

MOTION

PLANNING & LAND USE MANAGEMENT

Community members have raised concerns about demolition activities in an area of Boyle Heights where soil contamination is a concern and public health threat. The City Department of Building and Safety has approved demolition of an industrial warehouse at 3820 East Union Pacific Avenue and is inspecting the site and its demolition methods in response to complaints by residents and the office of Council District 14.


The project in question has also been inspected by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, which issued a Notice of Violation for the release of residual or fugitive dust. Such dust is of particular concern because of the soil contamination in the area.

Decades of unabated pollution from the Exide Technologies battery recycling plant in Vernon have resulted in a legacy of widespread soil contamination in Boyle Heights and Southeast Los Angeles. Activities by the State Department of Toxic Substances Control are underway in an attempt to remediate dangerous levels of lead contamination in the soil of residential properties, schools, daycare centers, and parks within a 1.7 mile radius from the now-closed Exide facility. Industrial properties are not included in this remediation effort.

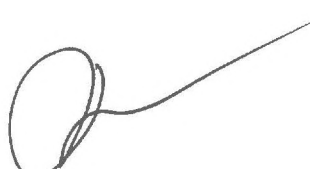

Within this area of known contamination, the release of hazardous materials into the air is of particular concern, and it is in the interest of the residents of the City, and workers at the site, that construction activities in such areas take particular and specialized care to prevent fugitive dust which could carry lead and other hazards.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the departments of Building and Safety and City Planning report to Council with recommendations to ensure that relevant information and guidance about dust suppression and worker safety are provided to applicants for construction and demolition activities in areas of the City within the 1.7 mile radius of concern from the Exide Technologies facility.

PRESENTED BY:

  
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JOSE HUIZAR,  
Councilmember, 14<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:

   
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MAY 12 2017

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