

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING

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January 12, 2026

TO: Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, Chair Pro Tem
Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

FROM: Amy J. Bodek, AICP
Director of Regional Planning



ADVANCING THE COUNTY'S LONG-TERM HEALTH, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND JUST TRANSITION GOALS DURING THE PHASE OUT OF URBAN OIL DRILLING (ITEM NO. 16, MAY 13, 2025)

On May 13, 2025, the Board of Supervisors (Board) instructed the Departments of Public Health (Public Health) Regional Planning (DRP), Public Works (DPW) via the Office of Oil and Gas, and Fire, in consultation with the Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO) and County Counsel, to coordinate on directives regarding the phase out of urban oil drilling. This report addresses the following directive:

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2. *Direct the Director of DRP, in coordination with the Directors of DPH, DPW via the Office of Oil and Gas, and Fire, in consultation with the CSO and County Counsel to report back to the Board in writing in 120 days with recommended policy changes and/or advocacy positions regarding policy recommendations to guide remediation and reuse of former oil sites to in a manner that ensures timely clean up, operator accountability, appropriate health and safety standards, and enforcement mechanisms, in alignment with existing state law that requires operators to pay for plugging and abandonment. These recommendations should be informed by robust stakeholder input;*

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Directive 2 (DRP: Recommendations for Future Land Uses and Remediation)

As discussed [previously](#), to gather the robust stakeholder input required to address Directive 2, DRP, in partnership with CSO, Public Health, and other agencies, is organizing a series of community engagement activities, prioritizing outreach to frontline communities historically affected by oil extraction.

To date, County staff have identified meeting venues for community workshops in Rowland Heights, Ladera Heights, West Athens-Westmont, West Rancho Dominguez, West Carson,

South Whittier, and Castaic, with the possibility of adding more meeting locations as needed. The community workshops will occur in February and March 2026. During this time, County staff will also facilitate government-to-government consultation with affected Native Nations.

The meeting format and agenda for the community workshops will focus generally on 1) potential future land uses of existing oil drilling sites; and 2) the process and impacts of phase out, including plugging and abandonment, and remediation. The meeting format will include presentations, tabling, and interactive engagement activities. Input will be collected in multiple ways, including the distribution of a GIS-based digital survey, which is currently in development.

In December 2025, DRP submitted an application to the CSO for Climate Equity Account funding. DRP requested \$36,000 to help fund the seven community workshops and one virtual meeting. The grant would cover the cost of outreach and meeting materials, language access, facilities fees, and refreshments.

At the conclusion of the community engagement activities, DRP will produce a summary report informed by documented stakeholder input that will include recommendations for next steps for the Board's review. The recommendations will inform technical remediation, any changes to Title 22 and/or the General Plan, guidance on grant proposals, etc. that will be brought back for your consideration.

Conclusion

The next status report will be provided by **April 20, 2026**. For further information on the topics contained within, please contact Connie Chung, Deputy Director, at cchung@planning.lacounty.gov. Thank you.

AJB:CC:ER:lj

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