

*The physician and health advocate voice for a world free from nuclear threats  
and a safe, healthy environment for all communities.*

Date: 6/14/17  
Submitted in HME Committee  
Council File No: 17-0447  
Item No.: 4  
Communication from  
Public



May 19, 2017

Los Angeles City Council  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil  
and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

We write on behalf of Physicians for Social Responsibility – Los Angeles (PSR-LA), a member organization of the Stand Together Against Neighborhood Drilling – Los Angeles (“STAND-L.A.”) coalition. STAND-L.A. is an environmental justice coalition of community groups that seeks to end neighborhood drilling to protect the health and safety of Angelenos on the front lines of urban oil extraction. PSR-LA is committed to this issue as we recognize oil and gas extraction is an industrial practice that is inherently hazardous to human health, and does not belong next to people’s homes, schools, and hospitals.

We respectfully express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We would also like to express support for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The City of LA hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital. More than half of the active wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

As an organization with a membership of physicians, nurses, and other health professionals, we understand the risks and symptoms associated with oil drilling for those living, working, or healing in close proximity. Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study as an important step toward alleviating the harm that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martha Dina Argüello". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small horizontal line at the end.

Martha Dina Argüello  
Executive Director  
Physicians for Social Responsibility-Los Angeles

## Google Groups

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Fwd: Council File #17-0447

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Sharon Dickinson

May 22, 2017 1:46 PM

Posted in group: Clerk-PLUM-Committee

From: Vivian Price <vprice@csudh.edu>  
Date: Mon, May 22, 2017 at 12:49 PM  
Subject: Council File #17-0447  
To: "sharon.gin@lacity.org" <sharon.gin@lacity.org>, "sharon.dickinson@lacity.org" <sharon.dickinson@lacity.org>  
Cc: "michael.espinosa@lacity.org" <michael.espinosa@lacity.org>, "maria.espinoza@lacity.org" <maria.espinoza@lacity.org>

May 23, 2017

Los Angeles City Council

200 N. Spring St.

Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

The issue of neighborhood drilling is of special concern to me. I teach **Social Justice and Law** and coordinate **Labor Studies at Cal State University, Dominguez Hills**, and many of our students live in **Wilmington** and have health concerns due to the impact of neighborhood drilling.

I would like to express my support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. I would also like to express support for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. I applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

**I am impressed that we have courageous council people who will stand up for the rights of the community. I have seen community struggles firsthand that turned into a ratification vote for our elected officials, and I do believe that residents are informed and will vote for the candidates who stand for the community.**

It is clear that oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and I urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study as an important step toward alleviating the harm that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

5/23/2017

Fwd: Council File #17-0447 - Google Groups

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

**Vivian Price**

Professor, Labor Studies

California State University Dominguez Hills,

1000 E Victoria St.

Carson, CA 90747





## INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE & WAREHOUSE UNION SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT COUNCIL

350 W. 5th Street, Suite 208, San Pedro, CA 90731 • (310) 521-8796 • FAX: (310) 521-8798

May 26, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in  
Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

The issue of neighborhood drilling is of special concern to the ILWU since so many of our families live, work, go to school, play, etc. in the immediate area of where the oil and gas extraction is being done

I would like to express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. I would also like to express support for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. I applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

It is clear that oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and I urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study as an important step toward alleviating the harm that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

*Cathy Familathe*

Cathy Familathe, President

Cc: Sharon Dickinson - [sharon.dickinson@lacity.org](mailto:sharon.dickinson@lacity.org); Michael Espinosa - [Michael.espinosa@lacity.org](mailto:Michael.espinosa@lacity.org);  
Maria Espinoza - [maria.espinoza@lacity.org](mailto:maria.espinoza@lacity.org), Sharon.Gin - [sharon.gin@lacity.org](mailto:sharon.gin@lacity.org)



May 26, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

I am writing on behalf of Californians Against Fracking & Dangerous Drilling, a coalition of almost 200 organizations united in calling for a ban on enhanced oil recovery methods, the implementation of health protective buffer zones, and ultimately a phase out fossil fuels. Science as well as our climate and public health require that we phase out fossil fuels. The issue of neighborhood drilling is of special concern to our organization because of the enormous health and safety risks posed to people living near these operations, and because of the environmental injustice that most of these facilities are concentrated in communities of color and communities with lower socioeconomic status.

