

Communication from Public

Name: Eddie Navarrette
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Council File No: 20-0380-S2
Comments for Public Posting: See attached letter of support



Independent Hospitality Coalition

Via Email

February 7, 2025

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Councilmember Adrin Nazarian: councilmember.nazarian@lacity.org

Re: Agenda Item # 6

Support for 20-0380-S2 Parking Time Limits / Temporary Regulatory Relief / Local Businesses / Emergency Order Expiration / Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 16.02.1

Honorable City Council Members,

On behalf of the Independent Hospitality Coalition and the small businesses we represent, we strongly support **Item # 6 CF 20-0380-S2**—an additional **year extension** of the Emergency Planning Ordinance under **CF 20-0380-S1**. However, we urge you to go further:

Recommendation: Make These Authorizations Permanent

The allowances granted under this ordinance should be permanently adopted for the following critical reasons:

1. **No Major Negative Impacts:** Since its implementation, these allowances have not resulted in significant adverse effects, proving their success.
2. **Economic Development & Street Activation:** This ordinance fosters walkable, thriving commercial corridors, reinforcing local economic growth.
3. **Small Businesses Are in Crisis Due to the L.A. Fires:** The devastating **January 7th fires** have left businesses with financial and structural hardships. Removing barriers to reopening and growth is crucial to their survival.

4. **Avoid Overburdening the Building Department:** As the department shifts focus to fire-damaged properties, unnecessary permitting burdens on small businesses must be reduced.
5. **Preparing for the 2028 Olympics:** With the world coming to Los Angeles, we must create a business-friendly environment that supports a vibrant and accessible city.

Why This Ordinance Matters

For too long, **outdated parking and zoning regulations** have been among the largest barriers to small businesses in our most urban areas. The Emergency Planning Ordinance has been a game-changer—**prioritizing people over cars, fostering walkability, and making it possible for businesses to exist where they otherwise could not.**

The **EWDD Restaurant Reboot Working Group (CF 20-0499)** identified that **up to 30% of LADBS Development Services staff time** is spent navigating outdated parking compliance requirements—often just to approve existing conditions. This unnecessary red tape creates an **economic burden that stifles business growth**, delays job creation, and wastes City resources. Many cities have already eliminated minimum parking requirements to **boost economic development, promote equity, and enhance sustainability**—Los Angeles must follow suit.

Small Businesses Are at a Breaking Point

L.A. restaurants and small businesses have **suffered more job losses than any other industry** due to the pandemic, inflation, crime, environmental changes, and now, the fires. Business owners are desperate for relief, and this ordinance provides a proven solution **without requiring additional City funding.**

Extending these allowances for **another year is a critical step, but making them permanent will provide lasting relief and long-term economic benefits.** We urge you to take decisive action and **remove these barriers once and for all.**

Thank you for standing with L.A.'s small businesses.

Sincerely,

Eddie Navarrette

Executive Director, Independent Hospitality Coalition

If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly at Eddie Navarrette 213 545 2620.

Thank you,



Eddie Navarrette
IHC Executive Director
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About IHC

The Independent Hospitality Coalition (IHC) is a coalition of California hospitality workers whose purpose is to provide representation for our growing workforce and essential businesses, creating awareness of our role in the economic fabric of society. Our mission is to have a seat at the table to help shape policy and legitimize our crucial impact on communities and cities throughout California. More information can be found here:

<https://www.independenthospitality.org/>