

ENTERTAINMENT AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the feasibility of requiring that all Certified Farmers' Markets within the City of Los Angeles accept Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) cards.

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Huizar - Martinez):

1. INSTRUCT the Department of Public Works, with the assistance of the City Attorney, to take the following actions.
 - a. Report on the City's current authority to require EBT access at all Farmers' Markets.
 - b. Develop a policy for monitoring and enforcing EBT access requirements at Farmers' Markets, including disciplinary actions for markets that fail to comply and accept CalFresh benefits.
 - c. Require proof of EBT card acceptance by providing a Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) number issued by the United States Department of Agriculture when applying for a special events permit to operate a Farmers' Market on City property.
 - d. Report to the Entertainment and Facilities Committee in 30 days with a comprehensive list of all the various permits issued for Farmers' Market activity in the City.
2. REQUEST the Los Angeles Food Policy Council to report on the feasibility of accepting EBT cards at Farmers' Markets and what costs may be incurred in order to accept the EBT cards (i.e., any equipment or software required to accept the cards).

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On February 9, 2016, the Entertainment and Facilities Committee considered Motion (Huizar - Martinez) relative to the feasibility of requiring that all Certified Farmers' Markets within the City of Los Angeles accept EBT cards. Representatives from the City Attorney and the Bureau of Street Services were present during the discussion of this item and responded to related questions. After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee recommended that Council approved the recommendations contained in the Motion, as modified in Committee, and detailed above. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

ENTERTAINMENT AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE



MEMBER	VOTE
MARTINEZ:	YES
KREKORIAN:	YES
BUSCAINO:	YES
O'FARRELL:	YES
RYU:	YES

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