

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

MOTION


The coronavirus crisis and Safer at Home orders have had a devastating impact on small business throughout the City of Los Angeles, especially the Food and Beverage industry. Prior to this crisis, the Food and Beverage Industry in California employed almost 2 million people and generated almost \$100 billion of sales. Today, all of that is hanging by a thread. There are indications that social distancing requirements may remain in place, at least in some form, for a significant time, which may cause long-term changes in the way these businesses operate and serve their customers.

To assist existing Food and Beverage businesses in responding to this crisis and restarting operations, and to assist new businesses that will seek to open, the City of Los Angeles should examine low-cost or no-cost changes to streamline City processes, including of points of interface with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, that would provide increased certainty to business owners, lower their risk and reduce the time required for them to open or re-open to customers, where those processes do not advance policy goals of the City.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) be instructed to convene a working group including representatives from the Food and Beverage industry and appropriate City departments to recommend low-cost or no-cost changes to streamline City processes for various departmental approvals that the City requires for Food and Beverage businesses to be allowed to operate or modify their operations; that the Department of Building and Safety, the Department of City Planning, the Bureau of Street Services, and the Fire Department be instructed to participate in the working group; and that the Department of Water and Power and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health be requested to participate in the working group; and

I FURTHER MOVE that EWDD be instructed to report back to Council within 45 days with the working group's recommendations for changes to City processes.

PRESENTED BY:


BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:





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ORIGINAL