

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

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#### Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(11) Nay(3) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 12/05/2019

Type of NC Board Action: For

#### Impact Information

Date: 12/31/2019

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 13-1493-S5

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: Summary: Re: CF#13-1493-S5. Title: Sidewalk Vending Program / All City Parks / Permit Process / Health and Safety Regulations / Traffic and Pedestrian Congestion / Ordinance. The Granada Hills South Neighborhood supports the proposed amendments (refer to attached document) to the Sidewalk Vending Program Ordinance, No. 185900.

On September 17, 2018, SB 946 was signed into law which established statewide governance of vending in the public right-of-way and in parks. Subsequently, on November 30, 2018, the City of Los Angeles adopted a Sidewalk Vending Program Ordinance that complies with the new State legislation. The intent of the City Ordinance was to strike a balance between those who vend legally and a number of objectives and priorities that are critical to the City.

Granada Hills and neighboring communities are experiencing an increasing number of vendors who are operating on local sidewalks in prominent commercial areas. While outdoor food service operations offer entrepreneurial opportunities for vendors and convenience for customers, closer consideration must be given to their impacts on public safety and welfare. Some troubling incidents associated with sidewalk vending have been observed: the improper food handling and temperature control that increase the risk of food borne illness; no hand washing stations or sinks; open flame grills fueled by unsecured propane tanks that pose a fire risk especially in high fire hazard zones; equipment and customers blocking the sidewalk forcing pedestrians to walk in the street; and large amounts of trash left behind including the improper disposal of used cooking oil.

As sidewalk vending operations continue to expand, the associated risks and hazards have become more evident. The current Ordinance along with the Rules and Regulations do not go far enough to safeguard public safety, health and general welfare. The following proposed amendments offer more specific sidewalk vending regulations that will ultimately protect the interests and safety of vendors, business owners and residents within the City of Los Angeles:

- “ All sidewalk vendors (stationary and mobile) shall be required to obtain all applicable city, county, state, and business licenses/permits/decals. All required documents shall be prominently displayed in plain view.
- “ All vendors who sell foods shall be required to obtain a permit from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (see below).
- “ All sidewalk vendors who sell foods shall comply with California Health and Safety Codes and LA County Department of Public Health standards, that regulate the preparation, handling and distribution of food items, including but not limited to:
  - potable water and sinks for food handlers to wash their hands or utensils
  - food obtained from approved sources
  - proper equipment to maintain food at required temperature
  - foods stored, handled and prepared under sanitary conditions
  - foods protected from contamination or adulteration
  - restroom availability for food handlers
- “ All food carts shall be self-contained with the appropriate equipment necessary to comply with food sanitation and safety requirements.

- “ Open-flame grills or any cooking utensils requiring the use of a combustible agent/liquid, propane tank and fossil fuels are strictly prohibited from use in the public right-of-way as they pose safety hazards and have the potential of causing great bodily harm or death in the event of an explosion or fire.
- “ A vendor may not use a stationary cart to vend in residential areas. Only a mobile cart (roaming vendors) may be used to vend in residential areas.
- “ Hours of operations for roaming vendors in areas zoned residential shall be between the hours of 8am to 9pm.
- “ Hours of operations for stationary vendors in areas zoned commercial or industrial shall be between the hours of 8am to 9pm, or consistent with the hours of operation of adjacent businesses.
- “ For safety reasons, the sale of weapons, alcoholic beverages, cannabis, cigarettes, nicotine delivery systems, adulterated/unsanitary foods are strictly prohibited.
- “ All carts shall not exceed a length of 72 inches, width of 54 inches, or height of 78 inches including roof, awning, umbrella or canopy.
- “ Sidewalk vending shall not obstruct, impede pedestrian and traffic slow on sidewalks, pathways, and roadways. A minimum 5 ft. sidewalk clearance is required. All clearances shall comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- “ Prior to issuance of a permit, a vendor shall provide proof of general liability (with a limit of not less than \$1,000,000, each occurrence), and workers compensation that are acceptable to the City.
- “ As a requirement of the permit approval, a vendor shall agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City, its officers and employees from any and all damages or injuries to persons or property proximately caused by the act or neglect of the vendor or by hazardous or negligent conditions maintained at the vendor's locations.
- “ Sidewalk vending business that has been found in violation three (3) or more times of any applicable regulation within a one-year period are grounds for permit suspension and revocation.

Furthermore, it is incumbent of the City to dedicate the needed resources and funds to establish a separate City agency/department dedicated to the overall management of the Sidewalk Vending Program. Responsibilities would include the oversight of the permit process/suspension/revocation, effective

communications /outreach, coordination of enforcement, and the establishment of a public complaint process.

The GHSNC Board strongly urges Los Angeles City policymakers to consider the above proposed amendments and recommendations. A well-regulated vending program benefits the City as a whole, leads to orderly commerce and safeguards the public's welfare.