

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: To strengthen the draft of an ordinance for tax relief to local businesses affected by wildfires in the City of Los Angeles, consider the following steps:

1. Introduction and Purpose - Clearly state the purpose of the ordinance. Emphasize the impact of recent wildfires on local businesses, including economic setbacks, property damage, and job losses. - Use data and statistics to illustrate the scale of the impact on businesses and the community.
2. Definitions and Scope - Define key terms (e.g., "qualified business," "wildfire impact," "tax relief measures"). - Specify the types of businesses eligible for relief (e.g., small businesses, nonprofits, etc.) and the geographical scope (specific areas affected by wildfires).
3. Eligibility Criteria - Outline specific criteria for businesses to qualify for tax relief, such as: - Proof of damage, loss of revenue, or disruptions due to the wildfire. - Business size (e.g., annual revenue caps). - Duration of operation prior to the disaster event.
4. Relief Provisions - Detail the types of tax relief available, including: - Temporary tax deferrals or exemptions (property, sales, and business taxes). - Reductions in fees or charges associated with city services. - Grants or low-interest loans as alternative or additional support. - Clearly outline the application process, including required documentation and deadlines.
5. Administration and Oversight - Specify the city department responsible for overseeing the implementation of the ordinance. - Define the process for reviewing applications and issuing relief, ensuring efficiency and transparency. - Consider establishing a local committee or task force that includes business representatives to provide input and oversight.
6. Accountability Measures - Incorporate mechanisms to monitor the effectiveness of the tax relief measures. - Mandate periodic reporting on the impact of the ordinance, including metrics such as business recovery rates and job preservation.
7. Duration and Sunset Clause - Specify the duration of the relief provisions, including any extensions based on ongoing assessments of the wildfire impact. - Include a sunset clause that will automatically repeal the ordinance after a certain period unless renewed, allowing for reassessment.
8. Public Awareness and Outreach - Outline plans for informing affected businesses about the ordinance, including outreach campaigns, workshops, or informational sessions.
9. Community Input - Encourage public

participation by allowing stakeholders to provide feedback on the draft before it is finalized. 10. Collaboration with Other Agencies - Propose collaboration with state and federal agencies to leverage additional resources and support for local businesses. 11. Examples of Best Practices - Reference successful models from other cities or jurisdictions that have implemented similar relief measures to provide a framework and strengthen the case for the ordinance. 12. Legal Review - Ensure that the ordinance undergoes legal review to confirm compliance with existing laws and regulations before it is presented for adoption. Final Thoughts Incorporate the feedback from stakeholders and continuously assess the needs of businesses in the aftermath of a wildfire to ensure the ordinance remains relevant and effective. A well-structured ordinance not only assists the local economy in recovery but also fosters community resilience and support.