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3/15/2019

Dear City Council Colleagues,

As you will recall, Councilmember Blumenfield and I introduced CF#18-0054 last year with the intention of creating the world's first Climate Emergency Mobilization Department. The Council approved the concept and, via the City Budget process, approved \$500K in seed funding.

The Leap LA Coalition, my staff and I have been working hard over the past months on developing proposals for what a Climate Emergency Mobilization Department should look like, particularly one which prioritizes environmental justice and equity, what its first steps should be, and what an effective Citywide outreach effort especially to Indigenous, frontline, and labor communities, should look like.

I am quite pleased with what we have achieved and submit them (attached) to the Council file for the record and for further discussion in committee.

Sincerely,


PAUL KORETZ
5th District



CLIMATE EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION DEPARTMENT

Short Proposal

3/15/19

1. INTRODUCTION

On January 17, 2018, the Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice Committee introduced motion 18-0054 to explore establishment of a Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD) “with all necessary powers” to plan and coordinate the City of Los Angeles’ accelerated climate and resilience responses with a strong environmental justice and worker focus. Council adopted the first moving clause of the motion on April 27, 2018.

In the intervening months, the City has experienced extraordinary heat, suffered another devastating wildfire, and set a new historic record for bad air quality. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released its latest report, and the U.S. and California both released their Fourth Climate Assessments. In September 2018, California Governor Brown issued an executive order establishing a statewide goal of carbon neutrality by 2045, which will require large-scale emissions reductions and transformative change across all sectors. The common consensus behind these documents is that the effects of climate change are happening faster and more dramatically than previously predicted, driving an imperative for swift and aggressive action to limit further warming. **Delay is no longer an option.**

At our current level of just over 1°C of warming, raging wildfires, drought, and heat waves are already impacting Angelenos at alarming rates. **Recent reports show that despite ongoing local and statewide climate mitigation efforts, the worst polluters have actually *increased* their emissions of toxic air pollutants, particularly in low-income communities of color, even as they decreased greenhouse gas emissions.**¹ If equity and justice are not at the center of climate policies, we run the real risk of making conditions worse in the most impacted areas.

The City’s definition for “climate emergency” shall therefore include historic, present and future greenhouse gasses and criteria pollutants.

FURTHER BACKGROUND

As climate impacts continue to intensify, the world’s climate scientists have made it clear that the previously accepted threshold of 2°C of warming is no longer considered “safe” and would rather be catastrophic; they have implored governments of the world to “push the defense line [of warming] as low as possible.”²

The IPCC’s advice on required action to keep warming at lower levels is unequivocal: “Limiting global warming to 1.5°C will require rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society.” On our current emissions trajectory, we are likely to reach a 1.5°C increase as early as 2030.³ To avoid it, the IPCC calculates a requirement for a daunting 18% global emissions reductions annually for the next twelve years.

¹ [“The Racial Justice Flaws in California’s Climate Bill,”](#) by Brentin Mock, *CityLab*; Sept. 15, 2016.

² [“In-depth Q&A: The IPCC’s special report on climate change at 1.5C,”](#) *Carbon Brief*; Oct. 8, 2018.

³ *Ibid.*

In the absence of commensurate federal and state-level action, cities are emerging as leaders-of-necessity in the climate fight, and municipal governments around the world are stepping up to the challenge. Mayors and City Councils from London, Berkeley, Oakland, Hoboken, and two dozen other cities so far have declared climate emergencies in response to the crisis.⁴

California is the 5th largest economy in the world, and Los Angeles has the 5th largest global carbon footprint among cities worldwide, as well as the largest manufacturing base in the country. In recent years, the City has developed numerous plans with climate-related goals, including: Sustainable City pLAn, Resilience Plan, Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles, Stormwater Capture Master Plan, Mobility Plan 2035, San Pedro Bay Ports Clean Air Action Plan, Renewable Portfolio Standard and Power Resource Plan, the pending General Plan update and others. These plans and their goals provide a foundation from which a consolidated Climate Emergency Action Plan can be built.

