

Communication from Public

Name: Sandy Cajas

Date Submitted: 12/01/2020 08:16 AM

Council File No: 17-0447

Comments for Public Posting: SUBJECT: Item#3-17-0447- Recommendations in the Petroleum Administrator's Report on Land Use Codes Relative to Oil & Gas Development November 30, 2020 Re: Recommendations in the Petroleum Administrator's Report on Land Use Codes Relative to Oil & Gas Development Dear Council President Martinez and Honorable Councilmembers: Today, The Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce stands with the oil and gas industry, which employs thousands of essential oil and natural gas workers in LA City and County who safely operate Southern California's critical infrastructure every day. The industry provides reliable local oil, natural gas and electricity to our fellow Angelenos when we need it the most. With the upcoming discussions related to advancing the recommendations within the Petroleum Administrator's report, we continue to be deeply concerned about the negative impacts of any further restrictions on local oil and gas operations hard working diverse families in Los Angeles – without providing any health benefits. The Petroleum Administrator's report identified the numerous safeguards and comprehensive regulations that already govern local production and concluded that “there is a lack of empirical evidence correlating oil and gas operations within the City of Los Angeles to widespread negative health impacts.” Our community is deeply impacted by an actual public health crisis in the COVID-19 pandemic and we are suffering from an economic and unemployment crisis, the likes of which we haven't seen since the Great Depression. Numerous businesses large and small have been forced to close their doors and thousands of people have lost their jobs and livelihoods, leaving so many more vulnerable families on the verge of homelessness. Additionally, the City Attorney's Office has highlighted significant costs and litigation risks to the City associated with further regulating the oil industry. I urge the Committee to consider the fiscal impacts of your proposals and the economic health of the City. The oil and gas industry here in LA City continues to produce reliable and affordable energy under the most stringent regulations in the world. Every day 10 million Angelenos need enough energy to heat and cool their homes, store and cook their food, and use their cars to get to where they need to go. We've learned during recent power outages and COVID-19 shortages the importance of having

local supplies of goods and energy to keep us healthy and safe. We are concerned the report's recommendations will cause a reduction in local production, and as a result, increase Angelenos' dependence on imported oil from countries that do not value human rights, labor and environmental standards like we do. Now more than ever, every job is precious. The oil and natural gas industry has been and continues to be an important source of stable, good paying blue-collar careers that support thousands of families in Los Angeles and beyond. We respectfully request you, as an honorable member of the LA City Council, not to further restrict local oil and gas production and instead work to preserve and expand local jobs that can contribute to restarting Los Angeles' decimated economy. Before taking any action that will eliminate critical jobs and industries, please consider our community, our jobs, our families and our livelihoods. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Sandy Cajas Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

TO: councilmember.martinez@lacity.org; ackley.padilla@lacity.org; paul.koretz@lacity.org; joan.pelico@lacity.org; councilmember.Krekorian@lacity.org; karo.torossian@lacity.org; Gilbert.Cedillo@lacity.org; Debby.Kim@lacity.org; councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org; jeanne.min@lacity.org; Armando.Bencomo@lacity.org

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Sincerely,

Sandy Cajas
Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
www.RegionalHispaniccc.org
562-212-2889