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April 30, 2018

The Honorable Mayor of Los Angeles Eric Garcetti
The Honorable Herb Wesson, City Council President
The Honorable Nury Martinez, Chair Energy, Climate Change & Environmental
Justice Committee
All City Council Members

RE: Support of Council File 18-0054

LAANE supports the establishment of a Climate Emergency Mobilization Department to oversee efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to plan as well as coordinate critical climate mitigation and adaptation strategies across all city departments.

We believe that the future of a greener L.A. can be done so with strong, progressive principles that uplift people and workers. We are excited that this proposed department is under discussion, as it will help ensure a long-term ability for the City to achieve its climate mitigation efforts. It is so important to have proactive, well-resourced staff that can help leverage more grant money to protect our planet here in Los Angeles.

As a part of a just transition, we want to underscore the importance of protecting workers as clean technologies are introduced. Through our Repower LA, Ports, and Don't Waste LA Campaigns, we have worked with numerous city departments to ensure cleaner energy and air and waste diversion, with strong equity and good jobs provisions.

We cannot build a cleaner economy while creating low wage or unpaid jobs for our communities and unsustainable business models. We hope that if the department is established, that staff can pre-identify a process that will ensure that diverse stakeholders can set a framework of clear equity and labor. This could include metrics and ways to grade projects to ensure that they're not just environmentally sound, but also inclusionary and uplift low-income communities of color.

Thank you to Councilmember Paul Koretz and the members of the Energy, Climate & Environmental Justice Committee for leading on this and for your ongoing support of working people and sustainability. We urge the full council to support the motion, to help the city reach its ambitious vision of being truly sustainable.

Sincerely,

Allison Mannos,

Repower LA Director, LAANE