We strongly support an ordinance establishing a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools, and hospitals. We want to express support for the motion introduced by the City Council on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator, and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The city hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use. More than half of the active wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study to alleviate the symptoms that frontline communities experience daily. Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

Catherine Garoupa White, Coordinator  
Californians Against Fracking and Dangerous Drilling  
(559) 232-1698



# SIERRA CLUB

**May 31, 2017**

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas  
Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Sierra Club and our 3 million members and supporters nationwide, including more than 300,000 in California. The issue of neighborhood drilling is of special concern to our organization as we fight for clean air and healthy neighborhoods across the region and the nation, and as we seek to protect vulnerable communities from the serious hazards of pollution from the fossil fuel industry. Standing with frontline communities in the fight to protect our health, our environment and our climate, is a defining issue of our generation, and we applaud the City of Los Angeles for considering much-needed action.

We respectfully express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We would also like to express support and gratitude to Council for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The City of LA hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital. More than half of the active wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study to alleviate the symptoms that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like

additional information.

Sincerely,

A small, rectangular image of a handwritten signature in blue ink. The signature appears to read "Graciela E. Geyer".

**Graciela E. Geyer**  
**My Generation Campaign Representative, Sierra Club**  
**714 W Olympic Blvd. Ste 1000**  
**Los Angeles, CA 90015**  
**323-681-5609**



June 2, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas  
Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

We write on behalf of Esperanza Community Housing Corporation, a member organization of the Stand Together Against Neighborhood Drilling – Los Angeles (“STAND-L.A.”) coalition. STAND-L.A. is an environmental justice coalition of community groups that seeks to end neighborhood drilling to protect the health and safety of Angelenos on the front lines of urban oil extraction. Esperanza is a social justice non-profit that achieves comprehensive, long-term community development in the Figueroa Corridor of South Central Los Angeles. We work alongside low-income community residents, of all ages and ethnicities, advocate for stronger provisions to protect all our communities. Our communities are negatively impacted by oil extraction activities in their neighborhoods – a fact well-documented in the community’s effort to hold the AllenCo oil facility accountable for the safety and health hazards it caused, as well as against whom the City Attorney won an injunction, last year, to protect the health, safety, and well-being of the residents. Along with community members, we firmly believe that urban oil extraction is fundamentally incompatible with human health.

We respectfully express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We would also like to express support for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator, and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson in introducing this motion, and also that of Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The City of LA hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital. More than half of the active wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study as an important step toward alleviating the harm that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

**Building hope with community**

3655 S. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90007 \* tel 213-748-7285 \* fax 213-748-9630 \* [esperanzacommunityhousing.org](http://esperanzacommunityhousing.org)

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy Halpern Ibrahim", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nancy Halpern Ibrahim  
Executive Director, Esperanza Community Housing Corporation

**Building hope with community**

3655 S. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90007 \* tel 213-748-7285 \* fax 213-748-9630 \* [esperanzacommunityhousing.org](http://esperanzacommunityhousing.org)





*Via In Electronic Mail*

June 2, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Honorable Council President Wesson, Council Member Buscaino and Council Members:

We write on behalf of Communities for a Better Environment (“CBE”) to express our strong support for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of City Planning to perform a legal and land use study of an ordinance establishing a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. Such an analysis is a common sense, necessary step to meaningfully address the inherently incompatible nature of oil drilling in residential neighborhoods. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson in introducing this motion and of Council members Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

CBE works, organizes in, and has members in Wilmington, Los Angeles, a neighborhood in the City of Los Angeles that is located on one of the largest oil fields in the country. The community of Wilmington carries the largest drilling burden in all of the City of Los Angeles, and residents suffer from severe cumulative environmental impacts. Several companies drill in Wilmington. One company alone, Warren E&P, is authorized to construct and operate up to a staggering total of 540 wells, and at least two other oil companies run drilling operations on residential streets in Wilmington. Residents have reported noxious odors, headaches, asthma, rashes, burning eyes, ground vibrations, and stressful noise. Wells sit directly adjacent to a little league baseball field, and across the street from homes, apartments, and other buildings where residents work, study, play, and pray. Wilmington ranks in the top 5% of communities with the highest pollution exposure and social vulnerability in the state. The cancer risk in Wilmington is among the highest in Southern California.

CBE is a member organization of the Stand Together Against Neighborhood Drilling – Los Angeles (“STAND-L.A.”) coalition. STAND-L.A. is an environmental justice coalition of community groups that seeks to end neighborhood drilling to protect the health and safety of



Angelenos on the frontlines of urban oil extraction.

