



ENERGY, WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

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ENERGY, WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL (SPECIAL)

January 14, 2020

10AM-11:30AM

1. WELCOME & SELF-INTRODUCTIONS-

2. PRESENTATIONS

L.A.'s Green New Deal: Sustainability Plan 2019

- Lauren Faber O'Conner

Chief Sustainability Officer, Office of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti

In 2019, the Office of Mayor Garcetti adopted the first four-year update to the 2015 Sustainability City pLAN. The 2019 update is framed as L.A.'s Green New Deal, and expands the pLAN's vision. Lauren Faber O'Conner is the Chief Sustainability Officer, and in her role she focuses on implementing the pLAN across all city departments and communities in Los Angeles. She will discuss the updates to the pLAN, and its implications for the business community.

Q&A

OurCounty: Near-Term Priorities

- Gary Gero

Chief Sustainability Officer, Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted the OurCounty Plan in August 2019. It lays out the County's short, medium, and long-term priorities to enhance regional sustainability. Gary Gero, the Chief Sustainability Officer, and his team received feedback in late 2019 on the draft list of near-term priorities. He will discuss the priorities, their actions, and the feedback they received to inform the CSO's forthcoming response to the Board's August 6th motion.

Q&A

3. UPDATES

- 2020 Advocacy Agenda

4. UPCOMING EVENTS

- Government and Fiscal Affairs Council (1/21)
- Land Use, Construction and Housing Council (1/22)
- Accenture's Pancakes and Politics (1/24)
- Inaugural Dinner (1/30)
- Energy, Water and Environmental Sustainability (2/6)
- ACCESS DC (3/9-3/11)



LOS ANGELES AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Lauren Faber O'Connor
Chief Sustainability Officer
Office of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti

Lauren Faber O'Connor is the Chief Sustainability Officer for the City of Los Angeles. In her role she is driving the implementation of Mayor Garcetti's newly released LA's Green New Deal, a global model for local action to confront the climate crisis. L.A.'s Green New Deal is guided by four key principles: a commitment to uphold the Paris Climate Agreement; a promise to deliver environmental justice and equity; a plan to ensure every Angeleno has the ability to join the green economy; and a determination to lead by example within City government. To deliver accelerated leadership on sustainability, Lauren also builds collaboration including through Climate Mayors, a coalition chaired by Mayor Garcetti of over 400 US Mayors committed to US leadership on climate change and C40, an international network of cities raising the bar on climate action.

Prior to joining the Garcetti Administration, Lauren served for four years as the West Coast Political Director for the Environmental Defense Fund in San Francisco. At EDF she worked on building successful strategies and constructive partnerships to win support for protecting and promoting climate, clean energy, land, water and wildlife. In 2010 Lauren was appointed Assistant Secretary for Climate Change Programs at the California Environmental Protection Agency, where she was dedicated to the design and implementation of California's landmark Global Warming Solutions Act, AB 32. Prior to her work at CalEPA, Lauren served as senior director for Lighthouse Consulting Group in Washington, D.C., where she advised on comprehensive national climate change and energy strategies for domestic and international companies, and NGOs, and in particular, the U.S. Climate Action Partnership. From 2005-2009 Lauren served at the British Embassy as Senior Policy Advisor for climate change and energy.

Lauren serves on the Board of the California League of Conservation Voters and previously the U.S. Department of Energy State Energy Advisory Board. She is a member of the Catto Fellowship for environmental leadership at the Aspen Institute and of the Truman National Security Project. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Earth Systems and Economics from Stanford University, and Master's degree in Climate and Society from Columbia University.



LOS ANGELES AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Gary Gero
Chief Sustainability Officer
Los Angeles County Chief Sustainability Office

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors appointed Gary Gero to be the County's first Chief Sustainability Officer in November 2016. His duties include: building and launching the largest community choice energy program in California; creating a countywide sustainability plan that addresses regional environmental, economic, and equity issues; and serving as the key environmental advisor to the Board of Supervisors.

Gary previously served as the President of the Climate Action Reserve, a nonprofit organization headquartered in Los Angeles and operating across North America. He now serves as the Vice-Chair on its Board of Directors. He has also served on the CFTC's Energy and Environmental Markets Committee, the board of California Invasive Plant Council, and the Glendale City Planning Commission.

Gary's career includes many years in local government including having served as the Assistant General Manager for the City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department. He also worked for several years at the LADWP where he oversaw energy efficiency, renewable energy, and distributed generation programs.

Gary earned his Master's degree from the London School of Economics and his undergraduate degrees from the University of California at Berkeley.

ENERGY, WATER & ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The Energy, Water & Environmental Sustainability Council focuses on advancing cost-effective policies and programs that ensure reliable and affordable water and energy delivery, improve air quality, and promote economic growth in Los Angeles through the local development of technologies, businesses and jobs.

