

Communication from Public

Name: San Pedro Chamber of Commerce
Date Submitted: 08/30/2021 04:21 PM
Council File No: 17-0981
Comments for Public Posting: Support for Restaurant Beverage Program



August 24, 2021

Vincent P. Bertoni, AICP
Director of Planning
City of Los Angeles
201 N. Figueroa Street, 4th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Mr. Bertoni,

The San Pedro Chamber of Commerce is in strong support of the proposed City of Los Angeles Restaurant Beverage Program. This program is an important step in supporting the restaurant and hospitality industry in Los Angeles by saving applicants time and money. These changes are particularly important as the industry is coming back after the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and don't have the resources to withstand costly delays.

As a chamber that works to support tourism in San Pedro and throughout Los Angeles, we understand how vital the restaurant and hospitality community is to the economic recovery of our community. Shortening the amount of time that applicants spend on approvals will assist the industry in coming back faster and stronger in Los Angeles.

The Chamber also supports this program, because once adopted, it can be used as a tool to attract new investment to our community and the LA Waterfront. One of the top concerns we hear from the hospitality industry is the length of time and the cost of obtaining approvals in Los Angeles compared to adjacent cities. This program will make us much more competitive in attracting new business.

We believe the standards, monitoring, and enforcement protocols proposed will serve to provide safeguards for neighborhoods in the approval process.

The Chamber would like to thank the City of Los Angeles Planning Department for the amount of work done to bring this vitally important program forward and we look forward to the adoption of the Restaurant Beverage Program. Please contact me at (310) 832 – 7272 if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elise Swanson".

Elise Swanson
President/CEO
San Pedro Chamber of Commerce

CC: The Office of Mayor Garcetti, City of Los Angeles
The Office of Councilmember Buscaino, 15th District, City of Los Angeles