Oil and gas extraction operations emit pollution at all stages, including well site construction, drilling, production, transportation, and waste disposal. Most emissions of toxic air pollutants from oil and gas development in the Los Angeles Region, including emissions of benzene—a known carcinogen—occur both in conventional and extreme extraction.<sup>1</sup> Furthermore, when engaging in extreme oil extraction techniques, such as hydraulic fracturing and acidizing, oil and gas extraction operations use large amounts of reproductive, immunological, and neurological toxins, carcinogens, and endocrine disrupting chemicals, including methanol, hydrochloric and hydrofluoric acid, formaldehyde, and naphthalene<sup>2</sup>—all of which are hazardous air pollutants under federal law<sup>3</sup>.

Oil and gas extraction operations emit criteria pollutants, including volatile organic compounds and nitrous oxides, which combine to form ground-level ozone, a dangerous chemical that can burn tissue in the lungs, causing it to age prematurely.<sup>4</sup> Chronic exposure to ground level ozone can cause “asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases[, and is particularly damaging to children, active young adults who spend time outdoors, and the [elderly.]”<sup>5</sup> A study published in 2016 found that summertime asthma attacks will increase due to ozone formed from oil and gas drilling emissions, resulting in emergency visits, missed school days for children, and missed work days for adults.<sup>6</sup> “Small changes in ozone smog concentrations in areas with large total populations can have [] large total health impact numbers.”<sup>7</sup> Thus, oil and gas extraction operations in densely populated County neighborhoods pose a serious health risk.

Toxic chemicals particularly affect the health of young people who are especially sensitive to pollution. Community members of Wilmington have a fundamental human right to grow up, live, work and play in a healthy environment and a strong interest in protecting the earth’s climate, on which the survival of future generations depends.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The City of LA hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital. More than half of the active wells are located

<sup>1</sup> Cal. Council on Science & Tech. & Lawrence Berkeley Nat’l Lab. (Jul. 2015) *An Independent Scientific Assessment of Well Stimulation in California*, Vol. 3, at 212-215, 240, 258, available at <http://ccst.us/publications/2015/2015SB4-v3.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Physicians for Social Responsibility, et al. (Jun. 2014) *Dirty Dozen: The 12 Most Commonly Used Air Toxics in Oil Drilling*, at 4-6, available at <http://www.psr-la.org/wp-content/uploads/20140611-Air-Toxics-One-Year-Report-CBD-PSRLA.pdf>. Note that similar chemicals are used for maintenance and other activities during traditional drilling as well. Abdullah, Khadeeja, et al. (2017) *Toxicity of Acidization Fluids Used in California Oil Exploration*, *Toxicological & Environmental Chemistry*, Vol. 99, Issue 1, 78-94, available at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02772248.2016.1160285>.

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Env’t Prot. Agency, *Initial List of Hazardous Air Pollutants with Modifications*, <https://www.epa.gov/haps/initial-list-hazardous-air-pollutants-modifications>.

<sup>4</sup> Theo Colborn, et al. (2011) *Natural Gas Operations from a Public Health Perspective*, *Human & Eco. Risk Assess.*: Int’l J., Vol. 17, Issue 5 at 5.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> Lesley Fleischman, et al. (Aug. 2016) *Gasping for Breath*, Clean Air Task Force at 8, available at [http://www.catf.us/resources/publications/files/Gasping\\_for\\_Breath.pdf](http://www.catf.us/resources/publications/files/Gasping_for_Breath.pdf).

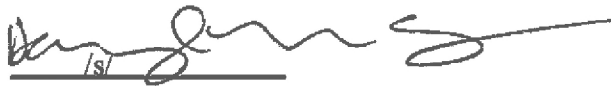
<sup>7</sup> *Id.* at 11.

in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study as an important step toward alleviating the harm that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe and healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Darryl Molina', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Darryl Molina  
Southern California Program Director  
Communities for a Better Environment  
[dmolina@cbecal.org](mailto:dmolina@cbecal.org)  
(323) 826-9771, ext. 105



June 2, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles**

Dear Los Angeles City Council,

I am writing on behalf of Redeemer Community Partnership, a member organization of the Stand Together Against Neighborhood Drilling – Los Angeles (“STAND-L.A.”) coalition. STAND-L.A. is a coalition of community groups that seeks to end neighborhood drilling to protect the health and safety of Angelenos on the front lines of urban oil extraction. Our South LA community has been deeply impacted by the operations of the Jefferson Drill Site, an active oil and gas extraction facility located just 6 feet from bedroom windows. Community members have endured oil spraying out from the facility onto adjacent homes, streets, and cars. Activity at the site produces loud and disruptive noises, and strong fumes that closed windows can’t keep out. Many have expressed concern for the potential health impacts their families might face. With every local incident of cancer, miscarriage, and onset of asthma, residents rightly question whether the Jefferson Drill Site’s hazardous operations played a causal role.

