

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Eddie Navarrette  
**Date Submitted:** 11/05/2023 10:46 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-1074-S4  
**Comments for Public Posting:** See attached letter of support for the alternative Al Fresco Ordinance under 20-1074-S4



# Independent Hospitality Coalition

Via Email

November 5, 2023

## **Planning And Land Use Management Committee**

*Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Chair*

*Councilmember John S. Lee, Vice Chair*

*Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky*

*Councilmember Imelda Padilla*

*Councilmember Heather Hutt*

## **Re: Agenda Item 9 - Support for 20-1074-S4 Revised Al Fresco Ordinance**

Dear Committee Chair Marqueece Harris-Dawson and Committee Members,

We are writing in support of PLUM Agenda Item #9 [CF 20-1074-S4](#) specifically for the recommended alternative City of LA Al Fresco Ordinance labeled: Exhibit A to City Planning's 11/2/2023 [Supplemental Report](#). We find that this **alternative ordinance** takes into account the concerns of residents while still providing consideration to the greater restaurant community. It grants a compromise on the issue of the common amenity of ambient music until we can work more collaboratively on improvements to the program in the future.

We value the hard work the Department of City Planning has endured through this very important policy item. This last year, our community has taken part in several meetings with the department in the creation of an ordinance that is inclusive, considerate, and consistent with the rules under the current emergency Al Fresco Program. The program gave more than just hope, jobs, activation of streets and alternative dining options during the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic; the program showed us what happens when we remove an abundance of decades-old archaic regulation. At a time when we are faced with issues of climate change, labor shortages, and inflation, it showed us we can do more with less. I strongly believe we all can agree that in our great city, we need to find ways to progress by building community safely, sustainably, with consideration to both

residents and local business. This carefully crafted alternative ordinance by our Department of City Planning is an example of this progress.

Our small business community is injured and struggling. Labor strikes, inflation, a significant rise in crime, a housing crisis – all have hit us hard. We are not doing okay. We need your leadership in moving policy like this ordinance through to allow us – not only to survive – but to grow.

Then, our work cannot stop here. We must continue in removing hurtful barriers from department policy through all of our departments like LADBS and BOE. Currently, no other department has worked as hard with the community it serves as LADCP on a new process. Let these efforts be an example of the standard we hope to see in all of our departments that hold back crucial progress and further creation of our creative passionate small business community.

Thank you for hearing our voice. We look forward to building a more sustainable hospitality community together: doing more with less. We truly appreciate your efforts to ensure we can continue to safely serve Los Angeles residents. We hope you will continue to recognize our role in communities and support the thousands of restaurants struggling to make it through these most challenging times.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eddie Navarrette', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Eddie Navarrette  
IHC Executive Director  
[eddie@fedesignandconsulting.com](mailto:eddie@fedesignandconsulting.com)

**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/>