



July 5, 2018

The Honorable Kathryn Barger  
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors  
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Safe, Clean Water program Ordinance

Dear Supervisor Barger,

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce has serious and significant concerns about the proposed stormwater parcel assessment being considered for the November ballot by the Board of Supervisors.

As currently proposed, the measure does not factor in input, not has there been meaningful input from significant stakeholders. Most of the funds generated would be from commercial property owners, the business interests that already pay the bulk of taxes and fees to support Los Angeles County government and its programs and initiatives.

Here, briefly, are several aspects of this measure we find of particular concern:

1. There is not an adequate and exhaustive list of projects identified.
2. There is very lax oversight of projects and expenditures.
3. There needs to be a sunset clause, or at the very least a date certain when new projects are not warranted and the assessment decreases to cover only maintenance and operation of facilities.
4. Taxing and assessment mechanisms are not clear and easily understandable by the taxpayer.
5. There is not recognition that state offices, municipal governments, school or college districts or the county itself bears any responsibility for the negative impacts of your buildings, parking lots, facilities and previous history as polluters.

At this point, and likely into the future, the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce opposes this measure as currently formulated. We would prefer Los Angeles County take the care and time necessary for proper outreach to your citizens, taxpayers, businesses and commercial interests.

This ordinance is not ready for the ballot in November. We suggest the County defer this and spend time answering the questions and meeting with stakeholders, especially your small residential and commercial property owners who will bear a large part of the costs.

Thank you for your service to Los Angeles County and your constituents.

Sincerely,



Paul Little  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Board of Supervisors