

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 4, 2018

TO: James N. Holgersson, Interim City Manager

FROM: Sheri Hartz, City Clerk

SUBJECT: Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Emeryville Endorsing the Diesel Free By '33 Statement of Purpose

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Council Members discuss this matter as requested by Mayor Bauters, and consider whether to approve the resolution.

BACKGROUND

At the City Council's August 3, 2018 meeting, Mayor Bauters requested that an item be brought forward to discuss whether to adopt the above-entitled resolution, and received majority support to do so.

DISCUSSION

Climate change, caused by the emission of greenhouse gases including carbon dioxide and black carbon, is a threat to the Bay Area's air quality, public health, environment, water supplies, and economy. Diesel engines emit significant amounts of black carbon, a climate pollutant that contributes to global climate change, and it has been estimated that black carbon is the third most important individual contributor to warming after carbon dioxide and methane.

The California Air Resources Board ("CARB") concludes that "diesel exhaust includes over 40 substances that are listed by the United States EPA as hazardous air pollutants and by the CARB as toxic air contaminants, with 15 of these substances listed by the World Health Organization as carcinogenic to humans, or as a probable or possible human carcinogen". The California EPA's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment has determined that exposure to diesel exhaust can have significant health effects, including damage to lung tissue and increased risk of cancer. The negative public health and environmental effects from climate change will affect most the communities and populations that are already impacted by air pollution, other environmental hazards, and economic inequality.

The City of Emeryville has established itself as a leader in the fight against global climate change through many efforts, including participation in the activities of the Global Covenant of Mayors, the CDP (formerly the Carbon Disclosure Project) and other organizations; working regionally to create the East Bay Community Choice Energy, through which the City procures only GHG-free electricity for its operations, and through robust active transportation programs and comprehensive solid waste management policies.

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The Bay Area Air Quality Management District has established a challenge to engage with public agencies to reduce diesel emissions in local communities throughout California and beyond, reflected in the Diesel Free By '33 Statement of Purpose.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with adopting this resolution at this time.

STAFF COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC

There has been no staff communication with the public on this matter.

PREPARED BY: Sheri Hartz, City Clerk

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EMERYVILLE:

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James Holgersson, Interim City Manager

ATTACHMENTS

Draft Resolution