

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(11) Nay(2) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 12/10/2019

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 12/18/2019

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 17-0447

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council reaffirms its support for a 2,500 foot health and safety buffer zone between oil and gas production and sensitive uses, such as residences, schools, parks, churches, nursing homes. City reports have shown that two of the many active wells located within our Neighborhood Council boundaries are located within this zone. Over the past six years, residents have reported numerous impacts from these two wells, including on health and to their homes and properties.

David Matthews – Chairperson
Franz Rodriguez - Vice Chairperson
Rosalie Preston - Recording Secretary
La Juana Mitchell - Treasurer
John Ward – District 1 Representative
Joan Jacobs - District 2 Rep.
Reynaldo Paduani - District 3 Rep.
Betty Hawkins - District 4 Rep.
Lewyn Fowlkes - District 5 Rep.



Jackie Jackson - District 6 Rep.
Vanessa Johnson - District 7 Rep.
Angela Springs - District 8 Rep.
Larry Morrison –Community Org. Rep.
Viridiana Yahuaca – Youth Advocate
Anahi Gomez - Youth Representative
Janet Mitchell – Outreach Representative
Eva Cooper-Pace - At-Large Rep.

HARBOR GATEWAY NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. Box 3723, Gardena, CA 90247 (310) 768-3853 tel (310) 538-9654 fax
www.harborgatewaynorth.org HGNNC@sbcglobal.net

December 11, 2019

Mayor Eric Garcetti
Councilmember Joe Buscaino
Council member Marqueece Harris-Dawson
City Attorney Mike Feuer
City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Reaffirmation of support for establishment of a 2,500 foot buffer from oil and gas production facilities

Dear Mayor Garcetti, Councilmembers, and City Attorney Feuer:

On December 10, 2019, our Board voted 11-2-0 to support the following, as a reaffirmation of our April 11, 2017, letter regarding oil and gas drilling within 2,500 feet of residential and other sensitive uses, which would phase out existing uses over a period of time and prohibit new drilling within that setback.

We write to reiterate our support for the establishment of a 2,500-foot human health and safety buffer that will protect Angelenos from dangerous oil and gas production facilities near homes, schools, and other sensitive land uses.

For decades, Los Angeles has largely allowed the oil and gas industry a free reign without regard to the impacts of their activities on the safety, health and well-being of fence-line communities or our environment. Low income communities of color, especially in Wilmington and South Los Angeles, have borne a disproportionate burden of those impacts.

There is one large active oil and gas well (API 03713578) at 809 W.126th Street which is owned by Carson Oil Corp. This well is impacting the health and safety of residents near its location. And there are three other active wells nearby, (API 03713622 operated by Hitchcock and Ort), (API 03714404 operated by Sentinel Oil Company), and (API 03713623 operated by Hitchcock and Ort). Additionally, many closed oil wells are located within our boundaries, particularly south of 120th Street and north of Rosecrans Avenue, between Vermont Avenue and Figueroa Street, which are also impacting our stakeholders, the great majority of whom are persons of color.

We appreciate steps the City has taken in the last three years to begin to redress these injustices. Yet we are deeply concerned at the slow pace of progress, especially given that the Petroleum Administrator's oil and gas production report was released 630 days beyond its deadline. As time passes with no action from the City, impacted communities remain exposed to all the health and safety risks associated with these facilities. While the report suggests more study is necessary, leading scientists and health professionals are clear that sufficient evidence exists to act now to enact a 2,500-foot setback.

We are asking now for the City Council, the Mayor, the City Attorney and all relevant policymakers to move with all deliberate speed to advance this policy. The immediate next step should be an analysis from the City Attorney to clarify that a buffer zone is squarely within the law and would not subject the City to excessive financial liability. We expect that this analysis will be formally requested and underway before the end of 2019.

We also urge the City Council and Mayor's office to pursue a workforce development and economic revitalization program that benefits impacted oil and gas industry workers, cleans up polluted neighborhoods, and sets Los Angeles on a course toward a family-supporting, health-promoting ecologically sustainable economy.

We applaud City leaders' desire to play a leadership role on the national and international level in our response to the environmental crisis. Yet we cannot fulfill our leadership role without taking bold action to protect residents from oil drilling right here in our city.

Sincerely,



David Matthews, Chairperson
Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council

cc: Office of Petroleum and Natural Gas Administration – City of Los Angeles

Pamela Thornton – Chairperson
Saira Cooper - Vice Chairperson
Rosalie Preston - Recording Secretary
Hannah Woods – Corres. Secretary
Joan Jacobs - Treasurer
Mark Lupfer - District 1 Rep.
Clyde Noguchi - District 2 Rep.
Reynaldo Paduani - District 3 Rep.
Betty Hawkins - District 4 Representative



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Marvin Bell - District 6 Rep.
Janet Mitchell - District 7 Rep.
Larry J. Morrison - District 8 Rep.
Deborah Lee – Community Org. Rep.
Richard Lee - Youth Representative
Theo Fowles - Outreach Representative
Eva Cooper-Pace - At-Large Rep.

April 21, 2017

Councilmember Joe Buscaino
Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson
City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: STAND-LA ordinance regarding oil wells near sensitive uses

Dear Councilmembers Buscaino and Harris-Dawson:

On April 11, 2017, our Board voted 11-0-0 to support an ordinance to prohibit oil and gas drilling within 2,500 feet of residential and other sensitive uses and to phase out existing uses over a period of time.

There is one large active oil and gas well (API 03713578) at 809 W.126th Street which is owned by Carson Oil Corp. This well is impacting the health and safety of residents near its location. And there are three other active wells nearby, (API 03713622 operated by Hitchcock and Ort), (API 03714404 operated by Sentinel Oil Company), and (API 03713623 operated by Hitchcock and Ort). Additionally, many closed oil wells are located within our boundaries, particularly south of 120th Street and north of Rosecrans Avenue, between Vermont Avenue and Figueroa Street, which are also impacting our stakeholders, the great majority of whom are persons of color.

Now is the time to recognize that oil drilling in urban areas is incompatible with human health and safety and needs to be phased out. Such an ordinance will also help the City of Los Angeles move towards a clean, renewable, and safe energy future.

Sincerely,

Hannah Woods, Corresponding Secretary
Harbor Gateway North Neighborhood Council

cc: David A. Roberts, Director of Economic Development and Planning - Council District 15
Heather Anderson, Community Planner – Council District 15
John Jones III, Field Deputy – Council District 15
Aksel Palacios, Field Deputy - Council District 15
Albizaal Del Valle, Field Deputy - Council District 15
Michelle Singh, City Planner - Harbor Area