In creating the world's first Climate Emergency Mobilization Department, Los Angeles has an opportunity to set an example for cities across the globe. The CEMD will marshal the resources and vision to craft world-leading policies in partnership with City departments and stakeholders. A key purpose of the proposed Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD) is to provide focus and coordination amongst existing municipal actors. Currently, City departments function in departmental silos with little or no coordination, communication and collaboration. The CEMD will provide a mechanism to move the City beyond the siloed approach to the climate crisis by facilitating a more collaborative approach to mitigation and adaptation, and a more coordinated response to actual and unavoidable climate events. In doing so, the City can identify opportunities to integrate measures, identify efficiencies, accelerate timelines, and ensure commitment to significant action.

The creation of the CEMD will set the stage for Los Angeles to lead a rapid mobilization to achieve a zero-emissions, carbon neutral, regenerative, egalitarian economy with the principles of a "just transition"⁵ as an essential core element. The new Department's efforts will touch every aspect of city life and municipal government, enabling the City to respond to the global climate crisis with the leadership, speed and effectiveness this moment requires. The CEMD will be groundbreaking because it will simultaneously address the enormous, highly-racialized economic inequality that plagues our City⁶ as well as recognize that the transition away from fossil fuels must respect workers' rights to employment and retraining if necessary and benefit frontline⁷, vulnerable communities most impacted by pollution first.

⁴ <https://www.theclimatemobilization.org/city-by-city>

⁵ A "just transition" is one that addresses the past and ongoing harms of our extractive economy, by centering principles of justice, inclusion, reparations, material equity, and democracy within a transformation to a clean energy economy. This transition will prioritize low-income and frontline communities of color as the first fiscal beneficiaries of the clean energy economy and ensure workers displaced by the clean energy transition will be prioritized for retraining, education, assistance, and job placement in positions of comparable pay. A just transition will mitigate racial, economic, and gender-based inequities; and foster resiliency of communities and ecosystems through restoration and preservation of the commons. Ongoing community consultation through inclusive, democratic mechanisms will be established to ensure the goals of community health and stability, ecological resilience, decent work for all, social inclusion and the eradication of poverty remain centered.

⁶ ["The Widening Divide Revisited: Economic Equality in Los Angeles"](#) by Center for Neighborhood Knowledge, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, January 3, 2018

⁷ "Frontline communities" are communities at highest risk in climate disasters (fire, flood, heat) and those most impacted by multiple and cumulative sources of pollution due to proximity to toxic factories, fossil fuel refineries, neighborhood oil drilling, freeways, and the like, often without access to clean drinking

2. MISSION OF DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD) is to protect all Angelenos, especially the most vulnerable, from both the impacts of the climate crisis and daily pollutant exposure, and that the City does its “fair share”⁸ to restore a safe climate and an overall healthy planet.

The CEMD will develop, coordinate, and track implementation of a comprehensive Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) to rapidly reduce emissions of Citywide criteria pollutants and greenhouse gasses, and to sequester historic and present emissions. The CEMD will ensure that Los Angeles meets goals and targets for keeping global temperature increases below 1.5°C degrees, and returning them to safe levels. It will coordinate a Citywide mobilization to counter the causes and impacts of the climate emergency, direct interdepartmental efforts, participate in regional, statewide, federal and global climate mobilizations, and ensure consistency with the principles of a “just transition” in all its activities.

Internally, CEMD will serve as the central coordinating body for the many City departments working on sustainability, adaptation, resilience, racial healing, restorative justice, emergency preparedness, planning, transportation, infrastructure, water, energy, parks, forestry, biodiversity, housing, workforce development, manufacturing, public health, education, regenerative agriculture⁹, and waste. The department will operate through a systemic and interdisciplinary approach that centers on collaborative processes.

