

To: CLA - CAO Office
From: The Leap LA Coalition
Date: 4/16/19

RE: CF 18-0054 Refinement of CEMD Proposal and Response to CCEEJ Committee Directives

Reference: [First Steps Proposal](#)

This document is meant to provide continued clarity to the CF18-0054 CEMD proposal to move ahead the various elements within the effort. This document is structured as follows:

- I. Summary of Directives from CCEEJ Committee and other next steps derived from meeting with CAO/CLA Office
- II. Definition of Frontline Communities and other Key Definitions and Concepts
- III. CEMD Commission & Community Advisory Committee
- IV. CEMD Mission and Vision
- V. Proposed Next Steps in Stakeholder and Consultant Assessment
- VI. Description of General Manager
- VII. Framework & Funding
- VIII. Ideas of Pilot Projects and Priorities
- IX. Summary and Next Steps

The following documents should also serve as a guide and are already in council file

1. [First Steps](#)
2. [Community Assemblies](#)
3. [LEAP-LA CEMD LONG PROPOSAL](#)

I. Summary of Directives from CCEEJ Committee and other next steps derived from meeting with CAO/CLA Office¹

A. CM Martinez

1. Meet with the LEAP-LA Coalition and CEMD advocates “to gain further insight and clarity of the objectives, priorities, and expectations of the proposed new department.”

¹ http://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2018/18-0054_rpt_CAO_03-19-2019.pdf

2. Review the LEAP-LA "**Community Assemblies**" proposal to inform and identify opportunities for inclusion of those strategies, **and develop a framework for an RFP for a consultant to perform the stakeholder engagement process described in the joint report.**
3. Provide further recommendations **on the governance and policy considerations outlined in the joint CAO/CLA report and LEAP-LA proposal**, and how the City can best incorporate those policies and programs into the proposed department as well as existing efforts, and prepare a roadmap with timeframes for critical next steps.
4. Report back with further **recommendations on the use of existing funding set aside during last year's budget cycle** for these initial efforts or for funding positions as suggested in the LEAP-LA proposal transmitted by Mr. Koretz.
5. Report back with suggestions and recommendations for the upcoming fiscal year budget that the Council should consider in its upcoming deliberations.
6. Return to the April 16th Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice Committee with the appropriate updates and report

B. CM Koretz

1. Identify how much the City has reduced emissions by? Identify reductions by sector?
2. Are we hitting our goals?
3. How much funding is in the proposed Mayor's budget for the Sustainability City Plan / Resilience Plan?
4. Does a Blue Ribbon panel have to be traditional panel or can it have front line community members?
5. There was a study done called "Natural Hazard Mitigation Saves" that said for every federal spent now on climate change mitigation will save \$6 dollars in the future. What's your response to this?

C. CM O'Farrell

1. Define front-line communities?
2. What will the relationship be with the new CEMD and DWP?
3. How will CEMD be a vehicle for new projects?
4. What will be the relationship between new CEMD with:
 - a. State of CA
 - b. CalTrans
 - c. Projects along the LA River

D. CM Cedillo

1. Can we develop a sustainable funding source for the CEMD proposal that isn't reliant on grant funds?

E. Follow Up Steps derived from 4/8 CAO/CLA Meeting

1. Let CLA/CAO about stakeholder and consultant assessment
2. Develop framework and how some of the funding can be used as next steps
3. Definition of frontlines
4. Ideas of pilot projects & priorities
5. Addendums submitted to CF 18-0054 by Wed 4/10

F. Relative to Green New Deal Policies

1. Report back on the Green New Deal as an accelerator of social equity.
2. Report back on the creation of a task force ending the school to prison pipeline.
3. How can we include a healing component in Green New Deal policies in order to discourage racial divides.
4. Report back on ways to guard against Disaster Capitalization as part of the Green New Deal
5. Report back on how we can expand on the Cool Blocks program, potentially Citywide.

II. Definition of Frontline Communities and other Key Concepts and Definitions

The legislative process to establish the CEMD began in January 2017², in the wake of extreme wildfires and mudslides in the Los Angeles region. Councilmembers Paul Koretz (CD5) and Bob Blumenfield (CD3) introduced a broad motion calling on the Los Angeles City Council to initiate an emergency mobilization effort rooted in principles of environmental justice. The motion included a request for the exploration and establishment of a Los Angeles Climate Emergency Mobilization Department “with all necessary powers” to plan and coordinate the City’s climate and resilience responses, to advocate for “lower-income and frontline communities of color [to] benefit first from mitigation and adaptation funds” and for displaced workers to receive the benefits of a “just transition.” In the subsequent months, the Los Angeles City Council, Councilmember Paul Koretz and his staff, and the Leap L.A. coalition have undertaken a series of actions to refine and advance this proposal.³

“Frontline communities” are communities most impacted by multiple and cumulative sources of pollution and climate impacts due to proximity to toxic factories, fossil fuel

² CF 18-0054 - Climate Emergency Mobilization Department
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=18-0054>

³ CF 18-0054 - Climate Emergency Mobilization Department
http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2018/18-0054_mot_01-17-2018.pdf

refineries, neighborhood oil drilling, freeways, and the like, often without access to clean drinking water or public investment. The inability of these communities to cope with the related health impacts can be compounded by poverty, unemployment, and lack of access to education.”

This is an initiative that will promote equitable ownership and employment opportunities in the just transition from fossil fuel in order to decrease disparities in life outcomes for marginalized communities and to address the disproportionate impacts of environmental racism in those communities.

