

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

January 23, 2024

**Supporting Community-Led Climate Resilient Infrastructure Planning**

In recent years, LA County has experienced record-breaking high temperatures, prolonged droughts, and more intense wildfires. Such climate hazards are projected to become increasingly severe and frequent in the coming decades. For example, climate projections predict that air temperatures will increase by 1.8°F to 7.2°F across the region. These extreme climate events threaten the health and safety of the people of Los Angeles County. Each year brings unprecedented events that put stress on our health, our natural resources, and the facilities and infrastructure that provide critical services.

In August 2019, the Board of Supervisors adopted OurCounty, a regional sustainability plan for Los Angeles. It outlines a bold, inclusive, and truly regional vision for the present and future generations of Los Angeles and demonstrates the County’s commitment to leading by example and strengthening partnerships needed to achieve sustainability goals. Goals in the OurCounty plan include building a resilient and healthy community environment where residents thrive in place (Goal #1); developing buildings and infrastructure that support human health and resilience (Goal #2); and committing to

**MOTION**

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realizing sustainability goals through creative, equitable, and coordinated funding and partnerships (Goal #12).

In April 2022, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors directed the launch of the Infrastructure Initiative. The objective of the Infrastructure Initiative is to maximize the County's share of federal infrastructure spending available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for both regional and unincorporated areas, with an emphasis on projects that advance the Board of Supervisors' equity, sustainability, and climate resilience goals. The cross-sector agency collaborative called Infrastructure LA, led by Public Works, was identified as being well-positioned to leverage the federal infrastructure package to advance joint resilient infrastructure projects through collaborations. The Chief Sustainability Office and Public Works are the co-chairs of Infrastructure LA's Environmental, Sustainability, and Resiliency Subcommittee, whose objective is to foster regional collaborations to accelerate infrastructure projects that advance the County's sustainability and resiliency goals.

The LA County Chief Sustainability Office (CSO) has developed a work plan for the Environmental, Sustainability, and Resiliency Subcommittee, which includes facilitated discussions with regional partners to identify projects aligned with the County's sustainability goals. The CSO also applied for and was awarded a grant from the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP) of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research. This grant, totaling \$556,000, will help advance the development of a pipeline of climate adaptation and resilience projects that promote cross-sector collaboration. It will convene agencies and community organizations, including LA County, LA Metro, and the Infrastructure Justice Los Angeles (IJLA)

coalition, to co-create a supply of equitable, multi-benefit, climate-resilient infrastructure solutions. The pipeline will be created with input from communities most at risk of harm from the effects of climate change and those who have historically experienced the greatest burdens from a variety of social and environmental challenges.

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

- (1) Delegate authority to the Executive Officer of the Board, or designee, to enter into any contracts and agreements necessary to support the Chief Sustainability Office in carrying out the work of Infrastructure LA's Environmental, Sustainability, and Resiliency Subcommittee. This will include all contracts and agreements necessary for the facilitation and administration of the work of the subcommittee, for the purpose of obtaining additional grant and funding opportunities, and for the management and implementation of grant funds, such as the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP) grant, in order to support the Subcommittee's work.
- (2) Delegate authority to the Executive Officer of the Board, or designee, to negotiate and execute amendments to the contracts/agreements for 1) non-material, technical, and administrative changes to the contract, 2) changes to the scope of work, specifically that which is needed to support the Chief Sustainability Office in carrying out the work of the Infrastructure LA's Environmental, Sustainability, and Resiliency Subcommittee, 3) extending the contract term above for up to two (2) additional one (1) year periods, upon approval as to form by County Counsel, 4) extend the contract period an additional 180 days to the period of performance pursuant to the terms of the

contract, upon approval as to form by County Counsel, 5) terminating the contract for convenience when such action is deemed to be in the County's best interest, and/or 6) revising the terms and conditions to align with Board policy changes and directives. The approval of County Counsel will be obtained for any of the above prior to the execution of any such amendments to the agreement.

- (3) Delegate authority to the Executive Officer of the Board, or designee, to authorize non-material changes to the contract, pursuant to a change notice or amendment, for general County updates.

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