

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ackee Bamboo Jamaican Cuisine

**Date Submitted:** 03/14/2022 02:06 PM

**Council File No:** 22-0262

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Council District Members, We the business owners of Ackee Bamboo Jamaican Cuisine restaurant are writing this letter to inform you that we oppose the cities plans use DOT Public Parking Lot 625 as an event space. Over the past few years we have seen the surrounding parking for the local businesses shrink significantly. We once had ample parking to support the influx of patrons coming into the area. We had the street parking along Degnan and 43rd Street, Parking Lot 626 behind the Vision Theater, and Parking Lot 625 all available at one time. Where Parking Lot 626 was partially closed off for construction on the Vision Theater, it is now completely closed off to all of our patrons. The street parking has been overwhelmingly impacted by street vendors setting up shop in parking spaces as well. Parking Lot 625 is the last space available to supply parking for those who wish to support our business. Closing Parking Lot 625 on our most profitable days, the weekends, would only devastate our business. We have had customers call in orders and not pick it up because they have been unable to find parking. We have seen guests park in the middle of the street blocking parked cars and incoming traffic in order to run into the business hoping to get their order without getting a ticket from parking enforcement. Customers who come to support our business are forced to turn back because of the lack of parking. This fact harms our business because it deters patrons from returning when they will have to deal with such great obstacles and inconvenience. The parking situation in Leimert Park has been an ongoing problem for Ackee Bamboo and many of the other businesses in the area. It is harming the businesses and we cannot afford to lose anymore parking for our customers, our staff, or ourselves as business owners. We ask that you end all plans to close Parking Lot 625 for events or any purpose other than parking for the public. Sincerely, Marlene Beckford Delroy Beckford Ackee Bamboo I Owners <http://www.ackeebamboo.com> 323.295.7275

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Leimert Park Business Alliance

**Date Submitted:** 03/14/2022 03:09 PM

**Council File No:** 22-0262

**Comments for Public Posting:** Black Owned and Operated Community Land Trust, AKA Sole Folks, released in their social media the plot map for the proposed Farmer's Market, showing over half of the parking spaces taken for this market. and a few parking spaces left to "accommodate" the local businesses. This parking lot is full and overflowing EVERY WEEKEND. Sole Folks, CD10's "strategic partner" for this project, is now summoning hundreds of new vendors to their new Farmer's market vendors market on Saturdays. Cutting the available parking stalls in less than half and inviting hundreds of new vendors does not accommodate the businesses. With this massive influx of new vendors and the reduction of available parking, it is evident that there will be NO available parking for the small businesses and their customers. As a side effect, the residential streets will be flooded with cars impeding residents from parking in their streets. We do not oppose the idea of a farmer's market. We support healthy food choices for our community, but NOT in parking lot 625, and NOT at the expense of Leimert Park black-owned small businesses. The City of Los Angeles is under the guise of saving South LA from being a food desert, destroying Leimert Park small businesses. Every Saturday, about 0.8 miles away at the Baldwin Crenshaw Mall, rain or shine from 10 am to 3 pm, Crenshaw Farmers' Market, a certified farmers' market with organic produce, takes place. As a solution, Crenshaw mall would be an excellent place for black-owned and operated community land trust, aka Sole Folks, to implement their new farmers market/vendors market. Parking lot 625 has a total of 172 stalls of which 30 will be taken by the metro leaving 152 available for public parking. How many spaces in this plot map are taken for the "farmers market"? How many parking spaces are left to "accommodate " the businesses? Where do vendors park? How many businesses are in Leimert? Where do Metro park and ride patrons park? Where do tenants of the new development park? How many of the existing Leimert vendors are going to be included? Making the businesses inaccessible to the public via the construction, and now closing the "parking lots" to cars on all weekends (lot #625) would make customer parking impossible and thereby financially devastate the small Black businesses. The businesses have already endured the Metro Line construction, then the closing of parking lot #626...and now the planned

closing of parking lot #625. Best Regards, Leimert Park Business Alliance.