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www.StudioCityNC.org

November 26, 2016

The Public Works & Gang Reduction Committee
C/O John White, Legislative Assistant
John.White@lacity.org:

Re: CF 13-1493 - Sidewalk Vending Policy

The board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council (the "SCNC") previously passed a motion and submitted a CIS to this council file. A copy of those documents is attached for your convenience. As there the hearing on the above matter will take place before our next regularly scheduled board meeting, I hereby submit the following additional comments with respect to the proposed core elements of the Sidewalk Vending Policy contained in the letter dated November 22, 2016 from Council Members Joe Buscaino and Curren Price:

1. **Location:** Sidewalk vending should be limited to areas of the city that elect to have such activity in their area. The City should establish and "opt in" process rather than an "opt out" process for each area of the City where sidewalk vending will take place.
2. **Enforcement & Criminal Penalties:** There needs to be a sufficient budget allocated to the enforcement of penalties.
3. **Operational Requirements:** The operational requirements set forth in this section should be specific and designed by the areas that elect to opt in and approve sidewalk vending for their part of the City.

4. **Special Vending Districts:** The only areas of the city where sidewalk vending should be allowed to take place should be within special vending districts established under an opt in program.
5. **Permit Requirements and Notification:** We agree that there should be a permit requirement and notification process as set forth in this section.
6. **Business Improvement Districts (BID):** No street vending should be allowed in a BID unless 90% of the businesses as well as 90% of the property owners approve a special vending district within their BID.
7. **Incentives for Healthy Food:** Any such incentives should be established by those electing to establish a special vending district within their area.
8. **Education & Outreach:** We agree that there should be an education and outreach effort to explain the new ordinance.
9. **Automatic and Comprehensive Review:** There should be an automatic review process but there should also be an annual renewal process for each vendor issued a sidewalk vending permit.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Denise Welvang

Denise Welvang, President
Studio City Neighborhood Council

Cc:
Councilmember Krekorian (Councilmember.Krekorian@lacity.org)
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September 18, 2014

Members of the
Economic Development Committee
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Council File No. 13-1493 Street Vending of Food and Merchandise

Dear Councilmembers:

The board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council is opposed to legalizing and permitting street vending of food and merchandise on City sidewalks and parkways. Street vending has many negative impacts including: the creation of health hazards from the unsanitary and unregulated food distribution, the creation of safety hazards when children run across the street to vendors across from parks and schools, traffic hazards from vehicles illegally parked to purchase from sidewalk vendors particularly in areas with inadequate adjacent parking, the creation of unfair competition with licensed small restaurants and other businesses, creating an unhealthy environment by generating trash, food and beverage residue and increased animal excrement all in the public right-of-way, intrusion into residential neighborhoods impacting private property rights and the blocking of sidewalks impeding pedestrian access.

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With respect to the report of the chief legislative analyst on the City of Los Angeles Street Vending Policy we submit the following comments. The design of any street vending policy should include rules, regulations and enforcement provisions to protect the health, public safety and economic interests of business and property owners. Licenses and permits should be required of street vendors. Fees generated by the street vending program should be sufficient to cause the program to be self-supporting. There should be a dedicated staff to operate and enforce the street vending program, including the provision of overtime for calls made to the staff after hours and penalties to be imposed for non-compliance. Food and merchandise shall be permitted for sale on city sidewalks in Special Sidewalk Vending Districts and pre-designated areas of the city, only. There should be no street vending on any residential private property or public right of way in residential zones. Street vendors must be required to have certificate of liability insurance and a letter of consent from adjacent businesses before a vendor is permitted to sell. The regulations should govern the types of items vendors are permitted to sell. Before a street vendor can be licensed to sell in a certain area, a study of parking spaces available near that vending area shall be made. No vending shall be allowed from a shopping cart and restrictions on the types of vending units which are used for street vending shall be established. The policy should include a requirement that the permit shall be renewed every year and that an annual license fee shall be required. . To obtain a street vending license the vendor must get the following prior approvals: award letter from License and Vending Unit, food establishment, retail non-permanent location (if food will be sold), Los Angeles County Health Department approval, (if food will be sold), commercial activity license, BTRC (Business Tax Registration Certificate), W-9 (Federal Tax Identification Number), and any other relevant licenses.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Walker, Ph.D.

John T. Walker, Ph.D., President
Studio City Neighborhood Council