

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Holly Fox

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**Council File No:** 20-0380-S2

**Comments for Public Posting:** Re: Council File: 20-0380-S2 - Support Dear LA City Councilmembers, Last Word Hospitality is proud to support, a resolution to extend the provisions of Section 16.02.1 of the Municipal Code, "Relief from Specified Land Use Provisions," to provide temporary regulatory relief from certain time limitations and automobile parking provisions during and for an additional 24-month period for a total of 36 months, after the termination or expiration of the local emergency order, as provided in Section 16.02.1. This ordinance served as a lifeline for the Los Angeles restaurant community impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the rising costs associated with inflation by extending outdoor dining regulatory flexibility and making it easier for restaurants to go through the permitting process. Primarily the relief from parking requirements as outlined in the ordinance contributes to less labor from our city engineers to decipher complicated parking riddles for businesses that are so vital to our neighborhoods. The COVID-19 pandemic has devastated small businesses in California, especially in the hospitality sector. For restaurants that survived the pandemic, inflation is the next devastating hurdle. About 95% of a restaurant's sales go to food, labor, and operating costs, all of which are increasing each month. To make matters worse, some local governments are now seeking to roll back outdoor dining regulatory flexibility that began during the pandemic and require restaurants to apply for expensive new permits for existing patios. Many restaurants that are barely making it, won't survive this. Council File 20-0380-S2 will preserve current regulatory flexibility related to automobile parking provisions to help restaurants maintain their outdoor dining and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and inflation. For these reasons, Last Word Hospitality supports the continuance of this ordinance. Sincerely, Holly Fox