

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS SHEILA KUEHL AND
HILDA L. SOLIS

August 6, 2019

Adopting the County’s First-Ever Sustainability Plan

After the Board established the Chief Sustainability Office (CSO) in 2016, it directed the CSO to prepare a countywide plan to provide a comprehensive and coordinated approach to sustainability issues in the County. In response, the CSO has created a bold, unique, and ground-breaking vision for sustainability in Los Angeles County that will inspire action locally and serve as a model for regional collaboration nationally. The OurCounty Sustainability Plan provides an aspirational, actionable, strategic vision for making Los Angeles County healthier, more livable, economically stronger, more equitable, and more resilient – in short, more sustainable. It will guide County departments and cities throughout the County on ways to achieve this strategic vision so that we can collectively improve the lives of the more than 10 million people who live Countywide.

The OurCounty Sustainability Plan takes a comprehensive view of sustainability to include not only traditional environmental issues, but also workforce and economic development, transportation, housing, and the issue of possible displacement.

MOTION

SOLIS _____
RIDLEY-THOMAS _____
KUEHL _____
BARGER _____
HAHN _____

Furthermore, consistent with the County's role as the public health agency for the vast majority of the County, as well as the County's focus on human services, the OurCounty Sustainability Plan places people at its center. It does so with a particular focus on creating healthy communities and recognizing and addressing historic and ongoing environmental inequities. As such, the OurCounty Sustainability Plan directly addresses the three E's of sustainability: Environment, Economy, and Equity.

Additionally, because the issues addressed within the OurCounty Sustainability Plan – such as the climate crisis, air and water pollution, water supply, the urban heat island effect, transportation, and many others – are regional in scope, the OurCounty Sustainability Plan sets forth a regional vision and approach for the County to work collaboratively with all 88 cities in Los Angeles to achieve its goals. The OurCounty Sustainability Plan is a template for cities that do not yet have their own sustainability plans or that simply are seeking guidance and support on actions they can take in their own communities.

The OurCounty Sustainability Plan is organized around 12 cross-cutting, high-level goals that reflect the interrelated nature of sustainability actions. Beneath each of these goals are strategies and actions that provide a roadmap for achieving the goals. Each of the 160 actions identifies the lead County department, government partners, and a timeframe for implementation. For each action, County departments will follow a stakeholder-driven public process to develop the program and implementation details. Importantly, most of the actions are directly within the County's control, at least for the unincorporated portions of the County, while others reflect the County's ability to be supportive and influential within the region.

In crafting the OurCounty Sustainability Plan, the CSO followed a non-traditional process of engaging stakeholders before ever writing a word of the plan to learn from community experts how their experiential knowledge could inform and shape the County's approach to sustainability. From start to finish of the OurCounty Sustainability Plan's development, the CSO held more than 200 meetings and briefings, including 13 half-day workshops, 2 cities summits, a convening of tribal nations, 5 community fairs, and several presentations to town councils. Following the release of the draft sustainability plan, the CSO received nearly 800 specific comments from over 200 interested parties. These comments helped guide preparation of the final draft document.

Additionally, County departments, in their capacities as members of the County Sustainability Council, were deeply engaged in preparing the OurCounty Sustainability Plan by informing plan elements, reviewing various drafts, making recommendations for revisions or additions, and collecting baseline data. Key County department heads also provided strategic guidance and support in their roles on the Leadership Committee of the County Sustainability Council.

The Board has established Board Directed Priorities to bring additional attention, funding, and oversight to matters of particular importance. Because of its comprehensive, ambitious, and regional scope, the OurCounty Sustainability Plan should be the foundation for a new Board Directed Priority of "Sustainability."

The OurCounty Sustainability Plan presents a bold strategic vision and now the CSO along with County departments and stakeholders must work on implementation. To do that, the CSO should continue the process it has used in developing the

OurCounty Sustainability Plan to support a more detailed implementation approach. This should include developing priorities, identifying costs and funding, and regularly reporting to the Board on implementation progress.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles (Board):

1. Adopt the OurCounty Sustainability Plan as a strategic vision for the future sustainability of Los Angeles;

WE FURTHER MOVE that the Board:

2. Direct the Chief Executive Office to add a seventh Board Directed Priority of Sustainability to reflect the County's strong commitment to implementing the OurCounty Sustainability Plan;
3. Direct the Chief Executive Office to ensure that the Management Appraisal Performance Plan (MAPP) goals for Department Heads includes a goal related to implementation of the OurCounty Sustainability Plan;
4. Direct the Chief Sustainability Office to work with stakeholders and the County Sustainability Council to develop priorities in the OurCounty Sustainability Plan for near-term implementation;
5. Direct the Chief Sustainability Office to work with stakeholders and the County Sustainability Council to evaluate the cost and benefits of the priority OurCounty Sustainability Plan actions and to develop funding strategies that include state and federal resources, philanthropic grants, County funds, and other funding mechanisms;
6. Direct the Chief Sustainability Office to (a) work with the CEO, stakeholders

- and the County Sustainability Council and report back to the Board by February 28 of each year, beginning in 2020, with priority actions to be initiated, along with their potential costs and benefits; and (b) work with the CEO to develop a multi-year funding plan that identifies County and non-County funding that can be used to implement the OurCounty Sustainability Plan, starting with the CEO's Fiscal Year 2020-21 Recommended Budget;
7. Direct the Chief Sustainability Office to review the County's Legislative Policy Program and recommend changes to align with the OurCounty Sustainability Plan, including identifying potential areas where the County should advocate for state and federal funding to support the OurCounty Sustainability Plan;
 8. Direct the Chief Sustainability Office to work with stakeholders and County departments through the Sustainability Council to provide an annual progress report on implementation of the OurCounty Sustainability Plan starting on August 5, 2020; and
 9. Direct the Chief Sustainability Office to work with stakeholders and County departments through the Sustainability Council to fully update and revise the OurCounty Sustainability Plan on a five-year cycle.