of investigation and remediation efforts by the CA Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC); and

WHEREAS, the Exide facility has ceased operation; and

WHEREAS, an agreement between DTSC and Exide appears to have limited the company's liability for clean up activities beyond a capped financial contribution, even though remediation could cost hundreds of millions of dollars more; and
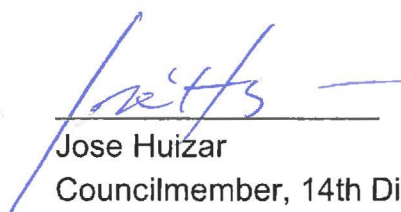
WHEREAS, the City has taken formal positions expressing the urgent need to address pollution from Exide, to protect residents of the area, and to hold accountable responsible parties; and

WHEREAS, residents remain at risk while DTSC has been slow to assess the full extent of contamination and to execute clean up activities; and

WHEREAS, LA County Supervisor Hilda Solis has proposed that the County contribute $2 million toward public education and site remediation, among activities to protect the public from the persistent lead contamination in the area;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-16 Legislative Program support for County actions to protect the public from the risks of lead pollution in Boyle Heights and Southeast Los Angeles and to remediate said pollution.

PRESENTED BY:

Jose Huizar
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY:

OCT 2 8 2015