We strongly support an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We also strongly support the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The City of LA hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital. We are particularly concerned that a majority of these 900 wells operate in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods, such as Wilmington and South LA. These communities have a long history with poor air quality, soil contamination and toxic industrial waste producing negative health outcomes. **We consider oil drilling operations to be fundamentally incompatible with healthy, safe residential neighborhoods**, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study as an important step toward alleviating the harm that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

Richard Parks, President



June 2, 2017

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Alliance for Community Transit – Los Angeles. We are a coalition of 34 organizations that work on various aspects of community development throughout the City of Los Angeles. Neighborhood drilling is at odds with our vision for thriving, sustainable and healthy communities in the City. We also recognize the disproportionate impact that drilling has on local communities of color, making this a key environmental justice issue for LA.

We respectfully express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We would also like to express support and gratitude to Council for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The City of LA hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital. More than half of the active wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study to alleviate the symptoms that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

Laura Raymond  
Campaign Director  
Alliance for Community Transit – Los Angeles





June 2, 2017

Councilmember Curren Price  
Los Angeles City Council  
200 N. Spring Street, Room 420  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Councilmember Price:

I am writing on behalf of **SAJE**. The issue of neighborhood drilling is of special concern to our organization. SAJE has worked for many years to support housing health and habitability in the neighborhoods around us.

We respectfully express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We would also like to express support and gratitude to Council for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We strongly encourage Councilmember Price to join with his colleagues on the Council to approve this motion and take a step toward protecting Angelenos from harmful oil drilling.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The City of LA hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital. More than half of the active wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study to alleviate the symptoms that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cynthia Strathmann", is written over a horizontal line.

Cynthia Strathmann  
Executive Director, SAJE  
152 West 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Los Angeles, CA 90007  
(213) 745-9961 ext. 202  
Cc: Los Angeles City Council, File # 17-0447



Center for Environmental Health

National Office:  
2201 Broadway, Suite 302  
Oakland, CA 94612

East Coast Office:  
25 Broadway, Suite 5107, 9th Floor  
New York, NY 10004

T : 510.653.3900  
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[ceh@ceh.org](mailto:ceh@ceh.org) • [www.ceh.org](http://www.ceh.org)

June 2, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction  
in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Center for Environmental Health, a national nonprofit organization that works with parents, communities, businesses, workers, and government to protect children and families from toxic chemicals in our homes, workplaces, schools, and neighborhoods. Neighborhood drilling is of special concern to our organization as we have been examining the potential public health impacts of oil and gas drilling – particularly as it relates to maternal and child health.

We would like to express our strong support for the establishment of a 2,500 foot setback for oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses such as residences, schools and healthcare facilities as well as the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File #17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and the Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of the proposed setback ordinance. We commend Council President Wesson for his leadership in introducing the motion as well as Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for their co-sponsorship.

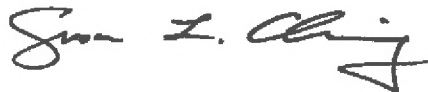
We have concerns about the ongoing and future health of Angelenos as Los Angeles is home to the largest urban oil field in the country and one of the most densely populated metropolitan area in the US. There are thousands of active oil wells throughout Los Angeles County and over 900 active oil wells within the City of LA. Over 77% of the active wells in LA are located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital and more than half are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already disproportionately affected by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A.

Chemicals used in oil & gas extraction are linked to infertility (difficulty getting pregnant), miscarriage (loss of baby), birth defects, breathing problems, cancer, and other illnesses. Residents from these neighborhoods have reported serious health problems that include nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness. This is in addition to the daily disruptions they experience from nearby drilling activities such as noise and vibrations, bad odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations have no place in residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to pass the motion for a legal and land use study to alleviate the symptoms that front-line communities experience day in and day out. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

We appreciate your attention and swift action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of people living, working and playing near oil drilling operations. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions or if we can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sue L. Chiang". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Sue" being more prominent.

