

MOTION HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH AND EDUCATION

Los Angeles is at the forefront of implementing policies to protect the environment and to address global climate change. The City Council has also been studying means to strengthen the City's oversight of petroleum and natural gas operations, and has hired a full-time Petroleum Administrator in October 2016.

For many decades, residents throughout the City have expressed concerns over the impacts and possible hazards of oil drilling. Recent high-profile events related to oil and gas operations have drawn attention to the many potential health and safety impacts of these operations, especially when they occur in such close proximity to sensitive uses such as homes, schools, recreational and healthcare facilities, and places of worship. As such, there is a great need for the City to explore actions to protect the public from the range of possible risks and hazards associated with oil and gas extraction, production, and storage infrastructure operation.

The primary stated health risk concern associated with oil and gas development within urban areas is proximity to active sites; with concern that the closer oil and gas wells and storage facilities are to sensitive land uses, the higher the risk that the health and safety of nearby residents could be threatened. For this reason the City should identify and explore implementation of meaningful, long-term measures to address these concerns.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of City Planning, with the assistance of the City Attorney and the Petroleum Administrator, be instructed to report within 120 days with a comprehensive analysis regarding the possible implementation of changes to the City's land use codes relative to oil and gas development, including the following proposals:

- (1) New requirements that no oil or gas well, or temporary geological exploratory core holes connected with oil and gas well production, shall be located within a certain setback proximity of residential uses (including mobile homes), child care facilities, public or private schools (preschool through high school), educational institutions, medical clinics, hospital, or similar sensitive uses.
- (2) New requirements that provide for the discontinuance of nonconforming land uses resulting from the new requirements in paragraph (1), including, but not limited to, an amortization period as determined by a study consistent with state and federal law.
- (3) New requirements that provide relief and an administrative remedy, including minimal extension of the amortization period granted only for the amount of time necessary to comply with state and federal due process and takings law for any oil and gas operators or stakeholder in oil and gas production that are affected by the new requirements in paragraphs (1) and (2).

I FURTHER MOVE that the Health, Mental Health, and Education Committee with the assistance of the Petroleum Administrator be requested to work with the Los Angeles County Health Department relative to the health effects of oil and gas operations in Los Angeles.

PRESENTED BY:


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