



City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

November 15, 2011
New Business Consent

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 11-132 SUPPORTING THE "OCCUPY LOS ANGELES" MOVEMENT

Submitted by David C. Biggs
City Manager

Approved by David C. Biggs
City Manager

I. SUMMARY

On November 1, 2011, the City Council added this matter to tonight's agenda for consideration at the request of Mayor *Pro Tem* Ruiz-Raber. Tonight the City Council is asked to consider Resolution No. 11-132 supporting the "Occupy Los Angeles" movement. (Exhibit No. 1).

II. RECOMMENDATION

TAKE the following actions:

1. WAIVE further reading and ADOPT Resolution No. 11-132, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING "OCCUPY LOS ANGELES" PART OF A NATIONAL MOVEMENT STARTED BY "OCCUPY WALL STREET"
2. DIRECT staff to transmit an executed copy of the resolution to the Mayor of Los Angeles and to "Occupy Los Angeles".

III. ALTERNATIVES

TAKE another action the City Council deems appropriate.

IV. BACKGROUND

"Occupy Los Angeles" is an ongoing series of demonstrations in downtown Los Angeles based at City Hall. "Occupy Los Angeles" is working in solidarity with all of the Occupy Movements including Occupy Wall Street and the other occupations across the nation. The group is mainly protesting social and economic inequality, corporate greed, corruption and influence over government -in particularly from the financial services sector and lobbyists. The protesters' slogan, "We are the 99%", refers to the difference in wealth and income growth in the U.S. between the wealthiest 1% and the rest of the population.

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The first Occupy Wall Street protest was on September 17, 2011. By October 9 similar demonstrations were either ongoing or had been held in over 70 major cities and over 600 communities in the U.S. Other "Occupy" protests similar to "Occupy Los Angeles" have transpired in over 900 cities worldwide.

V. FISCAL IMPACT

None.

VI. EXHIBITS

1. Resolution No. 11-132. (pgs. 3-4)

Document5

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TO:Rev102511

Reviewed by:

City Clerk	City Treasurer
Administrative Services	Development Services
Economic Development	Public Services

Action taken by City Council

Date_____ Action_____

RESOLUTION NO. 11-132

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON,
CALIFORNIA, SUPPORTING "OCCUPY LOS ANGELES" PART OF A
NATIONAL MOVEMENT STARTED BY "OCCUPY WALL STREET"

WHEREAS, the City of Carson supports the efforts of the "Occupy Los Angeles" movement; and

WHEREAS, citizens across the United States, are reeling from a continuing economic crisis that threatens our fiscal stability and our quality of life; and

WHEREAS, "Occupy Los Angeles" is fueled by Angelenos from all walks of life who have come together in a demonstration of solidarity with and support for the national movement started by the "Occupy Wall Street" protests; and

WHEREAS, on Saturday, October 1, 2011, "Occupy Los Angeles" started a peaceful protest on the Lawn of Los Angeles City Hall that continues through this day; and

WHEREAS, over 70 additional "Occupy" protests have taken root across the Country, from large demonstrations in Boston and San Francisco, to dozens of smaller ones in between, with many more being planned every hour, including a large-scale "Occupy Colleges" movement on college campuses across the United States; and

WHEREAS, the protest in Liberty Plaza called "Occupy Wall Street" released its first official Resolution on September 30, 2011, providing an overview of the goals and unifying principles of the "Occupy" movement; and

WHEREAS, the "Occupy" demonstrations are a rapidly growing movement with the shared goal of urging U.S. citizens to peaceably assemble and occupy public space in order to create a shared dialogue by which to address the problems and generate solutions for economically distressed Americans; and

WHEREAS, the causes and consequences of the economic crisis are eroding the very social contract upon which the Constitution that the United States of America was founded; namely, the ability of Americans to come together and form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense of, promote the general welfare of, and secure the blessings of liberty for all, allowing every American to strive for and share in the prosperity of our nation through cooperation and hard work; and

WHEREAS, today corporations hold undue influence and power in our country, and the key to this power is the corporate claim to "personhood," an opinion both U.S. Supreme Court Justices Hugo Black and William O. Douglas declared should be reversed; and

EXHIBIT NO. 01

[MORE]



WHEREAS, this movement is taking a stand against the corporate bullies, banks and investment firms that not only created our economic collapse in 2008, but continue to take advantage of it today, making billions in profits while demanding further wage and benefit cuts from American workers;" and

WHEREAS, Americans must resolve some of the divisive economic and social realities facing our nation in a peaceful way to avoid the further deterioration of our greatest asset -our human capital- and;

WHEREAS, the City of Carson supports its sisters and brothers occupying Wall Street, downtown Los Angeles, and cities and towns across the country who are fed up with an unfair economy that works for 1% of Americans while the vast majority of people struggle to pay the bills, get an education and raise their families; and

WHEREAS, the fiscal impact of the continuing economic crisis is disastrous to education, public services, infrastructure and essential safety-net services that have historically made America successful, with school class sizes growing while teachers are laid off and forcing cities and states to make sobering choices that just a few years ago would have been unthinkable, such as how to cut hours and services from public safety provision, delaying or neglecting to maintain essential physical infrastructure including roads, sewers, and water and power delivery; and cutting services provided by our libraries, recreation, and park facilities; and

WHEREAS, one of the largest problems causing our economy to continue to flounder is the foreclosure crisis, with some banks continuing the use of flawed procedures to flood the housing market with foreclosures, prompting the 50-state Attorney General investigation of foreclosure practices.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Carson supports "Occupy Los Angeles" and urges accountability from banks which we invest taxpayer dollars.

PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2011.

ATTEST:

Mayor Jim Dear

City Clerk Helen S. Kawagoe

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney

