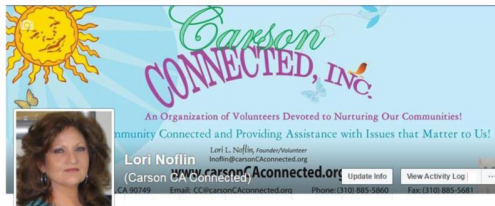




***Keeping Our Community Connected and Providing Assistance with Issues that Matter to Us!***



**Carson Connected, Inc.**  
An Organization of Volunteers Devoted to Nurturing Our Communities!



***You can join us on facebook for updates,  
and information on issues that affect our  
community.***

## **Illegal Orchestrated Council Meeting**

**There was an error in the link to the District Attorney's letter to the City of Carson warning them about illegally orchestrating the Council Meetings. We wanted to make sure everyone has an opportunity to read it.**



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
BUREAU OF FRAUD AND CORRUPTION PROSECUTIONS  
PUBLIC INTEGRITY DIVISION

JACKIE LACEY • District Attorney  
JOHN K. SPILLANE • Chief Deputy District Attorney  
JOSEPH P. ESPOSITO • Assistant District Attorney

SCOTT K. GOODWIN • Director

December 2, 2015

Honorable Members of the City Council  
City of Carson  
701 E. Carson Street  
Carson, California 90745

Re: Complaint of Brown Act Violations  
Case P15-0435

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council,

We have received a complaint alleging violations of the Ralph M. Brown Act (the Act) at the June 16, 2015 Carson City Council meeting. From our review of the audio-video recording of the meeting, it appears that a majority of the then three-member City Council had previously engaged in improper communications regarding city business outside of an authorized meeting in violation of Government Code section 54952.2.

At the City Council meeting on June 16, 2015, three members were present: Mayor Albert Robles, Mayor Pro Tem Elito M. Santarina, and Councilmember Lula Davis-Holmes. At that time, the other two seats on the Council were vacant, one pending results from the election held on June 2, 2015.

The agenda contained a description for Item 32 as follows: "FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF AN APPOINTMENT TO FILL THE VACANCY ON THE CITY COUNCIL CREATED BY THE APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR ROBLES (CITY COUNCIL)." Under this description it further read, "Recommendation: CONSIDER and PROVIDE direction." This was followed by an electronic attachment entitled, "Exhibit 1 Letters of Intent." The attached electronic file contained a list of 14 names of individuals evidently interested in being appointed to fill the vacant Council seat held by Robles, with letters and reference materials from each individual. Jawane Hilton was one of the 14 names on the list.

After the initial public comment period of the meeting, Mayor Robles called for the Council to handle Item 32 out of order from the way items were listed on the agenda. Without opening for any discussion, Robles immediately made a motion to appoint Jawane Hilton to fill the vacancy. Within seconds, Davis-Holmes seconded the motion. At that point on the video, Santarina left his seat next to Robles and walked behind Robles toward a door

Hall of Justice  
211 West Temple Street, Suite 1000  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 257-2475  
Fax: (213) 633-0985

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## Just another Carson Con

*"The city council has an opportunity to allow the Carson voters an opportunity to really decide these issues"*

City Manager Kenneth Farfaring, August 11, 2016

Much like the way they robbed the City of Carson it's right to ever place a moratorium on oil drilling, and how they signed a Tesoro/Andeavor tax credit/45 Million Dollar Community Benefits Agreement Carson City Council legalized the

recreational marijuana industry here in Carson.

In this August 11, 2016 video city attorney, Sunny Soltani explains if the city had done nothing the marijuana industry would not be allowed.



In this August 11, 2016, video Albert Robles speaks about Ikea not paying their fair share of tax.



[Link to moratorium email](#)

**COMMUNITY BENEFITS AGREEMENT**

THIS AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is entered into and between the CITY OF CARSON, a general law city & municipal corporation ("City" or "Carson"), and TESORO REFINING & MARKETING COMPANY, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, authorized and doing business in California ("Tesoro"). City and Tesoro may be referred to, individually or collectively, as "Party" or "Parties."

