## **Council Motions**

# Introduced in the Council meeting of April 19, 2023

The following Council Motions were introduced during today's City Council meeting. Council file numbers have not been assigned at this time and are currently being processed. To obtain the Council file numbers, please refer to the Council and Committee Referral "Hot Sheet" for the date listed above.

## MOTION

In 2022 the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council was granted an approval by the Los Angeles City Council on its motion to conduct a street banner campaign within the defined boundaries of the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood council. The purpose of this program is to promote the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council and encourage stakeholders to become involved with the Sherman Oaks Community and city government.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council, in accordance with the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 62.132, approve the street banner program being coordinated by the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council, as a City of Los Angeles Non-event Street Banner Program for the period of October 14, 2023 – October 14, 2024.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council approve the content of the attached street banners.

PRESENTED BY

NITHYA RAMAN

Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY

ORIGINAL



#### RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the restaurant and hospitality industry is a vitally important part of the City's economy employing 380,000 and generating more than \$200 million in tax revenues to the City prior to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, under the Los Angeles Municipal Code, a restaurant can only be permitted to sale alcohol by obtaining a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) or meeting the eligibility requirements for a Conditional Use Exception (CUE); and

WHEREAS, the CUP process can often be time consuming and costly for both applicants and City staff and resources, hindering entrepreneurs' ability to create or expand their businesses; and

WHEREAS, very few restaurants are eligible for and have utilized the CUE process; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that the public health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and further appreciates the need to facilitate temporary Zoning Code relief to support the local economy and livelihood of those living and working in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City created a new streamlined process known as the Restaurant Beverage Program for sit-down restaurants only as an alternative to the CUP and CUE process to remove economic and time constraints and promote economic development; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance will contain more and stricter standards than those typically imposed during the CUP or CUE process and require participating restaurants to be subject to enforcement procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, the City has undertaken an environmental review of the proposed provisions and found that will not have a significant effect on the environment (ENV-2018-4661-ND), and further found that aspects of the proposed regulatory relief are exempt from environmental review (ENV-2020-3154-CE); and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that by the adoption of this Resolution, the Council hereby activates a new streamlined permitting land use regulatory process, the *Restaurant Beverage Program*, that shall be in force and full effect in the geographical boundaries attached in Exhibit A.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that based on the findings outlined in Exhibit B relative to the geographic boundaries found in Exhibit A maps, the Restaurant Beverage Program is in conformity with public necessity, convenience, general welfare, and good zoning practice.

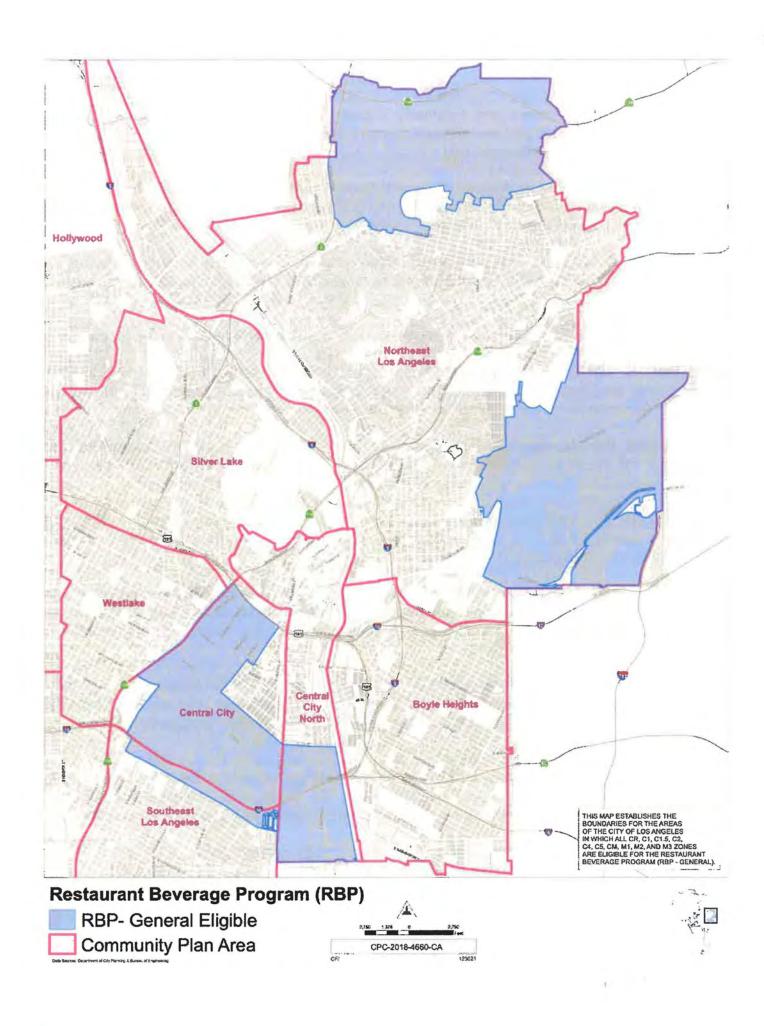
PRESENTED BY:

