

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.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Empowerment Congress West Area Neighborhood Development Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(5) Nay(0) Abstain(4) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 10/21/2019

Type of NC Board Action: No Position

Impact Information

Date: 12/18/2019

Update to a Previous Input: No

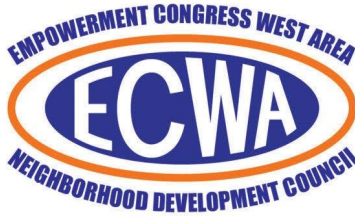
Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 14-0366

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary:



December 18, 2019

Los Angeles City Council
City Hall
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

The Board of Empowerment Congress West Area Neighborhood Development Council (ECWA) is deeply concerned regarding the failure of the Accela system used to process Social Equity retailer applications. The fact that some applicants were able to access the portal before the scheduled time of 10 a.m. to submit applications, resulted in an unfair advantage for some at the expense of others. This failure in the system allows others to get preferred status in a system that was and is supposed to represent equality and fairness.

In response, Empowerment Congress West Area NDC formally requests the following:

- A small working group, chosen by ECWA, to work with the Mayor's third-party independent audit individual/group
- A manual review of all applications
- A review of the application process which should include representation from every neighborhood council as well as members of the community
- All Social Equity potential licensees be vetted by their local neighborhood council
- The City of Los Angeles provide guidelines for the upcoming Corporate Social Responsibility reports due February 2020
- Proposed Community Benefits
- An earmarked 10% of cannabis funds collected by the City from all sources go to the Department of Cannabis Regulation instead of the General Fund
- The \$1.8 million from the Social Equity grant create an infrastructure to assist in fulfilling Article 4 of Chapter X of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, sec. 104.20(j), Social Equity Program, which outlines the programs and incentives for the equity applicant and assists neighborhood council boards

The current manipulation of the retailer application process is both harmful to our communities who were most impacted by the War on Drugs, and basically illustrates the continued abusive nature of public policies that lack stakeholder involvement.

This demands urgent action. Justice delayed is Justice denied. The community is outraged.

Sincerely,

Empowerment Congress West Area (ECWA) NDC

3701 Stocker St., Suite 208, Los Angeles, CA 90008