

SOUTH BAY LOS ANGELES 350

April 11, 2018

Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Support for Motion for the Establishment of a Los Angeles Climate
Emergency Mobilization Department (Council File # 18-0054)

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

As a matter of introduction, 350 South Bay Los Angeles is a local affiliate of 350.org, an international non-profit organization dedicated to fighting the effects of climate change. Founded in 2009, 350 South Bay Los Angeles is the oldest 350.org chapter in California and our membership is derived mainly from the South Bay and Los Angeles Harbor areas. Our work is particularly dedicated to addressing issues of environmental justice in communities of color. We are proud to support the Los Angeles communities of San Pedro, Wilmington and Harbor City which face disproportionate effects of climate change.

While we applaud Los Angeles for being a leader in the fight against climate change, much more is required. 350.org was founded on the premise the 350 ppm of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere is the maximum safe concentration for a livable planet. The science on this issue is beyond dispute. Unfortunately, we have already surpassed that number and our planet's CO2 levels are over 400 ppm and climbing every year.

Climate Change is the greatest threat humanity is now facing. It has impacts on the economy, public health, national security and virtually every aspect of our lives. We have entered a true climate emergency and the time act will soon pass. Setting goals to move toward renewable energy and taking incremental steps is not enough. Drastic action, including a managed decline from fossil fuels, are required to reverse the damage that has already been done and stop climate catastrophes from becoming the norm of human existence.

Therefore, we are writing to respectfully express our support for the proposed ordinance to establish America's first Climate Emergency Mobilization Department (CEMD) in Los Angeles.

April 11, 2018

Page 2

We applaud Councilmembers Koretz and Blumenfield for introducing motion CF#18-0054, which directs the Chief Legislative Analyst, Chief Administrative Officer, and Personnel Department to report back on the establishment of a Climate Emergency Mobilization Department to plan and coordinate Los Angeles's climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience programs across departments and sectors.

We ask that the Los Angeles City Council move quickly on motion CF#18-0054.

Thank you.

Sherry Lear

Damien Luzzo

Co-Organizers, 350 South Bay Los Angeles