

RESOLUTION NO. 17-084

HONORING AND PROTECTING OUR COASTAL  
RESOURCES

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara's iconic coastal waters and treasured seashores, with palm trees and sandy beaches, keep the spirit of our city and contribute to its social vibrancy, environmental resources and economic success.; and

WHEREAS, Hundreds of thousands of residents and visitors enjoy our ocean, beaches, mountains and abundance of diverse resources, for recreation, exploration, and relaxation; and tourism and recreation comprise a large part of the City's economy; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara Harbor is a major port for commercial fishing, recreational boating and cruise ships; and

WHEREAS; in 2015 a pipeline burst several miles up coast from the City of Santa Barbara which fouled beaches and coastal waters, causing catastrophic damage to the environment and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, in 1969 a well failure off our coast fouled the ocean and beaches, causing catastrophic damage to the region and sparking the beginning of the modern environmental movement; and

WHEREAS, oil spills have caused extensive environmental and economic damage at dozens of locations on the west coast, and images of the BP Deepwater Horizon disaster are fresh in our minds; and

WHEREAS, there has been a shocking drop in ocean health; protection must be increased against rising ocean acidity and plastics and chemical pollution; and

WHEREAS, recently the America First Offshore Energy Executive Order opens up the Pacific, Atlantic and Arctic Oceans to oil and gas drilling, which could lead to more spills, increased GHGs and dependence on fossil fuels and delay the movement toward greater reliance on renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, that Executive Order threatens our local beaches, harbors and waterways, and it is critical that the City of Santa Barbara immediately make known its opposition to the Executive Order in an effort to protect the health and welfare of its residents;

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Barbara has in its legislative program several issues related to protection of the waterfront including prohibition of additional offshore oil development; and

WHEREAS, there have been no offshore oil and gas leases in California since the 1969 disaster; and

WHEREAS, the California Legislature enacted laws withdrawing certain offshore areas from oil and gas leasing and now has an offshore oil and gas leasing moratorium in place; and

WHEREAS, the current exclusion of the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf from new oil and gas development is consistent with the long-standing interests of Pacific Coast States, as framed in the 2006 Agreement on Ocean Health adopted by the Governors of California, Washington, and Oregon; and,

WHEREAS, the California State Lands Commission has not issued a new offshore oil and gas lease since the 1969 spill; and

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Barbara is considering enacting climate change legislation requiring ambitious reduction in greenhouse gases and fossil fuel use by 2030; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Economy, with nature-inspired technologies that are economically viable and sustainably provide basic human needs, growth and opportunity in a well-developed regulatory framework for integrated coastal and ocean management, is largely untapped in Santa Barbara; and

WHEREAS, the marine environment is capable of generating electricity from tidal, wave, and wind energy systems, which reduce carbon and impacts to marine life compared to oil and gas development and which are in use globally; and

WHEREAS, fracking and related techniques, where water and chemicals are injected under high pressure to crack rock formations and free up petroleum products, are linked to water and air pollution, health concerns, and harm to marine wildlife; and

WHEREAS, Several jurisdictions have called for or imposed greater regulation, bans, or moratoria on onshore fracking including Marin County, Alameda County, Santa Cruz County, San Benito County, Butte County, City of Los Angeles, and San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, offshore fracking and related techniques threaten our coast, wildlife, public health; protecting the environment and the health and safety of the public is of paramount concern;


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Santa Barbara supports, in state and federal waters in the Pacific Ocean along the United States, (1) a ban on new drilling, fracking, and related techniques, (2) a phase-out of all oil and gas extraction and (3) a framework for responsible renewable energy development.

**City of Santa Barbara**  
City Administrator's Office

**Memorandum**

**DATE:** July 7, 2017

**TO:** Paul Casey, City Administrator

**FROM:** Jason Dominguez, Mayor Pro Tempore  
Bendy White, Councilmember 

**SUBJECT:** Request From Councilmembers Dominguez and White to resolve to protect coast from oil and gas drilling

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Pursuant to Council Resolution 05-073 regarding the Conduct of City Council Meetings, we request that an item be placed on the Santa Barbara City Council Agenda regarding a resolution to protect the Santa Barbara Coast from Oil and Gas drilling

cc: Mayor and Council  
Ariel Calonne, City Attorney

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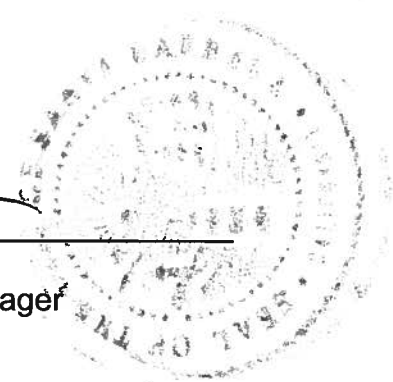
STATE OF CALIFORNIA            )  
  )  
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA    ) ss.  
  )  
CITY OF SANTA BARBARA        )

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Santa Barbara at a meeting held on July 25, 2017, by the following roll call vote:


- AYES:                    Councilmembers Jason Dominguez, Gregg Hart, Cathy Murillo, Randy Rowse, Bendy White; Mayor Helene Schneider
- NOES:                    Councilmember Frank Hotchkiss
- ABSENT:                 None
- ABSTENTIONS:        None

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City of Santa Barbara on July 26, 2017.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sarah P. Gorman, CMC  
City Clerk Services Manager



I HEREBY APPROVE the foregoing resolution on July 26, 2017.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Helene Schneider  
Mayor