

MOTION

Residents of the Harbor Gateway community have raised concerns regarding safety, emergency preparedness, and environmental risks associated with operations at the JCI Jones Chemicals, Inc. (JCI) facility located at 1401 Del Amo Boulevard. JCI's products are used as disinfectants in municipal drinking and wastewater treatment. Chemicals are brought on site in bulk quantities (railcars, tank trucks, etc.), repackaged into smaller containers, and transported to customers as needed.

Constituents have contacted the Council Office seeking clarity on the City's enforcement authority, civil capacities, and ability to ensure that appropriate safety measures are implemented. At the same time, the Del Amo Action Committee (DAAC), a local environmental justice non-profit organization, has proposed an emergency response framework recommending several preparedness measures for JCI to adopt. Receiving information to better clarify what actions the City can take, what actions or plans can be required of JCI, and what mechanisms exist to ensure community protection is urgent.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council direct the Office of the City Attorney, in consultation with the Emergency Management Department (EMD), the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), the Department of Building & Safety (LADBS), and the Department of City Planning (DCP), to report back in 30 days on the City's criminal and/or civil enforcement capacities, as well as steps to abate any present nuisance, with respect to the JCI Jones Chemicals, Inc. (JCI) facility and their operations, including:

1. A record of any prior local, state, or federal violations of law in the JCI operations or site conditions within the past 15 years, the response to any violation notices, and the current status of any violation, nuisance, or substandard condition in the JCI operations or at the JCI site;
2. The City's authority and procedural path for criminal or civil enforcement, or nuisance abatement, regarding the operations or site conditions;
3. Existing authority and available enforcement mechanisms to require or incentivize emergency-preparedness measures in the current operations;
4. The City's authority to require facility upgrades, operational safety improvements, or use restrictions related to community safety and emergency preparedness;
5. Options for voluntary agreements or partnerships to enhance community safety; and
6. Opportunities for interagency coordination with the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), and federal partners on oversight and compliance.

I FURTHER MOVE that these departments, in coordination with the Council Office, continue engagement with JCI to pursue community-requested safety initiatives, including: the distribution of shelter-in-place kits, community emergency-response training, installation of warning systems such as windsocks and alarms, and exploration of a vegetation wall or similar buffer improvement(s).

PRESENTED BY:

TIM McOSKER
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:

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