

Attachment 4



November 25, 2015

Arts Earth Partnership (AEP)
Attn via email: SHEA CUNNINGHAM
Planning & Public Policy MA/LEED Green Associate
AEP Sustainability Programs Director
Shea@ArtsEarthPartnership.org

Letter of Support for Sustainable Culver City Proposals

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Jim Lamm, President Emeritus

On behalf of Ballona Creek Renaissance (BCR), I would like to express our strong support for the following AEP proposals:

- A. Design an actionable and comprehensive Sustainable City Plan for Culver City
- B. Design, establish and help administer a customized multi-sector Sustainable Business Certification Program for Culver City

Both of these efforts should greatly help to build upon Culver City's sustainability programs and accomplishments to date and achieve measurable success in the many challenges ahead. These proposals also appear to be very consistent with BCR's multi-faceted mission to work together for a healthier, more sustainable creek, community, and watershed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Lamm", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jim Lamm, President Emeritus, for
Amy Rosenstein, President

Sustainable LA

Sustainable LA Grand Challenge
c/o UCLA Grand Challenges
2248 Murphy Hall
410 Charles E. Young Drive East
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1405
Phone: (310) 206-4337
Email: SustainableLA@ucla.edu

January 14, 2016

Culver City Council
9770 Culver Blvd
Culver City, CA 90232

RE: Arts Earth Partnership Sustainability Proposals – Please vote YES!

Dear Culver City Councilmembers,

I am the Director of UCLA's Sustainable LA Grand Challenge, and a proud resident of Culver City. I am writing regarding your upcoming vote on the Arts Earth Partnership (AEP) proposals to create a **Culver City Sustainable City Plan** and a multi-sector **Sustainable Business Certification Program** at the upcoming Culver City Council meeting on January 25, 2016. I urge you to **VOTE YES** on these proposals, as our community, the region, state and globe face the complex economic, social and environmental challenges posed by a changing climate. The development of an actionable and strategic Sustainable City Plan, that includes programs such as the proposed Sustainable Business Certification Program will ensure that Culver City continues to thrive under these new conditions.

As I'm sure you know, numerous cities across the country have developed and implemented sustainability plans to ensure a prosperous future for their citizens. Notably, the city of Los Angeles developed its first Sustainable City pLAN last year, led by the newly established City of LA Sustainability Office, to provide a framework and guide policy that will protect the environment, strengthen the economy, and increase equity. The pLAN includes both short and long term goals for the city, with specific targets in a number of categories, including renewable energy production, energy-efficient buildings, greenhouse gas emissions, waste management, water use, access to housing, mobility, and resiliency, among others. This pLAN will bind the community and encourage partnerships among organizations, businesses, and individuals to protect the very things that make Los Angeles an incredible place to live.

Culver City is truly a gem nestled within the LA region, and has already committed to and accomplished a number of sustainability goals. However, I believe that Culver City will benefit immensely from a more well-defined sustainability approach like we have seen with the cities of Los Angeles and Santa Monica. A systematic and goal-driven Sustainable City Plan will set Culver City up to attract state and national funding, and qualify us to win awards and serve as a model for cities across the nation. Additionally, a comprehensive Sustainable City Plan will undoubtedly contribute to a more resilient future for our children, and generations to come.

The development and adoption of a Sustainable City Plan for Culver City aligns perfectly with the goals of UCLA's premier Grand Challenge research initiative Sustainable LA. Sustainable LA is an ambitious campus-wide research endeavor to transition Los Angeles County to 100% renewable energy, 100% locally sourced water, and enhanced ecosystem health by 2050. We recently completed our **Five-Year Work Plan**, which outlines more than 100 innovative, multidisciplinary research

Sustainable LA

Sustainable LA Grand Challenge
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projects that are being pursued by our faculty to meet the Sustainable LA Grand Challenge goals. You may view a copy of the full Work Plan and an executive summary at the links below my signature. Although much of the fundamental research will be performed by UCLA researchers, we fully understand that there is no way we can achieve these ambitious goals without collaborating with other academic institutions, government agencies, non-government organizations, community groups, utilities, and businesses, among others. My hope is that the Work Plan will inspire you further and give you an opportunity to consider how Culver City's goals align with our initiative, and how you might partner with us on creating a more livable Los Angeles County. I am excited about the prospect of collaborating with Culver City as one of our partners.

