

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

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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: 01/25/2021

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 01/26/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-1609

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council (ASNC) are writing to express our strong support for CF 20-1609, the emergency, temporary ordinance of \$5.00 hazard pay for grocery workers in the City of Los Angeles. The ASNC believes that our essential grocery workers are the bulwarks of our city during the pandemic. These workers, many people of color, are putting their lives on the line to insure that Angelenos have access to food. And with the recent development of more infectious strains we at the ASNC believe now, more than ever, these workers should be compensated for their dangerous work. Full Statement in attachment.

The Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council (ASNC) are writing to express our strong support for CF 20-1609, the emergency, temporary ordinance of \$5.00 hazard pay for grocery workers in the City of Los Angeles. The ASNC believes that our essential grocery workers are the bulwarks of our city during the pandemic. These workers, many people of color, are putting their lives on the line to insure that Angelenos have access to food. And with the recent development of more infectious strains we at the ASNC believe now, more than ever, these workers should be compensated for their dangerous work.

Together with UFCW 770, their members, as well as, grocery workers from across the city of Los Angeles we have been calling on grocery store corporations to reinstate hazard pay as companies see record profits. Major grocers, such as Kroger, which owns Food 4 Less and Ralphs, agreed to pay Los Angeles grocery store workers a \$2 an hour hazard pay increase in March, only to end it six weeks later in May. Meanwhile grocery store companies have seen their net earnings skyrocket this year, with Kroger reporting a 15.8% increase in sales and net earnings increase of just under 100% in the first three quarters of 2020 as compared to the first three quarters in 2019.

Grocery workers are the unsung heroes of this pandemic and have been risking their lives and been on the frontlines for months providing a lifeline for our communities and keeping us fed. Many grocery workers have become the primary earners in their households as families struggle under the combined weight of COVID-19 and widespread unemployment. Working Angelinos, especially families of color, have also not been able to shelter in place throughout the pandemic because they are more likely to hold essential jobs and thus face an increased exposure to COVID.

As COVID-19 cases soar and Intensive Care Unit capacity reaches a breaking point in Los Angeles, grocery store workers continue to face the risk of infection and endure hazardous working conditions. To date, over 2,000 UFCW 770 members have contracted COVID-19. Nationwide, more than 200 UFCW members have died of COVID-19. We know the number is much higher due to lack of reporting by all grocery chains.

This is the right policy for this unprecedented moment. Grocery workers deserve hazard pay. Large grocery chains can afford it. Other large cities throughout California are poised to create similar policy solutions. Los Angeles must lead as it always has in fighting for the rights and dignity of working people. Thank you for your leadership.