Review cost impacts of and responsibly implement air quality regulations

The Chamber will work with local, state and federal environmental agencies and the Chamber's Transportation & Goods Movement Council to understand the availability, cost-effectiveness and feasibility of alternative fuels for commercial and personal vehicle use in order to help meet anticipated air quality standards in the region, in addition to following implementation of the Air Quality Management District's 2016 Air Quality Management Plan in order to achieve compliance. The Chamber will advocate for an adequate funding return to the region to address air quality concerns. It will also closely monitor federal environmental standards at the Environmental Protection Agency and the State, specifically AB32 and SB32, while quantifying the impact of these new standards on the economy of California.

Secure safe, reliable and affordable water supplies for Southern California

Securing a safe, reliable and affordable water supply is critical to the continued success of L.A.'s economy. The Chamber supports the State's co-equal goals of providing a more reliable water supply and storage for California and restoring the Delta ecosystem. Recognizing that a reliable water source is critical to Southern California, Metropolitan Water District voted to support California WaterFix in 2018. As a supporter of WaterFix, the Chamber will continue to advocate that the one-tunnel conveyance project in Governor Newsom's Water Resilience Portfolio is appropriately sized. The Chamber and its partners will also identify feasible and cost-effective augmentations to imported water in order to secure the long-term water quality and supply of the region. Key drivers for local water security that will be taken into account are existing infrastructure investments, and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and Metropolitan Water District shared objectives of maintaining their existing infrastructure and enhancing the diversity of the region's water supply resources, including recycled, stormwater water, conservation, mitigation and remediation efforts.

Advocate for technology-neutral, cost-effective, reliable and diverse energy supply

The Chamber recognizes that businesses must have an affordable, diverse and reliable energy supply with storage capacity for the regional economy to remain productive and competitive. The Chamber will work with members and policymakers to understand the options, feasibility and costs for investments in alternative energy supply, including the related infrastructure and operational costs of integrating alternatives into the existing power systems. The Chamber will support domestic energy production and maintenance of the region's existing energy systems and supplies, including the integrity and safety of our regional pipeline infrastructure. Additionally, with increasingly destructive wildfires, the Chamber will support safe, efficient investments in electric infrastructure, and modernization of wildfire response and liability as the state confronts a "new normal."

Strengthen Los Angeles' position as a global leader of clean technology innovation

California is a global leader of clean technology innovation and sustainable business practices. The Chamber will advocate for economic strategies that will continue to help L.A.'s clean technology sector grow. This includes pursuing state and federal funding opportunities, streamlining government processes, and working in conjunction with organizations such as the LA CleanTech Incubator,

PortTechLA and the Chamber's Bixel Exchange to increase collaboration among the among the private, public and academic sectors.

Modernize California's Environmental Quality Act

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) must be modernized to preserve the law's original intent while preventing abuse for purposes unrelated to environmental protection. The Chamber supports substantive improvements and will continue to engage in a statewide coalition effort advocating for a "standards approach," which will integrate California's strongest-in-the-nation environmental laws and planning documents into the CEQA process, streamline the project approval and challenge processes, and reduce the risk of lawsuits that abuse the intent of CEQA and delay development, jobs and economic recovery. Cross-sector and council collaboration with the Chambers' Land Use, Housing and Construction and Transport and Goods Movement Councils on CEQA reform is important to effectively meet housing needs and emission reduction requirements.

DRAFT



Draft List of Near-Term Priorities

Introduction

The OurCounty Sustainability Plan (“[the Plan](#)”) is a regional sustainability plan for Los Angeles County. It outlines a bold, inclusive, and truly regional vision for the present and future generations of Los Angeles. OurCounty lays out what local governments and stakeholders can do to enhance the well-being of every community in the County while reducing damage to the natural environment and adapting to the changing climate, particularly for those communities that have been disproportionately burdened by environmental pollution. It is organized around twelve cross-cutting goals that describe our shared vision for a sustainable Los Angeles County, and it outlines 159 actions that County departments will take to achieve that vision over the next 30 years.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adopted the Plan on August 6, 2019. In the three months since Plan adoption, County departments have been hard at work identifying priority actions to be initiated within the first two years after the Plan’s adoption. A draft list of the near-term priorities that will be implemented if funding is available, in addition to a list of actions that are already completed or underway with existing resources, can be found below. Some of the actions in these lists can be completed within one year; others will be implemented over the course of multiple years and will require sustained funding. The list of near-term priorities is in response to the August 6, 2019 [Board motion](#); it will be used to inform both the final response to the Board on February 28, 2020 and the first annual progress report by August 2020.

