

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Deja Thomas

**Date Submitted:** 02/10/2020 01:22 PM

**Council File No:** 18-1007

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi everyone. I'm Deja Thomas with the LA Food Policy Council, and I also am a member of the Good Food Economy Working Group and a Graduate Student Researcher supporting the group. I am here today in support of the Good Food Zone policy. Through my research, I've already found that this policy at full scale can have an enormous impact on uplifting small food businesses that play their part in feeding our families and communities in almost all of our Council Districts, particularly those in South LA, East LA, and the Pacoima area. Research also shows us that food businesses represent an integral thread of the fabric of a community. So in addition to the economic benefits this policy will have, it also has the added benefit of having the capacity to preserve a sense of place in communities facing rapid displacement among both its residents and businesses. The Good Food Zone policy is a powerful tool in making sure food is healthy, affordable, sustainable, and fair for all Angelenos. Thank you for your time.