October 28, 2015

Honorable Joe Buscaino, Chair
Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee

At its meeting held on October 27, 2015, the Economic Development Committee considered Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) reports, in response to Motion (Huizar - Price - Buscaino), relative to recommendations on possible regulation of food street vending and merchandise and non-food street vending in the City of Los Angeles. The Committee approved the recommendations listed below.

1. Instruct the CLA, with assistance of City Administrative Officer (CAO) and Bureau of Street Services (BSS), to report with recommendations on the structure of a Hybrid Model, the costs, staffing and resources needed for the program, and specific rules and regulations for consideration by the Council, including permit fee structure, process for evaluating and approving permits, process to form districts, recommendations for areas or streets that should be designated “no vending zones,” and recommendations for areas or streets that should be designated “green cart zones.”

2. Instruct the CLA to report with information on the Citywide and Special District Models, including budget impacts that may be involved.

3. Direct the CLA, in consultation with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Department on Disability, BSS, Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) and stakeholders, to report with recommendations on the following:

   a. Food and merchandise vending, including a list of recommended merchandise that could be sold and criteria for carts.

   b. Regulations for stationary and roaming carts, including location and placement criteria.

   c. Permit Cap – Citywide, by area, and/or limited by block.

   d. Criteria for commercial and residential vending, including types of carts that could be allowed in each area.

   e. Varied days and hours of operation, either by area, cart type, or other metric.
4. Instruct the BSS, CAO, CLA, Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), City Attorney, LAFD, and stakeholders to report on various levels of enforcement for the hybrid model, including staff and resources necessary for a proactive monitoring and compliance model.

5. Request the City Attorney, with the assistance of the BSS, LAPD, LAFD, CAO, CLA, and stakeholders, to report with options to decrease or increase the penalty amounts and the penalty structure, including warnings, community services, escalating penalties, infractions, confiscation, license revocation and suspension, and differential fine amounts for licensed sidewalk vendors and unlicensed sidewalk vendors. This report should also include the ability to add BSS into the Administrative Citation Enforcement program, so that all sidewalk vending violations can be part of this alternative enforcement program.

6. Instruct BSS to prepare a Request for Proposal for community based organizations to do education and outreach services for the vending program.

7. Request City Attorney, with assistance of the City Clerk, to report on the ability to add an additional fee to the permit application for vending locations that are within Business Improvement Districts (BID), with the additional fee going to support BID functions.

This matter is referred to the Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee. Pursuant to the referral of this matter, the subject Council file is hereby transmitted to you for consideration by your Committee.

Sincerely,

Sharon Gin
Economic Development Committee Clerk

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