Development

The draft list of near-term priorities was developed through an iterative process led by the Chief Sustainability Office (CSO) in collaboration with the County Sustainability Council (CSC), made up of all County departments. County departments were asked to identify near-term action(s) from the Plan that they wanted to prioritize along with potential resources for implementation. Departments were invited to provide input both on the overall County priorities and on the actions that the department was directly involved.

The CSO compiled the departments’ priorities and input, working with departments with the goal of developing this draft of the near-term priorities that would be

initiated if funding were made available. To refine the priorities list, CSO used several factors. Primarily, CSO weighed more heavily whether a lead department wanted to prioritize an action. Additionally, CSO identified areas of alignment between departments, reviewed for any necessary chronological sequencing, and considered budgetary constraints. CSO and the departments also identified actions already underway with existing resources.

Budget

It is important to note that the list of priorities below does not yet include an estimate of costs and benefits, nor have funding sources been identified. As such, we are asking stakeholders to help identify their highest priorities from among these actions to help inform the budget process for Fiscal Year 20-21 during which these actions will be considered for funding. Given the number of actions on this list, it is not expected that all actions will be funded next year, and some actions may only receive partial funding to initiate action. Unfunded actions may be considered for funding in future years. Having stakeholder input on the highest priorities from among this list will be valuable as we move to the next step.

Next Steps

We will be accepting feedback on this draft list of priorities through December 13, 2019. Comments may be submitted to the Chief Sustainability Office at sustainability@lacounty.gov. The CSO will also host a stakeholder feedback session on November 20, 2019 from 2-4 p.m. in Room 739 of the County Hall of Administration. The County will review public comments in December and work with stakeholders in January to revise the list of near-term priorities, in preparation for submitting the finalized list of near-term priorities to the Board of Supervisors by the required reporting date of February 28, 2020. The finalized list of near-term priorities will inform County budgeting decisions for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

Information for Public Review and Feedback

The following chart makes up the draft list of OurCounty actions proposed as near-term priorities. The “Action #” column references the numbering used in the Plan. The “Action Description” column displays a short-hand description of the full text of the action in the Plan. The “Requires New Funds” column indicates which actions will require a new source of funding, whether from the County budget or an external source. The “Lead Department” column lists the already approved lead County departments. All supporting departments listed in the Plan for specific actions are still in place but are not noted here for the sake of brevity. Items marked with an asterisk (*) are either completed or already underway. Please reference the full OurCounty document when reviewing this list.

When providing comments on this draft list, we encourage stakeholders to consider the following questions:

- Recognizing that the County has limited resources to fund OurCounty actions, what are your highest priorities from among this list?
- Does this reflect our co-equal values of equity, environment, and economy?
- Is this list achievable?
- Does this list surprise you in any way?
- Will the actions here help provide guidance to cities without a sustainability plan?
- Will these actions support progress towards the regional targets outlined in the Plan?
- Do you see opportunities for collaboration with you/your organization on these actions?

Related Actions

While the near-term priorities list identifies actions directly from the Sustainability Plan, the County is taking additional enabling actions related to the Plan's goals that may not be specified in the Plan. For example, the County is currently updating the Climate Action Plan of the County General Plan as a tool to achieving carbon neutrality by 2045. Led by the Department of Regional Planning, the updated Climate Action Plan will be actively monitored during implementation and updated every five years. We encourage all stakeholders who participated in the OurCounty process to also participate in the Climate Action Plan update. Please visit <http://planning.lacounty.gov/climate/> for more information.

Draft OurCounty Near-Term Priority Actions

Action #	Action Description (paraphrased)	Requires New Funds	Lead Dept.
Goal 1: Resilient and healthy community environments where residents thrive in place			
1*	Limit siting of new sensitive uses at least 500 feet from freeways		DRP
2	Expand the setback distance for oil and gas operations from sensitive land uses		DRP
4	Require oil and gas facility operators to prepare and make available to the public a comprehensive Community Safety Plan	X	DPH
5	Expand the role for DPH in the initial siting process and the ongoing enforcement of regulations for industrial facilities	X	DPH
7	Utilize fenceline and community air monitoring data to improve emissions regulations on refineries and other industrial facilities	X	DPH
8*	Plan and implement a new lead-based paint hazard remediation program		DPH, LACDA
11*	Develop a public engagement, enforcement and compliance plan for illegal dumping.		PW
12*	Complete development and start implementation of the Green Zones Program		DRP
14*	Enact a permanent rent stabilization ordinance		CDA
15*	Adopt an inclusionary housing ordinance that promotes mixed income housing		DRP
Goal 2: Buildings and infrastructure that support human health and resilience			
28A&B*	Conduct a climate vulnerability assessment addressing infrastructural and social vulnerability		CEO
29	Develop a comprehensive urban heat island mitigation strategy and implementation plan	X	DPH
34*	Invest in multi-benefit water management solutions		PW
35*	Develop a local water supply plan.		PW
42*	Develop a plan to ensure effective, well-maintained flood risk mitigation infrastructure		PW
43	Create and implement a community-informed Urban Forest Management Plan	X	CEO
Goal 3: Equitable and sustainable land use and development without displacement			