Other key definitions:

Definition of Environmental Justice

Environmental Justice (EJ) is defined in state planning law as the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies (§ 65040.12(e)).⁴

Environmental Justice Communities have suffered the consequences of incompatible land uses for decades. “Communities are not simply groupings” but that they are “families, neighbors, and individuals, who recognize the necessity of sharing responsibility.”⁵

Environmental racism as “the exploitation of workers as well as the environment, the oppression of people on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation and class.”⁶ Fair treatment implies that no population should be forced to shoulder a disproportionate share of exposure to the negative effects of pollution due to lack of political or economic strength.

Definition of Just Transition

The concept of a “just transition” can be defined as prioritizing the needs of the most Vulnerable Angelenos, frontline and Indigenous communities, and displaced workers, so that they benefit first from mitigation and adaptation funding the recognition that confronting the climate crisis should not be viewed as merely a technical matter of

⁴ ARTICLE 4. Powers and Duties [65040 - 65040.15 (Article 4 added by Stats. 1970, Ch.1534 https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=GOV§ionNum=65040.12).

⁵ Penny Newman, [Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice](#)

⁶ “

switching energy sources, but also a social and economic shift that ushers in a cleaner, fairer city for all.⁷

The principles of a “just transition” ensure that the City’s responses to the climate crisis aims to rectify and deconstruct rather than reinforce existing structural inequities. It will actively initiate ancestral and systemic healing practices (following, for example, the model of EmBRACE LA’s 100 Dinners initiative to address racism) while implementing long-term solutions necessary to ensure overburdened communities have the tools to adapt and to increase their resiliency.⁸

Coordinated economic and environmental just transitions to protect workers, create jobs

Concretely, a Just Transition policy prioritizes job creation both for workers transitioning out of high-carbon and pollution-intensive sectors (like fossil fuels) and workers seeking the opportunities of a cleaner economy (low-carbon affordable housing construction, mass transit, urban agriculture, cleantech, etc.). It does this in a way that systematically and appropriately engages communities that have historically faced structural barriers to good, unionized jobs: low income people, Indigenous communities, people of color, immigrants and non-English speakers, formerly- incarcerated workers, housing-challenged, et al. Furthermore, it emphasizes investment in economic and environmental transition for communities where fossil fuels and other related dirty industries have been sited.

This economic transition will require substantial planning and coordination to maximize the benefits and minimize the harm caused to workers. The CEMD will help design, establish and implement a Just Transition Fund in partnership with the City’s Workforce Development Board and Workforce and Economic Development Department and other relevant City Departments (DWP, LADOT), labor unions, vocational/technical training programs at area community colleges, and entities like the Los Angeles CleanTech Incubator.

[Jemez Principles](#)

According to the Jemez Principles developed during the Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice (SNEEJ) in Jemez, New Mexico in December 1996, the following are the principles that guide our democratizing organizing:

⁷ [LEAP-LA CEMD Long Proposal](#)

⁸ “

- #1 Be Inclusive**
- #2 Emphasis on Bottom-Up Organizing**
- #3 Let People Speak for Themselves**
- #4 Work Together In Solidarity and Mutuality**
- #5 Build Just Relationships Among Ourselves**
- #6 Commitment to Self-Transformation**

Additionally, our principles and work is guided by the [Louisville Charter](#) reform platform and guide to create safer and healthier environments through innovation. According to the Louisville Charter, a fundamental reform to current chemical laws is necessary to protect children, workers, communities, and the environment. It should be a priority for government legislation and regulatory agencies actions to protect communities health by phasing out the most dangerous chemicals, developing safer alternatives, protecting frontline communities, and ensuring that those responsible for creating hazardous chemicals and negatively impacting the health of sensitive populations are held accountable.⁹ The design and development of new, safer chemicals, products, and production systems can ensure the protection of communities' health while creating a solidarity economy based on healthy and sustainable jobs. The following are key steps in developing safer alternatives that could eliminate toxics' exposure in frontline communities and create safe new jobs, ensuring a just transition for all, by using clean and innovative technologies:

1. Require Safer Substitutes and Solutions
2. Phase Out Persistent, Bioaccumulative, or Highly Toxic Chemicals
3. Give the Public and Workers the Full Right-to-Know and Participate
4. Act on Early Warnings and Signs of Potential Harm to Health
5. Require Comprehensive Safety Data for All Chemicals
6. Take Immediate Action to Protect Communities and Workers

⁹ The Louisville Charter for Safer Chemicals. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://smartpolicyreform.org/the-charter/the-louisville-charter>

Department Formation & Accountability Structure

As proposed, the CEMD would be a non-Charter City department, created by ordinance, which requires only a simple majority of the Council and the Mayor's signature, or a two-thirds Council vote to override a Mayoral veto. Ordinance-created departments are not required to have a commission; the Council can determine whether the department will be managed by a commission or by a general manager. With a few exceptions, commissioners of ordinance-created departments are appointed by the Mayor to five-year terms and must be registered voters of the City. The CEMD ordinance may include additional requirements for commissioners.

However, the City Council action of April 27, 2018, directs the Chief Legislative Analyst, working with the City Administrative Officer, to report on the feasibility of creating a stakeholder commission that would oversee the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department, including requiring seats for particular groups, including: environmental justice groups, labor groups, business, and others.

Given that the CEMD will be accountable to a wide variety of stakeholders—from frontline environmental justice communities to workers in declining fossil fuel industries—a public commission made up of members from the various stakeholder groups should provide external legal oversight, help set policy direction, and ensure the department meets its goals in a timely fashion.

