

**REPORT OF THE
CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST**

DATE: September 29, 2016

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections, Intergovernmental Relations and
Neighborhoods Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso 
Chief Legislative Analyst

Council File No: 15-0002-S220
Assignment No. 16-09-0819

SUBJECT: Resolution (O'Farrell – Wesson – Koretz - Huizar) to SUPPORT Federal
Legislation or Administrative Action Denying Construction of the Dakota Access
Pipeline.

CLA RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Resolution (O'Farrell – Wesson – Koretz - Huizar) to include in the City's Federal
Legislative Program, SUPPORT for any legislation or administrative action that upholds the
rights of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and denies the construction of the Dakota Access
Pipeline through their lands.

SUMMARY

The Resolution (O'Farrell – Wesson – Koretz - Huizar), introduced September 28, 2016 resolves
to include in the City's Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for any legislation or
administrative action that upholds the rights of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and denies the
construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) through their lands. The Energy Transfer
Partners Company is developing the DAPL. As proposed the pipeline is 1,168 miles, and would
have the capacity to carry 570,000 barrels of oil from western North Dakota, through South
Dakota and Iowa, to the final destination in Illinois.

BACKGROUND

If approved, the City's legislative program would reflect support for any legislative or
administrative action that would deny the continued construction of the DAPL, as well as uphold
the rights of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, which is directly impacted by the proposed project.
The resolution states the project would run across or beneath hundreds of rivers, creeks and
tributaries, including the Missouri River. The resolution also states the construction of the DAPL
would intrude on the ancestral lands and waters reserved for the traditional use of the Standing
Rock Sioux Tribe. The resolution notes that the City of Los Angeles recognizes the rights of

Native American Tribal Nations, like Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, to protect their sovereign resources.

BILL STATUS

Not applicable.



Blayne Sutton-Wills
Analyst

Attachment:
SMT:BSW:bsw

1. Resolution

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 have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) is a 1,168-mile, 30-inch diameter pipeline being developed by Energy Transfer Partners and its affiliates, which could carry as much as 570,000 barrels per day of crude oil from western North Dakota to Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the DAPL would run across or beneath hundreds of rivers, creeks and tributaries, including the Missouri River, which provides drinking water and irrigates agricultural land in communities across the Midwest, serving nearly 10 million people; and

WHEREAS, the DAPL would intrude through the ancestral lands and waters reserved for the traditional use of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe by the Treaty of Fort Laramie, including the Missouri River, burial grounds and gravesites, and other sacred sites of cultural, religious, and historical significance; and

WHEREAS, any spill of oil into the Missouri River would irreparably harm the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe's Treaty on reserved lands, territories, waters and other resources; burial grounds, gravesites and other sacred sites of cultural, religious, and historical significance; and spiritual relationships and indigenous ways of life; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles recognizes the potential impacts on the environment and opposes the construction of the DAPL without meaningful consultation of the Native American Tribal Nations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles recognizes the rights of Native American Tribal Nations, like the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, to protect their sovereign resources; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its Federal Legislation Program support for any legislation or administrative action that upholds the rights of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and denies the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline through their lands.

PRESENTED BY: 
 MITCH O'FARRELL
 Councilmember 13TH District

SECONDED BY: 

