



April 29, 2014

Honorable City Council  
c/o: Office of the City Clerk  
200 North Spring Street, Room 395  
Los Angeles, CA 90012.

**RE: Motion and Analysis regarding Street Vending Program, #13-1493**

Dear City Council,

I am writing to express enthusiastic support for the City of Los Angeles' consideration of a citywide program that would legalize and regulate sidewalk vending in Los Angeles. My organization, The Urban & Environmental Policy Institute (UEPI) at Occidental College, is committed to a more just, green and livable society. UEPI is also a member of the Los Angeles Street Vendor Campaign, a citywide coalition of more than 40 community-based organizations advocating on behalf of more than 10,000 street vendors in Los Angeles. These street vendors currently operate outside of the formal economy because the City lacks a process that both recognizes and supports these micro-entrepreneurs. We believe that by developing a permit process with competent enforcement strategies, the City could welcome these business owners into the legal economy, encourage healthy eating, and create safer, more vibrant streets.

Specifically, we support the following components of a vending ordinance:

- A Citywide permit process for food and non-food vending on sidewalks. This process should consider the cost of enforcement, revenue opportunities for the City, and the financial capacity of low-income vendors. In order for vendors across the City to have a real incentive to participate, any policy that is put forth must apply to all areas of the city.
- Incentives for different types of healthy food vending, including but not limited to, cut fruit, produce, and water.
- Responsible and humane enforcement, reducing punishment of illegal vending from a misdemeanor to an infraction, avoiding arrests and exorbitant fines. The campaign has outlined a tiered system of enforcement that maximizes the potential of participation by vendors all over the City.

A detailed summary of these points has been submitted to the lead Legislative Analyst, Felipe Valladolid Chavez in the form of a *policy memo*.

On behalf of the thousands of vendors we work with and represent, we are committed to forging a strong partnership with the City of Los Angeles that brings this important economic sector out of the shadows. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mark Vallianatos  
Policy Director, UEPI  
mvalli@oxy.edu

CC:

Councilmember Herb J. Wesson, Jr.  
Councilmember Paul Krekorian  
Councilmember Jose Huizar  
Councilmember Gilbert A. Cedillo  
Councilmember Nury Martinez  
Councilmember Bob Blumenthal  
Councilmember Tom LaBonge

Councilmember Paul Koretz  
Councilmember Felipe Fuentes  
Councilmember Bernard Parks  
Councilmember Mike Bonin  
Councilmember Mitchell Englander  
Councilmember Mitch O' Farrell  
Councilmember Joe Buscaino



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**RE: Motion and Analysis regarding Street Vending Program, #13-1493**

Honorable City Council,

I am writing to express enthusiastic support for the City of Los Angeles' consideration of a citywide program that would legalize and regulate street vending in Los Angeles. My organization, Restaurant Opportunities Center of Los Angeles is committed to improving the wages and working conditions of restaurant workers.

Restaurant Opportunities Center of Los Angeles is also a member of the Los Angeles Street Vendor Campaign, a citywide coalition of more than 40 community-based organizations advocating on behalf of more than 10,000 street vendors in Los Angeles. These street vendors currently operate outside of the formal economy because the City lacks a process that both recognizes and supports these micro-entrepreneurs. We believe that by developing a permit process with competent enforcement strategies, the City could give these small business owners an opportunity to make an honest living, encourage healthy eating, and create safer more vibrant streets.

Specifically, we support the following components of a vending ordinance:

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On behalf of the thousands of vendors we work with and represent, we are committed to forging a strong partnership with the City of Los Angeles that brings this important economic sector out of the shadows. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Sophia Cheng  
Policy Organizer, Restaurant Opportunities Center of Los Angeles  
213-380-1020



## *Los Angeles Community Action Network*

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c/o: Office of the City Clerk  
200 North Spring Street, Room 395  
Los Angeles, CA 90012.

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Honorable City Council,

We am writing to express enthusiastic support for the City of Los Angeles' consideration of a citywide program that would legalize and regulate street vending in Los Angeles. Our organization, the Los Angeles Community Action Network (LA CAN) is committed to helping people dealing with poverty create and discover opportunities, while serving as a vehicle to ensure we have voice, power, and opinion in the decisions that are directly affecting them.

LA CAN is also a member of the Los Angeles Street Vendor Campaign, a citywide coalition of more than 40 community-based organizations advocating on behalf of more than 10,000 street vendors in Los Angeles. These street vendors currently operate outside of the formal economy because the City lacks a process that both recognizes and supports these micro-entrepreneurs. We believe that by developing a permit process with competent enforcement strategies, the City could give these small business owners an opportunity to make an honest living, encourage healthy eating, and create safer more vibrant streets.

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On behalf of the thousands of vendors we work with and represent, we are committed to forging a strong partnership with the City of Los Angeles that brings this important economic sector out of the shadows. Please feel free to contact us (213.228.0024 | becky@cangress.org) should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Pete White  
Co-Directors

Becky Dennison

Cc: Mike Dennis, East LA Community Corporation | LA City Council Member Jose Huizar

***Los Angeles Community Action Network***

**530 S. Main Street, Ground Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90013**

**Phone # 213-228-0024 Fax # 213-228-0048 www.cangress.org**



## Community – Labor– Environmental Action Network

\* 516 W. Vernon Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90037 \* P: 323-232-2089 \* F: 323-232-2099 \*

[www.cleancarwashla.org](http://www.cleancarwashla.org)

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Honorable City Council,

I am writing to express enthusiastic support for the City of Los Angeles' consideration of a citywide program that would legalize and regulate street vending in Los Angeles. My organization, the CLEAN Carwash Campaign, is a network of community and labor organizations devoted to combatting wage theft and injustice in the Los Angeles County carwash industry.

The CLEAN Carwash Campaign is also a member of the Los Angeles Street Vendor Campaign, a citywide coalition of more than 40 community-based organizations advocating on behalf of more than 10,000 street vendors in Los Angeles. These street vendors currently operate outside of the formal economy because the City lacks a process that both recognizes and supports these micro-entrepreneurs. We believe that by developing a permit process with competent enforcement strategies, the City could give these small business owners an opportunity to make an honest living, encourage healthy eating, and create safer more vibrant streets.

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Sincerely,

Justin McBride  
CLEAN Carwash Campaign  
AFL-CIO, USW