

Dear Councilman Koretz,

We, the members of the Student Climate Emergency Coalition (SCEC), are writing in support of the initiative to establish the groundbreaking Climate Emergency Mobilization Department. SCEC has members from high schools across Los Angeles, and we could not be more excited about this measure to combat perhaps the most serious emergency facing our generation and the world: climate and environmental crisis.

We, in California, have seen first hand the devastation created by climate change and toxic pollution, much of which could be reduced or even eliminated with prudent, environmentally friendly measures. We thank you for recognizing the need for a department committed to rolling back greenhouse gas emissions, among other significant environmental priorities for our city. We hope LA's bold step will inspire other cities to take meaningful action.

Please do not hesitate to call on SCEC if we can assist with this important initiative. Thank you to you and your staff for your leadership at this critical time.

Very Truly Yours,
The Members of The Student Climate Emergency Coalition





March 17, 2019

Honorable Herb Wesson, City Council President
Honorable Nury Martinez, Chair,
Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice Committee
City of Los Angeles
200 North Main Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Climate Emergency Mobilization Department – SUPPORT

Dear President Wesson and Chair Martinez:

Thank you for your continued leadership on climate justice and equity. I represent 350 South Bay Los Angeles (350SBLA), one of several local chapters of 350.org. 350SBLA is the oldest 350.org chapter in California and we focus our work in the South Bay, Beach Cities and Los Angeles Harbor communities, which are on the front line of fossil fuel infrastructure and climate change. Our driving mission is to help facilitate the rapid and just transition from fossil fuels to 100% renewable energy and to promote social and environmental justice.

We write in strong support of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department. Human activities have warmed the Earth in just a few hundred years to end the 12,000-year period of climate stability that allowed agriculture and human civilization to develop. The resulting climate change has already set in motion catastrophic changes to the Earth's system, changes that we already live with as Los Angelenos including extreme weather patterns, out of control wildfires, droughts and sea level rise.

According to the IPCC report, humanity has just 12 years to make massive and unprecedented changes needed to limit global warming to moderate levels. Our planet

faces a Climate Emergency which demands action, for which Los Angeles is poised to take a global lead.

Thus, we support the mission of the CEMD “to protect all residents, especially the most vulnerable, from the health and economic impacts of the climate crisis by ensuring a rapid and equitable just transition. The City of Los Angeles will enact leadership through organizing and implementing a global emergency effort to restore a safe climate and healthy environments, providing maximum protection for all people, the ecosystems we inhabit, and the right to a healthy, egalitarian quality of life for future generations.”

We support the following elements of the framework and the infrastructure of the department:

1. Hire a General Manager using the currently-open Chief Resilience Officer position;
2. Move the existing Departmental Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officers to the CEMD four days a week;
3. Move relevant grant writers to CEMD to secure significant resources for the department.

We support the first initiatives of the CEMD to put the department in motion:

1. Develop and execute a series of “Community Assemblies” planned in key frontline communities throughout LA City to hear, engage, and cultivate community involvement and to meaningfully integrate community knowledge into a city-wide mobilization effort;
2. Develop and execute a Climate Emergency Mobilization Action Plan (CEMAP) with a specific release date;
3. Develop metrics to measure and track the City’s historical and ongoing GHG emissions as well as criteria pollutants;
4. Develop a city-wide Climate Emissions Budget governance tool similar to the Climate Budget implemented in Oslo, Norway that is integrated into the annual City fiscal budget and ensures inter-departmental implementation of the CEMAP strategy.

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.

Sincerely,

Sherry Lear, Co-Organizer
350 South Bay Los Angeles
slearattorney@gmail.com

Cc: Mayor Eric Garcetti
Council



SUNRISE MOVEMENT
LOS ANGELES HUB

March 17th, 2019

Honorable Herb Wesson, City Council President
Honorable Nury Martinez, Chair, Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice Committee
City of Los Angeles, 200 North Main Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Cc: Mayor Eric Garcetti
Council

Re: Climate Emergency Mobilization Department – SUPPORT

Dear President Wesson and Chair Martinez,

Since its founding, Los Angeles has been a city of hope, a city that people came to because it offered the promise of a better future. As young Angelenos today, we are faced with a frightening reality: if we do not take immediate and decisive action to transform our energy system, we won't have any future at all. For the Sunrise Movement and the youth of Los Angeles, climate change is an existential threat. It is an emergency.

Los Angeles has always been a city that others look to for leadership. We need to lead the nation now. We need a “Green New Deal”, a comprehensive plan that addresses not only the environmental realities of this crisis, but also its social and economic ramifications. If Los Angeles is going to show the nation what a “Green New Deal” can look like, we need to be committed to addressing the breadth of the problem. To transform our society, we will need transformative initiatives.

In order to allow for such a shift to take place, we write in strong support of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department. We support the mission of the CEMD “to protect all residents, especially the most vulnerable, from the health and economic impacts of the climate crisis by ensuring a rapid and equitable just transition. The City of Los Angeles will enact leadership through organizing and implementing a global emergency effort to restore a safe climate and healthy environments, providing maximum protection for all people, the ecosystems we inhabit, and the right to a healthy, egalitarian quality of life for future generations.”

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3. Develop metrics to measure and track the City's historical and ongoing GHG emissions as well as criteria pollutants,
4. Develop a city-wide Climate Emissions Budget governance tool similar to the Climate Budget implemented in Oslo, Norway that is integrated into the annual City fiscal budget and ensures inter-departmental implementation of the CEMAP strategy.

