

**Fwd: Invest in a Just Recovery for Street Vendors**

1 message

**Izabella Hovhanisian** <[izabella.hovhanisian@lacity.org](mailto:izabella.hovhanisian@lacity.org)>  
To: City Clerk Council and Public Services <[clerk.cps@lacity.org](mailto:clerk.cps@lacity.org)>

Fri, Aug 7, 2020 at 8:42 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rahina Sheikh** <[info@sg.actionnetwork.org](mailto:info@sg.actionnetwork.org)>  
Date: Thu, Aug 6, 2020 at 7:31 PM  
Subject: Invest in a Just Recovery for Street Vendors  
To: <[CityClerk@lacity.org](mailto:CityClerk@lacity.org)>

Holly Wolcott,

Dear Honorable Member of the CARES Ad Hoc Committee,

I write to voice my concerns regarding the hardships our street vendors are experiencing during this pandemic and to urge you to support the motion introduced by Councilmembers Rodriguez and Cedillo to allocate \$5 million from the City's CARES Act funding to support food street vendors in accessing the equipment needed to comply with Department of Public Health (DPH). Investing these dollars can support a just recovery for thousands of vulnerable street vending entrepreneurs and the communities that rely on their services. I ask you to agendize and move this item quickly to ensure timely allocation of these funds.

Street Vendors are among the most severely impacted small businesses in the City of Los Angeles. Even before the COVID-19 health crisis, accessing affordable carts that adhere to public health standards was the biggest hurdle to gaining compliance within the new City of LA street vending program. This challenge has been exacerbated by the economic impacts of the pandemic, forcing vendors to exhaust all savings and accrue thousands of dollars of rent debt. For many street vendors who are undocumented, they have found themselves unable to receive any form of cash assistance, and immigration consequences if they decide to work. Without serious investment from the City, thousands of food street vendors will find themselves unable to access legal carts, accruing debt from fines on top of debt from rent, and at risk of criminalization and eviction.

We must take this opportunity to create an equitable recovery by investing in street vendors who are eager to vend legally. It is the only way to ensure a successful future for the City's street vending program. I urge you to agendize this item as soon as possible and approve the proposed \$5 million investment that will support food street vendors do their work legally.

Rahina Sheikh  
[rahinas@gmail.com](mailto:rahinas@gmail.com)  
2226 Chatsworth Ct  
Henderson , Nevada 89074

