

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS  
AND SHEILA KUEHL

March 10, 2020

**Ordinance to Establish Los Angeles County Youth Climate Commission**

In October 2019, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Sustainability Office (CSO) to collaborate with stakeholders to identify steps and a framework for establishing a Los Angeles County Youth Climate Commission. The motion identified the climate crisis as one of the most important and time-sensitive issues facing governments around the world. Further, the motion highlighted that youth will be dramatically impacted by the climate crisis – particularly those who are from low-income communities and communities of color, which will suffer the most severe impacts from a changing climate.

CSO consulted more than 30 internal and external stakeholders to develop an initial set of recommendations for the Youth Climate Commission. On February 3, 2020, the CSO provided a report back outlining a proposed structure, including responsibilities and necessary support.

Already, youth across the region are mobilizing at the grassroots level. By creating a platform to amplify their power and passion, Los Angeles County will distinguish its

MOTION

SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

HAHN \_\_\_\_\_

BARGER \_\_\_\_\_

leadership on climate change as uniquely inclusive and forward-thinking and demonstrate deep community support.

**WE, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Create a Youth Climate Commission, no later than June 30, 2020, to offer recommendations, ideas, and advice on County goals, plans, actions, and policies related to climate mitigation and adaptation. The Youth Climate Commission will be made up of 25 Commissioners, five from each supervisorial district, who are representative of the geographic and socioeconomic diversity of the region;
  - a. The responsibilities and activities of the Commission will be as described in the report back provided by the CSO in February 2020, including the Commissioners' responsibility to provide input to the CSO on three specific occasions annually: the development of near-term OurCounty priorities and funding strategies, the release of annual updates on OurCounty progress, and the development of sustainable guidance/input for the County legislative agenda.
  - b. The Youth Climate Commission administrative and programmatic oversight shall be under the purview of Chief Executive Office and CSO, respectively, and should include various types of specialized support not typically offered to Commissioners, including an orientation retreat, education and skill-building opportunities, youth-centered and accessible activities and materials, technical advisors and/or mentors, transportation, and meals.

2. Direct the Chief Sustainability Office to develop an educational agenda for Year 1 of the Commission, with support from subject matter experts in the area of education and positive youth development;
3. Direct the Chief Executive Office to provide a budget recommendation on this matter during the 2020-21 Recommended Budget;
4. Direct County Counsel to develop the Youth Climate Commission ordinance and bylaws and submit to the board for approval no later than June 30, 2020. Youth Commission ordinance and bylaws should be informed by the “Youth Advisory Body Work Group,” recommendations, and they should be sufficiently flexible and open-ended to allow the Youth Climate Commissioners to develop and implement their own internal structure, agenda, specific duties, and other responsibilities as they see fit;
5. Require the same training as all other commissions and support the Youth Climate Commissioners if and when they desire to partner with County departments, community-based organizations, and philanthropy to advance the Youth Climate Commission agenda and support the personal and professional growth of Commissioners; and
6. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Office to enter into contracts or agreements as necessary to establish and support the Youth Climate Commission.

# # #

HLS:wr