The Sustainable City Plan and Sustainable Business Certification Program proposed by AEP are excellent steps in continuing on your road to sustainability, and I would be thrilled to be a part of the development of these programs. I hope that you will vote favorably on these proposals during your January 25 meeting. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, or would like to explore ways in which we can partner on a more sustainable future.

Sincerely,



Casandra Rauser, Ph.D.
Director, UCLA Sustainable LA Grand Challenge
Resident, Culver City

Read the Sustainable LA Grand Challenge Five-Year Work Plan

Executive Summary: <https://ucla.box.com/sla-gc-work-plan-exec-summary>

The Full Plan: <https://ucla.box.com/sla-gc-work-plan-full>



Kirk Douglas Theatre

Ahmanson Theatre | Mark Taper Forum | Kirk Douglas Theatre
OFFICES 601 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
CenterTheatreGroup.org

January 15, 2016

To The Honorable Mayor O'Leary & Culver City Council Members:

I am writing as the President of the Downtown Business Association and the Director of Theatre Operations for the Kirk Douglas Theatre to encourage you to give serious consideration to the proposals presented by the Arts Earth Partnership.

The Kirk Douglas Theatre is currently going through the certification process and we have found the AEP to be very pragmatic in their approach and sensitive to economic and logistical issues faced by non-profits and small businesses. This approach comes from working with arts organizations and understanding the challenges they face- and it is this approach that makes the AEP a very strong choice to develop a Sustainable City Plan and implement a Multi-Sector Sustainable Business Certification Program.

I am proud to work in Culver City and to be an active member of such a vibrant business community. In order to ensure a bright future for our community, it is essential that we make sustainability a priority, and I believe that the AEP would be an ideal choice to help us work towards a sustainable future while understanding the realities of the present.

Sincerely,

Eric Sims
Director of Theatre Operations, Kirk Douglas Theatre
President, Downtown Business Association



UCLA INSTITUTE OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
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619 CHARLES E. YOUNG DR. EAST
BOX 951496
LOS ANGELES, CA 90095-1496
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January 15, 2016

Culver City Council Members:
Micheál O'Leary, Mayor
Andrew Weissman, Vice Mayor
Jeffrey Cooper
Jim B. Clarke
Meghan Sahli-Wells

RE: Support for Arts Earth Partnership Sustainability Proposals

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing in support of the proposals to create a sustainable city plan for Culver City and a multi-sector sustainable business certification program put forth by the non-profit organization Arts Earth Partnership.

I have been a resident of Culver City for 11 years, I have two children in Culver City USD schools and I have served on the CCUSD sustainability committee since its inception in 2010. I am also the Academic Director for UCLA's Institute of the Environment and Sustainability and I have served as the chair of the UCLA Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Sustainability since 2008.

As a diverse, multi-cultural small town embedded in the sprawling LA region, Culver City is well positioned to become a leader in sustainability. Establishing a comprehensive, city-wide approach to sustainability—one that actively addresses climate change, waste, biodiversity, pollution and other environmental issues in a way that drives economic prosperity and that embraces our cultural diversity—will benefit Culver City in myriad ways. Benefits include cost savings from efficiencies, improved access to public and private funding mechanisms, attracting more cutting-edge businesses, improved health and quality of life for all residents, a greater sense of community, and more.

I am also writing to offer my assistance. There are opportunities to connect UCLA students and researchers to this sustainable city planning effort. Just one example is our year-long Senior Practicum for environmental science majors where students work with real-world clients to address real-world problems. Practicum students conceive and deliver science-based solutions directly to clients, working in small groups under tailored support from faculty and outside experts. For example, teams have worked with Santa Monica and Hermosa Beach on emissions reductions and climate planning. I would be happy to explore the potential for Culver City to become a client.

I am proud to live in Culver City, we have already made great strides toward becoming a sustainable community. Taking this next step to establish a comprehensive sustainability planning process will launch our wonderful city into the future to the benefit of our businesses, everyone in the city, and indeed the entire planet. I urge you to support the proposals by Arts Earth Partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. Cully Nordby".

Academic Director, UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability
Chair, UCLA Sustainability Committee



January, 8, 2016

Mayor Micheál O'Leary

cc: Council Members Andrew Weissman, Jim Clarke, Jeffrey Cooper, Megahn Sahli-Wells

Subject: Support Letter for the Sustainable Culver City Proposals.

Dear Mr. O'Leary:

As you know, Walk n' Rollers is a local organization that envisions creating a community environment where children and parents alike embrace a culture based in healthy, active living and are comfortable using alternative modes of transportation whenever they choose in support of a more sustainable community. As the founder of Walk n' Rollers, I am writing to express our strong support for the Arts Earth Partnership's proposals in designing an actionable and comprehensive Sustainable City Plan as well as designing, and administering a customized multi-sector Sustainable Business Certification Program for Culver City.

