

Communication from Public

Name: Alison Hahm

Date Submitted: 02/16/2022 10:34 AM

Council File No: 15-0103-S4

Comments for Public Posting: On behalf of Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), we appreciate the opportunity to comment on Councilmembers Raman, Price, Bonin and Martinez's motion to establish a process to truly comply with Senate Bill 1000, the Planning for Healthy Communities Act. L.A. City's 2021 SB 1000 compliance update was deficient because it relies on outdated data from the 2015 Plan for a Healthy L.A. and 2013 L.A. City Safety Element to create Environmental Justice programs and policies. This prevents L.A. City Planning from (1) identifying and (2) effectively reducing disproportionate pollution burden in disadvantaged communities throughout Los Angeles. L.A. City Council must direct L.A. City Planning to craft a stand-alone Environmental Justice element to satisfy SB 1000 requirements. This is an exciting opportunity for L.A. City Council to serve as a model for other jurisdictions required to satisfy SB 1000. Creating a strong Environmental Justice Element would encourage other jurisdictions to do the same, reversing decades of harmful land use decisions that have concentrated toxic industries and pollution in vulnerable communities. Meaningful public participation is the cornerstone of SB 1000. Failing to perform adequate community outreach and public engagement deprives impacted communities of the opportunity to weigh in on local planning decisions that will directly impact their communities, built environment, and personal health. Investing in a stand-alone Environmental Justice Element will safeguard future generations - and ensure all L.A. residents have equitable access to clean air, water, and soil regardless of their zip code.

Communication from Public

Name: Wendy Miranda
Date Submitted: 02/16/2022 12:21 PM
Council File No: 15-0103-S4

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Wendy Miranda and I am a resident of Wilmington located in CD15. I am in support of of item 15-0103-S4, the motion introduced by Council members Raman, Price, and Bonin to instruct L.A. City Planning to establish a process to truly satisfy Senate Bill 1000, the Planning for Healthy Communities Act. and to urge the L.A. City Council to create and adopt a stand-alone Environmental Justice Element. LA City's 2021 SB 1000 compliance update was deficient and LA City Council must direct LA City Planning to craft a stand-alone Environmental Justice element to satisfy SB 1000 requirements. The targeted updates to the Plan for Healthy LA and LA City Safety Elements do not paint an accurate picture of community demographics or environmental burdens in LA City. Rising temperatures, storms, wildfires, flooding, and COVID-19 hit environmental justice communities the hardest. Further, legacies of racist land use practices—including redlining and systematic disinvestment in Black and Brown communities—leave frontline residents isolated from community-serving spaces and vulnerable to climate-related impacts. It is important to ensure that environmental justice communities, such as mine, are supported and no longer face environmental burdens. LA City Council must prioritize public health and safety by directing LA City Planning to create a stand-alone Environmental Justice Element, to ensure: (1) current disadvantaged communities are identified and (2) meaningful environmental justice programs and policies are created and enforced, especially in LA's most vulnerable communities.

Communication from Public

Name: Alfonso Directo Jr.

Date Submitted: 02/16/2022 09:48 AM

Council File No: 15-0103-S4

Comments for Public Posting: The Alliance for Community Transit - Los Angeles (ACT-LA) is a coalition of 42 organizations working on the forefront of environmental, economic, and racial justice. ACT-LA urges the city to plan for and pursue a standalone environmental justice element. ACT-LA also supports the creation of an Environmental Justice Working Group composed of resident leaders and community organizations representing impacted communities, subject area experts, and city staff from relevant departments to co-develop targeted environmental justice priorities, policy recommendations, and solutions-oriented implementation actions. The recently-adopted, targeted updates to the City of LA's "Plan for Healthy LA" and "Safety Element" respectively do not paint an accurate picture of community demographics or environmental burdens in LA City. If the city fails to update its data to accurately represent the needs of communities impacted by environmental and racial injustice, then the city risks further isolating residents from community-serving spaces and abandoning residents vulnerable to climate-related impacts. In addition, a key component from environmental justice state law from 2016 known as Calif. Senate Bill 1000 (Leyva) requires and describes meaningful community engagement in the public decision-making process. The city should properly plan for and pursue a standalone environmental justice element with meaningful community engagement to resource city staff who can then help city leaders start to methodically address environmental burdens community residents have faced for decades. As one of the largest cities in the state with generations of residents impacted by polluted air, water, and soil, the City of LA must keep on turning the corner and be a leader for environmental justice by creating a strong standalone environmental justice element with meaningful public participation.