

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(14) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 08/03/2017

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 09/10/2017

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 13-1493

Agenda Date:

Item Number: 18

Summary: The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council which represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in our neighborhood, supports the legalization and the creation of a simple permitting process for street vending in Los Angeles

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

## HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Post Office Box 50791  
Los Angeles, CA 90050  
<http://www.highlandparknc.com>  
Certified as NC #33 May 28, 2002

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Daniel Andalon FIRST VICE PRESIDENT  
Antonio Castillo SECOND VICE PRESIDENT  
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## DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

200 N. Spring St. Ste. 2005  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Telephone: (213) 978-1551

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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## Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

August 3, 2017

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and the Members of the Los Angeles City Council  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: HHPNC Supports Legalization of Street Vending in Los Angeles

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council which represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in our neighborhood, supports the legalization and the creation of a simple permitting process for street vending in Los Angeles.

Within the past month, there have been two higher profile instances in which street vendors in the City of Los Angeles have been either targeted by fellow Angelenos or targeted by officials to be fined and have their carts and wares confiscated and/or destroyed.

In theory, decriminalization of street vending should have been sufficient and simple, enabling vendors to simply continue business as usual without fear of potentially life-ruining repercussions, without excessive bureaucratic processes, or overly restrictive regulations. But in practice, other regulations already in place, paired with unfounded negative sentiments perpetuated by the City's history of dismissiveness toward street vending, have upheld street vendors' vulnerability to legal consequences, to physical threats, and to the whims of outside forces.

If the full terms of legalization ultimately require a permitting process, we ask that the process be reasonable, simple, quick, low or no-cost, and easy to navigate. We also ask that it take into account the health and physical safety of vendors, their customers, and neighbors. The legalization of street vending in Los Angeles should be an improvement upon the current status quo—therefore, it should not unreasonably or dramatically increase barriers to entry for individual vendors or infringe on people's rights to liberty.

Street vending is a dignified way for Angelenos to make a living. In Highland Park, elateros, paleteros, and other vendors bring joy and camaraderie to our community and their presence is a part of our culture. When one of our vendors' livelihood is attacked, our community responds by rallying around them. As a representative board for this community and its street vendors, HHPNC absolutely supports the legalization of street vending.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harvey Slater", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Harvey Slater, President  
Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council