

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING

AMY J. BODEK, AICP
Director,
Regional Planning

DENNIS SLAVIN
Chief Deputy Director,
Regional Planning

CONNIE CHUNG, AICP
Deputy Director,
Advance Planning

DAVID DE GRAZIA
Deputy Director,
Current Planning

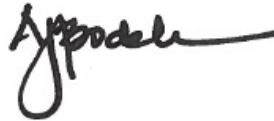
SHARON GUIDRY
Deputy Director,
Land Use Regulation

JOSEPH HORVATH
Administrative Deputy,
Administration

September 18, 2025

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

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), Department of 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:

...

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;*

...

It should be noted that the directives in this report have been delayed due to ongoing and significant discussions with County Counsel and outside counsel related to litigation and technical California Environmental Quality Act related issues. These discussions required substantial research and dialogue related to development standards that can and should be included in the ordinance. These discussions were necessary to conclude prior to commencing outreach.

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

To gather the robust stakeholder input required to address Directive 2, DRP intends to organize a series of community engagement activities, in coordination with the CSO, Public Health,

DPW/Office of Oil and Gas, and others, prioritizing outreach to frontline communities historically affected by oil extraction. In addition, the County will undertake proactive formal government-to-government consultation with affected Native Nations. This approach is informed by the Los Angeles County–City Just Transition Strategy, completed in 2022, which establishes three priority areas: support for workers, site remediation and reuse, and finance and coordination.

The primary objective is to document stakeholder priorities and values that will inform recommendations to guide remediation and reuse of oil well sites. Core activities include in person and virtual meetings, and a survey paired with a map-based comment tool.

In-person events may include, but are not limited to, the following communities, which were identified by inventorying California Geologic Energy Management Division data on active and idle oil production infrastructure:

- Rowland Heights/Hacienda Heights (SD 1)
- Ladera Heights/View Park-Windsor Hills (SD 2)
- West Athens-Westmont (SD 2)
- West Rancho Dominguez-Victoria (SD 2)
- West Carson (SD 2)
- North Whittier/West Whittier-Los Nietos/South Whittier (SD 4)
- Castaic (SD 5)

DRP will produce recommendations informed by documented stakeholder input and will present recommendations for next steps to the Board in the report back. The recommendations will inform technical remediation, any changes to Title 22 and/or the General Plan, guidance on grant proposals, etc.

Concurrently, DRP will continue to move forward with the Revised Oil Well Ordinance and the development of the Draft Environmental Impact Report, which is anticipated to be released for public review before the end of the year. DRP anticipates conducting ordinance-specific outreach meetings in early 2026, and scheduling the Revised Ordinance for public hearings shortly thereafter.

Conclusion

The next status report will be provided by **January 12, 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