**RECITALS**

**A. Carson Refinery.** Tesoro owns and operates the petroleum refinery located at 2550 East 227<sup>th</sup> Street in Carson ("Carson Refinery"). The Carson Refinery manufactures gasoline, jet fuel, diesel fuel, petroleum coke, fuel oil, fuel gases, propylene and ethylene oxide. It receives crude oil at terminals in the Los Angeles-Long Beach Port Complex, and ships products throughout Southern California, Arizona and Nevada via product distribution pipelines and terminals.

(1) As detailed herein, Carson and Tesoro have discussed various issues and disputes relating to the Carson Refinery. Carson desires that Tesoro make funding available for significant investments in the Carson community and Tesoro desires to provide such funding to support the wellbeing of residents and otherwise improve the quality of the environment and assist Carson residents in having a safe and healthy place to work, live and raise families. The Parties are entering into this Agreement to resolve comprehensively all issues and disputes between them in a cooperative manner, and thereby allow Tesoro to provide funding for community benefits.

**B. Tax Matters.** The City Council of the City of Carson ("Council" or "City Council") is considering various measures that could increase significantly the amount of taxes paid to Carson by Tesoro and other similar entities. Tesoro is one of Carson's largest employers and taxpayers, and enjoys significant benefits from public services provided by Carson.

(1) On or about June 26, 2017, and by Resolution No. 17-079, the City Council declared a local emergency, pursuant to Carson Municipal Code ("CMC") § 14.06(a), relating to the City's inability to pay its LUTV pursuant to Chapter 11 of Article V of the CMC. In the absence of such a resolution, CMC § 6 (10)(a) limits the amount of LUTV payments by a service user to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per calendar year.

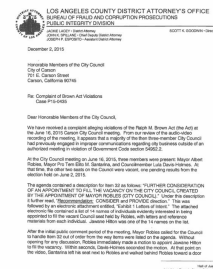
(2) Tesoro recognizes the importance of reaching any tax commitments with Carson, including providing certainty and clarity for Tesoro with respect to its future obligations to Carson. The Parties desire to resolve their differences over tax issues, to avoid litigation arising out of such disputes, and without acknowledging fault or responsibility in connection with the position of either Party in this dispute (hereinafter referred to as the "Tax Dispute").

**C. LARIC EIR.** Tesoro also owns and operates the petroleum refinery located at 2104 East Pacific Coast Highway in the Wilmington area of the City of Los Angeles ("Wilmington Refinery"). Tesoro proposes to integrate its Wilmington Refinery operations with Tesoro's Carson Refinery operations to form the Tesoro Los Angeles Refinery in what is known as the Los Angeles Refinery Integration and Compliance Project ("LARIC" or the "Project"). The Project will greatly enhance the integration of Tesoro Los Angeles Refinery operations through process modifications that improve efficiency, and continue compliance with state and local air quality regulations mandating emission reductions.

[Link to Tesoro\\_Andeavor agreement](#)

The city would not need to look to the marijuana industry for the expected 3.5 million dollars if the already existing business paid their fair share. The oil industry has not paid their fare share the Utility User Tax has a million dollar cap. Which means while other cities receive up to 33 million, Carson has the largest refinery in the Western United States and it receives just 5 million that's a 28 million dollar difference.

On August 11, 2016 City council made it clear they were going to ban all aspects of the marijuana industry in Carson. **It appears that was only to get their tax on the books.** The problem with putting a tax on the books is it makes the recreational marijuana industry legal, medical marijuana will remain banned. The District Attorney's office warned city council about orchestrating council meetings in this letter. It appears this special council meeting was very much so orchestrated. We'd like to hear your thoughts.



[Link to entire October 11, 2016 presentation](#)

[Link to District Attorney\\_s warning](#)

In this video city attorney Sunny Soltani is stating council doesn't want it so they don't want to take the chance of sending it to the voters who may allow it so they want to tax it.



Albert Robles states "Were not going to allow the residents to vote on an ordinance in November so our ban continues". We're not sure what city Albert Robles is speaking of because Carson doesn't have a ban on the recreational marijuana industry.



Lula Davis-Holmes makes the following statement: "Our ordinance will say that no, you're not allowed to cultivate whoop, whoop whoop, not going to do anything. But, on the ballot it should be worded that if another council comes in here and there's one vote to change that you can allow it but the voters have already said 18%.



Since the passing of the marijuana tax, only 4 of the 5 council members have stated they are against dispensaries but have not stated anything about being against cultivation or manufacturing.