CEMD Commission & Community Advisory Committee

The CEMD Commission (Commission) will develop broad strategy, policy and program recommendations to maximize the effectiveness, equitable impact and innovative leadership of the new department. The Commission should be comprised of 15 commissioners, 1 from each Council District, from diverse stakeholder groups, and must include stakeholders representing: labor, green business, environmental justice communities, Neighborhood Councils, and low-income communities. All CEMD Commissioners should be subject the City's conflict of interest policy. In order to prevent powerful special interest groups from negatively influencing the Commission, it is necessary that Commissioners demonstrate substantial lived or professional expertise in issues related to climate policy, climate justice or the needs of a relevant stakeholder group.

Furthermore, 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 Commission should be advised by a Community Advisory Committee (CAC). The

purpose of the CAC is to provide additional input on the impact of CEMD policies and programs on vulnerable and marginalized communities, particularly low-income and environmental justice communities. The CAC should be a community leadership body that increases community voice in decision-making, strengthens agency transparency, and allows for direct communication between the community and the Department, resulting in solutions and outcomes that are accountable to the needs of our most impacted constituents.

The CAC should be comprised of 8-12 stakeholders representing environmental justice communities, low-income residents, displaced workers, renters, public transportation riders, community-based organizations, labor, homeless residents, and other key impacted constituencies. A minimum of 4 CAC members must be frontline grassroots community members. The CAC should meet at a minimum of once a quarter.

In addition to its advisory duties, to ensure that the CEMD Commission is truly representing the needs of vulnerable and traditionally marginalized communities, the CAC should: 1) provide CEMD Commission appointment recommendations and feedback that Council Members should be responsive to; 2) seek regular direct input from community residents, particularly low-income and environmental justice communities; and 3) partner with community-based organizations to support the leadership development and training of a cadre of community residents that can serve on the CAC and potentially the Commission.

Mission of the Department

The mission of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department is to develop the programs, plans, services and funding needed to provide the level of governmental leadership necessary to fully address the existing and ongoing climate emergency facing the city. The Department will do this while prioritizing the needs of Angelenos at intersections of environmental, racial, economic, disability, and gender justice. The CEMD will coordinate the citywide mobilization to counter the causes and impacts of the climate emergency, oversee interdepartmental efforts, and develop a comprehensive emergency preparedness program and climate emergency mobilization implementation plan.

The CEMD will respond to climate emergency and the related deaths, injury, illness, and displacement caused, for example, by severe damage to homes, businesses and infrastructure, extreme storm events, out-of-control wildfires, extreme drought and sea-level rise, all of which demand billions of dollars in clean up, rebuilding and adaptation measures.

The CEMD will do all of this work based on “just transition” principles -- the recognition that confronting the climate crisis should not be viewed as merely a technical matter of switching energy sources, but also a social and economic shift that ushers in a cleaner, fairer city for all.

The CEMD will ensure that the City’s responses to the climate crisis aims to rectify and deconstruct rather than reinforce existing structural inequities. It will actively initiate ancestral and systemic healing practices (following, for example, the model of EmBRACE LA’s 100 Dinners initiative to address racism) while implementing long-term solutions necessary to ensure overburdened communities have the tools to adapt and to increase their resiliency.

The CEMD will coordinate the City’s effort to push other jurisdictions in the region, the state, around the country and around the globe to set similarly bold climate goals and take similarly bold action, expanding on LA’s existing roles in the C40 Cities and Climate Mayors initiatives.

Initial Vision & Scope of the Department

In mounting an urgent, justice-based response, Los Angeles has an historic opportunity to transform city life for the better -- making it more equitable and democratic, safer, and flourishing. The CEMD will be the driving force behind that transformation.

In the first phase of its work, the CEMD will examine and adopt any missing best City practices, and develop innovative strategies to educate the people of Los Angeles about the effects of the climate crisis and the need for an immediate mobilization, with the goal being a city-wide consensus for ongoing, emergency-scale action rooted in a just transition. The department will launch with a small staff -- in some cases, this proposal indicates how key positions could initially be borrowed from other City departments -- and will grow strategically, propelled by the work of the Grants and Partnerships Office.

The CEMD will quickly become a “one-stop shop” for any Angelenos endeavoring to take part in the profound benefits of that transition, and to protect their families from the climate impacts already being felt across the city. If a constituent calls in with an environmental justice complaint, for example, or a Neighborhood Council wants to establish an emissions reduction effort, the CEMD will connect them to the right people or funding opportunities, similar to the Department of Sanitation’s ombudsman effort for the Clean Up Green Up program.

L.A.'s communities will see the department as the key to unlocking access to green jobs trainings, healthy and sustainable local food networks, subsidies for installing solar or switching to an electric car, and much more; they will know that the agency is prepared to shepherd them through the full range of city, state and federal programs to help individuals mitigate, adapt, and

thrive in a warming world. Moreover, the department will organize citywide trainings in all these areas.

Uniquely, the CEMD will be designed in close partnership with the communities of Los Angeles, and in direct response to their needs. The foundation will be a robust stakeholder engagement process to launch the department, in which community members will guide the development of the CEMD and ground it in democratic processes. To ensure community accountability over the long-term, the CEMD will include a diverse stakeholder Commission with strict criteria for membership, advised by a robust Community Advisory Committee.

For the most vulnerable Angelenos -- including low-income people and people of color, the homeless and formerly incarcerated, Indigenous people, immigrants, and fossil fuel workers whose livelihoods are threatened by climate action -- the CEMD will be a particularly significant partner. Through conversations with outreach workers, marginalized residents will learn not only that the CEMD is specifically mandated to prioritize and serve their communities, but also how they can and must play a central role in shaping its agenda and programs. More broadly, from homeowners' and transit riders' associations to labor unions, faith-based groups, and policy think tanks, all parts of civil society will use the CEMD as a resource and facilitator for participating in L.A.'s climate mobilization. Similarly, the department will be the first point of contact for businesses looking for best climate practices or help with compliance, or investors seeking to channel funds into the green transition.