The CEMD will expedite accomplishment of the following objectives:

- Empower environmental justice communities to play a leadership role in the development of climate solutions and of the CEMD itself.
- Rapid drawdown and elimination of the City’s emissions and pollutants across all sectors with a transition to renewable energy and other practices that promote a cradle-to-cradle economy, based in the principles of green chemistry.¹⁰
- Reduce the use of toxic chemicals, with an early focus on sectors of the economy that are ready for transition.
- Prioritize the development of Climate Emergency Preparedness and Resiliency Plans for and by frontline neighborhoods.
- Safely sequester excess greenhouse gases through regenerative agriculture, urban forest expansion, and the adoption of policies that help create healthy soil.
- Rapidly expand solar energy across residential and municipal buildings, beginning in frontline communities.

water or public investment. The inability of these communities to cope with disasters and pollutant-related health impacts can be compounded by poverty, unemployment, and lack of access to education.

⁸ “Fair shares” is an approach to dividing up the global emissions reduction burden, taking into account factors such as historical responsibility and economic capability to take climate action. For a detailed example of this methodology applied at the national level, refer to the Climate Equity Reference Project: <https://climateequityreference.org/>

⁹ “Regenerative” is an umbrella term for nature-based approaches to land use that restore biodiversity and improve soil health, sequestering carbon dioxide in the process of natural cycling.

¹⁰ 12 principles of green chemistry <https://www.epa.gov/greenchemistry/basics-green-chemistry#twelve>

- Expand services and access to zero-emission public transit and encourage electric vehicles by installing electric vehicle charging stations; prioritizing frontline communities.
- Prioritize environmental justice communities in the City's climate investments.
- Re-assess land use to meet these updated City goals.
- Ensure transparent reporting on all of the above.

3. VISION

The vision of the CEMD is a zero-emissions, egalitarian, carbon-neutral, just, resilient and regenerative Los Angeles by 2028. Just climate priorities will guide the City's annual fiscal budget process. Investments will be prioritized in disproportionately impacted and climate vulnerable communities, and will be balanced among: technologies and infrastructures to eliminate emissions; widespread natural climate solutions for emissions drawdown that expand the commons and ensure protection of local water supply, water and air quality, biodiversity, and ecosystems; and social policies and programs that actualize a just transition, one that creates hundreds of thousands of good jobs, better quality of life for all Angelenos and builds Citywide equitable, inclusive, cross-cultural communities.

4. DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHMENT & RESPONSIBILITIES

The department will be initially constituted by combining existing Departmental Sustainability and Resilience personnel into a new CEMD led by a Department General Manager and supported by grant writers and key administrative service and coordinator personnel.

The Energy, Climate Change and Environmental Justice Committee will oversee drafting of the establishment ordinance, and an Emergency Appointment review process for these positions. A Department General Manager could be appropriated from existing City Hall staff, for example the open Chief Resilience Officer position.

The loan of existing City staff resources, including all Department Chief Sustainability Officers (DCSOs) and Chief Resilience Officers (DCROs), will be leveraged to facilitate collaboration and coordination across disciplines and departments. Deputy Managers in all relevant issue areas may be drawn from these positions. Each City department will loan grant-writing personnel to the CEMD. Additional staff from key departments and initiatives will be loaned to or absorbed into the CEMD as it develops.

Evaluation & Metrics

In order to mobilize and direct accelerated climate action effectively, the CEMD will develop a comprehensive Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) utilizing existing City Plans and Goals as a foundation. The CEAP will be updated at least every two years.

The CEMD will be responsible for development of metrics to measure and track the City's historical, ongoing, and cumulative GHG emissions, as well as criteria pollutants. This foundational step is critical to establishing the City's baseline condition, determining the scale of the challenge, guiding rapid action, and actively tracking progress to protect public health.

