

INFORMATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT relative to an agreement with the St. Joseph Center to use Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) City Parking Lot No. 678 to operate a farmers market.

Recommendation for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Price – Rodriguez):

AUTHORIZE the Department of General Services (GSD) to negotiate and execute a new lease agreement with St. Joseph Center, a non-profit 501 (c)3 organization, for the proper planning, operation and management of a farmers market at LADOT City Parking Lot No. 678 located at 8509 South Broadway, under the terms and conditions substantially outlined in the GSD report to Council dated August 31, 2017.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The GSD reports that no revenue will be generated from this lease to the General Fund during the lease period. The tenant shall be required to abide by all applicable permits and regulations for the operation of a farmers market.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

In the August 31, 2017, report to Council, GSD requests authority to execute a lease with St. Joseph Center to operate a farmers market at LADOT City Parking Lot No. 678. The site will be evaluated for the suitability of the development of affordable a housing, a process that could take two or more years. In the interim, GSD recommends this alternative use. At its meeting held August 31, 2017, the Municipal Facilities Committee (MFC) approved GSD's request.

According to GSD, St. Joseph Center proposes to establish a farmers market to address economic and racial disparities, lack of healthy food choices, and to provide new opportunities for community engagement. The farmers market will provide retail space for vendors of fresh fruits and vegetables, meat and poultry, along with commercial and homemade baked goods. Non-food vendors could include producers of arts and crafts, such as handmade clothing and linens. The market would also offer chef/cooking demonstrations, entertainment, and community engagement opportunities such as educational workshops, collaborative art projects, and gallery/exhibition space.

At its meeting held September 26, 2017, the Information, Technology, and General Services Committee recommended that Council approve GSD's request, as recommended by the MFC.

Respectfully Submitted,

INFORMATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND GENERAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

MEMBER      VOTE  
RODRIGUEZ: YES

BLUMENFIELD: YES  
O'FARRELL: ABSENT

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**-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-**