

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH

January 13, 2026

**We Are Still In: Affirming Los Angeles County’s Global Commitment to Climate**

**Action**

On January 7, 2026, the one-year anniversary of the Palisades and Eaton fires – the worst climate disaster to impact Los Angeles County – President Trump announced that the United States would withdraw from 66 international organizations and treaties, including the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Last year, the President also signed an executive order to formally withdraw the United States from the landmark 2015 Paris Agreement, which was agreed to by 195 countries and aims to limit global temperature increases to 2 degrees Celsius. This reckless action threatens all Americans and sends a chilling signal to other countries that they too have permission to abandon their climate mitigation plans, despite the catastrophic consequences. Los Angeles County, California, the United States, and practically every nation on earth is facing exponentially increasing threats from climate change, be it from drought, floods, extreme heat, sea level rise, or wildfires.

Despite this federal abdication, Los Angeles County remains all-in on climate

**MOTION**

MITCHELL	_____
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action. In November 2025, the Board of Supervisors adopted the updated *OurCounty* Sustainability Plan, a globally leading plan consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement and which will lead LA County to achieve carbon neutrality. Complemented by dozens of climate strategies including the 2045 Climate Action Plan, Climate Ready Communities initiative, LA County Water Plan, Coastal Resiliency Initiative, Zero-Emissions Vehicle Master Plan, and County Heat Action Plan, LA County is at the forefront of local climate action. While the Trump Administration bucks global trends towards cheaper and cleaner renewable energy in favor for traditional oil and gas, Los Angeles County is working to phase out all oil drilling, and our Clean Power Alliance is providing more clean energy to area residents than any other energy provider in America. The multi-year Climate Budget and Municipal Climate Action Plan will ensure the County invests in and delivers on these commitments in the years to come.

With ten million residents and one of the largest economies in the world, Los Angeles County's commitment to climate action is globally significant. Taken with the State of California, the world's fourth largest economy, and many of our leading-edge cities, there is tremendous leadership in our region. According to the *America is All In* coalition, jurisdictions representing nearly 2/3 of the U.S. population and 3/4 of U.S. gross domestic product are still committed to the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Given the federal government's retreat from the global stage, Los Angeles County must lead nationally, and globally, to serve as a beacon of hope on the climate crisis, to protect our residents, and to work collaboratively with the international community to advance climate action. There are several national and international associations and coalitions working in this space, such as ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability,

America is All In, C40 Cities, Climate Mayors, the Under2 Coalition, Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy Policy, the Climate Registry, and the Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance that would benefit from Los Angeles County's engagement. More than one million Angelenos reside in unincorporated Los Angeles County, which makes up over 65% of our landmass – suggesting a seat at the table is merited among coalitions of leading cities as well.

As the county most exposed to multiple natural hazards, and on the anniversary of our most devastating climate disaster, we owe it to Angelenos to lead with purpose, accountability, and commitment to climate action.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Sustainability Office (CSO) to:

1. Explore Los Angeles County formally joining as an observer organization to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and actively engaging through the UNFCCC and Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's *Cities and Regions* process, and report back to the Board within 60 days with a progress update;
2. Outreach to national and global climate and sustainability leadership associations to affirm Los Angeles County's commitment to global climate action, explore formally joining, and report back to the Board within 60 days with a progress update;
3. Inventory the key strategies and metrics demonstrating how Los Angeles County is advancing these global climate goals despite the federal backsliding, within 60 days; and

4. Work with relevant departments, such as Public Works, Internal Services Department, and Parks and Recreation, to engage county experts in this process.

**I, FURTHER, MOVE** that the Acting Chief Executive Officer work with the CSO to identify any nominal funds needed for membership and other expenses to support County participation in this international cooperation.

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