KEVIN DE LEÓN

Councilmember, 14th District

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SECONDED BY:



#### **EXHIBIT B**

 The Restaurant Beverage Program (RBP) will provide a public necessity within the areas mapped in Exhibit A by removing financial barriers for sit-down restaurants and promoting economic development, in light of the financial impacts associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The restaurant and hospitality industry is an important part of the City's economy, employing more than 380,000 people and generating more than \$200 million in tax revenue to the City during pre-pandemic levels. The proposed Ordinance will preserve and strengthen a viable sector of the City's economy by creating the RBP, which will reduce the costs and time for sit-down restaurants in the mapped areas to obtain City approval to serve alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption, while subjecting them to more than 50 provisions. Alcohol service provides a substation portion of restaurants' revenue and often make or break their viability as a business, however, restaurants with alcohol sales must meet both state and local regulations for serving alcohol. The RBP will offer an administrative clearance process to allow the sale of alcohol in sit-down restaurants with an operating kitchen and a full menu. In addition, new restaurants with alcohol service under the RBP will be subject to enforcement measures and security standards. This in-turn will provide long-term financial incentives as it will bolster the opening of new restaurants, enable the hiring of new employees, and create more vibrant neighborhoods.

The COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent stay-at-home and indoor restrictions have presented unprecedented financial challenges to sit-down restaurants throughout the City, namely those located within the mapped areas. A simpler, more predictable, less costly process to serve alcoholic beverages would ease some of the burdens placed on impacted restaurants, giving them a boost and reducing the time needed for them to re-open and start hiring people. As such, the RBP will create a service that is beneficial to the community, City, and region mapped by reducing the amount of entry barriers for new local restaurants.

The RBP will provide a public convenience within the areas mapped in Exhibit A by accommodating the demand for an amenity that will serve residents, workers, employees, and visitors.

A variety of uses, including sit-down restaurants, are necessary for the conservation, development, and success of a vibrant neighborhood. The proposed RBP reflects a shift in how the City will process alcohol requests for eligible sit-down restaurants. As such, the RBP will provide local sit-down restaurants with a boost, which will allow them to open quicker, expand, hire employees, and become an economically viable business. By creating a consistent and streamlined review of alcohol requests, the RBP will create more vibrant neighborhoods that will benefit employees, local residents, and visitors

leading to the growth of regulated sit-down restaurants within the mapped areas, which are planned and zoned for commercial uses such as restaurants.

On-site alcohol service incidental to food service is an amenity that is often expected in bona fide sit-down restaurants. The local community, employees, patrons of adjacent commercial uses, and the residents in the neighborhood will be able to utilize the benefits of having on-site sit-down restaurants and alcohol service nearby. Furthermore, the RBP incorporates more than 50 operating standards to ensure that the alcohol service will not be disruptive to the community.

### The RBP contains more than 50 provisions to ensure that it will not adversely affect the welfare of the areas mapped in Exhibit A.

The RBP's provisions are intended to protect the public health, welfare, and safety of the communities within the mapped areas. The City is establishing operational and enforcing policies via the RBP to regulate alcohol service in eligible sit-down restaurants. Therefore, alcohol service under the RBP must be incidental to food service on-site consumption. This means that high-impact uses such as bars, nightclubs, and liquor stores will not be eligible under the RBP and must obtain a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). Eligible restaurants will not be allowed to have dancing, live entertainment, pool tables, and portable bars. Bar-like practices, such as minimum drink purchase, admission charges, and age limitations, will also be prohibited.

Operating standards will ensure that impacts to the community, such as noise, will be kept at a minimum. The RBP will prohibit the use of television monitors and speakers in outdoor areas. Restaurants will also be required to remove graffiti, clean debris and litter, maintain an electronic age verification device, and respond to patron complaints in a timely manner. As a means of establishing additional safety policies, the RBP contains interior and exterior lighting requirements and will require restaurants to install and maintain a camera surveillance system in operation at all times. In addition, all employees involved with the sale of alcohol will be subject to regulatory safety practices such as enrolling in an alcohol safety training program offered by the Los Angeles Police Department and/or the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. Restaurants that repeatedly violate the RBP's provisions will be suspended from the Program and be required to obtain a CUP to continue to sell alcohol.