Just as the department will make L.A.'s climate mobilization coherent and more democratic for city stakeholders, the CEMD will also take internal responsibility for planning and coordinating the just transition throughout municipal government. It will develop comprehensive climate mobilization and just transition plans for the city, incorporating research from local universities, scientists, and community and business groups. To implement them wherever possible, the CEMD will collaborate with the Mayor, the City Council, and other departments to develop strategies and obtain the necessary funding, and to push the city to prioritize the climate emergency in all programs and processes. The Mayor has directed City departments to designate Chief Resilience Officers, who might be enlisted as key partners in this effort. The CEMD will also frequently convene interdepartmental working groups, to ensure that relevant climate and environment programs are working in tandem.

Finally, if Los Angeles is to succeed in restoring a safe climate for its residents, it must also advocate for climate mobilization efforts to rapidly spread across the United States and across the globe. The CEMD will oversee ongoing efforts to partner with C40 Cities and to maximize the global impact of our local climate emergency mobilization and just transition program. It will

take actions to support and organize other local governments, as well as state and federal counterparts, to help rapidly shift the world into an emergency response to the climate crisis.

III. Proposed Next Steps in Stakeholder and Consultant Assessment

Leap LA proposes that Leap LA convene a consultant team with the comprehensive capacity to implement a popular ed and research based, community engagement plan across the city in 7-15 Community Assemblies.

If it is found that Leap LA cannot play a direct role in the convening of a consultant team, the LEAP LA team can, with the CAO/CLA office, shape and help define the consultant scope of work for an RFP as follows:

A. Project Description

Reference: [Community Assemblies proposal](#)

The City of LA currently has several efforts to address the sustainability of our environment. However, drawing from lessons learned from New Orleans, Flint, Houston and Puerto Rico, the city is moving to take extra steps to develop climate emergency plans in communities across Los Angeles. Los Angeles is home to over 4 million residents, with numerous languages and ethnic origins as well as varying economic means that may affect communities in their preparations for climate change-related events and potential emergencies.

As a result, the LEAP-LA Coalition in partnership with the Office of Councilmember Paul Koretz introduced the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department motion on January 17, 2018, and City Council voted unanimously to “with all necessary powers to plan and coordinate all of the City’s climate and resilience responses, including emergency climate mitigation, resilience and adaptation programs, beginning with a robust climate emergency public education and outreach stakeholder process that includes the Mayor’s Sustainability and Resilience Offices, scientists, social and environmental justice advocates, local labor unions and union federation, the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance, local Non-Governmental Organizations, neighborhood councils, homeowners’ associations and business groups.”¹⁰

The city is now publishing this RFP to identify a consultant team that brings the team qualification described in the next section.

¹⁰ http://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2018/18-0054_mot_01-17-2018.pdf

B. Team Qualifications

The Consultant team should include a collective of individuals who bring forth these characteristics, skills and competencies to the project. Please note that some of these qualifications are listed in the First Steps document.

1. Mission and Vision of the Consultant Team

The stated mission and vision of the consultant team or its company or collective's approach to stakeholder engagement should be consistent with the mission and vision of the CEMD proposal.

2. Experience in working with historically disadvantaged communities in inclusive, participatory, democratizing, solutioneering, asset-based methods that values leadership development and restorative relationships, versus extractive, top to bottom, methods that stop at the "community input" level assuming expertise cannot be found and nurtured from within communities.

3. Demonstrated experience in applying theories of change with an equity lens, social equity meaning just and fair inclusion into a society in which all can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential. In reference to the distinction between equality and equity: "Equality gives everyone the right to ride on the bus, in any seat they choose. Equity ensures there are bus lines where people need them so they can get to school or the doctor or work."¹¹

4. Knowledge of historical urban planning policies from a race and class lens
Strong understanding of how race and class has shaped Los Angeles and its urban landscape and thus its overconcentration of polluting sources in low-income communities of color throughout Los Angeles.

5. Ecological Diversity and Climate Change Knowledge and Planning

LA is famously home to almost eight million motor vehicles, 500 miles of freeways, and a consistent ranking at or near the top of the list for "worst air quality" among major metropolitan areas in the US. While known internationally for the entertainment industry, it has historically been – and continues to be a -- major hub for the fossil fuel industry; it is the second largest oil-producing county in the third largest oil-producing state, home to the largest urban oil field in the country and to ten oil refineries.

¹¹ <http://putnam-consulting.com/philanthropy-411-blog/equity-is/>

- Must include strong technical expertise in the science of climate change, ability to conduct robust greenhouse gas emissions assessments
- Must include strong understanding of how climate change disproportionately impacts frontlines and other disadvantaged communities, and how existing and potential future climate change mitigation, adaptation, and emergency response strategies can either reinforce account address existing racial, economic, gender, immigration and other inequities
- Must include strong technical expertise in understanding toxicity and toxic exposure and emissions in diverse sectors of the Los Angeles economy, including a strong understanding of and ability to assess the disproportionate impacts of toxic exposure on frontline and other disadvantaged communities

6. Team Diversity reflective of the diversity found in Los Angeles

Los Angeles also ranks as one of the most diverse cities in the US, with huge immigrant populations from across the globe and a scale of racial and ethnic diversity that is simultaneous a cultural asset and a contributor to the city's deep political contradictions. Within LA's many multi-racial working class neighborhoods, a strong tradition of grassroots community organizing and advocacy has developed, especially in the aftermath of the 1992 urban rebellion. Environmental justice is one pillar of that tradition, with a handful of organizations doing battle against our toxic air and the myriad mobile and stationary sources of that toxicity.

