



CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

95th Anniversary 1923-2018

Dear Chairman Harris-Dawson

Planning and Land Use Management Committee

April 24, 2019

My name is Monsignor John Moretta. I am the Pastor of Resurrection Catholic Church in Boyle Heights, CD 14. I have worked for some 35 years here as Pastor. I am very sensitive to the sale of alcohol in our area. In my parish alone in a one mile distance we have some 15 places that serve or sell alcohol. I don't believe that is a good mix for a healthy neighborhood. That does not include various companies that have wanted to come and set up their sales in that one mile area.

The illegal marijuana places are out of sight. I just had a meeting on Monday with the executive director of the City's cannabis licensing department, Cat Packer. I would think as I understand the RBP Ordinance it would create more opportunities to sell liquor even without public input. I ask that you convey my thoughts to your various members.

Sincerely,

Monsignor John Moretta



A COMMUNITY APPROACH TO ALCOHOL PROBLEMS ON THE WESTSIDE

March 18, 2019

Councilmember Harris-Dawson
Chair, Planning and Land Use Management Committee
Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Opposition to the Restaurant Beverage Program Ordinance (Council File #17-0981)

Dear Councilmember Harris-Dawson:

This letter is to make known the Westside Impact Project's formal opposition to Councilmember Krekorian's "Restaurant Beverage Program" (Council File #17-0981), which proposes to expedite the granting of Conditional Use Beverage Permits to on-sale restaurants that meet a set of pre-determined operating standards.

The Westside Impact Project aims to create a healthier and safer Los Angeles Westside by reducing problems related to alcohol and prescription drug use. We engage community members to assess the scope of existing problems and to advocate for proven, evidence-based solutions that can optimize health, safety and livability on the L. A. Westside.

The Restaurant Beverage Program (RBP) Ordinance as it now stands is entirely inadequate for the following reasons:

- The Ordinance does not include *any* alcohol-specific conditions that would institute crucial public health and safety protections. There is every reason to anticipate a flood of new applications as a result of a dramatically expedited process and reduction in fees. With no restrictions on happy hours, minimum drink requirements, and drink specials, our neighborhoods will suffer from additional alcohol-related problems, including drunk driving, injuries, crime, fighting and public nuisance activity.
- The Ordinance provides no opportunity for public input. Community members, Neighborhood Councils and other entities, including LAPD itself, will merely be notified of the new alcohol businesses that will be opening – even in already dense, overly-concentrated areas – without being afforded any opportunity to have a voice about what alcohol businesses are opening and how they operate.
- The Ordinance does not mandate adequate enforcement, designating only two City-initiated inspections over the entire lifetime of the permit. That means all new alcohol businesses with an expedited CUB will be operating with no accountability, no inspections, and no consequences for the lifetime of their permits after the first two inspections are complete.
- The Ordinance does not articulate a streamlined revocation process in the event operators violate the conditions of their permit.

West Los Angeles already has a large number of businesses that sell alcohol. Any new land use policies that make drastic changes to the permitting process must include substantial provisions that protect public health and safety. As it currently stands, the RBP Ordinance is only good for businesses. It must also be good for communities. For these reasons, The Westside Impact Project asks you to oppose it.

Sincerely,

Maurina Cintron

A Representative of the Westside Impact Project



March 18, 2019

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Chair, Planning and Land Use Management Committee
Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Dear Councilmember Harris-Dawson:

This letter is to make known that the Los Angeles Drug and Alcohol Policy Alliance's formal opposition to Councilmember Krekorian's "Restaurant Beverage Program" (Council File #17-0981), which proposes to expedite the granting of Conditional Use Beverage Permits to on-sale restaurants that meet a set of pre-determined operating standards.

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Sincerely,

Sarah Blanch
Co-Chair of the Los Angeles Drug and Alcohol Policy Alliance