



December 1, 2015

The Honorable Herb J. Wesson, Jr.
Los Angeles City Council President
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**RE: SUPPORT – Motion by Councilmember Koretz on Greenhouse Gas Reductions
Council File: 14-0907**

Dear President Wesson and Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

Please accept this letter of support for the motion associated with council file No. 14-0907 by Councilmember Koretz to engage and enlist the city’s agencies to study and report back on opportunities to reduce greenhouse gases 80% below 1990 levels by the year 2050.

Right now, Los Angeles is in the midst of implementing its ambitious long-term sustainability plan. At the same time, world leaders are involved in major international climate negotiations. For the world to tackle climate change – leading cities like Los Angeles and international governments like the United States must come to the table with actionable plans based on ambitious targets. Accordingly, motion 14-0907 is a well-timed and well-planned effort to aid in the local and international progress to achieving deep carbon reductions.

EDF supports motion 14-0907 not only for its outsized relevance, but also because it is an important yet modest step to help Los Angeles understand and plan for the deep carbon reductions that will provide multiple benefits at home. Implementing strategies to reduce greenhouse gases create jobs, improve efficiencies, reduce air pollution, and provide for future generations – all while making our city more resilient to the climate impacts that are likely to be felt in the years and decades to come. As such, motion 14-0907 is a modest first step - creating a baseline awareness of what LA can do into the future.

Please support Councilman Koretz’s motion on greenhouse gas reduction efforts.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. O’Connor
Senior Attorney, Director, California Climate Initiative
Environmental Defense Fund