

Resolution of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council
In Support of a Carbon Fee and Equitable Distribution of Dividends

Whereas, the world's leading scientist agree that human influence on the climate system has already affected the world we inhabit by emitting harmful greenhouse gases; and

Whereas, the recent climate changes have had widespread impacts on human health, warming oceans, rising sea level, unpredictable weather patterns and yearly recording-breaking temperatures; and

Whereas, if no mitigation actions are taken to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases in our atmosphere, significant disruptions to our planet are likely to occur, further threatening human health and quality of life; and

Whereas, the cost of climate change are real, they are growing, and they are already over burdening businesses, taxpayers, municipal budgets and families; and

Whereas, our economy, infrastructure, public safety and health are directly at risk; and

Whereas, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 commits the State of California to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 level by 2020, and the City of Los Angeles commits to reduce greenhouse gases to 45% below 1990 levels by 2025, 60% below 1990 levels by 2035, and by 2050 reduce ghg emission 80% below 1990 levels; and

Whereas, a multi-pronged strategy is needed if we are to meet the greenhouse gas emission reduction goals: phase-out fossil fuels, transition to a sustainable energy economy, put in place a carbon fee on fossil fuels, put in place a cap on greenhouse gas emissions; and

Whereas, presently, the environmental, health, and social cost of greenhouse gas emissions are not included in the prices paid for fossil fuels, but are externalized and borne directly and indirectly by all citizens; and

Whereas, a carbon tax locally in the City of Los Angeles would serve as a model for the state of California and ultimately put us on a path to make the United States a leader in mitigating climate change and in clean energy technologies; in addition it would incentivize other countries to enact similar carbon taxes, reducing global greenhouse gas emissions; and

Whereas, levying a tax on all fossil fuels and greenhouse gases at the point where they first enter the economy, whereby steadily rising the price on carbon, with all fees collected minus administrative costs returned equitably to households as a monthly energy dividend.

Now Therefore, The Wilmington Neighborhood Council Does Hereby Resolve:

Section 1. The WNC request that our City Council introduce an ordinance on a carbon fee and dividend system in order to protect the economy and the climate for future generations.

Section 2. The fee rate should increase steadily and predictably, to achieve aggressive goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Section 3. The ordinance should not be a standalone solution and it must function complementary to existing local, state, and nation-wide carbon reduction policies and programs.

Section 4. The ordinance should not contradict goals of the Clean Power Plan, as the plan not only aims to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, it also is focused on increasing the use of renewable energy, and energy conservation.

Section 5. The dividends to low-income households, households in environmental justice communities, and households near greenhouse gas emitting industries should not be subjected to a flat rate basis, but rather benefit from a higher dividend, as these households tend to spend more of their budgets on energy than households that are more affluent.

Section 6. Households investing in energy efficiency or conserving energy in environmental justice communities, should be rewarded for their efforts at a higher dividend than that of a flat rate basis.

Section 7. Council should ensure there will be no added costs onto consumers.

Section 8. Council should ensure greenhouse gas emitters and carbon polluters face legal consequences for their role in fueling climate change.

Be It Further Resolved that the Wilmington Neighborhood Council of the City of Los Angeles calls on the City of Los Angeles City Council to aggressively reduce carbon and other greenhouse gas emissions at the source.

Passed, Approved, And Adopted by the Wilmington Neighborhood Council of the City of Los Angeles at a monthly Governing Board meeting held this 23rd day of May, 2018 upon motion of Board member, Kim Luke seconded by Board member Roque Pech, and by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: 7	Board members: Nancy Anaya, Sylvia Compos-Gordon, Moises Cortes, Robert Jones, Kim Luke, Roque Pech, Denisse Martinez
Noes: 1	Board members: Ernesto Aguilar
Absent: 2	Board members: Sylvia Arredondo, Carlos Sanchez
Abstain: 2	Board members: Valerie Contreras, Catherine Familathe
Recused: 0	Board members:

Sylvia Arredondo

Chair, Sylvia Arredondo

Attest:

Valerie Contreras _____
Vice Chair, Valerie Contreras

Catherine Familathe _____
Secretary, Catherine Familathe