The City has adopted various measures to address illegal street vending throughout the City. The City amended Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 63.44.B.3 which, among other things, regulates commercial activities in parks including soliciting any trade, occupation, business and profession. This section was superseded by Ordinance No. 176,929 effective October 1, 2005. However, provisions of Ordinance No. 176,929 were challenged in court and the Ordinance is currently on hold until the litigation is resolved.

As with other locations within the City, illegal vending (or “swap meeting”) continues to be a serious issue in Echo Park. The Department of Recreation and Parks does not currently have the authority to address illegal vending due to the litigation which has resulted in numerous negative impacts to residents and businesses within the community.

Although the litigation is not currently resolved, it is imperative that the City obtain the necessary tools to address the issue of illegal street vending in Echo Park. To allow the City to address issues negative impacts associated with illegal street vending, the Council should request the City Attorney to prepare and present the necessary Ordinance(s) to provide an interim solution to illegal street vending until a more permanent solution can be implemented subsequent to the resolution of the litigation.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council request the City Attorney to prepare and present the necessary Ordinance(s) to provide the City with the necessary authorities to address illegal vending in Echo Park while the Court renders a final decision on the matter.

PRESENTED BY: MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY: Joe Bruce