

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 10/20/08		Item Number: A-1	
AGENDA ITEM: An Update from the Subcommittee on Regional Oil Operations regarding the Ongoing Process soon coming before the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County related to the Draft Baldwin Hills Community Standards District and its associated Environmental Impact Report and Potential Direction to Staff Related Thereto.			
Contact Person: Charles D. Herbertson		Phone Number: (310) 253-5630	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☐ No ☒		General Fund: Yes ☒ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification Master E-Mail Notification List (10/16/08)			
Department Approval: Charles Herbertson (10/16/08)		City Attorney Approval:	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by N. Kimball) (10/16/08)		City Manager Approval: Jerry B. Fulwood (10/16/08)	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council receive an update from the City Council Subcommittee on Regional Oil Operations regarding the upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting scheduled for October 21st at which the Draft Baldwin Hills Community Standards District and its associated Environmental Impact Report will be discussed.

BACKGROUND:

In June 2008 the County released the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the proposed Baldwin Hills Community Standards District (CSD). This CSD will govern oil field drilling and operations within the unincorporated Baldwin Hills area of Los Angeles County. On August 19, 2008 Culver City submitted extensive comments regarding the DEIR. Subsequently Culver City has submitted comments on various revised versions of the CSD on September 10, 2008, October 1, 2008, and October 8, 2008. Throughout this process the City has continued to express concerns both with the inadequacy of the process for public comment on these documents and the inadequacy of the documents themselves. Although the CSD has improved somewhat from the initial version that was the original subject of the DEIR, the City continues to have significant concerns and would like to see additional revisions to the document that would address the City's major issues. On October 21, 2008 the County Board of Supervisors will meet to consider certifying the Final Environmental Impact Report and approving the CSD.

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DISCUSSION:

The City Council Subcommittee comprised of Vice Mayor Silbiger and Councilmember Weissman has been actively involved in guiding staff in working with the City's consultants to prepare comments on both the DEIR and the CSD. The City Council has been involved in the discussion and approval of comments on both documents and recently directed staff to conduct a public outreach effort to inform the people of Culver City of the upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting. During the past week public outreach regarding the meeting took the form of ads in local newspapers (Culver City News, Culver City Observer, and The Front Page), flyers distributed door to door throughout the community, flyers distributed to local schools, information on the City web page, email blasts to local community groups, and a Reverse 911 message to the community.

At its meeting on October 16, 2008 the Subcommittee requested that this item be agendaized in order to allow them to provide an update to the City Council and to provide an opportunity for the City Council to discuss this issue and hear additional public comment. Amongst the items to be discussed will be a strategy for the City Council's presentation to the Board of Supervisors at their meeting on October 21, 2008.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

There is no direct fiscal impact caused by this discussion although there may be future fiscal impacts depending on the direction given by City Council to staff regarding this issue.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Summary of Major Areas of Concern Remaining with the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District.

MOTION:

That the City Council:

Discuss this item and give direction to staff as they deem appropriate.