The CEMD will develop an annual Climate Budget of greenhouse gasses and criteria pollutants accounting for present and historical emissions to determine the City's allowable annual emissions and requisite sequestration¹¹, just as the City's financial budget determines its monetary expenditures. Sources of data can be drawn from CalEnviroScreen and other data platforms designed by community-based research efforts such as the 500 Feet Tool onboarded by PSR-LA. Transparency of the methodology behind the development and implementation of Climate Budgets will be vital. The Climate Budget is a governance tool for reaching targets adopted in the CEAP, and will be integrated within the annual City budget process.

CEMD will also develop metrics for what Climate Emergency Preparedness means from an equity and justice perspective. CEMD will develop a clear understanding of toxic hotspots and communities vulnerable to climate-driven impacts, either because of where they are located (topography), what/how much is next to them (number of cumulative toxic or polluting sources) and/or lack of existing resources that would normally make this community resilient in the case of a climate emergency, but is currently not.

For example, low-income communities with an inordinate amount of toxic hot spots currently do not have enough fire department stations nor access to commensurate hospital emergency rooms. Frontline neighborhoods located next to oil drilling sites or chemical manufacturing plants should have clear Climate Emergency Preparedness Plans, developed by community leaders from within those neighborhoods, and ready to be operationalized by those same leaders.

As demonstrated by past climate and environmental disasters, poor communities are also vulnerable to an inordinate amount of police and militarized presence due a lack of predetermined community-based responses to these disasters. In communities of color, police and military presence becomes the default when there is no emergency plan. Lessons from ongoing and past environmental disasters in Flint, New Orleans and Puerto Rico should inform the principles and metrics that will shape the evaluation of our efforts in Los Angeles.

Transparency and accountability will be key to building trust and guiding Citywide action. Therefore, the CEMD will develop close links between measures in the Climate Budget and the instructions given to agencies for their annual work plan and reporting routines, and to establish a mechanism for quarterly reporting from all City Departments, Proprietaries, Initiatives, Partnerships, Council Districts, and Planning Areas.

Development of robust, transparent metrics, targeted actions, clear budgeting, and regular reporting to facilitate Citywide progress and accountability towards meeting CEAP goals will serve as a framework for implementation and accounting that tracks progress.

¹¹ For the purposes of this document, "sequestration" refers to the natural "drawdown" of atmospheric carbon and its storage in healthy soils and vegetation, through watershed management, expanded open spaces, reforestation, wetland and ecosystem restoration, and sustainable agriculture.

Ongoing Research

To be responsive to changing climate dynamics, the CEMD will consistently work with City staff and stakeholders to identify critical research needs and move key studies forward in collaboration with academic and policy institutions, scientists, and impacted constituencies. Research efforts shall include community-led research, planning, and expertise.

Citywide Mobilization & Communication

A transformation of this scale will require a public mobilization to enlist participation of all Angelenos in the process. The City Council, via the CEMD, will direct all City departments to model meaningful actions to advance the CEAP. These will be undertaken in partnership with community-based organizations and especially small businesses, and with guidance from the CEMD's oversight bodies.

Furthermore, the CEMD will also roll out an assertive, multi-lingual, culturally-relevant public education campaign to support public understanding of the need for a rapid and just transition, pathways for engagement, and the CEMD's criteria for transparency and accountability. Quarterly progress reports and metrics from all departments and council districts will be widely accessible and clearly communicated across all available media platforms.

City-wide communication and active engagement of the populace are essential for achieving these ambitious goals. The CEMD will work with frontline communities to shape a mobilization that engages all Angelenos in efforts to counter the causes and impacts of the climate emergency, while promoting a more equitable and inclusive city for all.

Grants & Funding Partnerships

Tens of millions of dollars have been allocated by State and Federal agencies toward climate adaptation, resilience, and emergency preparedness, yet are often left on the table in the absence of advanced planning and effective grant writers employed by the City. The CAO shall be directed to find relevant grants that can help provide funds to rapidly grow the department. In addition, all City grant applications will go through CEMD in their concept phase to ensure maximized cross-departmental cooperation and collaboration, cost and climate-effectiveness, and advancement of CEAP Goals.

