

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Mid City WEST Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(30) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 08/10/2021

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 08/19/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 20-1074

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Mid City West Neighborhood Council would like to register its strong support for City efforts to make the Al Fresco dining program permanent, pursuant to the Motion initiating Council File 20-1074. The Al Fresco program was a lifeline for the many small restaurants in our Neighborhood Council boundaries during the pandemic. Restrictions on indoor dining have ended, but the need for a permanent Al Fresco program in our community remains urgent.



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August 17, 2021

Honorable City Council
% Office of the City Clerk
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N Spring St, Room 395
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Letter in Support of Council File No. 20-1074

To whom it may concern:

The Mid City West Neighborhood Council would like to register its strong support for City efforts to make the Al Fresco dining program permanent, pursuant to the [Motion initiating Council File 20-1074](#).

The Al Fresco program was a lifeline for the many small restaurants in our Neighborhood Council boundaries during the pandemic. Restrictions on indoor dining have ended, but the need for a permanent Al Fresco program in our community remains urgent.

The pandemic has not ended just because restrictions on indoor dining have. The relative safety of outdoor dining allows restaurants to serve patrons who do not currently feel safe dining indoors. The Al Fresco program continues to serve an important public health purpose by reducing the transmission risk of restaurant dining.

The Al Fresco program also has had immeasurable positive impacts on our neighborhood that are completely unrelated to COVID. Outdoor dining has activated sidewalks and other public spaces, making our streets safer and more inviting places for pedestrians. It has had a traffic-calming effect and reduced reliance on private vehicle trips in areas where parking lanes have been used for outdoor dining. And it has motivated business owners to participate in maintaining clean, safe outdoor spaces adjacent to their properties.



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We realize that creating an adequate legal framework for a permanent AI Fresco program will be a challenging, time-consuming process for our city government departments (as the [March 11, 2021 Report of the Chief Legislative Analyst](#) makes clear). Our Council believes that these efforts will be more than worthwhile. We also strongly encourage the City to seek public input from participating businesses and city residents as this process unfolds.

Sincerely,

Lauren Nichols
Chair
Mid City West Neighborhood Council