Sue Chiang, MPH, MPP  
Pollution Prevention Director  
Healthy Energy Program





June 2, 2017

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

**Re: Motion for Land Use Analysis of Health and Safety Buffer Zone Around Oil and Gas Production Sites (Council File # 17-0447) - SUPPORT**

Dear Council President Wesson and Council Members:

On behalf of the Natural Resources Defense Council ("NRDC"), I am writing to express our support for the above-referenced motion by Council Members Wesson, Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez, File No. 17-0447. The motion would direct the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator, and Planning Department to analyze the creation of a city-wide setback that would separate oil and gas production operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools, and hospitals. Emissions from oil drilling and production operations include toxic air contaminants and smog-forming pollutants, and have been linked to health and environmental concerns in numerous locations across the City. This motion would help to address those concerns.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil-bearing region in the country, hosting more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park, or hospital. More than half of these wells are in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods such as Wilmington and South L.A. that are already overburdened by environmental hazards. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma, and other respiratory illnesses, while also enduring the daily stresses, risks, and impacts from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

We urge the Council to act swiftly to pass this motion to move quickly toward alleviating the symptoms that front-line communities experience daily. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Very truly yours,

Damon Nagami  
Senior Attorney  
Director, Community Fracking Defense Project

**NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL**

1314 2ND STREET | SANTA MONICA, CA | 90401 | T 310.434.2300 | F 310.434.2399 | NRDC.ORG

June 2, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

I am writing on behalf of Food & Water Watch. The issue of neighborhood drilling is of special concern to our organization. As you may know, we have worked for several years with diverse communities struggling against the impacts of oil and gas infrastructure in their neighborhoods. We continue to work to hold SoCalGas accountable for the Aliso Canyon blowout which to this day threatens the safety and health of northern San Fernando Valley residents; we work to shed light on the unsafe operations at the much older Playa Del Ray Gas Storage Facility; and, we maintain relationships in the City of Carson to fend off dangerous and irresponsible drilling operations in communities of color historically placed at the fenceline of oil production, transportation, and storage. In our history working with communities on these issues, it is clear the current standard of zoning and enforcement is incompatible with human health. Action must be taken to prioritize the lives, wellbeing, and safety of Angelenos, before the profits of oil and gas companies. We also believe such action will help to set Los Angeles on a path toward a renewable, clean energy future.

We respectfully express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We would also like to express support and gratitude to Council for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The City of LA hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital. More than half of the active wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study to alleviate the symptoms that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,  
Walker Foley  
Southern California Organizer, Food & Water Watch  
3000 S Robertson Blvd, Suite 255, Los Angeles, CA 90034  
323-843-8448



THE VOICE FOR NATURE ON THE LOS ANGELES COAST

LOS ANGELES CITY  
COUNCIL

PLUM Committee

200 N. Spring Street | Los Angeles, CA 90012

CONTACT:  
MARCIA HANSCOM

322 Culver Blvd., #317  
Playa del Rey, CA 90293  
[wetlandact@earthlink.net](mailto:wetlandact@earthlink.net)  
310-823-7040

June 2, 2017

re: Support for Motion for Land Use & Legal  
Analysis of Setback Around Oil & Gas  
Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File #17-  
0447)

Dear Los Angeles City Council:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you  
with our organization's concerns about the  
legislation you are considering – specifically  
the item referred to in the council file #17-  
0447.

Our organization's founders have worked  
since 1995 to protect the Ballona Wetlands,  
and we have long held concerns about the  
unsafe and toxic environment to the  
wetlands, as well as to the adjacent  
residents and businesses, caused by the  
underground gas storage field in Playa del  
Rey – which lies directly beneath the  
ecological reserve, and extends into Playa  
del Rey, Del Rey, Venice and Marina del

Rey. At this facility, there are regular extractions of gas from the field – extractions that include many chemicals that are harmful to the health of humans and to wildlife. We have witnessed fires and other harm and worry to the community. Residents and their pets have suffered from cancers and other health-related maladies. Additionally, we have witnessed leaks into the wetlands from the old oil field where the gas is stored.

There are children who visit the wetlands whose health we are most concerned as they visit the Ballona Wetlands outdoor classroom to learn about nature and our environment, yet toxic chemicals (with warnings posted about Proposition 65 poisons) are all around due to the gas drilling & storage operation.

For these and other reasons of concern for the health and safety of the community and the environment where we do our work, as well as for our concern for residents throughout Los Angeles who are impacted by similar oil and gas extraction operations, Ballona Institute is in strong support of the ordinance to establish a 2,500 foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals.