They have understood that so many of our local fights are intimately intertwined with their urgent struggle to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. While regional and state political leaders have positioned themselves – especially since the election of Trump and the advance of an overt anti-environmental agenda – as a kind of vanguard of environmental and climate policy, environmental and climate justice movement here has too often seen up close the unjust consequences and lack of real results of those state and local policies, and has taken on the hard work of making our political leaders' actions match their bold self-image.

- The team will bring together movement organizers and activists from diverse sectors of our movement to explore the depths and connections of the current ecological, economic, and social crises – all towards building a Just Transition to healthy, life-affirming economies.

The United States, and by extension the world, right now face an unprecedented congruence of ecological, political and social crises that demand bold and visionary responses from US social movements. As one of the global megacities that reflects the deep contradictions of these

intersecting crises, Los Angeles is a critical site for advancing a progressive agenda that addresses all three simultaneously.

- Team must include members that have either worked in frontline communities or have representation of frontline communities on their team.

7. Research capacity to complete the following assessment:

A robust assessment of both City Departments and sectors in the broader economy of the City of Los Angeles. This assessment will focus on three basic areas:

- a. Greenhouse & criteria pollutant reductions goals:
 - i. The temperature goals and emissions reductions trajectories identified and recommended in the IPCC report will not protect frontline communities or future generations.
 - ii. Does the City of Los Angeles' climate change mitigation, adaptation, and emergency response strategies, policies, and plans to meet the needs of frontline and other disadvantaged communities? Do they aim to rectify rather than reinforce existing racial, economic, gender, immigration, and other inequities?
 - iii. Is the City doing everything it can to minimize or eliminate the toxic exposure of Angelenos, especially those communities with the highest Cal EnviroScreens¹² scores, in its departmental policies and its broader regulation and planning of the City's economy? How can the City's climate change and sustainability efforts also ensure a just transition toward a non-toxic economy?

This assessment should serve as the basis for the development of a comprehensive Climate and Environmental Justice Action Plan utilizing existing City Plans and Goals as a foundation that will include the following:

- a. Develop metrics to measure and track the City's historical and ongoing GHG emissions as well as criteria pollutants.
- b. 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.
- c. Identify critical research needs and move key studies forward through collaboration with academic and policy institutions, scientists, NGO partners, and impacted constituencies.

¹² <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-30>

III. Framework & Funding

A. Framework

The First Steps document should be referred as the framework for this initiative is set. The key priorities are two fold: 1) the immediate engagement of frontline communities throughout Los Angeles on how climate change affects their communities and what do they plan to do to manage and curb the impacts of climate change through a multi-pronged efforts implemented in the near-term to the long-term. And 2) that the city leadership demonstrates a keen understanding of the vulnerability of frontline communities to climate change. Departments are able to make an assessment of how they are best serving the most vulnerable communities of each district and have developed climate emergency management plans accordingly....Frontline communities are not an afterthought as they were in New Orleans, Flint, Houston or Puerto Rico. Instead the city leadership devolves its plans from the notion that by lifting the voices and engagement of the most vulnerable communities, all boats and voices are lifted and no one is left behind. City leadership also demonstrates this by placing representatives from frontline communities in decision making positions versus positions that involve frontline leadership only after plans have been created.

Also please take a look at the [First Steps Document](#)

B. Funding

The CEMD proposal was budgeted with \$500K seed money from the UB to launch these efforts. Since then a revised and expanded budget to include various pressing priorities is proposed as follows:

Community Assemblies	500K
General Manager	200K
O&G	100K
Department Assessment/Climate Budget	500K
Pilot Projects	400K
TOTAL	\$1.7M

V. Idea of Pilot Projects and Other Priorities

Aside from convening Community Assemblies as a priority measure to engage communities across the city on climate change, in the immediate term, this section demonstrates how the city can deliver early wins on climate change with a social equity lens. The vision of this work is that the Community Assemblies will not only serve as a means to educate and host dialogues on climate change and what it can mean for different communities across the city, but community assemblies will be used to identify potential pilot projects across the city that illustrate how just transition from a fossil-fuel, toxics-ridden economy be replaced with environmentally preferred products and processes, bringing immediate benefits to the businesses, workers and surrounding communities involved. These pilot projects are to be identified with community leaders and workers. Our premise is that while workers and residents often may approach existing polluting industries from differing perspectives, in many cases they are in fact from the same communities. The false narrative of workers being completely separate from the communities is one that does not serve the overall goal to collectively prepare for climate change and plan a just transition. Equitable pathways for workers during a just transition to a new green economy thus should be worked into each Community Assembly in districts across the region. Jointly, they can identify pilot projects that will serve the triple bottom line of worker protection, resident health projection and general detoxification and decarbonization of our environment.

In order to give communities an idea of the size and scale of projects that can help spark imagination during the Community Assemblies, here are an initial suite of pilot projects. For each pilot project description, the following is also briefly articulated: 1) Rationale 2) a Description of Current Toxic Load and Health Impact, 3) Safe Alternatives 4) Pathway and Expected Outcomes from a Just Transition and 5) Projected Cost for 1 business to transition (if available).

