



WESTSIDE IMPACT PROJECT

A COMMUNITY APPROACH TO ALCOHOL PROBLEMS ON THE WESTSIDE

November 30, 2018
Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Councilmember Paul Krekorian,

Re: The Westside Impact Project is Requested Changes to the Streamlined CUB Ordinance Draft (Council File #17-0981).

The Westside Impact Project aims to create a healthier and safer Los Angeles Westside by reducing problems related to alcohol and prescription drug use. We engage community members to assess the scope of existing problems and to advocate for proven, evidence-based solutions that can optimize health, safety and livability on the L. A. Westside.

Alcohol has a tremendous public health impact. LA County spends \$10.8 Billion annually managing alcohol-related problems. Currently, there are over 6,300 businesses that sell alcohol operating within the City of Los Angeles. Over 900 licenses are in the application process. Because of this dramatic concentration of alcohol businesses, any new land use policies that make changes to the permitting process should be carefully considered and must include substantial provisions that protect public health and safety.

For these reasons, Westside Impact Project must withhold its support of Councilmember Krekorian's Streamlined CUB Ordinance Draft (Council File #17-0981) unless the following conditions are incorporated:

- No happy hours or drink specials permitted.
- No pitchers of beer permitted.
- No minimum drink ordering requirements.
- The only on-site advertisement indicating the availability of alcoholic beverages shall be the posting on a menu.
- There shall be no exterior advertising or sign of any kind or type, including advertising directed to the exterior from within, promoting or indicating the availability of alcoholic beverages. Interior displays of alcoholic beverages or signs which are clearly visible to the exterior shall constitute a violation of this condition.
- Via the Monitoring Verification and Inspection Program (MViP), a review/inspection will be conducted within 12 months of commencing operations to ensure the permittee's compliance with all operating conditions. An annual review/inspection shall be ongoing for the lifetime of the permit. Fees imposed on retailers should be sufficient to fund all enforcement and monitoring activities. In addition, the public should be able to report possible violations directly to the MViP.
- A public hearing shall be included in the process prior to the permit being granted to ensure specific community considerations are incorporated.
- A method for imposing penalties (including the imposition of additional operating conditions), as well as a streamlined process for revoking the local permit authorizing the sale of alcohol, shall be clearly articulated in the event operating standards are violated.

The number of CUB applications will certainly accelerate if the Streamlined Ordinance is passed. Therefore, it is crucial that the above conditions, which call for strict sales/service guidelines, rigorous enforcement of the stated conditions, and public hearings to allow impacted communities' input, be incorporated.

The Westside Impact Project supports the Streamlined CUB Draft Ordinance only in the event these important modifications are made.

Sincerely,
Maurina Cintron
A Representative of the Westside Impact Project