

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Armstrong
Date Submitted: 04/10/2023 05:34 AM
Council File No: 22-1154
Comments for Public Posting: Please see attached letter.

To: The Honorable Members of the Budget, Finance and Innovation Committee

From: Sarah Armstrong JD

Outreach Chair Los Angeles and Ventura Counties - Americans for Safe Access

Re: CF 22-1154 Agenda Item No. 18 – April 10, 2023, Meeting

Proposed Tourism Kiosks Should Include Information Relating To Licensed Cannabis Retailers

Date: April 8, 2023

Dear Honorable Members of the Budget, Finance and Innovation Committee:

The Los Angeles Americans for Safe Access Division is writing to respectfully request you consider specific amendments that would ensure tourism kiosks contain information about licensed cannabis retailers and delivery services. Additionally, to ensure this information is included in the kiosk menu, our organization recommends that the Request for Proposals specifically mandate that the provider have no impediment to including this information in the kiosk's databases.

Each year, many tourists visiting Los Angeles, also visit the City's licensed cannabis retailers. Because the City contains unlicensed facilities and delivery services it is important that visitors know where the licensed cannabis retailers are. Unlicensed entities go to great lengths to appear legitimate and those who do not live in the City may be easily led astray. Products sold at these locations are not tested and have often been shown to contain contaminants. Unlicensed locations pay no City taxes.

To ensure that visitors access cannabis from licensed, legitimate sources it is important that kiosks contain the appropriate information about where good actors can be found. **Thus, we are hopeful that the Honorable Committee will specifically recommend that the kiosks contain the locations and/or contact information for the City's licensed cannabis retailers and delivery services.**

To ensure this happens, the Request for Proposals must specifically mandate that the vendor who creates and maintains the kiosks have no legal or policy prohibition relating to including information about cannabis businesses. For instance, if the vendor has a federal Small Business Administration Loan, the loan could be called if the business engages in promoting the sale of cannabis via kiosks they build or maintain.

Including the two components suggested above, ensures that tourists visiting Los Angeles have the information they need to access cannabis in a safe and licensed environment.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at: (805) 279-8229 or canwonk@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Sarah Armstrong JD

Outreach Chair Los Angeles and Ventura Counties

Americans for Safe Access

Cc: Michelle Garakian

Jonatan Cvetko