Small/Light Scale

Pilot Project #1: Beauty salons and hair products

- Rationale: In the beauty salon and hair professional industries, both consumers and workers are facing negative health impacts as a result of long term exposure to harmful chemicals. Consumers and workers have the right to know what chemicals and health impacts are in the products they use every day at home and at work. Having this knowledge can give consumers and workers the power to protect themselves and their families. More importantly, there are more than 129,000 beauty industries workers in California who are immigrant women from Vietnam and consumers are mostly african american and latina women who are disproportionately impacted by the exposure to

beauty industry chemicals.¹³ There are many health impacts associated with long term and short term exposure to the chemicals in beauty products at the worker and consumer environment. The most adverse health impacts are adverse reproductive outcomes, including spontaneous abortions, preterm births and low-birth weight, in addition to asthma and cancer.

- Description of Current Toxic Load: There are nearly 4,000 fragrance ingredients declared by the International Fragrance Association (IFRA) to be currently in use in fragrance and over 3,000 flavor ingredients designated by the International Organization of the Flavor Industry (IOFI).¹⁴ These lists include carcinogens, reproductive toxicants, neurotoxicants, allergens, and other chemicals of concern. Recent data compiled by Women’s Voices for the Earth, reveals that a third of all beauty products chemicals currently in use have been flagged as potentially toxic by scientists around the world. Professional salon workers are disproportionately exposed to fragrance and chemicals in the workplace. Hairdressers and beauticians have a 47-fold higher risk of fragrance skin allergies than people in other occupations. The California Work-Related Asthma Prevention Program has documented that the use of beauty products containing chemicals such as Phthalate and Formaldehyde in the workplace are both reproductive toxins and breast cancer precursors.¹⁵
- Safe Alternatives: The implementation of the Healthy Nail Salon Act (AB 2125 – Chiu)¹⁶ disclosing chemical ingredients to ensure consumers choose safer alternatives, and promoting collaborative efforts between green chemistry manufacturers, business owners, workers, and consumers. Beauty salons will use safer alternatives that do not contain the toxic-trio: dibutyl phthalate (DBP), toluene, and formaldehyde and use appropriate ventilation systems at the workplace to ensure workers and consumers exposure to chemicals is reduced.
- Expected Outcomes from a Just Transition: Reduce worker and customer exposure to harmful chemicals, but also help to increase healthier businesses’ practices. According to the California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative, “adopting healthy salon practices is viewed positively by clients and that many would be willing to pay more to receive services at a designated “Healthy Nail Salon.”

¹³ California Healthy Nail Salons Collaborative PUBLICATIONS. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://cahealthynailsalons.org/publications>

¹⁴ *Toxic Chemicals to Avoid in Salon Products*, Women’s Voices for the Earth, 2010

¹⁵ Understanding the Toxic Trio. California for Healthy Nail Salons, March 2012 Retrieved from <https://cahealthynailsalons.org/publications>

¹⁶ AB 2125, Chiu. Healthy Nail Salon Recognition Program, CHAPTER 564, An act to add Section 25257.2 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to nail salons, September 24, 2016.

- Projected Cost for 1 business to transition: \$50,000

Pilot Project #2: Dry Cleaners using PERC and Hydrocarbons

- Rationale: California Air Resources Board passed a regulation to phase out Perchloroethylene by 2020, a chemical contaminant vastly used in Los Angeles as a solvent in Dry Cleaners. Perchloroethylene is a source of significant groundwater contamination and listed by the US Federal Clean Air Act as a hazardous air pollutant. As Perchloroethylene is being phased out, dry cleaners are being pushed to use other alternatives. The remaining dry cleaners are using hydrocarbons as a transition, which in addition to being combustible, was also a source of air and water pollution.

The hydrocarbon dry cleaning alternative has not been classified as a non-toxic alternative. While hydrocarbons are toxic and explosive, GreenEarth continues to advertise this product as environmental or eco-friendly. This practice of false advertisement is called “GreenWashing.” Many small dry cleaners owned by mostly immigrants and people of color have been falsely advertised to use hydrocarbons and have switched to it. Through a collaborative effort to ensure a just transition with the implementation of the Environmentally Preferable Product ordinance, and the enforcement of the Truth in Advertising ordinance, we will ensure that workers and communities do not switch to regrettable substitutions but instead to the true safer alternative; wet cleaning.

In South Central Los Angeles, there is a cumulative over concentration of these hazardous facilities, dry cleaners using PERC, that are contributing to the development of chronic diseases in sensitive populations including communities of color, children, pregnant women, and seniors.

- Descrip of Current Toxic Load: Dry Cleaners currently using Perchloroethylene are exposing their workers, communitinites nearby, and consumers to a variety of health impacts. *Short-term*: Breathing high levels of perchloroethylene for a short time can cause: dizziness, drowsiness, headache, nausea and vomiting, lack of coordination, irritation of the eyes and respiratory tract.¹⁷ Additionally, *Long-term* health impacts may include: cancer.

On the other hand, the remaining cleaners that have switched to the greenwashing false non-toxic alternative: Hydrocarbons are also impacting the health and safety of consumers and communities in proximity. Hydrocarbons are a byproduct of oil

¹⁷ [Perchloroethylene \(Tetrachloroethylene or PCE\)](#) Resource on perchloroethylene (tetrachloroethylene or PCE) that addresses its properties, uses, populations at risk of adverse health effects due to exposure, and the distribution of PCE in the environment. Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center.

production and is inherently an explosive compound. Very little is known about the toxicity of hydrocarbons. However, particularly the smaller compounds such as benzene, toluene, and xylene (which are present in gasoline), can affect the human central nervous system. Breathing toluene at concentrations greater than 100 parts per million (100 ppm) for more than several hours can cause fatigue, headache, nausea, and drowsiness and if exposed for a long time, permanent damage to the central nervous system can occur¹⁸.

