

Communication from Public

Name: Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter
Date Submitted: 04/30/2021 04:59 PM
Council File No: 19-0604
Comments for Public Posting: Please include the letter of support from the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club in your deliberations on this matter.



3250 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 1106
Los Angeles, California 90005

April 16, 2021

Re: Council File #19-0604: Outreach, Education and Anti-Idling Ordinance: **SUPPORT**

Dear Councilmember Koretz:

The Sierra Club is pleased to support the motion by Councilmember Koretz to initiate outreach and education through a campaign about motor vehicle idling and a prohibition against excessive idling within the City of Los Angeles.

According to the American Lung Association, Los Angeles suffers from some of the dirtiest air in the country with low-income individuals and communities of color being at greater risk of harm from poor air quality.¹ Diesel particulate matter (“DPM”) accounts for 85% of toxic air contaminants in Wilmington and East Los Angeles. On-road vehicles account for 35-45% DPM in those same communities. At least one-third of greenhouse gases in the Los Angeles County are emitted from transportation, the most of any sector, with an anticipation that the percentage will grow. Overall, in the United States idling generates around 30 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions.

Nine states, including Texas, restrict vehicle idling. New York City, for example, limits idling to three minutes, with a further limit in sensitive receptor areas. New York City monetarily rewards residents who report excessive idling.

An anti-idling ordinance can help mitigate some of the health impacts of poor air quality, will improve local air quality, and save money for drivers of those vehicles. Unneeded idling wastes about 6 billion gallons of fuel annually in the United States. It’s more fuel efficient to turn off a modern, fuel injected vehicle after about 10 seconds of idling.

¹ <https://www.stateoftheair.org/stateoftheair2020.pdf>

Los Angeles residents, when informed of harmful practices, change those practices. We know this because Angelenos—after benefitting from public education campaigns and other water conservation policy initiatives -- now save water in an unprecedented manner. There is no doubt that all Angelenos would benefit from sustainable policy initiatives, such as this ordinance, to improve air quality and mitigate the negative impacts of vehicle emissions.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dennis Loya', is written over the printed name.

Dennis Loya

Chair, Angeles Chapter Sierra Club