

Honorable City Council c/o: Office of the City Clerk 200 North Spring Street, Room 395 Los Angeles, CA 90012.

May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2014

RE: Motion and Analysis regarding Street Vending Program, #13-1493

Honorable City Council,

I am writing to express enthusiastic support for the City of Los Angeles' consideration of a citywide program that would legalize and regulate street vending in Los Angeles. My organization InnerCity Struggle is committed to promotes safe, healthy and non-violent communities by organizing youth and families to build power and influence in Boyle Heights, El Sereno, unincorporated East Los Angeles and Lincoln Heights to work towards economic, social and educational justice.

<u>InnerCity Struggle</u> is also a member of the Los Angeles Street Vendor Campaign, a citywide coalition of more than 40 community-based organizations advocating on behalf of more than 10,000 street vendors in Los Angeles. These street vendors currently operate outside of the formal economy because the City lacks a process that both recognizes and supports these micro-entrepreneurs. We believe that by developing a permit process with competent enforcement strategies, the City could give these small business owners an opportunity to make an honest living, encourage healthy eating, and create safer more vibrant streets.

Specifically, we support the following components of a vending ordinance:

- A Citywide permit process for food and non-food vending. This process should consider the cost of enforcement, revenue opportunities for the City, and the financial capacity of low-income vendors. In order for vendors across the City to have a real incentive to participate, any policy that is put forth must apply to all areas of the city.
- Incentives for different types of healthy food vending, including but not limited to, cut fruit, produce, and water.
- Responsible and humane enforcement, reducing punishment of illegal vending from a misdemeanor
  to an infraction, avoiding arrests and exorbitant fines. The campaign has outlined a tiered system of
  enforcement that maximizes the potential of participation by vendors all over the City.

A detailed summary of these points has been submitted to the lead Legislative Analyst, Felipe Valladolid Chavez in the form of a *policy memo*.

On behalf of the thousands of vendors we work with and represent, we are committed to forging a strong partnership with the City of Los Angeles that brings this important economic sector out of the shadows. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Adrian Landa Guzman Community Organizer 323-780-7605 ext. 117



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May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

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I am writing to express enthusiastic support for the City of Los Angeles' consideration of a citywide program that would legalize and regulate street vending in Los Angeles. My organization, Leadership for Urban Renewal Network (LURN), is committed to bringing people together to responsibly revitalize low-income areas. We are passionate about building a better Los Angeles, and supporting the assets that already exist in our communities. Some of LA's strongest assets are the micro-entrepreneurs commonly referred to as street vendors.

LURN is also a member of the Los Angeles Street Vendor Campaign, a citywide coalition of more than 40 community-based organizations advocating on behalf of more than 10,000 street vendors in Los Angeles. These street vendors currently operate outside of the formal economy because the City lacks a process that both recognizes and supports these micro-entrepreneurs. We believe that by developing a permit process with competent enforcement strategies, the City could give these small business owners an opportunity to make an honest living, encourage healthy eating, and create safer more vibrant streets.

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- Incentives for different types of healthy food vending, including but not limited to, cut fruit, produce, and
- · A responsible and humane enforcement strategy that reduces punishment of illegal vending from a misdemeanor to an infraction, avoids arrests and exorbitant fines. The campaign has outlined a tiered system of enforcement that maximizes the potential of participation by vendors all over the City.

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Sincerely,

Rudy Espinoza **Executive Director** 

310-597-1812



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I am writing to express enthusiastic support for the City of Los Angeles' consideration of a citywide program that would legalize and regulate street vending in Los Angeles. The Los Angeles River Revitalization Corporation is a non-profit venture dedicated to placemaking and sustainable development along the Los Angeles River. We apply an entrepreneurial approach to the implementation of the LA River Revitalization Master Plan, our blueprint to transform the river into a great civic amenity for the city of Los Angeles.

The LA River Corp is also a member of the Los Angeles Street Vendor Campaign, a citywide coalition of more than 40 community-based organizations advocating on behalf of more than 10,000 street vendors in Los Angeles. These street vendors currently operate outside of the formal economy because the City lacks a process that both recognizes and supports these micro-entrepreneurs. We believe that by developing a permit process with competent enforcement strategies, the City could give these small business owners an opportunity to make an honest living, encourage healthy eating, and create safer more vibrant streets. This is especially true along the LA River, where formal street vending districts can be a strong economic development tool for low-income communities and a great amenity for the LA River.

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We are committed to forging a strong partnership with the City of Los Angeles that brings this important economic sector out of the shadows. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Omar Brownson, Executive Director



# UNITEHERE!

Sent Via Email to: sharon.dickinson@lacity.org

May 2, 2014

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RE: Motion and Analysis regarding Street Vending Program, #13-1493

Honorable City Council,

I am writing to express enthusiastic support for the City of Los Angeles' consideration of a citywide program that would legalize and regulate street vending in Los Angeles.

UNITE HERE Local 11 is also a member of the Los Angeles Street Vendor Campaign, a citywide coalition of more than 40 community-based organizations advocating on behalf of more than 10,000 street vendors in Los Angeles. These street vendors currently operate outside of the formal economy because the City lacks a process that both recognizes and supports these micro-entrepreneurs. We believe that by developing a permit process with competent enforcement strategies, the City could give these small business owners an opportunity to make an honest living, encourage healthy eating, and create safer more vibrant streets.

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Sincerely,

Thomas Walsh President

MAIN OFFICE 464 S. Lucas Ave., Suite 201 Los Angeles, CA 90017 (213) 481-8530 • Fax (213) 481-0352

**GARDEN GROVE OFFICE** 13252 Garden Grove Blvd., Suite 200 Garden Grove, CA 92843 (714) 750-4373 • Fax (714) 750-2683 AiRPORT OFFICE 4634 W. Imperial Hwy. Inglewood, CA 90304 (310) 671-0720 • Fax (310) 671-5021





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### RE: Motion and Analysis regarding Street Vending Program, #13-1493

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I am writing to express enthusiastic support for the City of Los Angeles' consideration of a citywide program that would legalize and regulate street vending in Los Angeles. LAANE is committed to addressing the challenges of working poverty, inadequate health care and polluted communities.

LAANE\_is also a member of the Los Angeles Street Vendor Campaign, a citywide coalition of more than 40 community-based organizations advocating on behalf of more than 10,000 street vendors in Los Angeles. These street vendors currently operate outside of the formal economy because the City lacks a process that both recognizes and supports these micro-entrepreneurs. We believe that by developing a permit process with competent enforcement strategies, the City could give these small business owners an opportunity to make an honest living, encourage healthy eating, and create safer more vibrant streets.

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Western Region Organizing Director
International Brotherhood of Teamsters On behalf of the thousands of vendors we work with and represent, we are committed to forging a strong partnership with the City of Los Angeles that brings this important economic sector out of the shadows. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Aiha Nguyen Director, Shop Well LA LAANE (213) 977-9400





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SAJE (Strategic Action for a Just Economy) is also a member of the Los Angeles Street Vendor Campaign, a citywide coalition of more than 40 community-based organizations advocating on behalf of more than 10,000 street vendors in Los Angeles. These street vendors currently operate outside of the formal economy because the City lacks a process that both recognizes and supports these micro-entrepreneurs. We believe that by developing a permit process with competent enforcement strategies, the City could give these small business owners an opportunity to make an honest living, encourage healthy eating, and create safer more vibrant streets.

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Sincerely,

Favian Gonzalez Organizing Coordinator 310-621-3947 cell

213-745-9961 work