

City of Los Angeles Joins Other Cities in Support of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe



When: Friday, September 30, 2016

Where: Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Time: 9am-12 noon

On Friday, September 30, 2016, the City of Los Angeles will be gathering for a press conference at City Hall to discuss issues regarding the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL). In attendance will be representatives from the Tongva, Tataviam, and Chumash communities; various elected officials; and celebrities who will speak on the issue.

DAPL, a 1,168-mile, 30-inch diameter pipeline being developed by Energy Transfer Partners and its affiliates, which would carry as much as 570,000 barrels per day of Bakken crude from western North Dakota to Illinois directly, impacts the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. DAPL runs through ancestral lands and waters reserved for the traditional use of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, which include the Missouri River, burial grounds and gravesites, and other sacred sites of cultural, religious, and historical significance, which according to federal law, should be protected by the Treaty of Ft. Laramie, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People.

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People, in Articles 11, 12, and 25 states that indigenous peoples possess the right to maintain and protect their culture, religion, practices, and relationship with their “traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands,

City of Los Angeles Joins Other Cities in Support of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

territories [and] waters”; and in Article 32 it requires that governments consult with indigenous peoples “in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources.” The Dakota Access Pipeline has failed to recognize these laws and have violated the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe’s national and international rights.

The threat that thousands of people are gathering against is the fact that oil pipelines are literally ticking time bombs that will cause irreparable damage to all those living across the river. “Mni Wiconi,” which means “Water is Life” in the Lakota language, is a slogan that has been making its way throughout social media and protest banners across the nation and world. The slogan speaks to the relationships human beings, and all living beings, have to water, and in defense of cultural and natural resources, against corporations that seek to make profit off of that which is central and sacred to many indigenous peoples.

As of September 13, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe’s Facebook website reported that 256 Tribes and First Nations have stated their stance against the Dakota Access Pipeline. In addition, 5 Cities throughout the United States have put forward Resolutions and Letters of Support, which include the City of Lawrence in Kansas, City of Minneapolis, City of Portland, City of Seattle, and City of St. Paul.

During the press conference gathering next Friday 30th 2016, the City of Los Angeles will be added to that list as City Council members will state their support of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe by officially putting forward a resolution. If you have any questions please contact **Nicole Collins (747) 256-9952 Cell or Email nicolecollins264@gmail.com**