With best regards,

Marcia Hanscom, Executive Director



June 2nd, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas  
Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

I am writing on behalf of Indivisible CA-43. The issue of neighborhood drilling is of special concern to our organization. Our members and families live very close to oil and gas extraction sites. These sites often smell badly so we are concerned that our health, quality of life, and property value is at risk.

We respectfully express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We would also like to express support and gratitude to Council for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The City of LA hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital. More than half of the active wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study to alleviate the symptoms that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,



**Vlad Popescu**  
**Indivisible CA-43**  
**8600 Tuscany Ave #206, Playa del Rey, CA 90293**  
**818.714.1378**



June 3, 2017

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

**Re: SUPPORT for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity (the "Center"), a nonprofit organization with over 1.3 million members and online activists, in Los Angeles and throughout the country. The Center's mission includes fighting climate change and its catastrophic impacts by working to reduce reducing greenhouse gas and other pollution from oil and gas development, production and combustion. Science, as well as our climate and public health, require that we phase out fossil fuels and transition to a just, sustainable renewable energy system. The issue of neighborhood drilling is of special concern to the Center because of the enormous health and safety risks posed to people living near these operations.

We strongly support an ordinance establishing a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools, and hospitals. We want to express support for the motion introduced by the City Council on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator, and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The city hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use. More than half of the active wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South Los Angeles. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study to alleviate the symptoms

that frontline communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of your constituents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,



Maya Golden-Krasner  
Senior Attorney  
Climate Law Institute  
CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

c/o:

Sharon Dickinson [sharon.dickinson@lacity.org](mailto:sharon.dickinson@lacity.org);

Michael Espinosa [michael.espinosa@lacity.org](mailto:michael.espinosa@lacity.org);

Maria Espinoza [maria.espinosa@lacity.org](mailto:maria.espinosa@lacity.org);

Sharon Gin [sharon.gin@lacity.org](mailto:sharon.gin@lacity.org)





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June 5, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use And Legal Analysis of  
Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council  
File #17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

On behalf of the 97,000 members of Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 721, I am writing to you to strongly support an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction in sensitive areas that are close to homes, schools and hospitals.

We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson for introducing this motion and Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

The City of LA is home to over 900 active oil wells and a staggering 77% of those are located within 2,500 feet of a home, school or hospital. In addition, half of these active oil wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American communities, which already battle long standing environmental hazards.

Thank you for your attention and leadership on issues that directly impact the health and safety of our communities.

Sincerely,

Bob Schoonover  
President, SEIU Local 721

Cc: Pamm Fair, SEIU Local 721 Political Director

<http://www.seiu721.org>

1545 Wilshire Blvd., Ste 100 • Los Angeles CA 90017-6664 • Tel (213) 389-8860 • Fax (213) 380-8040  
6177 River Crst Dr., Ste B • Riverside CA 92507 • Tel (951) 571-7700 • Fax (951) 653-8310  
349 S. Farwell Dr., Ste A104 • Palm Springs CA 92262 • Tel (760) 322-7191 • Fax (760) 322-7161  
2472 Eastman Ave., Ste 30 • Ventura CA 93003-5774 • Tel (805) 650-4420 • Fax (805) 650-1028

222 W. Carmen Lane Ste 201 • Santa Maria CA 93458 • Tel (805) 623-5256 • Fax (805) 623-5257  
1651 E 4th St., Ste 250 • Santa Ana CA 92701 • Tel (714) 541-1086 • Fax (714) 541-1084  
42231 6th St. W., Ste 201 • Lancaster CA 93534 • Tel (877) 721-4969 • Fax (661) 974-7914



# Pacoima Beautiful

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & ADVOCACY

June 5, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

I am writing on behalf of Pacoima Beautiful. The issue of neighborhood drilling is of special concern to our organization. We believe that the transition to 100% clean renewable energy starts here at home, in the City of Los Angeles.

We respectfully express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We would also like to express support and gratitude to Council for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The City of LA hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital. More than half of the active wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study to alleviate the symptoms that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

Veronica Padilla  
Executive Director



# HOLMAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## *Church of the Bells*

Rev. Kelvin Sauls, Senior Pastor

3320 West Adams Boulevard ▪ Los Angeles ▪ California ▪ 90018

Phone: (323) 731-7285 ▪ Fax: (323) 731-2609

Email: [holman@holmanumc.com](mailto:holman@holmanumc.com) ▪ [www.holmanumc.com](http://www.holmanumc.com)

Visit us on: Facebook – HolmanChurch ▪ Twitter – @HolmanUMC

June 6, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback  
Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

