

Communication from Public

Name: MAR VISTA VOICE

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Council File No: 24-0600-S11

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Budget Committee Members, We are writing in support of Councilmember Hutt's motion (CF 24-0600-S11), seconded by Councilmembers Harris-Dawson, McOsker, Raman, Hernandez, Price, and Park, to amend the Mayor's Proposed Budget to extend funding for the Rapid Response Senior Meals Program. This is Item 1 on the Budget Committee Meeting Agenda for Wednesday, June 12th. The senior meals program is a vital resource for Angelenos, with enormous demand. Nearly 40% of low-income seniors face food insecurity in California, and Los Angeles has the largest food-insecure population in the country. Food inflation is outpacing overall inflation, making it difficult for everyone to afford to eat—especially seniors on a fixed income. Many seniors living in car-centric Los Angeles are also rendered home bound by the severe lack of sidewalks, safe roads and public transportation. This makes it impossible for many seniors to travel to the grocery store or senior centers for congregate meals. Mar Vista Voice enrolled hundreds of seniors in the meals program in partnership with the Department of Aging, and everyone loved the program. People found the fresh meals delivered in refrigerated packages by EveryTable healthy and delicious. It gave seniors a great sense of comfort and relief to know their meals would arrive each week. The need for this program grows every day, with food prices outstripping senior budgets. Please know that seniors across the city are urging you to ensure long-term funding for the program, even though most cannot attend in-person due to mobility issues. Please adopt this motion to ensure seniors get the basic nutrition they desperately need. Sincerely, MAR VISTA VOICE