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CITY OF LOS ANGELES SPEAKER CARD

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Name: Robert	Berger	() Against proposal
Business or Organization Affiliat	ion: Healdhupe Solutions	
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Business or Organization Affiliation	on: American Heart Association	
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CITY OF LOS ANGELES SPEAKER CARD

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Business or Organization Affiliat	ion: American lung Association		
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Business or Organization Affiliati	on: Coalition for a Tobacco A	Free LA County
Address:		
Street Business phone: 213/268 - 3	City Z133 Representing: <u>Jam Q</u>	State Zip
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Address: 333 WIS	rie B1. #900, LA-	JCA 90010
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Name: DEAN	CHWARTZ	() Against proposal () General comments
Business or Organization Affiliation	: CITIZEN/RESTAURA	stauner
Address: 435 Street	o. CURSON G-M LA	90036 State Zip
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Name: Paul Sin		() Against proposal () General comments
Business or Organization Affiliat	ion: LA County Dept of Publ	ic Health
Address: 3530 W	ilshive Jamte 800 LA	CA 90010
Business phone: 213-351-		y Dept. of Public Health
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Name: <u>Carrie</u>	Nagy	(V) General comments
Business or Organization Affiliation		A County
Address: 600 S	. Commonwealth Los Angeles Rn 800 city	CA
Business phone: 213-738-	2840 Representing: Azakma Coa	CA 90005 State Zip County.
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Business or Organization Affiliat Address: OLO S V Street 716 Business phone 23	NAW ST PHIZA CA 3588 Representing:	90014 State Zip
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Address: 1505 E. Co	S Angeles #155, SIMI UG	14 4 93063 State Zip
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ASTHMA COALITION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY 600 S. Commonwealth Avenue, Room 800 Los Angeles, CA 90005

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www.asthmacoalitionla.org

Janet Scully, MPH, Coordinator (213) 639-6414 iscully@ph.lacounty.gov

January 19, 2010

Honorable Council President Eric Garcetti City of Los Angeles 200 North Spring Street, Room 470 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Council File No. 08-1554, Proposed Smoke-free Dining Ordinance

Dear Council President Garcetti,

The Asthma Coalition of Los Angeles County appreciates your leadership in health and environmental policies and hopes that we can count on you to quickly move forward to pass the proposed Smoke-Free Dining Ordinance.

The Asthma Coalition of Los Angeles County (ACLAC) is a collective voice of over eighty organizations which include clinical care professionals, environmental policy advocates, school and childcare experts, and asthma researchers whose mission is to promote policy and systems change to prevent, minimize, and manage the burden of asthma. Secondhand smoke increases the number of asthma attacks and severity of asthma symptoms in children and adults with asthma. Therefore, ACLAC supports local regulations that protect the public from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke in outdoor areas.

Exposure to secondhand smoke can have immediate health consequences, including eye, nose and throat irritation, as well as asthma attacks and breathing problems for people with chronic lung disease. According to the US Surgeon General, there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke. Service employees and outdoor dining guests can receive exposures that exceed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's limit on fine particulate matter pollution. More needs to be done to protect the residents of Los Angeles from exposure to toxic secondhand smoke because too many people are being exposed in places including restaurants and cafes with outdoor seating.

Los Angeles has the opportunity to be a national leader on the issue of smoke-free outdoor dining. The adoption of a strong law by the City Council would have an important influence on the adoption of similar laws throughout California and around the country. ACLAC urges you to move quickly to pass the ordnance to prohibit smoking in outdoor dining areas (Council File No. 08-1554). Eliminating secondhand smoke from outdoor dining areas will improve the health of all Angelenos. We hope you will consider passing this very important public health initiative.

Sincerely,

Robert Vinetz, MD

Co-Chair

Asthma Coalition of Los Angeles County

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Nancy Halpern Ibrahim, MPH

Co-Chair

Asthma Coalition of Los Angeles County

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October 5, 2009

Honorable Council President Eric Garcetti City of Los Angeles 200 North Spring Street, Room 470 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Council President Garcetti:

I am writing on behalf of California's Clean Air Project-CCAP, a statewide project that works in cities and counties throughout California on secondhand smoke issues, both indoor and outdoor. We provide current information and a statewide perspective on secondhand smoke exposure and keep policy makers and the public apprised of new developments.

Tobacco control researchers and the California Air Resources Board have concurred that failure to ban smoking in outdoor public venues may expose non-smokers to levels of environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) as high or higher than received in indoor spaces where smoking is unrestricted. In January 2006, the California Air Resources Board declared secondhand smoke a Toxic Air Contaminant (TAC) which may cause or contribute to an increase in deaths or serious illness, or which may pose a present or potential hazard to human health. The Air Resources Board unanimously found that tobacco smoke harms not only the smoker, but innocent bystanders as well. Secondhand smoke joins benzene, arsenic, and diesel exhaust on the TAC list. The unanimous decision by the Cal EPA's Air Resources Board to declare secondhand smoke (SHS) to be a Toxic Air Contaminant was based on a rigorous four year scientific study.

The California State Legislature has been proactive, protecting children's tot lots and play areas in parks as well as the entrances and exits of government buildings from secondhand smoke. Many cities and counties have taken even greater steps to reduce or eliminate secondhand smoke from outdoor venues, including outdoor dining, parks, entryways of private businesses, waiting lines and beaches.

Business owners around California are recognizing the need to make our outdoor dining patios free of tobacco smoke. John Shannahan, manager of Starbucks in Auburn, CA declared the decision to go smoke-free on their outdoor dining patio was an easy one: "People wanted to sit in a smoke-free environment. Ninety percent of our customers have responded positively to our decision to go smoke-free, outdoors. We've gained customers who enjoy a smoke-free environment. Most Californians don't smoke; we should cater to the majority, not the minority."

Honorable Council President Eric Garcetti October 5, 2009 Page 2

Californians are adopting smoke-free outdoor policies addressing outdoor areas such as cafes, dining areas, and patios. Since 2000, over 75 California cities have passed ordinances addressing smoke-free outdoor dining. Many of these are located in Los Angeles County including Pasadena, Santa Monica, Burbank, Calabasas, Glendale, and Beverly Hills to mention a few.

Several years ago, our project conducted a survey of eight California cities with smoke-free outdoor dining facilities. The eight cities interviewed experienced no difficulty or opposition from the general public or the business community when the ordinance was proposed. All cities reported high compliance with the smoke-free outdoor dining ordinances. Six cities reported no citations had been issued for smoke-free outdoor dining. Only one city reported that during the past 10 years, since the ordinance has been in place, two citations were issued. Another city indicated that they were not certain if any citations had been issued, but assumed none were since there were no complaints filed. All cities reported that there has been no negative feedback from businesses or the public since the ordinances became effective and no reports of decreased business have been received. If you would like a full copy of this report or if we can provide any other information regarding the issue of smoke-free outdoor dining, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Most sincerely,

Narinder Dhaliwal, Director

California's Clean Air Project-CCAP

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cc:

Councilmember Ed Reyes
Councilmember Dennis Zine
Councilmember Tom LaBonge
Councilmember Paul Koretz
Councilmember Tony Cardenas
Councilmember Richard Alarcon
Councilmember Bernard Parks
Councilmember Jan Perry
Councilmember Herb Wesson
Councilmember Bill Rosendahl
Councilmember Greig Smith
Councilmember Jose Huizar
Councilmember Janice Hahn