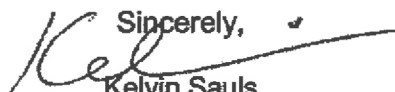
We write on behalf of Holman United Methodist Church, a member organization of the Stand Together Against Neighborhood Drilling – Los Angeles (“STAND-L.A.”) coalition. STAND-L.A. is an environmental justice coalition of community groups that seeks to end neighborhood drilling to protect the health and safety of Angelenos on the front lines of urban oil extraction. As a congregation that has been an integral part of the West Adams community for over 70 years, we believe that the safety and health of our children, youth, elderly and all families must take priority. The Murphy drilling site continues to put the health and safety of our community at risk. Our faith teaches us to develop and deploy a holiness that is personal, social and environmental. Such is a spirituality of mutuality and solidarity with our neighbors from West Adams to Wilmington. Hence, the STAND motion is a moral imperative for us, and has our full support.

We respectfully express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We would also like to express support for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The City of LA hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital. More than half of the active wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study as an important step toward alleviating the harm that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,   
Kelvin Sauls  
Senior Pastor

*“Inviting people into discipleship with Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”*





Change. Not Charity

6420 Wilshire Blvd.  
Suite 700  
Los Angeles, CA 90048

323.556.7200  
323.556.7240 (fax)

[www.LibertyHill.org](http://www.LibertyHill.org)

June 9, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction  
in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

The Liberty Hill Foundation has been very concerned with the problem of neighborhood oil drilling since we first became aware of the issue several years ago. Based upon reports from some of our grantee organizations, and other nonprofits and community-based groups working throughout the City of Los Angeles, we conducted our own research and outreach, leading to the publication of our Fall 2015 report, [\*\*DRILLING DOWN: The Community Consequences of Expanded Oil Development in Los Angeles\*\*](#), which can be found on our website.

**DRILLING DOWN** provides a profile of the geographic distribution and demographic characteristics of oil and gas facilities in Los Angeles, as well as personal stories of residents in South Los Angeles and the Harbor area who suffer from severe health impacts as well as neighborhood nuisances from these industrial operations. With research and analysis conducted by Professors James Sadd and Bhavna Shamasunder of Occidental College, the report documents how a high proportion of active oil wells are within close proximity to Angelenos' homes and schools. It also demonstrates that many of the neighborhoods that host oil/gas drilling facilities are also overburdened with disproportionate exposure to toxic air emissions from industry and transportation corridors. In other words, many of these are "environmental justice" communities that experience high rates of both pollution and poverty, with high proportions of African-American and Latino residents.

We are heartened to see the April 19, 2017 motion, introduced by Council President Wesson and supported by Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez (Council File #17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of City Planning to perform a legal and land use analysis of a distance setback, or buffer zone, between oil/gas development facilities and sensitive land uses. We are in strong support of this motion.

We further support the need for an ordinance that would establish such a distance setback and provide for the discontinuance of any facilities that fall inside of such a buffer. There is a growing body of scientific literature that supports the need to separate oil and gas facilities from people, and that supports the fact that distance matters. There is mounting scientific evidence that a distance buffer of 2,500 feet will help to reduce health impacts and provide the greatest protection for nearby residents.

Oil drilling operations do not belong in residential neighborhoods, or near schools, health care facilities or parks. While oil drilling has been commonplace in the Los Angeles landscape for decades, the emerging science on the health risks and hazards along with growing population density, indicate that it is time to end this practice.

We encourage the Council to continue to demonstrate its leadership on policies that protect the health and well-being of all Angelinos, and which place Los Angeles in the forefront of environmental, energy and climate policy

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michele Prichard" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michele Prichard  
Director, Common Agenda Program  
Liberty Hill Foundation

# SCOPE STRATEGIC COMMUNITY AGENDA

June 12, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

We write on behalf of Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Political Education (SCOPE LA) a member organization of the Stand Together Against Neighborhood Drilling – Los Angeles ("STAND-L.A.") coalition. STAND-L.A. is an environmental justice coalition of community groups that seeks to end neighborhood drilling to protect the health and safety of Angelenos on the front lines of urban oil extraction. SCOPE believes that this issue has economic and land use implication as well. Urban oil drilling wells do not create safe or sustainable jobs for communities most impacted. We believe it is time to reimagine better uses for this land that will better benefit communities such as South LA.

