

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mayor of the City of Antioch  
**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 12:37 PM  
**Council File No:** 17-0447  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Letter Supporting Ban on Drilling



January 24, 2022

The Honorable Nury Martinez  
Los Angeles City Council  
200 N. Spring Street, Room 470  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Support for Motion to Phase Out Oil Drilling City-Wide (Council File # [17-0447](#))

Dear Council President Martinez and Los Angeles City Council,

My name is Lamar Thorpe, Mayor of the City of Antioch in the San Francisco Bay Area. I was born and raised in the City of Los Angeles. And, yes, still a proud Dodger fan! I grew up in El Sereno, Council District 14, where one learns to fight at a very early age and not just on the streets but in the halls of government.

Two weeks ago, my colleagues and I fought to adopt an ordinance that prohibits oil and gas drilling, production, and exploration in Antioch. In September of 2021 Council Democrats and I successfully fought to end a franchise agreement with California Resources Production Corp. that allowed them to transport natural gas and other hydrocarbon products within Antioch. Next month, I'll be introducing a resolution calling on the Board of Supervisors to end oil and gas drilling in Contra Costa County.

Today, I am writing to express support for the City of Los Angeles to adopt a similar ordinance and begin to phase out oil drilling city-wide.

We're all familiar with report after report concerning the health impacts of active oil drilling anywhere including the City of Los Angeles and the need to end our dependence on crude oil for the sake of the environment. Most residents living in close proximity to these oil fields are low-income and overburdened with the consequences of active wells in their neighborhoods. That's not right.

I urge you to lead the Los Angeles City Council in adopting a precedent-setting ordinance that will address the needs of Angelenos and champion the need to phase out oil drilling city-wide. Thank you for your leadership and action to ensure that every Angeleno has a right to clean air and healthy communities.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L.A. Thorpe".

Hon. Lamar A. Thorpe  
Mayor of the City of Antioch

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mayor Lamar Thorpe, City of Antioch

**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 10:26 AM

**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Council President Martinez and Los Angeles City Council, My name is Lamar Thorpe, Mayor of the City of Antioch in the San Francisco Bay Area. I was born and raised in the City of Los Angeles. And, yes, still a proud Dodger fan! I grew up in El Sereno, Council District 14, where one learns to fight at a very early age and not just on the streets but in the halls of government. Two weeks ago, my colleagues and I fought to adopt an ordinance that prohibits oil and gas drilling, production, and exploration in Antioch. In September of 2021 Council Democrats and I successfully fought to end a franchise agreement with California Resources Production Corp. that allowed them to transport natural gas and other hydrocarbon products within Antioch. Next month, I'll be introducing a resolution calling on the Board of Supervisors to end oil and gas drilling in Contra Costa County. Today, I am writing to express support for the City of Los Angeles to adopt a similar ordinance and begin to phase out oil drilling city-wide. We're all familiar with report after report concerning the health impacts of active oil drilling anywhere including the City of Los Angeles and the need to end our dependence on crude oil for the sake of the environment. Most residents living in close proximity to these oil fields are low-income and overburdened with the consequences of active wells in their neighborhoods. That's not right. I urge you to lead the Los Angeles City Council in adopting a precedent-setting ordinance that will address the needs of Angelenos and champion the need to phase out oil drilling city-wide. Thank you for your leadership and action to ensure that every Angeleno has a right to clean air and healthy communities.



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Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L.A. Thorpe".

Hon. Lamar A. Thorpe  
Mayor of the City of Antioch

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Maggie Wineburgh-Freed

**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 10:32 AM

**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** I support these policies in the interest of justice for the many communities whose health and safety are adversely impacted by oil and gas drilling, and for the environmental damage that is done by continuing fossil fuel emissions of CO2 and its harmful effect on our air and the climate.

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 11:05 AM

**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote YES! Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sherrell Cuneo

**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 12:05 PM

**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** I encourage a yes vote on Council File number 17-0447 which would make oil and gas extraction a " non-conforming use" city wide, start the process of closing existing wells, develop a plan for safe and proper plugging of existing wells, and take part in the LA County Just Transition Taskforce to ensure workers employed in this industry are not adversely impacted. Climate change is real, Los Angeles needs to be a leader in the transition away from fossil fuels. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Rebecca Gundzik

**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 09:53 AM

**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** I I am a member of Climate Reality Project and a long-time resident of Los Angeles. I strongly support this measure to stop new oil drilling. Not only is it an important step in reducing emissions, but it will also give other municipalities the courage to take similar measures.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kathy Schaeffer

**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 06:28 AM

**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** After many years of hard work by STAND LA and other advocacy groups, as well as past and present members of the ECCEJR committee, we are on the cusp of phasing out oil extraction within the City of Los Angeles. There is no question that ALL city council members must vote yes on the critical motion.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Robert Mason

**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 07:30 AM

**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** I would like to encourage members to vote yes for this bill to stop oil drilling in LA.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 09:22 AM

**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** I urge you to pass this measure declaring oil a non-conforming land use and phasing out oil extraction facilities within the City. Our city and its residents must have this protection from pollution, for our health and well-being. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sharon Ungersma

**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 03:22 PM

**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly support CF 17-0447. It is long past time to phase out oil drilling in Los Angeles and accelerate the transition to renewable energy. Please vote in support of this motion!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Michele Ringler  
**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 05:03 PM  
**Council File No:** 17-0447  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote to support CF17-0447 making oil and gas extraction a "non-conforming use" citywide, and launching an amortization study, which may justify shortening that 20-year time frame to cap oil drilling. We need to act with a sense of urgency to stop the impact that fossil fuels and oil drilling are having in our communities. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Patrick Ioakimedes

