

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Mid City WEST Neighborhood Council

Name: Scott Epstein

Phone Number:

Email: sepstein@midcitywest.org

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(11) Nay(7) Abstain(4) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 02/12/2019

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 08/27/2019

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 17-0447

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary:



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March 5, 2019

Honorable City Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street, 5th Fl
Los Angeles, CA 90012-2601

**Subject: Council File Number: 17-0447
Resolution in Support of Establishing a 2,500-foot Human
Health and Safety Buffer Around Oil Drilling Operations in
Los Angles**

The Mid City West Community Council, an official Neighborhood Council of the City of Los Angeles, requests that the following Community Impact Statement be attached/added to Council File 17-0447 regarding a proposed Resolution in Support of Establishing a 2,500-foot Human Health and Safety Buffer Around Oil Drilling Operations in Los Angles with the following motion:

We, the Mid City West Community Council SUPPORT adopting Council File Number 17-0447 regarding a proposed Resolution in Support of Establishing a 2,500-foot Human Health and Safety Buffer Around Oil Drilling Operations in Los Angles.

Whereas Los Angeles is one of the only places in the United States where oil drilling occurs right in the middle of a densely-populated urban metropolis. Over 620,000 Angelenos live within a mile of an active oil well;

Whereas the City of Los Angeles contains over 1,000 active oil wells and 80% are located within 2,500 feet of a sensitive land use, impacting residents, students, and workers;

Whereas neighborhood drilling threatens the health and safety of those living along the fence line of these oil wells;

Whereas oil and gas extraction sites routinely use and emit as byproducts toxic chemicals that are known carcinogens, endocrine disruptors, and are harmful to multiple organ systems. These include but are not limited to formaldehyde, hydrochloric acid, hydrofluoric acid, naphthalene, xylene, benzene and volatile organic compounds;

Whereas the primary health risk factor associated with oil and gas development within urban areas is proximity to active sites, because any toxic emission will be at its highest and most dangerous concentration at the source of pollution;

Whereas the closer you live, work, and play to an active oil well, the more severely your health and safety are threatened. Whereas living next door to neighborhood drilling means chronic headaches and migraines, frequent nosebleeds, exacerbated asthma and other respiratory illness, reproductive harm and an increased risk of cancer;

Whereas the transport, onsite storage and use of toxic and flammable chemicals in industrial facilities in close proximity to homes and other sensitive land uses also raises the risk of catastrophic accidents;

Whereas neighborhood drilling is incompatible with public health and has no place near sensitive land uses such as homes, schools, churches or daycare facilities; and studies show that a buffer of at least 2,500 feet between active oil wells and these sensitive land uses is necessary to protect community health from oil extraction;

Whereas the City of Los Angeles is a leader at the forefront of enacting policies to protect the environment and address global climate change, including the Sustainability City pLAN requiring dramatic reductions in GHG emissions with an 80% GHG reduction target by 2050;

Whereas the City of Los Angeles has a duty to protect the health and safety of its residents and can use its power over land use and oil operations to protect those residents in this instance;

THEREBY: The Mid City West Community Council resolves to call on the City of Los Angeles, and the Los Angeles City Council specifically to establish a human health and safety buffer that

prohibits oil drilling within 2,500 feet of sensitive land uses including homes, schools, early childhood centers, senior centers, hospitals and medical clinics, parks, etc.

The Mid City West Community Council also resolves to submit a Community Impact Statement to Council File 17-0447 and to communicate support to our City Council member expressing support for this position.

This Community Impact Statement was voted on as a properly agendized item during the regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting on February 12, 2019, and passed by a vote of 11 yeas, 7 nays, and 4 abstaining and directed that a Community Impact Statement be filed reflecting its position.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact us via email at sepstein@midcitywest.org, mberker@midcitywest.org, or knakata@midcitywest.org as needed.

Sincerely,

Scott Epstein
Chair
Mid City West Community Council

Cc: Councilmember Hon. David E. Ryu (Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks, Arts, and River Committee Chair) “
Eric Villanueva, Legislative Assistant “
Councilmember Hon. Mitch O’Farrell “
Councilmember Hon. Mitch O’Farrell “
Councilmember Hon. Curren D. Price, Jr “
Councilmember Hon. Paul Koretz “
Office of Council District No. 5, Aviv Kleinman “
Office of Council District No. 5, Jeff Ebenstein “
Office of Council District No. 4, Emma Howard “
Office of Council District No. 4, Rob Fisher “