Intergovernmental Coordination

Finally, if Los Angeles is to succeed in creating a safe climate for its residents, it must ensure that this mobilization effort spreads across the U.S. and the globe. The CEMD will work collaboratively with other local governments, particularly in Southern California, their state and federal counterparts, and the City's Sister Cities, as well as private and non-governmental organizations located outside of L.A., to maximize the global impact of its locally-driven efforts.

5. OVERSIGHT

An essential component of any successful department is accountability. An Oversight Commission of nine members will be established, drawing from the Department's key stakeholders, including especially, frontline environmental justice communities, labor workers, and youth.

Additionally, seven Area Climate Commissions (ACCs) with nine members each, with jurisdictional boundaries that comport with those of the existing Area Planning Commissions. In compliment to the high-level accountability function of the Oversight Commission, these ACCs would provide direction on how the city-wide mobilization should unfold in their districts, and oversee projects in their districts.

As the CEMD will be bound by the principles of a "just transition" these Commissions' memberships should be established through an appropriate selection process, designed to prioritize frontline communities and include monolingual, undocumented and youth residents who are often excluded from such bodies. The appointment process could draw on the City's existing Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA), composed of representatives from Neighborhood Councils from across L.A. Nominations for membership on the Commissions could be put forward by Community-Based Organizations and/or Neighborhood Councils.

Once established, Area Climate Commissions will schedule meetings so as to be accessible to all stakeholders, and will provide a mechanism for stakeholder participation in the development of the City's CEAP and annual planning. All Commissioners will be fairly compensated, and will serve staggered three-year terms.

Once established, Area Climate Commissions will schedule meetings so as to be accessible to all stakeholders, and will provide a mechanism for stakeholder participation in the implementation of the City's CEAP and development of the annual Carbon Budget.

6. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Given the disparate impact that climate change has on vulnerable and low-income communities and the potential to exacerbate these disparities through inequitable policy decisions, the CEMD will hold regular public engagement meetings at accessible locations throughout the City, in addition to a quarterly presentation to the NCSA.

Meetings will be structured in partnership with community-based organizations to hear, engage, and cultivate community involvement with meaningful integration of local knowledge. Meetings and presentations shall be culturally-appropriate, offered in multiple languages, offer accessibility support to participants, and address diverse populations' learning abilities and needs, including educational approaches for those with disabilities. The purpose is to increase community voice in decision-making, strengthen agency transparency, and allow for direct feedback from the community to the CEMD, with focus on sourcing input on key policies and programs from climate-vulnerable, marginalized, and low-income communities.

For more on the CEMD's proposed Community Engagement Plan, please see the attached proposal.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION DEPARTMENT

Community Assemblies Proposal

3/15/19

I. Description of LEAP LA

Leap-LA is a coalition comprised of eight organizations that builds from a nationwide effort to leap society forward, transition off of fossil fuels and return the world to a safe environment. The vision of Leap-LA is to transform Los Angeles to be zero-emissions, egalitarian, regenerative and resilient by 2028, while ensuring that the community's voice and vision for justice is at the forefront. Initial founding members of Leap-LA are: Communities for a Better Environment, Physicians for Social Responsibility-Los Angeles, The Climate Mobilization, Esperanza Community Housing, Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education (SCOPE), The Leap, 5 Gyres and a representative from AIM (American Indian Movement). These are groups that individually and collectively have deep and enduring knowledge of environmental justice, land use, economic development and building community engagement and knowledge. Leap-LA works in close collaboration with the office of Councilmember Paul Koretz.

II. Background & Context

As wildfires exacerbated by climate disruption burn in and around our beloved City, and as we call for answers to the ongoing health and environmental threats from the toxic life cycle of fossil fuels, we are being reminded of the long standing demands: in addition to being on the frontlines of environmental injustice, Los Angeles is also on the frontlines of a rapidly-changing climate, the effects of which will exacerbate existing toxic contamination in soil, water, air and in our bodies. This deadly intersection highlights the enormity of the environmental, health and humanitarian crisis that we are facing as a City and as a planet.

