

CITY OF CARSON

November 13, 2013

Dear Carousel Tract Residents and Homeowners,

The Mayor and City Council cordially invite you to a City-sponsored workshop to discuss the role of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health in the environmental investigation taking place in the Carousel neighborhood. The meeting will be held on **Tuesday, November 19, 2013, at 4:00 p.m.** at the Council Chambers, City Hall, 701 East Carson Street, Carson, CA, 90745.

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) oversees the investigation and cleanup activities in the Carousel Tract community to ensure that all environmental work is conducted in a thorough manner that is most protective of human health and the environment. The City Council conducted a workshop on July 18, 2013, to allow for a presentation by Mr. Sam Unger, Executive Director of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, explaining the process for developing a Remedial Action Plan that details how Shell Oil Products US (Shell) will go about cleaning residual oil and other wastes in soil and groundwater in the community that was caused by activities at the Former Kast Tank Farm property. On July 29, 2013, due to concerns raised at the workshop, the City Council declared the existence of an emergency within the Carousel Tract and adopted City Council Resolution No. 13-081. Letters were sent to the Governor, Attorney General, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Mr. Sam Unger seeking immediate assistance to ensure that the residents of the Carousel Tract and surrounding community are protected.

In response to the City Council resolution, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health reviewed information provided by the Regional Board and the environmental experts retained by Girardi & Keese. Their determination on this matter is included in the attached letter. This upcoming workshop will provide an opportunity for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to discuss their current determination that there is not an immediate health threat from site conditions at the Carousel Tract.

If you would like to submit questions prior to the City Council meeting, please contact Sheri Repp Loadsman, Planning Officer, at (310) 952-1773, or e-mail your questions to srepp@carson.ca.us.

Sincerely,

Jackie Acosta
Acting City Manager

Attachment

cc: Mayor and City Council
Mark Ridley-Thomas, Supervisor, Second District County of Los Angeles
L.A. County Department of Public Health
Sam Unger, LARWQCB
L.A. County Fire Department
Girardi & Keese

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October 24, 2013

Jackie Acosta
Acting City Manager
701 E. Carson St.
P.O. Box 6234
Carson, CA 90749

ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AT THE CAROUSEL TRACT IN THE CITY OF CARSON

This is in response to Resolution 13-081 adopted by your City Council on July 29, 2013. Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) shares your commitment to take necessary steps to ensure the protection of public health. We are working closely with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) to assess conditions at the site and the associated health risks.

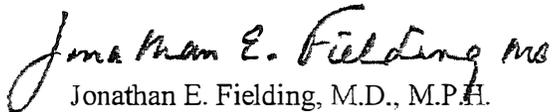
Although the levels of benzene, methane, and other petroleum hydrocarbons in site soils are elevated, the levels of these contaminants in indoor air and outdoor air do not differ significantly from levels in the overall Los Angeles air basin. Indoor air levels of petroleum hydrocarbons were also noted to be within published levels for indoor air quality nationwide. Contaminants in site soils do not present a hazard so long as subsurface soils remain undisturbed. Accordingly, none of the data collected to date, including the analysis provided by L. Everett & Associates, indicates an immediate health threat from site conditions at the Carousel Tract.

The State agencies are continuing the site investigation and are preparing a site-wide Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) to further evaluate potential health risks. Subsequently, a remedial plan will be adopted to ensure that contaminants in subsurface soils will not present a continuing or future risk to community residents. DPH will review the draft HHRA when it is released, and the subsequent remedial plans.

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DPH will continue to work with the State agencies to provide public health guidance during the remediation process to ensure protection of the Carousel Tract community. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact me or Angelo J. Bellomo, Director of Environmental Health, at (626) 430-5374.

Sincerely,


Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H.
Director and Health Officer

JEF:cr
PH:1308:009

c: Board of Supervisors
Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer
Sharon Reichman
Greg Polk
Daryl L. Osby
Gail Farber