Lastly, the RBP or proposed Ordinance does not authorize any new construction, nor result in construction activities that would change the size, height, or other significant features of existing buildings and therefore not degrade adjacent properties, the surrounding neighborhood, or the public health, welfare, and safety of the public at large. Therefore, the RBP, the proposed Ordinance, operations, and other significant features will be compatible with and not adversely affect or degrade adjacent properties, the surrounding neighborhood, or the public health, welfare, and safety of the mapped areas.

 The RBP will follow good zoning practices by encouraging economic development in the areas mapped while limiting the impact of commercial activity on residential areas and other sensitive uses through strict provisions.

The mapped areas are well suited for sit-down restaurants that offer alcohol service, which are planned and zoned for commercial uses such as restaurants. This will promote livability and convenience for residents and employees, promote a variety of uses, and strengthen the employment and amenity base of the mapped areas. As such, the RBP substantially conforms to the purpose, intent, and provisions of the General Plan, the applicable community plan, and any specific plan.

At the same time, the RBP serves the purpose of imposing provisions aimed at limiting impacts to surrounding neighbors, including residential areas and other sensitive uses. The RBP will only be applicable in specific commercial and manufacturing zones where alcohol service is currently allowed through a CUP. In addition, the RBP includes numerous operational restrictions related to indoor and outdoor seating, allowed activities, and bar-like practices to limit noise and other impacts. Additional provisions concerning operations, security, monitoring, and enforcement are included. Any changes to the mode of operations of the restaurant, including hours of operation and seating, will not be permitted. Therefore, the RBP will follow good zoning practices by encouraging economic development while limiting the impact of commercial activity on nearby residential areas and other sensitive uses through strict and enforcing provisions.

#### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, renters constitute over 60% of households in the City of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles' renters are students, immigrants, seniors, workers, low- and middle-income families, transit riders, and more, reflecting our city's diversity and driving our economy; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles is now the most unaffordable rental market in the nation, where an average 1-bedroom apartment costs \$2,395 a month; and

WHEREAS, in April 2014, tenant rights groups, affordable housing developers, and other advocates created Renters' Day LA to highlight the rental crisis and to call for urgent action; and

WHEREAS, since then, significant progress has been made to keep vulnerable renters housed through increases in the minimum wage, expanded tenant protections, and funding to create and preserve affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, despite this progress, extreme housing unaffordability persists, and renters currently need to earn over \$45 per hour, nearly 3 times the local minimum wage, to afford the average asking rent in LA County; and

WHEREAS, 6 of 10 renter households in Los Angeles are rent-burdened and 3 of 10 are severely rent-burdened, meaning they spend over 50% of their income on rent, leaving less in their budgets for health care, childcare, education, healthy food, savings and retirement, and other household costs; and

WHEREAS, for all but the highest-income earners, conventional pathways to homeownership in Los Angeles are largely inaccessible due to the extraordinary cost of purchasing a house, depriving low-income families of intergenerational housing stability and wealth development; and

WHEREAS, existing programs to increase development and access to affordable housing such as Low Income Housing Tax Credits, federal housing choice vouchers, and various rental subsidy initiatives depend on the private housing market, which is driven by rampant speculation and ultimately prioritizes profit over universal access to housing; and

WHEREAS, in other countries and major cities outside the U.S., alternative housing models such as social housing exist alongside privately owned rentals in order to serve households of all-income levels, particularly those in need of the deepest affordability; and

WHEREAS, in November 2020, the City Council requested report backs from various City departments pursuant to Council File 20-0197, in order to explore the funding and policy feasibility of establishing a social housing program in the City of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the development of social housing in Los Angeles could benefit renters across the



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socioeconomic and geographic spectrum while providing the long-term affordability and housing stability that leads to more sustainable, diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, social housing includes models for collective homeownership and resident management for low-income households, providing an opportunity for lower-income residents to afford homes and lay down roots in a community; and

WHEREAS, according to the Regional Housing Needs Assessment, Los Angeles City must plan for 456,643 units, including 130,543 for lower-income households, by the year 2029, representing a major opportunity to develop alternative rental and homeownership stock; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, a majority of Los Angeles voters passed Measure ULA, which dedicates a significant portion (22-25%) of tax revenue generated for a new program entitled "Alternative Models for Permanent Affordable Housing," prioritizing scale, speed, flexibility, longevity of public benefit through permanent affordability and an enhanced role of residents in their own housing; and