**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 04:27 PM

**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am a longtime resident of LA commenting to express strong support for rapidly phasing out oil drilling in LA and for well plugging/remediation. We are living in the middle of a climate emergency and it is imperative that we accordingly. There is not neutral ground on this issue. We must muster the will, the power, whatever is necessary, and act now to phase out fossil fuels as quickly as possible. This can be done in conjunction with other solutions, but no other solution alone will suffice. Fossil fuels must be phased out for us to address the climate crisis we face. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sam Miyamoto  
**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 04:31 PM  
**Council File No:** 17-0447  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Please vote "Yes" on CF 17-0447 to make oil and gas extraction a non-conforming land use and therefore end oil and gas drilling in the City of Los Angeles.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Andy Hattala

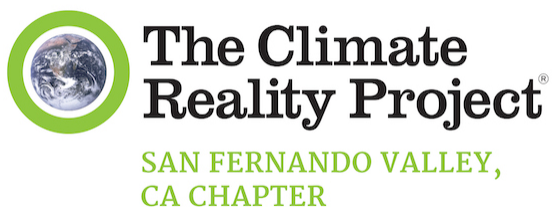
**Date Submitted:** 01/24/2022 10:06 PM

**Council File No:** 17-0447

**Comments for Public Posting:** The Los Angeles and San Fernando Valley Chapters of the Climate Reality Project, representing [1,800+] members, strongly endorse Council File 17-0447, establishing oil and gas extraction as a nonconforming land use as well as establishing clear setbacks from sensitive areas. The California legislature recently failed to advance SB 467, which would have banned fracking and established a buffer zone between communities and oil and gas extraction. In the absence of state legislation and action to curtail oil and gas extraction and use and to safeguard frontline communities from the negative effects, it is imperative that local governments such as the City Council act. An alternative approach is needed to lessen oil and gas extraction and most importantly to protect neighboring communities from the health impacts. Modifying current zoning laws to outlaw oil and gas extraction within city limits is a viable and ideal policy to facilitate a just transition towards renewable energy in order to generate healthy communities with clean air, water and soil. Past action has been insufficient to begin this transition and establish environmental justice, but this is a promising policy change to pursue. It is important that the City Council finally act in response to the residents and organizations complaints regarding their experiences due to their proximity to and lack of protection against oil and gas company operations. The phase out of oil and gas extraction within local neighborhoods is a long time coming. Ideally, and in an effort to establish environmental justice, oil and gas companies should be granted a maximum of 5 years (not 20) to cease their current oil and gas extraction operations as well as begin (if not complete) capping idle/dormant oil wells. To echo Council Member Kevin DeLeon, the health of frontline communities has been compromised by their proximity to oil and gas extraction. This has made them increasingly vulnerable to respiratory illnesses such as COVID-19, illnesses which exacerbate environmental injustices already experienced. As he aptly writes, it is time to prioritize the health and well-being of these impacted communities. Los Angeles must act quickly change the status quo-to eliminate neighborhood drilling, restore air quality and develop a formal plan to establish climate justice. Modifying regulations to establishing oil and gas extraction as a nonconforming land use practice is a necessary step towards these



objectives. Please support this ordinance and formally establish it as law for the sake of the impacted communities and to ensure clean air, water and soil for all within the city of Los Angeles. Thank you, Andy Hattala, Co-Chair, Los Angeles Climate Reality Chapter Tara Barauskas, Co-Chair, Los Angeles Climate Reality Chapter Diana Weynand, Chapter Chair, SFV Climate Reality Chapter Kathy Schaeffer, Legislative Coordinator, SFV Climate Reality Chapter (Copy of official endorsement letter attached)



## **Los Angeles City Council File — 17-0447**

**Comment Submitted by**

**Climate Reality Project, San Fernando Valley and Los Angeles Chapters**

**January 24, 2022**

The Los Angeles and San Fernando Valley Chapters of the Climate Reality Project, representing [1,800+] members, strongly endorse Council File 17-0447, establishing oil and gas extraction as a nonconforming land use as well as establishing clear setbacks from sensitive areas.

The California legislature recently failed to advance SB 467, which would have banned fracking and established a buffer zone between communities and oil and gas extraction. In the absence of state legislation and action to curtail oil and gas extraction and use and to safeguard frontline communities from the negative effects, it is imperative that local governments such as the City Council act.

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It is important that the City Council finally act in response to the residents and organizations complaints regarding their experiences due to their proximity to and lack of protection against oil and gas company operations. The phase out of oil and gas extraction within local neighborhoods is a long time coming.

Ideally, and in an effort to establish environmental justice, oil and gas companies should be granted a maximum of 5 years (not 20) to cease their current oil and gas extraction operations as well as begin (if not complete) capping idle/dormant oil wells.

To echo Council Member Kevin DeLeon, the health of frontline communities has been compromised by their proximity to oil and gas extraction. This has made them increasingly vulnerable to respiratory illnesses such as COVID-19, illnesses which exacerbate environmental injustices already experienced. As he aptly writes, it is time to prioritize the health and well-being of these impacted communities.

Los Angeles must act quickly change the status quo-to eliminate neighborhood drilling, restore air quality and develop a formal plan to establish climate justice. Modifying regulations to establishing oil and gas extraction as a nonconforming land use practice is a necessary step towards these objectives. Please support this ordinance and formally establish it as law for the sake of the impacted communities and to ensure clean air, water and soil for all within the city of Los Angeles.

Thank you,

Andy Hattala,  
Co-Chair, Los Angeles Climate Reality Chapter

Tara Barauskas,  
Co-Chair, Los Angeles Climate Reality Chapter

Diana Weynand,  
Chapter Chair, SFV Climate Reality Chapter

Kathy Schaeffer,  
Legislative Coordinator, SFV Climate Reality Chapter