South-central LA communities are overexposed to chemicals such as PERC and hydrocarbons due to the cumulative concentration of dry cleaners in these communities. Already overburdened communities by air pollution emitted from mobile and other hazardous sources, are continuously facing exposure to harmful chemicals at the workplace and home.

- Safe Alternatives: In 2005, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) completed an evaluation of a number of perc-free technologies with respect to human health, environmental, and physical property hazards, in order to classify which substitutes qualified for the AB998 California Non-Toxic Dry Clean Incentive Program.¹⁹ CARB classified *professional wet cleaning* and CO2 dry cleaning as meeting the criteria as non-toxic and non-smog forming alternatives based on their relatively benign human health, environmental, physical property hazard profile. CARB excluded six solvents from this classification based having a qualitatively greater adverse human health, environmental, and physical hazard profile. Within the excluded six solvents was Hydrocarbon – specifically ExxonMobil’s DF-2000, Shell’s Shell Sol, and Chevron Philipps’ EcoSol, and Siloxane, aka GreenEarthTM. However, of the six solvents rejected by CARB for the Non-Toxic Dry Clean Incentive Program, the vast majority of dry cleaners in California using non-perc alternatives have converted to either hydrocarbon or GreenEarth, with ExxonMobil’s DF-2000 dominating hydrocarbon sales.

Professional Wet Cleaning uses water based detergents and is recognized as "an environmentally-preferred technology that can effectively clean garments".²⁰ By using a non-toxic, more energy efficient cleaning technology, Professional Wet Cleaning Methodology is ensuring the protection of customers, their families, and workers from the health risks associated with exposure to toxic dry cleaning solvents.

¹⁸ Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). 1999. [Toxicological profile for total petroleum hydrocarbons \(TPH\)](#). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service.

¹⁹ California Air Resources Board. Alternative Solvents: Health and Environmental Impacts. (September 4, 2015).

²⁰ US Environmental Protection Agency. Cleaner Technologies Substitute Assessment: Professional Fabricare Processes. EPA-744-B-001. (June 1998)

- Expected Outcomes from a Just Transition: Through the implementation and enforcement of the Environmentally Preferable Product Ordinance in Los Angeles, green washed marketed and deceptive false non-chemically free alternatives, such as hydrocarbons, will not be used for dry cleaning. Garment workers and family business that own Dry Cleaners will have the opportunity to truly switch to a safer chemically free alternative that will reduce negative health impacts from exposure to chemicals and benefit the communities surrounding them. Business not switching to regrettable substitutions, but real environmentally preferred alternatives such as Professional Wet Cleaning, can lessen the exposure to dangerous air toxics and help produce positive health outcomes and clean the air to truly address the cumulative burden in frontline communities.
- Projected Cost for 1 business to transition: \$150,000

Small/light Scale #3: Transition city-owned vehicles/buses to Electric

- Rationale: Create awareness, improve local health, lower GHG's by transitioning city-owned or Metro vehicles and buses to Electric Vehicles. Frontline communities are impacted by cumulative impacts and pollution from different stationary and mobile sources.
- Description of health impact:
- Safe Alternatives
- Pathway and Expected Outcomes from a JT: Prioritizing an equitable and public transportation expansion al
- Projected cost: TBD

Mid Scale

Pilot Project #3: Water Supply Systems Lead-Free Metal Brass Alloys

- Rationale: Copper-based alloys have long been used for potable water supply components due to the durability and corrosion resistance of copper. A range of elements have been added to copper alloys in order to enhance durability as well as to increase manufacturing production efficiency. Elemental lead has been added to copper-based brass alloys specifically to enhance production efficiency and effectiveness. In the United States, along with a number of landmark federal environmental laws passed in the 1970s, the 1974 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was enacted to ensure safe drinking water in every community by setting maximum concentration limits for infectious disease microorganisms as well as chemicals found to adversely impact water quality. Included in the list of chemicals were metals intentionally added to potable water supply system components, including copper and lead.

While lead has long been known as a potent developmental toxin, increased evidence has also showed that very low concentrations of lead has the potential to adversely affect cognitive ability, particularly in children. California legislation requires potable water supply components to be lead free, limiting the concentration of lead on wetted surfaces to less than 0.2%. In 2011, an amendment to the Safe Drinking Water Act was enacted to phase out leaded brass potable water supply components in the United States.

However, beginning in the late 1980s, LADWP, in accordance to the 2011 amendment of the SDWA, started switching its waters systems brass alloys from copper-based alloys to “lead-free” bismuth brass alloys which was recommended as a safer alternative by metals industries. According to the Life Cycle Alternatives Assessment study conducted by UCLA professor Dr Peter Sinsheimer, the bismuth “lead-free” alternative is inherently impossible to be lead free as bismuth contain elemental copper contamination that also barriers lead. In making this switch, LADWP did not consider the life cycle impacts of bismuth alloys brass.

There is a high concentration concentration of metal industries and alloys manufacturers in Los Angeles frontline communities. These facilities are contributing to the cumulative exposure to contamination and toxic chemicals in people of color and low income communities’ sensitive land uses such as; schools and hospitals’ water supply systems.

- Descrip of Current Toxic Load: Copper alloys and the regrettable substitution to Bismuth alloys in the water supply systems in Los Angeles has contributed to increase exposure to lead. Lead is a toxic contaminant and classified as a criteria air pollutant as defined by the EPA. Lead contamination on water supply systems can have several adverse health impacts affecting primordially those who are most vulnerable, including children, pregnant women, and the immunocompromised. Both Copper and Bismuth brass alloys are linked to lead contamination in drinking water. Lead is considered an extremely toxic element with no known safety threshold. (due primarily to substantially higher cumulative resource depletion impacts, energy use, and greenhouse gas emissions) and lead brass (due primarily to toxicity impacts). As such, the EPP Ordinance requires that potable water supply products made from bismuth brass or lead brass components be withheld from product specifications.

