

February 1, 2022

**PLUM
MEMBERS:** **COUNCILMEMBER MARQUEECE
HARRIS-DAWSON, CHAIR**

COUNCILMEMBER GILBERT A. CEDILLO

COUNCILMEMBER BOB BLUMENFIELD

COUNCILMEMBER JOHN S. LEE

COUNCILMEMBER MONICA RODRIGUEZ

Sent via Email: councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org,
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CC: Cat.packer@lacity.org, Taylor.wagniere@lacity.org, and
solomon.rivera@lacity.org

**Re: Letter in Support of Motion Introduced 1-18-22 by
Councilmember Marqueece Harris -Dawson**

Dear Mr. Harris- Dawson, Ms. Monica Martinez, Mr. John Lee, Ms. Cat Packer, Mr. Gilbert Cedillo and Members of the Los Angeles City Council:

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the cannabis industry's licensure process. We understand that this is a nascent industry and support your decisions thus far. Thank you for taking the time to review.

Manzuri Law has assisted hundreds of Los Angeles cannabis businesses for over a decade and with LA commercial cannabis licensing and would like to present the following comment about the most recent DCR Proposed Ordinance Amendments.

On behalf of all of our clients at Manzuri Law, I am writing to urge your support for the motion by Councilmembers Harris-Dawson and Price

related to Council File 21-1083 on the Department of Cannabis Regulation. We are specifically referring to the sections in the Motion as they would amend the ordinance to allow commercial cannabis businesses to expand their premises in a manner consistent with state law, and not be subject to size limits beyond what the state law requires for each particular license type. We understand that DCR may want some oversight on this issue and we are in support of that as well, we simply ask that commercial cannabis businesses not be limited in the manner currently laid out in Sec 103.03 (e) 4.(i).

Several of our clients are currently trying to improve their existing operations to keep up with competition in the existing legal market and, importantly, with the illicit market. Current language in the existing DCR ordinance prevents many from doing so. The motion that you will hear today is critical to fixing these issues.

California's licensing systems are currently failing cannabis entrepreneurs, and LA's is no exception. Applications are not being processed quickly enough, it is prohibitively expensive for many applicants, esp. those that are social equity, and there are too many hoops to jump through. But as a City Councilmember, you have the power to be able to fix many of the challenges faced by DCR and LA's and help make our equity program a model for other jurisdictions.

Again, I urge your support on the motion today. Should you have any questions, I am happy to discuss at your convenience.

Very Truly Yours,



Meital Manzuri, Esq.
Managing Partner