



City Clerk Council and Public Services <clerk.cps@lacity.org>

Fwd: Brownfields Act Needed now - Needles wash ashore Venice Beach

Anna Martinez <anna.martinez@lacity.org>
 To: Clerk Council and Public Services <Clerk.CPS@lacity.org>

Tue, Nov 12, 2019 at 2:26 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Soledad Ursua <soledadursua@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Nov 12, 2019 at 2:23 PM

Subject: Brownfields Act Needed now - Needles wash ashore Venice Beach

To: <Wheeler.andrew@epa.gov>, <Darwin.henry@epa.gov>, <Orme-Zavaleta.jennifer@epa.gov>, <Brennan.thomas@epa.gov>, <Leopold.matt@epa.gov>, <simons.vicki@epa.gov>, <ryan.jini@epa.gov>, <Assemblymember.Burke@assembly.ca.gov>, <senator.allen@senate.ca.gov>, Eric Garcetti <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>, Mike Bonin <mike.bonin@lacity.org>, Michel Moore <23506@lapd.online>
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Dear EPA Administrator Wheeler,

While many beach goers face getting stung by jellyfish while swimming in the ocean, or walking along the beach, the residents and tourists of Venice Beach now face getting "stung" by needles. The beach was recently shut down to an overflow of needles or "medical waste" washing ashore.

<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2019-11-10/lifeguards-find-small-needles-along-venice-beach>

<https://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2019/11/10/large-amount-of-needles-other-medical-supplies-appear-along-venice-beach-shoreline/>

Please invoke the Brownfields Program, administered under the EPA to send resources to Venice Beach in order to clean it up. The public has no local or state advocates on its side, and is a reason we have turned to the federal level directly. Our local and state elected officials have put profits over the environment. We have no environmental "police" to report these crimes to.

Since its inception in 1995, EPA's Brownfields Program has grown into a proven, results-oriented program that has changed the way communities address and manage contaminated property. Venice Beach is by definition a Brownfield site.

As per EPA definition-

Contaminants can cause a range of health effects when a person is exposed, and the contaminant is absorbed into the body. Exposure pathways refer to the ways people come into contact or are exposed to a contaminant. The extent of exposure and absorption depends on how much contaminant is present, how a person is exposed, how often and how long they are exposed. Sensitive populations may be at a greater risk from exposures, such as children, the elderly and those with chronic conditions.

The three basic exposure pathways are (1) breathing, (2) eating or drinking, and (3) direct contact with the skin. Of the three, breathing and eating or drinking are the most common but all three can occur.

Needles are a form of health risk contaminants. The EPA has successfully used Brownfield Act cleanup fund to clean up Solana Beach, and there is no reason that Venice Beach should be excluded.

Please provide residents of Venice Beach with the high level of Federal Regulation that it desperately needs and deserves,

11/12/2019

City of Los Angeles Mail - Fwd: Brownfields Act Needed now - Needles wash ashore Venice Beach

Soledad Ursua,
Venice Beach Resident