Toxic reduction or elimination is an Environmentally Preferable Product ordinance attribute. As such, LADWP has a duty to reduce lead concentration in procurement of potable water supply products with brass components to the lowest possible level of 0.02%.

- Safe Alternatives: Silicon Brass is a safer lead free substitution to copper and bismuth alloys.
- Expected Outcomes from a Just Transition: The water supply systems metal alloys are replaced with an Environmentally Preferable Product such as: Silicon Brass Alloys. By transitioning out of lead-based alloys, sensitive land uses such as; schools and hospitals can drink uncontaminated water. Through this just transition, frontline communities that are suffering from the scarce access to potable water and safe drinking water will benefit by eliminating the exposure to lead and toxic contaminants.
- Projected Cost for 1 business to transition: \$100,000

Mid Scale #4: Resilience Hubs in front line communities

- Rationale: Front line and environmental justice communities are disproportionately impacted by climate change. Many of which do not have access to cooling centers in case of extreme heat waves or stored energy in case of an elongated black-out due to extreme weather.
- Description of health impact: The elderly, children under 5 years, and people experiencing homelessness are most impacted by extreme heat waves and flooding. Increasing temperatures and poor air quality will compound health hazards due to the formation of ground-level ozone. The elderly, children and those with existing chronic diseases (e.g. asthma) are disproportionately burdened. Increasing temperatures and poor air quality will compound health hazards due to the formation of ground-level ozone. The elderly, children and those with existing chronic diseases (e.g. asthma) are disproportionately burdened.
- Safe Alternatives:
- Pathway and Expected Outcomes from a JT: Increase resiliency in vulnerable and environmental justice communities on the front-line of pollution and disproportionate health impacts. This creates community cohesion, leadership, and overall preparedness.
- Projected cost: varies

Large Scale

Pilot Project #6: O&G Operations

- 1.) Rationale: A 2,500 ft buffer between neighborhood oil drilling and sensitive areas such as schools, clinics, and day care centers.

- 2.) Description of health impact: Many communities in LA face disproportionate health impacts due to oil drilling. A few examples are:
- Wilmington- Los Angeles, CA: Parts of the Wilmington neighborhood rank among the top 5% of communities with the highest pollution exposure in the state. Another study indicated that while the cancer risk associated with air pollution in Southern California is generally in excess of 1,200 in a million, the risk in some parts of Wilmington are in excess of 2,000 in a million. Wilmington’s nearly 60,000 residents also suffer higher asthma rates, cardiac disease and overall poor health.
 - Jefferson Blvd-Los Angeles, CA: When the site has began drilling for oil in the area in 1965, the buildings surrounding the Jefferson drill site were owned by the oil corporation and left vacant as “buffer properties.” In 1999, the City of Los Angeles allowed the oil company to sell the properties for residential use, but the properties would “remain buffer properties”—residents are now the buffer. The site’s property line is 3 feet from the nearest home, 130 feet from a church, and 730 feet from an elementary school. No Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has ever been conducted for the site and the consequences of next-door drilling are still unknown. Since FMOG began to manage the drilling site in 2013, children and families have been repeatedly exposed to dangerous chemicals that pose severe risks on community health and safety.
 - Inglewood-Los Angeles, CA: Over one million people live within five miles of the massive Inglewood oil field. Noxious diesel fumes and sulfurous odors cause nausea and, in 2006, forced 500 families to evacuate their homes without notice. The oil field “is adjacent to residential areas and other urban land uses where emissions from the operations result in continuous human exposure,” such as the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.
- 3.) Safe Alternatives: Transitioning away from fossil fuels towards renewable energy is necessary and inevitable in order to address the climate crisis. The safest alternative to oil drilling is laying the equitable foundation so that all of our energy needs are met via renewable energy throughout the transition.
- 4.) Pathway and Expected Outcomes from a JT: Creating a buffer zone between sensitive living spaces and homes addresses historical environmental racism and encourages a conversation around energy democracy towards a more renewable and sustainable energy grid.
- 5.) Projected cost: TBD

VI. Summary and Next Steps

1. Submit this document at 4/16 hearing

2. Request for motion to move forward to City Council or next appropriate council committee
3. Commit to meet with labor trades and worker-based unions and organizations.
4. Connect with City Economic Development Department and other key departments to meet the mission and vision of this effort with an emphasis on creating stronger pathways for displaced workers during the city's just transition efforts.
5. Continue working on directives as provided by Council Committee. While most are addressed in this document there may be some that may need further collaborative dialogue, such as Section F. Relative to Green New Deal Policies.

VII. Citations and References

1. March 19th ECCEJ Committee CLA/CAO Recommendations:
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2. CF 18-0054 - Climate Emergency Mobilization Department:
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=18-0054>
3. CF 18-0054 - Climate Emergency Mobilization Department:
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4. ARTICLE 4. Powers and Duties [65040 - 65040.15 (Article 4 added by Stats. 1970, Ch.1534):
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=GOV§ionNum=65040.12.
5. Penny Newman, [Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice](#)
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7. [LEAP-LA CEMD Long Proposal](#)
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9. [Jemez Principles](#)
10. [Louisville Charter](#)
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12. January 17, 2018 CEMD Motion
http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2018/18-0054_mot_01-17-2018.pdf

