

Dear XXXXX,

We represent the Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council Board and the approximately 65,000 stakeholders in the Highland Park community. Council File 19-1577 has recently come to the attention of the HHPNC and we'd like to voice our support. The council file requests that the LA City Employees Retirement System's board report on the feasibility of a phased divestment of risky assets.

HHPNC's Board wholeheartedly agrees that we need to improve the financial health of LA City Employees' pension plan. City employees need to know their pension funds are safe and aren't making climate change worse. Residents shouldn't have to worry about having to rescue a pension fund because of failing investments in a declining industry.

For reference:

- Climate change is increasing risks of fire, coastal flooding, and hurricanes¹
- Insurance² and finance³ companies are reducing their exposure to these risks
- Many pension funds are still exposed to financial risk from climate change⁴
- Fossil fuel company stocks are losing value^{5,6}
- San Francisco acted to reduce its pension plan's exposure⁷, but LA has not done so yet

Respectfully,
Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

Sources

[1] "World weather attribution"
worldweatherattribution.org

[2] "Climate change and insurance issues"
iii.org/article/background-on-climate-change-and-insurance-issues

[3] "Climate Crisis Will Reshape Finance"
nytimes.com/2020/01/14/business/dealbook/larry-fink-blackrock-climate-change.html

[4] "Climate change threatens billions in CalPERS pension fund"
latimes.com/environment/story/2019-12-19/climate-change-threatens-billions-in-calpers-pension-fund

[5] "There's no more money to be made in oil and gas stocks" - Jim Cramer
cnbc.com/2020/02/03/jim-cramer-the-profit-in-oil-and-gas-stocks-is-drying-up.html

[6] "Exxon Mobil's stock drops to decade low after Goldman says it's time to sell"

[marketwatch.com/story/exxon-mobils-stock-drops-to-decade-low-after-goldman-says-its-time-to-sell-2020-02-03](https://www.marketwatch.com/story/exxon-mobils-stock-drops-to-decade-low-after-goldman-says-its-time-to-sell-2020-02-03)

[7] “SFERS Board votes to pursue a phased divestment of ‘riskiest dirtiest fossil fuel assets’ in its portfolio”

mysfers.org/wp-content/uploads/SFERS-Boards-Phased-Divestment_press-release_1.25.2018.pdf