Community organizations collectively have hundreds of years of experience in addressing pollution and climate disruption through community-led initiatives to turn toxic hot spots into green zones, holding numerous forums with residents to find solutions to cope with extreme weather, producing multiple reports in the last decade proposing various methods to increase access to green jobs, and educating and mobilizing health and community voices calling for health and equity based environmental and climate policies that seek to *Democratize, Detoxify and Decarbonize* our fossil fuel-based and petrochemical economy.

These collaborative, community-based efforts have moved the City in the right direction towards addressing long-term impacts, and provided frontline communities an opportunity to address some immediate impacts. It is clear that a more coordinated city-wide effort is needed. We need a focused structure that integrates a municipal cross-departmental strategy and ensures that communities who suffer the brunt of the extractive, fossil fuel-based economy, as well as increasing climate change impacts, are genuinely engaged in prioritizing the needs and solutions.

On January 17, 2018, Councilmembers Paul Koretz and Bob Blumenfield introduced a motion to explore and establish a Los Angeles Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD) "with all necessary powers" to plan and coordinate the City's climate and resilience responses and to ensure that "lower-income and frontline communities of color are able to access and benefit from mitigation and adaptation funds." The CEMD will develop, coordinate, and track implementation of a comprehensive Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) to rapidly reduce citywide greenhouse gas emissions, sequester historic and present emissions, and organize a broader mobilization of public resources and communities to transform all sectors at emergency speed and to restore a safe climate and a healthy environment for all Angelenos.

On May 21, 2018, the City Council voted to approve a \$500,000 appropriation in short-term seed funding. The funds will support the development of a Climate Emergency Mobilization Program, to work in partnership the CEMD in the first year.

III. Community Assemblies Proposal

Leap-LA proposes to utilize the \$500,000 to support a targeted Community Assemblies process that would culminate in a General City-wide Assembly. The Community Assemblies proposal builds on the legacy of the Mayor's Office of Sustainability, the LA County Sustainability effort, and other similar Assemblies models such as the forums and gatherings led by CBE, SCOPE, and Liberty Hill, while tangibly directing funds towards priority solutions that would address the needs of the most impacted communities.

A. Community Assemblies

The goals of the Community Assemblies are to:

- **Listen, engage and empower frontline community members in Los Angeles towards climate justice and a just transition that will *detoxify* affected communities, *decarbonize* our economy and *democratize* our collective decision-making on how we equitably address climate change.** Leap-LA would work with the CAO and CLA to develop a meaningful process for collaboration with communities to get input on principles in order to guide the development and implementation of the CEMD. All Community Assemblies will be culturally-appropriate, offered in multiple languages, and use a grassroots community engagement approach to ensure genuine community participation.
- **Ensure capacity-building of frontline leaders to properly equip them for community participatory climate decision-making.** Conduct trainings & education on the global climate emergency and broader ecological crisis, and address what it would take to build the capacity of frontline communities to take leadership in this initiative. Funds would be used towards leadership development on understanding LA City decision-making structures, giving feedback via authentic community engagement, and offering opportunities for frontline communities to engage in the decision-making structure.

- **Provide critical feedback to the City of LA for the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD) design and its accompanying implementation plan.** Input may include: how the CEMD would connect with frontline communities; what community oversight would entail; how equity, egalitarianism and just transition would be incorporated; how the CEMD can identify potential climate impacts and identify and prioritize high-risk communities and community-members; how to address other pressing intersectional issues (like housing, transportation, criminalization of communities of color, and systemic racism); and what type of infrastructure needs to be created for the City to be truly climate-ready (transit, communications, open spaces, health services, etc.).
- **Host Community Assemblies in frontline communities:** The CalEnviroScreen¹ tool, amongst other available tools, may be used to identify in which communities to hold the Community Assemblies.

