

Statement of Sarah Walsh
Director, State Government Affairs
Motion Picture Association of America, Inc.
October 27, 2015
Los Angeles City Council – Economic Development Committee

Good afternoon, members of the Committee. My name is Sarah Walsh, and I'm here on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America and our member companies to raise two concerns regarding any new City vending policy.

Firstly, as you are all aware, the sale of pirated films and television programs, as well as counterfeit studio merchandise, continues to occur throughout Los Angeles. We ask that any City vending policy specifically prohibit vending of counterfeit merchandise, and provide for the permanent revocation of any permit under which such product is being sold.

Secondly, we echo the written comments made by FilmLA, and request that the Council include language in any proposed street vending ordinance to maintain the ability to obtain temporary use permits for filming. Current City practice provides that film permits and other temporary-use City permits supersede normal activity when issued by the City of Los Angeles in the public right of way. We ask that film permits be specifically included in the listing of City permits that would supersede proposed vending permits.

Thank you very much for your consideration and for your time today.