



- ALCOHOL JUSTICE
- ASIAN AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE PROGRAM, INC.
- BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES, INC.
- BOYLE HEIGHTS STAKEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION
- CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL LOS ANGELES
- COALITION TO BAN BILLBOARD BLIGHT
- COPALM
- INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC STRATEGIES
- KOREATOWN YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTER
- MOTHERS OF EAST L.A.
- P3 PARTNERSHIP FOR A POSITIVE POMONA
- PASO POR PASO, INC.
- PUEBLO Y SALUD, INC.
- SAN FERNANDO VALLEY PARTNERSHIP
- SAVING LIVES COALITION
- SPA-2 COMMUNITIES IN ACTION
- SOCIAL MODEL RECOVERY SERVICES
- TARZANA TREATMENT CENTERS
- UNITED COALITION EAST PREVENTION PROJECT
- THE WALL LAS MEMORIAS PROJECT
- WOMEN AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE
- WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION

July 27, 2018

Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Councilmember,

Re: Opposition to the motion file # 17-0981 Issue of the Counter / On site Alcohol Sales / Conditional Use Permit

The Los Angeles Drug and Alcohol Policy Alliance is working to reduce alcohol related harms in Los Angeles.

L.A. DAPA passed a resolution in opposition to the motion file # 17-0981 which will take away the public input process currently in place that is used when Conditional Use Permit for Alcoholic Beverages (CUBs) permits are considered for on-sale establishments.

Currently businesses that want to sell alcohol have to apply for a CUB permit and take into consideration public input. This motion will do away with this step and not be subject to CEQA review, public hearing or appeals. We need to preserve the requirement of public input because it allows for closer scrutiny of applicants seeking to sell alcohol and it also reviews the impact that alcohol sales will bring to nearby residents.

The reasons for our opposition to this motion also include:

- The new trend of unconventional establishments, such as coffee shops and fast food restaurants selling alcohol in order to make their business economically viable which is detrimental to community health.
- Currently the City Council rarely denies alcohol licenses. The process has been politicized and public health and public safety are taken into account only as secondary factors.
- Requiring CUBs is often used as a loophole to approve an alcohol license in overconcentrated areas.
- The City Attorney does not currently enforce conditions that regulate alcohol products under the CUBs; and this decision leaves communities with no safeguards.



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- 6 people die each day in L.A. County and City due to alcohol and 240,000 people are harmed each year.
- The cost to L.A. County and City due to alcohol related harms is estimated by Alcohol Justice to be 2 billion annually. This cost exceeds the \$200 million in tax revenue the hospitality and restaurant industry brings into the City of Los Angeles.
- The number one contributing factor associated with gun violence is alcohol.
- The leading cause of alcohol related death of young men in Los Angeles is homicide as opposed to traffic accidents which are the national trend according to Alcohol Justice.
- Statistics show that 50 percent of all assaults and 40 percent of convicted homicides are alcohol related.

The reasons stated above show how Los Angeles communities have become disempowered and can no longer regulate alcohol properly at the local level. We need more regulation not less regulation when it comes to alcohol.

Businesses interested in selling alcohol to increase profits in areas already affected by alcohol harms are in reality simply proposing to bring hardship and pain to local residents. We need to create standards that protect families and maintain welfare in the city.

We ask respectfully that the Councilmember not support the motion, as it will only bring more harm to families in Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Jorge Castillo
L.A. DAPA representative