WHEREAS, the recently declared homeless state of emergency and the ongoing housing crisis that informs it demand that we explore innovative, bold, and sustainable solutions so that all Angelenos can have a safe, healthy, and affordable place to live.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles recognizes the urgent need to pursue social housing as a model to ensure safe, healthy, and affordable homes for all residents of Los Angeles.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City must explore methods addressing the housing and homelessness crisis, including social housing, that operate outside of the private housing market.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-2024 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for legislation that would support the development of social housing in the City of Los Angeles.

Presented By

Eunisses Hernandez,

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Councilmember, 1st District

Nithya Raman

Councilmember, 4th District

Hugo Solo-Martinez

Councilmember, 13th Distric

Seconded By:

#### MOTION

The City of Los Angeles recently entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the County of Los Angeles, Department of Consumer and Business Affairs, Office of Immigrant Affairs (DCBA-OIA), to provide immigrant legal services through the RepresentLA Program, a comprehensive initiative that provides free legal representation for individuals in removal proceedings, legal counsel and representation for vulnerable individuals seeking affirmative immigration relief, resource linkage to vital support services, and outreach and education to Los Angeles County residents in underserved communities.

This program, which began as the Justice Fund, has provided critical legal services to hundreds of immigrants across the County, keeping families together and protecting the rich cultural and racial diversity that is central to the beauty and identity of Los Angeles.

Over the last several years, the City has invested significantly into these initiatives and the recent approval of the RepresentLA MOU demonstrates our ongoing commitment to support the immigrants of Los Angeles. Currently, however, the City only supports two of the four core pillars of the RepresentLA program: Community Support and Affirmative Immigration Benefits Representation. We currently do not support either Detained or Non-Detained Deportation Defense. The City should fully invest in these life saving programs, and not restrict which facets of this program we support.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Community Investment for Families Department, with the assistance of the City Attorney and the Chief Legislative Analyst, to work with the Los Angeles County Office of Immigrant Affairs, to prepare and present an amended Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the RepresentLA program that expands the eligible uses of allocated City funds to include detained and non-detained merits-blind removal defense.

PRESENTED BY:

HUGO SOTO-MARTÍNEZ

Councilmember, 13th District

CURREN PRICE

Councilmember, 9th District

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SECONDED BY:

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### MOTION

The Los Angeles Municipal Code provides that the City Council may initiate consideration of a proposed designation of a site, building or structure as a Historical-Cultural Monument. A Historical-Cultural Monument is defined as any site (including significant trees or other plant life located on the site), building or structure of particular historic or cultural significance to the City of Los Angeles, including historic structures or sites in which the broad cultural, economic or social history of the nation, State or community is reflected or exemplified; or which is identified with historic personages or with important events in the main currents of national, State or local history; or which embodies the distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type specimen, inherently valuable for a study of a period, style or method of construction; or a notable work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual genius influenced his or her age.

1802 South Crenshaw Boulevard is a significant example of early 20th century architecture in Los Angeles and is one of the few remaining examples of its type of Craftsman architecture in the city. The house was built in 1915 by and for the Cunningham family, pioneers in the mortuary business and founders of Cussen & Cunningham which became Cunningham & O'Connor Mortuary. It is one of the best examples of American Foresquare architecture in Los Angeles with high quality design and craftsmanship. The house features a number of unique and distinctive features, including a rooftop veranda, a built-in organ, glazed brick porch and chimney, and porte cochere. The house has been well-maintained over the years, and it retains its original character and charm. 1802 South Crenshaw Boulevard is an important part of the city's history and culture, was reviewed by the Office of Historic Resources in November 2015, and is a valuable asset to the community. This property should be reviewed by the City Planning Department and the Cultural Heritage Commission for consideration of Historical-Cultural Monument status.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Historic Resources Division of the City Planning Department to prepare the application relative to considering the inclusion of 1802 South Crenshaw Boulevard in the list of Historical-Cultural Monuments and to submit the application to the Cultural Heritage Commission for review and consideration.

I FURTHER MOVE that after reviewing the application, the Cultural Heritage Commission submit a report to the City Council regarding the potential inclusion of 1802 South Crenshaw Boulevard in the City's list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

PRESENTED BY:

HEATHER HUTT

Councilmember, 10th District