Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

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

Date of NC Board Action: 07/06/2017

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information Date: 07/09/2017

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

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Agenda Date: Item Number: 17

Summary: Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council recommends the City officially declare its commitment to the carbon reduction goals of the Paris Climate Agreement and supports the City Council taking action by instructing all relevant City Departments to adopt the stipulations of the Paris Climate Agreement as the policy of the City of Los Angeles.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Post Office Box 50791 Los Angeles, CA 90050 http://www.highlandparknc.com Certified as NC #33 May 28, 2002

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July 6, 2017

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and the Members of the Los Angeles City Council 200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: HHPNC supports efforts for the City of Los Angeles to uphold the guidelines set forth by the Paris Climate Agreement as city policy

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council which represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in our neighborhood supports efforts for LA to uphold the guidelines set forth by the Paris Climate Agreement as city policy.

Our community is directly affected by climate change and will continue to be affected by climate change, which shows no sign of abating. Climate change especially adversely affects lower income residents, people of color, immigrants, and working-class families and neighborhoods. This reality is not always at the forefront of the conversations about climate change and the environment but is an integral part of the greater conversation on inequality.

Some examples of communities in Los Angeles which face disproportionate exposure to pollutants and environmentally unsound developments include those in Northeast Los Angeles and Eagle Rock affected by traffic and pollution related to the Scholl Canyon dump, fracking and oil drilling in Downtown and South LA close to apartments and schools, pollution-impacted residents living near fossil fuel processing plants such as the Tesoro refinery in Wilmington where the People's Climate March was held in April 2017, and lead contamination from the Excide Plant that affected many communities including Boyle Heights.

Every country on Earth except two – Nicaragua and Syria – signed onto the Paris Climate Agreement in December 2015. See Valverde, Miriam. "Are Nicaragua and Syria the only countries not to sign Paris Agreement?" Politifact.com, 1 June 2017. Meanwhile, the Trump Administration has announced that the United States would withdraw.

We urge the City Council to continue to take steps to fight climate change and to affirm our city's and our state's commitment to the global effort signified by the Paris Climate Agreement. We are concerned for what the future of our neighborhood, city, state, country, and planet will look like if steps are not taken to slow the alarming warming of the planet.

It is our recommendation to the City Council to:

Declare Los Angeles's commitment to the Paris Climate Agreement.

Officially declaring Los Angeles, the second largest city in the U.S., to be committed to the carbon reduction goals of the Paris Climate Agreement would send a clear message that would resound through California and beyond that this city believes firmly in taking a leadership role in addressing the dangers of climate change now.

It is our hope that the council will consider this recommendation. We must take every step possible to ensure that we are able to pass on a habitable planet to future generations.

Sincerely,

Harvey Slater, President

Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council