

Communication from Public

Name: George Francisco

Date Submitted: 11/25/2024 08:48 PM

Council File No: 20-1074-S7

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember Lee: The Westside Council of Chambers of Commerce (WC3) is comprised of 12 Chambers of Commerce on the westside of Los Angeles County – the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce, Century City Chamber of Commerce, Culver City Chamber of Commerce, Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, LAX Coastal Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce, Malibu/Pacific Palisades Chamber of Commerce, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, Venice Chamber of Commerce, West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and the West Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. We urge your immediate support for CF 20-1074-S7, a crucial motion directing city departments to streamline the permitting process for covered outdoor dining areas. Restaurants in Los Angeles are in urgent need of relief from the current, overcomplicated process that continues to place undue financial and operational burdens on those businesses. Outdoor dining has become essential to economic survival. The City of Los Angeles' Al Fresco Program, while well-intentioned, has become bogged down in red tape, preventing many small businesses from fully benefiting. The prohibitive costs and restrictive regulations are pushing them toward a breaking point at a time when the hospitality sector is still grappling with the economic aftermath of the pandemic. If these barriers aren't addressed immediately, we risk losing more local establishments, jobs, and vital community hubs. Our businesses are struggling now, and delays in simplifying the permitting process are not just costly—they're potentially fatal to the survival of small restaurants that have given so much to this city. Outdoor dining doesn't just help our businesses recover; it revitalizes our neighborhoods, promotes safer public spaces, and provides a healthier option for dining that our customers are demanding. We need the city to act now, streamlining this process so that we can remain viable contributors to the local economy. Please act with urgency in supporting CF 20-1074-S6 to help keep business doors open, workers employed, and our neighborhoods thriving. Please feel free to follow-up with our Legislative Consultant, Ted Green, at (310) 659-9450 or ted@greenpaac.com. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, George Francisco
Chair, Westside Council of Chambers of Commerce (WC3)



November 26, 2024

The Hon. John Lee
Chair, Planning and Land Use Management Committee
Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Room 405
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Councilmember Lee:

The Westside Council of Chambers of Commerce (WC3) is comprised of 12 Chambers of Commerce on the westside of Los Angeles County – the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce, Century City Chamber of Commerce, Culver City Chamber of Commerce, Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, LAX Coastal Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce, Malibu/Pacific Palisades Chamber of Commerce, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, Venice Chamber of Commerce, West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce and the West Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

We urge your immediate support for **CF 20-1074-S7**, a crucial motion directing city departments to streamline the permitting process for covered outdoor dining areas. Restaurants in Los Angeles are in urgent need of relief from the current, overcomplicated process that continues to place undue financial and operational burdens on those businesses.

Outdoor dining has become essential to economic survival. The **City of Los Angeles' Al Fresco Program**, while well-intentioned, has become bogged down in red tape, preventing many small businesses from fully benefiting. The prohibitive costs and restrictive regulations are pushing them toward a breaking point at a time when the hospitality sector is still grappling with the economic aftermath of the pandemic.

If these barriers aren't addressed immediately, we risk losing more local establishments, jobs, and vital community hubs. Our businesses are struggling now, and delays in simplifying the permitting process are not just costly—they're potentially fatal to the survival of small restaurants that have given so much to this city.

Outdoor dining doesn't just help our businesses recover; it revitalizes our neighborhoods, promotes safer public spaces, and provides a healthier option for dining that our customers are demanding. We need the city to act now, streamlining this process so that we can remain viable contributors to the local economy.

Please act with urgency in supporting CF 20-1074-S6 to help keep business doors open, workers employed, and our neighborhoods thriving.

Please feel free to follow-up with our Legislative Consultant, Ted Green, at (310) 659-9450 or ted@greenpaac.com.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'George Francisco', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

George Francisco
Chair, Westside Council of Chambers of Commerce (WC3)

cc: josh.yeager@lacity.org
dan.rosales@lacity.org
Ashley.reyes@lacity.org
Lyric.kelkar@lacity.org