



Mar Vista Community Council



Green Committee

Sunday, November 23, 2014 - 9:30 A.M.

Mar Vista Farmers Market

Grand View at Venice Blvd.

Tables Adjacent to the Post Office

Agenda

1. Call to order
2. Public comment
3. Motion to approve October minutes
4. Reports
 - MVCC Green Tent
 - 2015 Green Garden Showcase
5. Discussion
 - Green Committee's role in climate change activism
 - Car wash water recycling
 - Green Committee logo
6. Old business update
 - Motion to sponsor Mar Vista Chamber of Commerce's Pop-Up Mar Vista event
7. New business
 - Motion to purchase a portable laptop battery charger

The Mar Vista Community Council authorizes the expenditure of up to \$100 to purchase a portable universal battery charger capable of charging laptops and tablets for presentations/displays at the Green Tent as well as at Showcase Central.
 - Motion to purchase Green Tent/Green Garden Showcase supplies

The Mar Vista Community Council authorizes the expenditure of up to \$155 to purchase the following items for Green Tent/Green Garden Showcase displays:

- Heavy duty display easel	\$100
- 100 sheets 8 ½ x 11 glossy photo paper	\$40
- 100 sheets 5 x 7 glossy photo paper	\$15
 - Motion supporting Councilman Paul Koretz's methane gas motion:

The Mar Vista Community Council supports Councilman Paul Koretz's motion (Attachment A) addressing methane gas operations and methane gas plumes in the City as well as methane gas leaks.
 - Motion regarding SoCal Gas franchise renewal

Whereas the 20-year SoCal Gas Company franchise agreement will be soon coming before

City Council for approval and recent studies

(<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/solving-the-case-of-californias-extra-machine/>) find that finds that the main sources of methane in LA air are attributable to:

- Leaks from pipeline distribution systems (aka, So Cal Gas Company); and
- Emissions from oil and gas drilling operations

The Mar Vista Community Council suggests that any franchise agreement be for a maximum of five years and include strict and required mitigation measures.

The MVCC further recommends that before any 20-year SoCal Gas franchise negotiation comes before the City Council, it would be prudent to check in with and possibly work with Bart Croes from the California Air Resources Board, the California Energy Commission, Jeff Peischl from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Paul Wennberg from the California Institute of Technology, in order to put together a full report on the problem and possible solutions.

- Motion endorsing City Council's support of SB1132

Senate Bill 1132, jointly authored by Senator Holly Mitchell and Senator Mark Leno, will impose a moratorium on extreme oil extraction methods in California. This includes hydrofracturing, or fracking, and acid well stimulation. Council File Number 14-0002-S32 is a City Council resolution supporting SB 1132. The Mar Vista Community Council thanks Councilmembers Mike Bonin, Paul Koretz, Bernard Parks and Herb Wesson for their leadership on this issue and encourages the City Council to actively pursue a fracking/acidization moratorium.

- Motion supporting divestment

The climate crisis is a serious threat to current and future generations in Los Angeles and around the world. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fourth Assessment Report found that global warming is already causing costly disruption of human and natural systems throughout the world including the melting of Arctic ice, the ocean's rise in acidity, flooding and drought. Almost every government in the world has agreed through the 2009 Copenhagen Accord that any warming above a 2°C (3.6°F) rise would be unsafe, and that humans can only pour about 565 more gigatons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere to maintain this limit. In its "Unburnable Carbon" report, the Carbon Tracker Initiative found that of the two hundred publicly-traded fossil fuel companies with the largest coal, oil, and gas reserves companies possess proven reserves that would release approximately 2,795 gigatons of CO₂ if they are burned, which is five times the amount that can be released without exceeding 2°C of warming.

The City of Los Angeles has a responsibility to protect the lives and livelihoods of its inhabitants from the threat of climate change and support a future where all citizens can live healthy lives without the negative impacts of a warming environment. To further these goals, the Mar Vista Community Council urges the City to:

- Review the investment portfolios of all city departments and agencies to identify any holdings that include direct or indirect investments in fossil fuel companies
- Immediately cease any new investments in fossil fuel companies or in commingled assets that include holdings in fossil fuel companies;
- For any investments in commingled funds that are found to include fossil fuel companies, contact the fund managers and request that the fossil fuel companies be removed from the funds
- Ensure that none of its directly held or commingled assets include holdings in fossil fuel public equities and corporate bonds within 1 year

- Seek out investments in opportunities to limit the effects of burning fossil fuels or help to mitigate its effects including, but not limited to, clean technology and renewable energy, sustainable companies or projects, and sustainable communities

8. Public comment

9. Meeting adjourned at

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14-0469

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ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

MOTION

It was recently reported that the Obama Administration will propose rules to reduce methane gas emissions at landfills and coal mines in order to improve the air quality. To guide this effort, the Administration will direct the federal Environmental Protection Agency to study the impact of methane gas emissions from these sources.

Methane gas is a colorless, odorless hydrocarbon that is the primary element of natural gas. It is produced through the decomposition of organic materials; however, it is considered a significantly more harmful greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide.

The City's landfill operations capture and transmit methane gas as a revenue enterprise. In addition, methane gas plumes exist underground in various parts of the City. It is critical that these sources do not leak and cause a potential threat to public health and the environment.

In order to protect City residents and the environment, the Bureau of Sanitation and the Department of Building and Safety should report as to the status of methane gas operations and known methane gas plumes in the City. They should also report as to steps they take to identify and control methane leaks.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Sanitation and the Department of Building and Safety be directed to report to the Council in 30 days as to the status of methane gas operations and methane gas plumes in the City; and the steps they engage in to identify and control methane leaks.

PRESENTED BY:


PAUL KORETZ

Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:




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