

Climate Change & Environmental Justice

1 message

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Tue, Mar 19, 2019 at 5:07 AM

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March 19, 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 American Indian Movement, (AIM). Our mission is to assert our indigenous rights.

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."

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:

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 meaningful 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 interdepartmental implementation of the 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, Lydia Poncé AIM

Cc: Mayor Eric Garcetti
Council