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August 23, 2017

Chair Planning and Land Use  
Management Committee  
Los Angeles City Council  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: Council file number 17-0117 Alcohol Restricted Use Subdistrict/ Conditional Use Permits – Support**

Dear Councilmember José Huizar,

Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc. (TTC) is a fully integrated behavioral healthcare organization that provides high quality, cost-effective substance use disorder (SUD), HIV/AIDS, primary and specialty medical care, and mental health treatment services to adults and youth. We are deeply concerned about the policy implications and public health and safety costs to the state, county and local governments associated with the overconcentration of alcohol retail locations in the City of Los Angeles.

Currently there is a motion (**Council File 17-0117**) instructing the Planning Department, in consultation with the City Attorney, to prepare a report on the feasibility of establishing a process to create Alcohol Restricted Use Subdistricts (ARUS), that would serve to restrict the overconcentration of alcohol retailers in areas of the City where the retail sale of alcohol is negatively impacting neighborhoods and residents.

ARUS would allow communities and their representatives to identify vulnerable areas in city council districts where restrictions could be applied on the future issuances of off-sale or on-sale alcohol licenses. ARUS zones will protect communities and families while encouraging healthier retail options to open up in the area.

A 2016 report published by the Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Los Angeles County Department of Public Health titled, 'Alcohol Outlet Density and Alcohol - Related Consequences,' concluded the following:

*"[Los Angeles] Communities and cities with higher alcohol outlet density were more likely to have higher rates of violent crimes, alcohol-related [emergency department] ED visits, and alcohol-related hospitalizations, even after accounting for economic hardship."*

The correlation between overconcentration of alcohol retail locations and harms is unquestionable. We ask that the Planning and Land Use Management Committee schedule the ARUS motion for a hearing. We also respectfully request that the committee support passage of the motion.

Sincerely,

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