

Communication from Public

Name: Wendy Miranda
Date Submitted: 11/24/2021 02:41 PM
Council File No: 21-1230

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Wendy and I am a resident of Wilmington in CD15. As a community member, I am really concerned by the City's efforts to expedite an Environmental Justice Element. LA City's targeted amendments to the Health & Safety element are insufficient and do not do not satisfy state law, SB 1000, or community resilience planning. The cornerstone of SB 1000 and community resilience is community outreach and public participation, which I believe the outreach was not enough. I have been working on a project with CBE that involves community planning and after speaking with over 50 community residents in the Wilmington area, no one was aware of the current planning process in the city. There needs to be more community engagement especially with vulnerable populations. The Health & Safety Element updates do not satisfy SB 1000 requirements or capture climate risks faced by vulnerable populations. Moving forward with a compliance update is a missed opportunity for building community resilience and reversing decades of racist land use decisions that have concentrated toxic industries such as oil drilling in vulnerable communities and sited affordable housing on toxic land. Therefore, LA City must draft a stand-alone EJ Element to ensure EJ goals, policies, and programs are legally enforceable between LA City & the state. Our frontline communities deserve better and deserve due process. We call on the city to commit additional resources that would allow the city to complete state-required environmental justice analysis of the Housing Element and environmental justice-focused community engagement. Housing is a health and human right.

Communication from Public

Name: Rabeya Sen

Date Submitted: 11/24/2021 10:52 AM

Council File No: 21-1230

Comments for Public Posting: On behalf of Esperanza Community Housing, we are submitting this comment for items 36, 35, and 43. We applaud the city for a strong Housing Element that lays the groundwork for implementation programs to address LA's need for affordable housing. In the coming months, we encourage the city to prioritize implementing affordability-required rezoning programs with a focus on high opportunity areas and a public lands program that prioritizes housing models that achieve permanent affordability coupled with strong anti-displacement protections. However, remain concerned by LA City's efforts to (1) expedite an Environmental Justice Element, and (2) suggest that state law requires LA City's Housing Element to be approved concurrently with the City's revised Health & Safety Element. Entertaining this notion threatens to set a dangerous precedent for rushing planning updates, circumventing meaningful community outreach, and fast-tracking SB 1000 compliance. (1) First, the cornerstone of SB 1000 is community outreach and public participation. Yet, LA City's compliance update relies on old data and community outreach that took place years ago. LA City's Health and Safety Element "update" is based on data gathered before 2015, which predates SB 1000 by 3 years. (2) Second, LA City's identification of disadvantaged communities is based on outdated CalEnviroScreen maps, which undermines the very essence of SB 1000's intent in recognizing the cumulative impacts that our frontline communities continue to face. Given we are still in a global pandemic in the midst of a worsening climate crisis, accurate data is vital to identify disproportionately impacted communities and craft programs and policies that will improve quality of life in those communities. (3) Finally, although we do not oppose LA City's technical updates to the Health & Safety Element, we oppose claiming that it satisfies SB 1000 requirements. Moving forward with a compliance update is a missed opportunity to reverse decades of racist land use decisions that have concentrated toxic industries such as oil drilling in vulnerable communities and sited affordable housing on toxic land. Therefore, LA City must draft a stand-alone EJ Element to ensure EJ goals, policies, and programs are legally enforceable between LA City & the state. Our frontline communities deserve better and deserve due process. We call on the city to commit

additional resources that would allow the city to complete state-required environmental justice analysis of the Housing Element and environmental justice-focused community engagement. Housing is a health and human right. Thank you.