



BILL ROSENDAHL

City of Los Angeles
Councilmember, Eleventh District

Committees

Chair, *Public Works*

Vice-Chair, *Trade, Commerce & Tourism*

Member, *Budget & Finance*

Member, *Transportation*

Member, *Ad Hoc Homelessness*

August 14, 2009

Honorable Members of the City Council

RE: Special Events Fee Subsidy Policy Ordinance

Dear Colleagues,

While I appreciate and support efforts to crack down on special event fee waivers and recoup money for the City during these very tough economic times, I have some remaining concerns with the latest iteration of the proposed special event fee ordinance before council this morning.

I am specifically concerned about the impact the ordinance will have on Farmer's Markets across the City.

In the 11th District, there are 7 farmers markets that meet every week. They are an important service, providing fresh and healthy food, and creating a gathering place that fosters a sense of community in a busy metropolis. In some communities, this new fee waiver policy will drive the markets out of business. In other cases, additional costs to the operators will surely be passed down to cash-strapped consumers.

If I were present today, I would propose to exempt the markets from this policy. I ask each of you consider how markets in your districts will continue to thrive if we don't find ways to work with each of them to find cost-cutting solutions prior to implementing this new policy.

Regards,

BILL ROSENDAHL
Councilmember, 11th District

BR:lm

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