67% of the Carson residents who voted on this issue voted to keep this industry out of Carson. City council needs to keep their promise that got them the marijuana tax placed on the books and ban all forms of industrial marijuana in Carson. The manufacturing and cultivation they have been fighting to keep poses its dangers on our community.

This video is a news broadcast of a robbery at a warehouse, cultivation/manufacturing business.



This video is a news broadcast of a new report that found a generator at a marijuana farm caused the wild fire last year that destroyed a dozen homes.



Statement made by city manager Kenneth Farfsing: "Part of this thought process actually came from me so if the community gets upset they can get mad at me."



Mr. Farfsing may have taken credit but the city council voted to allow it to happen.

### **October 10 Special Council Meeting**

City council chose to take up the marijuana issue during closed session, they interrupted the closed session marijuana discussion to appoint commissioners that for some reason Elito Santarina needed to be present for. Looks like another deal being made, bartering with commissioner seats to seal the deal jeopardizing the health and well-being of our community.





City of Carson  
CHAPTER 13  
CANNABIS TAX

61310 Tax.

A. Cannabis Cultivation Tax. Every person cultivating cannabis in the City, either pursuant to this Code or otherwise, and regardless of whether such operation has a valid permit pursuant to this Code, shall pay an annual maximum tax of \$25.00 per square foot for space utilized as cultivation area. Taxes imposed on cultivation area shall be adjusted annually on July 1st after the date of imposition, and then July 1st of each succeeding year based on the Consumer Price Index ("CPI") for all urban consumers in the Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County areas as published by the United States Government Bureau of Labor Statistics; however, no adjustment shall decrease any tax imposed by this Chapter, unless approved by the City Council.

B. Cannabis Operations Tax. Every person engaged in conducting an operation for the retail or wholesale distribution, cultivation, manufacture, transportation (including delivery), or testing of cannabis, either pursuant to the Carson Municipal Code or otherwise, and regardless of whether such operation has a valid permit pursuant to the Carson Municipal Code, shall pay a maximum cannabis tax of eighteen (18) percent of proceeds or fractional part thereof. (Ord. 16-1599, § 1)

**IN CASE YOU MISSED IT**  
**Marijuana in Carson Update**

We found the format of Thursday evening's workshop agenda skewed in favor of the marijuana industry coming to Carson. There were four panelists one against the industry and three that were in favor.

Much like the meeting on Saturday, Carson residents filled the room and many of them spoke with the majority of them speaking against inviting this industry into our city. There were a few Carson residents that spoke in favor and a few people from outside of Carson wanting it here. Carson residents had the opportunity to speak before non-residents. However, after a few residents spoke the panelists were offered the opportunity to rebut the resident's comments and with more panelists present in favor there were more rebuttals against the residents and in favor of the marijuana industry.

We should question why our city officials approved this format that defiantly favored the marijuana industry, and the people who want to allow cultivation, manufacturing, and sales of marijuana in our city.

We've heard there is going to be a call for additional workshops. There is an item on Tuesday's council meeting agenda, which would give them the opportunity to:

**There are many other issues important and deserve the attention of our city officials and citizens.**

One of which is the unsolved case of **Michele Kelly-Love and Jordan Love.**

This one is dear to my heart because I had the pleasure of meeting Jordan and it happened on the street my family lives.



*Michele Kelly-Love and Jordan Love*

Mother and Son were fatally shot Saturday, February 28, 2016 while sitting in a vehicle parked outside a Carson home.

This case continues to be unsolved.  
\$25,000 reward for the capture and conviction of the responsible person(s).

If you have any information please contact:  
The Carson Sheriff's Station  
310 830-1123

**\$25,000**

- Call for additional workshops, placing more burdens on the residents to fight for the good of their community.
- Request the city manager placed an item on the agenda of the next council meeting to ban marijuana cultivation, manufacturing and sales.
- They could do exactly what the agenda says receive and file a report. If they choose this option and do not act marijuana cultivation, manufacturing and sales will be legal here in Carson on January 1, 2018.



**Tuesday, October 3, 2017 Council Meeting Item  
No. 16  
2017-764 RECEIVE AND FILE A STATUS  
REPORT ON UPCOMING ISSUES AND  
TIMELINES RELATED TO PROHIBITION  
AND/OR REGULATION OF CANNABIS  
ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE CITY**

We feel there's no need for additional workshops we think the citizens of Carson have spoken very clearly.

