

October 18, 2017

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

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

Dear Councilmember José Huizar:

NAPAFASA requests that the Planning and Land Use Management Committee schedule the ARUS motion (Council File 17-0117) for a hearing to create Alcohol Restricted Use Subdistricts (ARUS). NAPAFASA also respectfully requests that the committee support passage of the motion. NAPAFASA seeks to prevent and reduce substance use disorders and other addictions in Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities through research, advocacy, education, and capacity building. NAPAFASA focuses on parity of substance use disorders prevention, early intervention, and treatment in relation to primary care and on ensuring language access and cultural competency in the provision of addiction services. The correlation between overconcentration of alcohol retail locations and harms is clear, and NAPAFASA is concerned about the saturation of alcohol retail locations in the City of Los Angeles.

This motion instructs 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). This would serve to restrict the overconcentration of alcohol retailers in areas of the City where the retail sale of alcohol harms the quality of life and health of 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] ER visits, and alcohol-related hospitalizations, even after accounting for economic hardship."

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me for any additional concerns.

Respectfully,



Myron Dean Quon, Esq.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR