As part of the COVID-19 public health crisis, on March 12, 2020 the Los Angeles City Hall Complex, one of the Film Industry’s favorite back lots, was closed to members of the public, requiring extreme protocols for physical distancing, and a transition to telephone and video conferencing.

On March 18, 2020, Mayor Garcetti ordered a “Safer at Home” order requiring Angelenos in non-essential services to remain at home. This effectuated the immediate closure of many businesses and the complete ceasing of film production in the City.

After making a strong recovery from the impacts of “Runaway Production” that had seen massive revenue losses to other states, California approved financial incentives such as the “Film & Television Tax Credit Program” that brought productions back in large numbers, was hugely successful and which is now extended through 2025.

The impacts of such a shutdown of this scale on the local economy, where one in five Angelenos have ties to the industry and the thousands of small businesses they support, surpasses the impacts felt in the previous decade of the loss of jobs to “Runaway Production.” This pandemic has brought the industry to a halt, and we must prepare for a rapid, but refined and thoughtful plan to “Bringing Back Hollywood” once it is safe for productions to resume.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Office of Citywide Filming, with the assistance of FilmL.A., to report back to the Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks, Arts, and River Committee in 30 days with recommendations for forming a “Bringing Back Hollywood” Task Force comprised of industry experts, City Departments and if possible, the County Department of Public Health.

I FURTHER MOVE that FilmL.A. be requested to prepare a report on “Best Practices” for on location filming that takes into consideration the culture of life on a film set, and the habits that are embedded in a normal day on set including the everyday process of checking in extras, shuttling to sets, and on location food service among other daily tasks that will need to be rethought to a post-pandemic reality.

I FURTHER MOVE that the General Services Department, with the assistance of FilmL.A. report with safety protocols designed to enable the use of City facilities for film locations once the stay at home order is lifted and film production is able to resume. These protocols should reflect the need to protect the health and safety of film production crews and City employees working in facilities used for film shoots.