**We want a ban on the marijuana cultivation,  
manufacturing and sales here in Carson.**

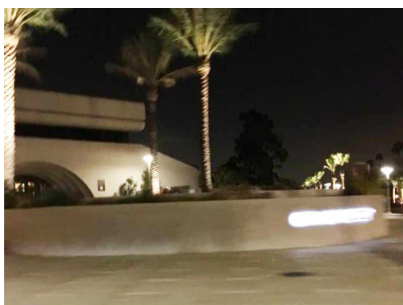
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**IN CASE YOU MISSED IT  
Marijuana in Carson Update  
September 27, 2017**

We attended Saturday's workshop the room was filled with majority Carson residents, and the majority of them made it clear they do not want the marijuana industry in our community. I've live in Carson since 1960, we've had to go up against many things, and I am so proud of the strength of the people of Carson, when a need arises so do Carson residents.



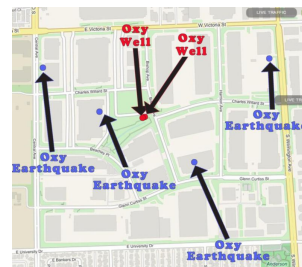
Our streets torn up for years, our fountain sits empty despite the fact its completion date was supposed to be the end of November 2015. Dollar stores replacing groceries stores, the auto center closed down with promises of Applebee's, and all we get is more fast food. Sears closed down (where is the promised Burlington?). On a regular basis cars vandalized and/or stolen, people robbed and/or killed on the streets of Carson. We don't need the additional burden on our budget,



police department, or our people. We do need the resolve of the senseless murders here in Carson of Johnny Danny Delgado, William Anthony Treas, Justin Vaesna Uy, Cynthia Ambriz, Davion Craig Gregory, Jose Guadalupe Trigueros, Frank Baltizar Hernandez, and Jennifer Marie Ball to name a few.

This city council needs to show us they are in office to represent the

residents of Carson. Not warehouses filled with marijuana logistic companies, or with the same company that owns the warehouses wanting to drill 200 earthquake-causing oil wells on the New Port - Inglewood Fault.



[Link to complete Oxy Earthquake article](#)

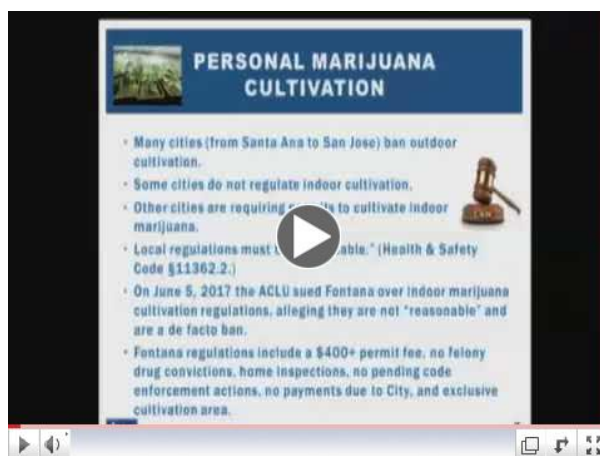


[Link to complete article](#)

Carson City Council needs to stand with the residents and not with the people who bused in hundreds of union members to bully us out of our right to ever place a moratorium on oil drilling.

**Let city council know we want a ban on the cultivation, manufacturing, and dispensaries here in Carson, and that this ban is only be lifted by a vote of the people.**

The Saturday presentation was lacking quite a bit of information, we're providing the presentation from the August 1, 2017 council meeting, so you can be well informed in this matter for tomorrow's workshop and future council meetings. Hope to see you there!



Sign up to receive our email updates, put us on your safe senders list, and add us as a contact to insure you continue to receive this important information.

**[Sign up to receive FREE email updates.](#)**

Carson Connected started our work here in Carson in July 2010. During this time, we've been providing information regarding issues that affect the health and well-being of our families and communities. We have never received any complaints or requests to change or correct any information we have provided.

**We are proud to say it's because we work very hard to provide you with the facts.**

Carson Connected | [Inoflin@carsoncaconnected.org](mailto:Inoflin@carsoncaconnected.org) | 310 496-7501 | [carsonCAconnected.org](http://carsonCAconnected.org)





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