

Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians



Native Sovereign Nation

September 25, 2017

Sent via e-mail to clerk.plumcommittee@lacity.org

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,

I am writing to you on behalf the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians (the Tribe), a native sovereign nation of northern Los Angeles County. The distinct and autonomous community of the Tribe is traced to the lineages, villages, and cultures of the pre-Mission San Fernando period of 1797. Today, the Tribe consists of a coalition of members of different lineages, language groups, and cultures associated with San Fernando, Simi, Santa Clarita, and Antelope valleys and parts of the Angeles National Forest.

The Tribe is troubled by 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.

The Tribe asks that the Planning and Land Use Management Committee schedule the ARUS motion for a hearing. The Tribe also respectfully requests that the committee support passage of the motion.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Rudy Ortega Jr.
Tribal President