Thank you for the continuing support you have shown on this matter. With the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department, we have the opportunity to prove that a response to climate change can be both forceful and just. By rising to the level of the crisis, Los Angeles can continue to be a city of hope.

Sincerely,

Sunrise Movement
Los Angeles Hub
sunrisemovementlosangeles@gmail.com

The physician and health advocate voice for a world free from nuclear threats and a safe, healthy environment for all communities.



March 14, 2019

Honorable Herb Wesson, City Council President
Honorable Nury Martinez, Chair, Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice
Committee

City of Los Angeles
200 North Main Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Climate Emergency Mobilization Department – SUPPORT

Dear President Wesson and Chair Martinez,

Thank you for your continued leadership on climate justice and equity. I represent Physicians for Social Responsibility – Los Angeles. Our mission is to advocate for policies and practices that improve public health, eliminate nuclear and environmental threats, and address health disparities.

We write in strong support of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department. We support the mission of the CEMD “to protect all residents, especially the most vulnerable, from the health and economic impacts of the climate crisis by ensuring a rapid and equitable just transition. The City of Los Angeles will enact leadership through organizing and implementing a global emergency effort to restore a safe climate and healthy environments, providing maximum protection for all people, the ecosystems we inhabit, and the right to a healthy, egalitarian quality of life for future generations.”

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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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martha Din Arguello".

Martha Din Arguello
Executive Director

Cc: Mayor Eric Garcetti
Los Angeles City Council



March 15, 2019

Via Email

Re: Council File 18-0054, Climate Emergency Mobilization Department creation

The Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90014

Dear Los Angeles City Council President Herb J. Wesson; Councilmember Paul Koretz; Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice Chair Nury Martinez; and Los Angeles City Councilmembers,

SAJE (Strategic Actions for a Just Economy) strongly supports the creation of a Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD). SAJE is a 501 c3 in South Los Angeles that focuses on tenant rights, healthy housing, and equitable development; our members are low income people of color, including many immigrants. We know from firsthand experience the acute need for a rapid and equitable transition to a more sustainable and equitable economy and the importance of planning for climate change in a way that centers the needs of frontline communities.

We suggest that the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department also address the potential for predatory investment and financial practices in low income communities in the wake of climate change driven disasters. As we have seen in New Orleans and Puerto Rico, climate change related disasters can have devastating effects on low income communities that are later exacerbated by “disaster capitalism.” In addition to the proximal effects of disasters, communities must later contend with displacement and dislocation pressures in the disaster’s aftermath as outsiders swoop in with predatory investment strategies that disenfranchise and push out the original residents. The Climate and Emergency Mobilization Department will be a good home for efforts to proactively protect the residents of Los Angeles from this type of misfortune.

Again, we applaud the creation of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD) and congratulate Council on taking this important step forward.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cynthia Strathmann", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Cynthia Strathmann

Executive Director, SAJE



March 15, 2019

Honorable Herb Wesson, City Council President
Honorable Nury Martinez, Chair, Energy, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice
Committee
City of Los Angeles
200 North Main Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Climate Emergency Mobilization Department – SUPPORT

Dear President Wesson and Chair Martinez,

Thank you for your continued leadership on climate justice and equity. I represent The Climate Mobilization. Our mission is to initiate an emergency mobilization effort to protect humanity and the natural world from climate and ecological collapse.

Last spring, the Los Angeles City Council recognized the existence of a climate emergency and voted to explore the establishment of the world's first Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD). Since then, nearly 400 cities and local governments across the world—representing over 34 million people—have passed resolutions declaring a climate emergency. Today, youth climate strikers across the country are walking out of school to demand a national declaration of climate emergency and a Green New Deal.

As the climate emergency and the movement to reverse it become increasingly visible, an opportunity has emerged to decisively respond by implementing a just and equitable mobilization of our economy and society aimed at providing maximum protection for all people, and especially frontline communities, from accelerating climate and environmental injustices.

The proposed CEMD would work in close partnership with communities to plan, coordinate and implement this historic mobilization across the city of Los Angeles. A central tenet of the department's mission would be to ensure that this mobilization is rooted in a just transition for both workers and frontline communities.

We strongly support the following elements of the framework and the infrastructure of the department:

1. Hire a General Manager using the currently-open Chief Resilience Officer position;
2. Move the existing Departmental Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officers to the CEMD four days a week;
3. Move relevant grant writers to CEMD to secure significant resources for the department.

We also support the first initiatives of the CEMD to put the department in motion:

1. Develop and execute a series of “Community Assemblies” planned in key frontline communities throughout L.A. City to hear, engage, and cultivate community involvement and to meaningfully integrate community knowledge into a city-wide mobilization effort;
2. Develop and execute a Climate Emergency Mobilization Action Plan (CEMAP) with a specific release date;
3. Develop metrics to measure and track the City’s historical and ongoing GHG emissions as well as criteria pollutants;
4. Develop a city-wide Climate Emissions Budget governance tool similar to the Climate Budget implemented in Oslo, Norway that is integrated into the annual City fiscal budget and ensures inter-departmental coordination and implementation of the CEMAP strategy.

By establishing the world’s first Climate Emergency Mobilization Department and taking these foundational steps to organize a community-driven emergency response to climate change and environmental injustice, L.A. can catalyze the larger mobilization required to provide a future of hope and dignity for all.

Sincerely,

Ezra Silk
Co-Founder and Director of Strategy & Policy
The Climate Mobilization

Cc: Mayor Eric Garcetti
Council