Reducing greenhouse gases and waste, encouraging alternative modes of transportation and the use of alternative energy sources have proven to be effective in improving the quality of life in Culver City while reducing the City's carbon footprint and expenses. Culver City has made great strides in becoming a sustainability leader in Southern California and these proposals will not only further that endeavor but develop measurable standards for our future leaders to aspire to.

I believe that the Arts Earth Partnership has outlined an excellent path forward at a nominal cost such that it will pay itself forward with increased economic vitality and improved quality of life and presumably increased synergy between city departments, businesses and residents. The implementation of both proposals, will allow Culver City to continue to be a leader in sustainability and ring in the Centennial celebrations with a clearly articulated Sustainable City Plan.

We enthusiastically support Arts Earth Partnership's proposal and encourage you to support them both. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jim Shanman
Walk 'n Rollers



17140 S. Avalon Blvd.
Suite 210
Carson, CA 90746
310.217.2411
www.westbasin.org

January 22, 2016

Honorable Mayor Micheál O'Leary
Culver City City Council
City of Culver City – City Hall
9770 Culver Blvd.
Culver City, CA 90232

Dear Mayor O'Leary and Members of the Culver City City Council:

I am writing to express my support for the proposals to create a sustainable city plan and a multi-sector sustainable business certification program put forth by the non-profit Arts Earth Partnership (AEP) organization that are scheduled to appear on the City Council's January 25, 2016, meeting agenda. As we face the complex challenges of climate change and the projected growth of our region, it is critical to study and develop a strategic and actionable sustainable city plan working in partnership with the community.

Culver City has accomplished many commendable sustainability goals, and these proposals will begin the process of formally developing a comprehensive sustainable city plan. Over the past decade, cities of various sizes nationwide have implemented sustainability plans, and are making laudable progress toward achieving their goals. As an example, San Diego's mayor and city council voted unanimously last December to adopt a climate action plan that puts the city on track to halve its greenhouse gas emissions by 2035.

AEP's sustainable business certification program proposal will assist local businesses in becoming more resource-efficient, reduce their carbon footprint, and help them market their successes. The planning and policy expertise and local knowledge of AEP's staff, their impressive track record in Los Angeles and Santa Monica, and the relatively nominal cost of their services make these proposals worthy of consideration.

In addition, establishing a vision of an economically, socially and environmentally thriving future Culver City is a perfect way to celebrate the upcoming centennial! I respectfully ask that you support AEP's proposals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "S. Houston".

Scott Houston
Board of Directors, Division IV
West Basin Municipal Water District

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MUFG Union Bank, N.A.
445 Figueroa St, Suite 401
Los Angeles, CA, 90071
paul.blagbrough@unionbank.com

Subject: Vote YES on AEP Sustainability Proposals.

Dear Councilmembers,

I'm writing this letter of support as the Environmental Sustainability Director for MUFG Union Bank, I'm also a Culver City resident and my child attends El Marino school.

I understand there will be a vote on at the upcoming City Council meeting on January 25, 2016 with regard to a sustainable city plan and a sustainable business certification program for Culver City. I am writing to urge you to vote YES on the proposals to create a sustainable city plan and a multi-sector sustainable business certification program put forth by the non-profit organization Arts Earth Partnership (AEP).

As a manager at the bank responsible for reducing the bank's GHG emissions and helping our business to operate in a more sustainable way I see every day the value in sustainability plans for communities around the country and in particular support for small businesses to become more environmentally sustainable. We are currently working with the South Bay Green Business program to not only certify our branches in the area but also help spread the word to our customers. And we have been engaged in other green certification programs around the country. The value to business both small and large is in receiving advice about how to become green and save money on energy bills and also in the raised profile signing up to such programs generates.

AEP's sustainable business certification program proposal will assist Culver City's businesses to become more resource efficient, reduce their carbon footprint, and help them market their successes. This is a win-win for the businesses, our local economy and the health and well-being of our community.

I have recently joined the city's sustainability committee and I'm committed to help in the schools apply for the Green Ribbon Award, I am also keen to help with advice were ever it is needed in regards to energy management, green buildings and sustainability.

I respectfully ask that you support AEP's proposals.
Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincere Regards,

Paul Blagbrough

Director, Environmental Stewardship Department