

# Los Angeles Just Transition Task Force

*Co-led by Los Angeles County and the City of Los Angeles and facilitated by the Just Transition Fund*

Wednesday, May 23, 2023



**JUST  
TRANSITION  
FUND**

# Background

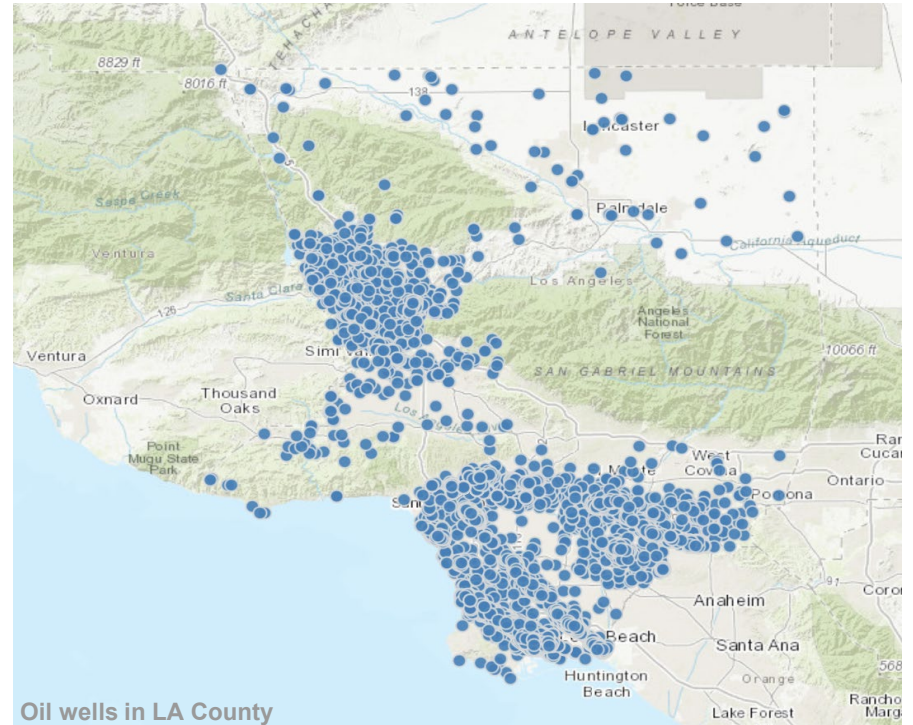
## Oil Well History & Context

- Oil first discovered in 1865 in California and in L.A. in the 1870s.
- By the 1920s, L.A. produced about 25% of world's oil
- Wells were found in nearly all parts of the City and region, from downtown to the beaches



# Background

Today: 26 oil and gas fields and more than 5,000 oil and gas wells in L.A. County, including one of the largest oil fields in the U.S. and the largest urban oil field in the world



# Background

## Neighborhood impacts & resulting policies

- Many wells located in neighborhoods near community parks and schools
- Community organizing and advocacy grew in response to health and climate risks, especially in frontline communities
- Late 2022/early 2023: **City and County approved phase out ordinances**





# Task Force Structure and Goals

- **Leadership:** Co-led by L.A. City and County and Facilitated by the Just Transition Fund
- **Membership:** Labor groups, workforce development experts, environmental justice leaders, and the oil industry, as well as Tribal Nations, academic institutions, and state and local government entities
- **Goals:** The Task Force defined the following goals to guide the Just Transition Strategy
  - **Goal 1:** Provide oil workers impacted by the phase-out with the necessary support to transition their skills into jobs of comparable, family-sustaining compensation or retirement in ways that promote livelihoods and dignity.
  - **Goal 2:** Properly remediate closed oil well sites and integrate input from frontline communities and sovereign Native Nations, on whose ancestral homelands Los Angeles is built, in community visioning, remediation, and land use redevelopment planning processes.
  - **Goal 3:** Leverage public and private funds to equitably and sustainably finance and coordinate the successful implementation of the Just Transition Strategy.
- **Subgroups:** Worker, Site Remediation, Finance/Coordination Subgroups and individual meetings with Tribal representatives developed Strategies and Actions for each Goal



# Key Findings

1. 664 oil extraction workers impacted
2. 90% non-unionized
3. 60% chose green energy as first choice for reemployment
4. Reemployment opportunities identified in:
  - a. Transportation Electrification
  - b. Water and Wastewater Management
  - c. Goods Movement at the Ports of LA and Long Beach
  - d. Solar Energy Production
  - e. Oil Plugging and Abandonment
5. Traditional well-closure processes do not guarantee sufficient engagement
6. Existing processes and opportunities for engagement are confusing to the public
7. Need for ongoing federal and state collaboration to address long-term transition

# Just Transition Strategy Highlights and Next Steps

1. Create a “Workers’ Advisory Council”
2. Expand use of labor agreements and labor standards to create more high-wage job opportunities to reemploy oil workers at the County and City
3. Develop ongoing employer engagement to communicate clearly with workers about job impacts, timelines, transition support
4. Work with existing training institutions and programs to connect dislocated oil extraction workers to jobs
5. Expand and create additional programs to encourage private employers and the County and City to hire dislocated oil extraction workers
6. Pilot Transition Navigators Program
- 7. Coordinate with WDBs on guidelines for advance notification to workers**
- 8. Engagement and collaboration with Federal and State agencies including advocating for State Transition Fund and initiating TEGF 12-19 application**