Outcomes of Community Assemblies:

- Conduct 7 Community Assemblies of 50-100 community leaders in disadvantaged communities throughout LA. Assembly outreach will also look to prioritize groups such as Indigenous peoples, labor union members and other frontline community members.
- Get community input and buy-in on the CEMD through the Assemblies;
- Develop 3-5 proposals for pilot projects for the CEMD to be tested in the Community Assemblies process. Criteria and goals for the potential priority pilot projects will be developed in the Community Assemblies process;
- Convene a General City-wide Assembly that would: a) release a summary and analysis of the series of Community Assemblies, b) release a document of principles and priorities for the CEMD and the City of LA to address, and c) share an analysis of best-practices;
- Create a seven Area Climate Commissions (ACCs) with nine members each with jurisdictional boundaries that comport with those of the existing Area Planning Commissions. In compliment to the high-level accountability function of an Oversight Commission, these ACCs would provide direction on how the city-wide mobilization should unfold in their districts, and oversee projects in their districts.

¹ <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen>

IV. Request to Allocate Funds for Assemblies

Leap-LA proposes that the \$500,000 allocated in the Unappropriated Balance toward a Climate Change Emergency Mobilization Program be used for the purposes of organizing and holding Community Assemblies and for staffing of the CEMD.

The total estimated costs for the Community Assemblies are **\$305,000**, and include:

- \$36,430 per Community Assembly with a minimum of 7 one-day Community Assemblies in disadvantaged communities and Indigenous communities throughout Los Angeles.

The budget for each Community Assembly is:

- \$18,930 will go towards organizers from community-based organizations to conduct mass outreach to community members, to organize the Assemblies, and for curriculum development for the training and education portion of the Assemblies, including hiring a team of paid organizers and grassroots outreach teams to do door knocking and phone banking in the 7 neighborhoods where the Community Assemblies would be held;
 - \$15,000 will go towards renting the venues and the logistics of each session, such as translation and interpretation in multiple languages to reach diverse communities, transportation, food, materials, childcare, photography, and miscellaneous items; documentation and evaluation;
 - \$2,500 will go towards infrastructure and materials. A predictive dialing system will be needed to reach a significant number of community residents. Funds will go towards developing outreach and informational materials, and hiring a designer to create effective tools. Funds will also go towards a mass-texting platform that ensures we are reaching a wide representation of constituencies.
- \$40,000 in costs for the General City-wide Assembly will go towards organizers, venue, travel, meals, logistics, honorariums, and miscellaneous expenses.
 - \$10,000 will cover costs for the cumulative report development, production and design.

The total estimated costs for the staffing is **\$195,000** for a full-time General Manager and any necessary administrative staffing. Further personnel recommendations are contained in the CEMD Short Proposal.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY MOBILIZATION DEPARTMENT

First Steps

3/15/19

Background of the CEMD

On January 17, 2018, the Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice Committee introduced motion 18-0054 to explore establishment of a Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD) "with all necessary powers" to plan and coordinate the City's climate and resilience responses. Council adopted the motion on April 27, 2018. In creating the world's first Climate Emergency Mobilization Department, Los Angeles has an opportunity to set an example for cities across the globe. The CEMD will marshal the resources and vision to craft world-leading policies in partnership with City departments and stakeholders.

PHASE I - Internal Infrastructure (introduced in first ECCEJ hearing):

I. Adopt CEMD Mission, Vision, & Just Transition definition

The mission of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD) is to protect all residents, especially the most vulnerable, from the impacts of the climate crisis by ensuring a rapid and equitable just transition. The CEMD will ensure that Los Angeles meets established goals and targets for keeping global temperature increases below 1.5 degrees, and returning them to safe levels. It will coordinate a citywide mobilization to counter the causes and impacts of the climate emergency, direct interdepartmental efforts, and ensure consistency with the principles of a "just transition."