We respectfully express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We would also like to express support for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

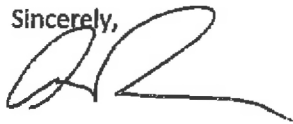
Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The City of LA hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital. More than half of the active wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study as an important step toward alleviating the harm that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

# **SCOPE** STRATEGIC COMMUNITY AGENDA

Sincerely,



**Andres Ramirez**  
Campaign Manager, SCOPE - Los Angeles  
1715 W. Florence Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90047  
323-789-7920





June 12, 2017

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

**RE: SUPPORT for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

On behalf of the 1,300,000 members of Courage Campaign, California's largest online, progressive organizing network, I write to express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We would also like to express support and gratitude to Council for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

Los Angeles is the largest and most densely populated urban oil field in the nation. The City of LA hosts more than 900 active oil wells, with over 77% located within 2,500 feet of a home or sensitive land use such as a school, park or hospital. More than half of the active wells are located in low-income Latino and African-American neighborhoods already overburdened by environmental hazards, such as Wilmington and South L.A. Residents from these neighborhoods have documented serious health problems—including nosebleeds, chronic migraines, nausea, asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study to alleviate the symptoms that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eddie Kurtz', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eddie Kurtz  
Executive Director, Courage Campaign



Committed to the Empowerment Health and Well Being of Black Women and Girls

June 13, 2017

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

Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas  
Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

I am writing on behalf of Black Women for Wellness. The issue of neighborhood drilling is of special concern to our organization. Black Women for Wellness is a non-profit committed to the empowerment, health and well-being of Black women and girls. The combination of not knowing the chemical composition of what is being put in the ground, the lack of short and long term studies on the health implication of drilling, as well as the proximity of drilling to homes and schools raises deep questions about how we value the lives of our fellow Los Angelenos that live, work, learn and sleep next to wells.

We respectfully express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We would also like to express support and gratitude to Council for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

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asthma and other respiratory illness—in addition to daily disruption from drilling noise and vibrations, foul odors, and diesel truck traffic.

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Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,  
Nourbese Flint M.A.  
Policy Director  
Black Women for Wellness  
4340 11th Avenue,  
Los Angeles CA 90008  
323.290.5955

June 13, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

I am writing on behalf of St. John's Well Child & Family Center. The issue of neighborhood drilling is of special concern to our organization. As one of the largest primary care providers in South Los Angeles we see extremely high rates of asthma incidents in our children as opposed to other communities in more affluent areas like West Los Angeles.

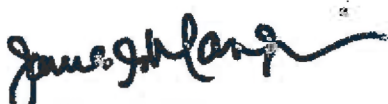
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Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study to alleviate the symptoms that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,



President & CEO



From: "Sabina Virgo" <[sabina1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sabina1@sbcglobal.net)>  
Date: Jun 13, 2017 11:00 AM  
Subject: Council File #17-0447  
To: "[sharon.dickinson@lacity.org](mailto:sharon.dickinson@lacity.org)" <[sharon.dickinson@lacity.org](mailto:sharon.dickinson@lacity.org)>  
Cc:

June 13, 2017

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

**Re: Support for Motion for Land Use and Legal Analysis of Setback Around Oil and Gas Extraction in Los Angeles (Council File # 17-0447)**

Dear Council President Wesson and Los Angeles City Council:

I am writing on behalf of SoCal350.org. The issue of neighborhood drilling is of special concern to our organization. Both nationally and locally, we see climate change and climate justice as intertwined issues. There could be no more glaring example of a climate justice struggle than the fight to keep the toxic effects of extraction away from families living close to neighborhood drilling.

We respectfully express our support for an ordinance to establish a 2,500-foot setback separating oil and gas extraction operations from sensitive land uses like homes, schools and hospitals. We would also like to express support and gratitude to Council for the motion introduced on April 19, 2017 (Council File # 17-0447) directing the City Attorney, Petroleum Administrator and Department of Planning to perform a legal and land use study of such an ordinance. We applaud the leadership of Council President Wesson introducing this motion and to Councilmembers Bonin, Cedillo, Harris-Dawson, Koretz, and Martinez for co-sponsoring the motion.

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Oil drilling operations are wholly incompatible with residential neighborhoods, and we urge the Council to act swiftly to pass the motion for a legal and land use study to alleviate the symptoms that front-line communities experience daily. Every Angeleno deserves to live in a safe, healthy neighborhood.

Thank you for your attention and action on matters that directly impact the health and safety of residents living near oil drilling operations. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

Sabina Virgo  
Steering committee  
On behalf of the members  
SoCal350.org  
1701 Morton Ave. LA 90026  
213 250 3986