Action #	Action Description (paraphrased)	Requires New Funds	Lead Dept.
49*	Expand the number and extent of transit-oriented communities		DRP
52*	Promote walkability through various tools, including zoning and pedestrian enhancements		DRP
53*	Develop equitable design guidelines that promote high quality living environments for all.		DRP
56*	Evaluate options to limit new large-scale development in high climate-hazard areas	X	DRP
58*	Regularly update the building code, fire code and Hazard Mitigation Plan to reflect best practice in wildland-urban interface.		PW
Goal 4: A prosperous LA County that provides opportunities for all residents and businesses and supports the transition to a green economy			
60	Connect graduates and workers with on-the-job training and employment opportunities	X	WDACS
65*	Promote the development and growth of affordable rental and ownership housing		DRP
Goal 5: Thriving ecosystems, habitats, and biodiversity			
70	Expand county personnel training on biodiversity	X	CEO, DPR
Goal 6: Accessible parks, beaches, recreational waters, public lands, and public spaces that create opportunities for respite, recreation, ecological discovery and cultural activities			
74*	Plan, implement, and maintain parks and other public green spaces		DPR
75	Implement Community Parks and Recreation Plans and park projects	X	DPR
81	Adopt and implement the Principles of Universal Design		DPR, DBH
Goal 7: A fossil fuel-free LA County			
85	Develop standards that put the County on a path towards building decarbonization	X	PW
88*	Maximize the installation of solar and energy storage systems on County property		ISD
90	Develop and implement a strategy to eliminate fossil fuels in County cogeneration facilities	X	ISD
92*	Install electric vehicle (EV) chargers at County facilities and properties	X	ISD
94*	Convert Sheriff's Department fleet to zero emission by partnering with vehicle manufacturers to develop a zero emission pursuit vehicle and transport bus.	X	LASD

Action #	Action Description (paraphrased)	Requires New Funds	Lead Dept.
93	Revise and regularly update the County's fleet policy		ISD
95	Partner with LAFD and equipment manufactures to pilot a zero-emission fire engine	X	FIRE
Goal 8: A convenient, safe, clean, and affordable transportation system that enhances mobility and quality of life while reducing car dependency			
99	Develop and implement a comprehensive parking reform strategy		DRP
100	Offer free transit passes for students, youth, seniors, disabled, and low- income populations	X	PW
104*	Pilot an alternative work site program for County employees		ISD
105	Implement the County's Vision Zero Action Plan	X	PW, DPH
Goal 9: Sustainable production and consumption of resources			
107*	Develop and implement an equitable strategy to phase out single use plastics	X	PW, ISD
108	Adopt and advocate for producer and manufacturer responsibility requirements	X	CEO, PW
110*	Conduct regular Waste Characterization Studies for sectors and sub-sectors and public space, including County facilities		PW
114	Develop a Net Zero Water Ordinance for new development	X	PW
119	County facilities report to Energy Star Portfolio Manager and decrease energy use	X	ISD
122	Expand existing countywide programs that incentivize the development of local upcycling	X	PW
Goal 10: A sustainable and just food system that enhances access to affordable, local, and healthy food			
128*	Enhance and expand the County's existing Food DROP food donation and redistribution program		PW
132	Implement the Good Food Purchasing Policy	X	DPH
Goal 11: Inclusive, transparent, and accountable governance that facilitates participation in sustainability efforts, especially by disempowered communities			
138	Develop equity goals and metrics for OurCounty initiatives		CEO
145	Develop climate-related health equity data initiative	X	DPH

Action #	Action Description (paraphrased)	Requires New Funds	Lead Dept.
148*	Implement arts-based civic engagement strategies to support OurCounty		A/C
149*	Work with communities to produce asset maps of community resources		A/C
Goal 12: A commitment to realize OurCounty sustainability goals through creative, equitable, and coordinated funding and partnerships			
150	Coordinate multi-jurisdictional efforts to seek funding to support OurCounty initiatives		CEO
151	Inventory and document County-owned arts and cultural assets		A/C
152*	Obtain a Transformative Climate Communities implementation grant		CEO
156*	Apply sustainability as a lens for consideration of departmental budget requests		All
157*	Develop a Master Services Agreement to simplify the County contracting process		DPH
158	Modernize the County's purchasing and contracting policies		ISD

* Denotes actions that are completed or already underway