

Maria to councilmember..., councilmember..., councilmember..., me
11:44 PM

April 25, 2011

Via Email

Councilmember Ed P. Reyes, Chair
Councilmember Jose Huizar
Councilmember Paul Krekorian
Planning & Land Use Management Committee Members
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Farmers Markets
CF No. [10-1832](#)

Dear PLUM Committee Members:

I strongly urge you to **oppose** streamlining the Farmers' Market permitting process by allowing them to operate by right in the R zones.

As a healthcare professional, I truly support community members having access to nutritious foods and fresh produce. Throughout the City of Los Angeles (including areas that are socially and economically challenged), there is no shortage of produce markets, farmers' markets, and community gardens that offer residents an easy access to a variety of options. There should be no allowance for permitting these businesses (whether for profit or nonprofit) in residential zones for the following reasons:

- Residential zones are not equipped to accommodate extra traffic, pedestrians, and parking
- By streamlining the permit process for some (but not all) farmers' markets will offer them an unfair advantage over those that must secure permits and pay fees
- Improperly handled food is often contaminated with pests, vermin, bacteria, toxic pesticides and can pose a safety/health risk to consumers
- Commercial enterprises are incompatible in areas zoned residential
- There are ample opportunities for profit and nonprofit farmers' markets to locate in commercially zoned areas
- This would set a dangerous precedent for other incompatible businesses to operate by right in the R zones
- There would be no effective means to regulate such businesses located in residential areas

Thank You for Your Consideration,
Maria Fisk
Old Granada Hills Resident