The vision of the CEMD is a carbon-neutral, sustainable, just, egalitarian and resilient Los Angeles by 2030. Just climate priorities will guide the City's annual fiscal budget process. Investments will be balanced between technologies and infrastructures to reduce emissions, social policies and programs that ensure just and safe adaptations, and natural climate solutions for emissions drawdown that expand the commons and ensure protection of local water supply, water and air quality, biodiversity, and ecosystems. Investments will be prioritized in disproportionately impacted and climate vulnerable communities.

A just transition addresses past and ongoing harms of the extractive economy by centering principles of justice, inclusion, reparations, material equity, and democracy within a transformation to a clean energy economy. This transition will prioritize low-income and frontline communities of color as the first fiscal beneficiaries of the clean energy economy and ensure workers displaced by the clean energy transition will be prioritized for retraining, education, assistance, and job placement in positions of comparable pay. A just transition will mitigate racial, economic, and gender-based inequities; and foster resiliency of communities and ecosystems through restoration and preservation of the commons. Ongoing community consultation through inclusive, democratic mechanisms will be established to ensure the goals of community health and stability, ecological resilience, decent work for all, social inclusion and the eradication of poverty remain centered.

II. Establish Dept. & Commissions

Staff initial year by combining all existing Sustainability and Resilience office personnel into a new CEMD. The Chief Resilience Officer will act as the interim Department General Manager. The loan of existing City staff resources, including all department Chief Sustainability Officers (CSOs) and Chief Resilience Officers (CROs) for 4 days/week, will be leveraged to facilitate collaboration and coordination across disciplines and departments. Deputy Managers in all relevant issue areas may be drawn from these positions. Each City department will loan grant writing personnel to the CEMD. Establish a diverse oversight Commission of 9 members. By the end of year one, 7 Area Climate Commissions with 9 members each will be established with jurisdictional boundaries that comport with those of the existing Area Planning Commissions.

III. Immediate CEMD Tasks (year one)

Develop a comprehensive Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) utilizing existing City Plans and Goals as a foundation that will including the following:

1. Develop metrics to measure and track the City's historical and ongoing GHG emissions as well as criteria pollutants.
2. Develop an annual Climate Emissions Budget accounting for present and historical emissions to determine the city-wide allowable annual greenhouse gas and criteria pollutant emissions, and requisite sequestration.
3. Identify critical research needs and move key studies forward through collaboration with academic and policy institutions, scientists, NGO partners, and impacted constituencies.
4. Work with the CAO to identify relevant grants that can help provide funds to support and rapidly grow the department. Review all City grant applications in their concept phase to ensure maximized cross-departmental cooperation and collaboration, cost and carbon-effectiveness, and advancement of CEAP Goals

PHASE II - External Community Engagement and Collaborations (introduced in second ECCEJ hearing):

1. Hold regular Community Assemblies at accessible locations throughout the City, in addition to a quarterly presentation to the NCSA. Meetings will be structured to hear, engage, and cultivate community involvement with meaningful integration of community knowledge. The purpose is to increase community voice in decision-making, strengthen agency transparency, and allow for direct communication between the community and the CEMD, with focus on sourcing additional input on policies and programs from climate-vulnerable, marginalized, and low-income communities.
2. Roll out an assertive, multi-lingual, culturally relevant public education campaign to support public understanding of the global climate emergency and the need for a rapid and just transition, pathways for engagement, and the criteria for transparency and accountability.
3. Develop 3-5 proposals for pilot projects for the CEMD to be tested in Community Assemblies, ranging from small residential to larger commercial and industrial areas.
4. Convene a General City-wide Assembly that would: a) release a summary and analysis of the series of Community Assemblies, b) release a document of principles and priorities for the CEMD and the City of LA to address, and share an analysis of best-practices
5. Develop a plan to oversee Regional Collaborations - ongoing efforts to partner with C40 Cities and to work collaboratively with other local governments, state and federal counterparts, and Sister Cities to maximize the global impact of our local efforts.