Street vending on the City right-of-way and sidewalk is illegal. In the average year, there are hundreds of tickets written to vendors, and several hundred arrests. Yet thousands of vendors continue to operate in an underground marketplace, selling a wide variety of food and merchandise on the sidewalks of Los Angeles.

Street vending largely falls within two categories, food street vending and merchandise (non-food) street vending, each with their own complexities. Street vending is permitted in various forms by most other large cities. New York, San Francisco, Houston, Portland and Chicago are among the cities that have established a regulatory system for selling merchandise and/or food on city sidewalks.

In Los Angeles, a more comprehensive legal framework is required to effectively address sidewalk vending. An effective regulatory system has the potential to protect health and increase public safety and economic activity. Such a policy should also consider the rights and investments of brick-and-mortar businesses, including opportunities to expand and promote their businesses through street vending and with the overall goal of enhancing economic growth and the viability of neighborhoods.

I THEREFORE MOVE, that the CLA, along with Bureau of Street Services and in consultation with other Departments as needed, the City Attorney and the County of Los Angeles, be instructed to prepare and present a report within 90 days with recommendations on possible regulation that could effectively permit and regulate food street vending on City sidewalks and parkways. This report should include the following: the history and status of the Special Sidewalk Vending District program administered by the former Community Development Department; a review of policies in other jurisdictions; recommendations to improve public safety; and ways to ensure street food vendors provide safe and healthy food options.

I FURTHER MOVE, that the CLA, along with Economic and Workforce Development Department, City Attorney and Bureau of Street Services, and in consultation with other Departments as needed, be instructed to prepare and present a report within 90 days with recommendations on possible regulation of merchandise and non-food street vending in the City of Los Angeles. This report should include the following: information on the number of citations that have been issued over the past year and where the citations were issued; the current regulations on street vending and how the regulations are enforced; potential legal constraints for regulating street vending; and a review of policies in other jurisdictions.

PRESENTED BY: JOSE HUIZAR
COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT 14

SECONDED BY: CURREN D. PRICE, JR.
COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT 9