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April 26, 2022

Los Angeles City Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
City Hall, Room 395
Los Angeles, California 90012

Attention: PLUM Committee

Dear Honorable Members:

RESOLUTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE RESTAURANT BEVERAGE PROGRAM AND RESTAURANT BEVERAGE PROGRAM- ALCOHOL SENSITIVE USE ZONE; CF 17-0981

The City Council adopted the Restaurant Beverage Program (RBP) Ordinance (No. 187,402) on February 9, 2022 and became effective on March 31, 2022. The RBP Ordinance creates the Restaurant Beverage Program, or general version, and the Restaurant Beverage Program-Alcohol Sensitive Use Zone, or ASUZ version. Both of these versions are administrative processes that allow eligible sit-down restaurants to serve alcoholic beverages without obtaining a Conditional Use Permit (CUP), subject to eligibility criteria, operating standards, and enforcement procedures. The ASUZ version was added to the ordinance following instructions from the Planning and Land Use and Economic Development and Jobs Committees in order to provide additional community protections and has additional standards as compared to the general version.

The enabling RBP Ordinance, as adopted, requires the City Council to designate specific geographic areas by City Council Resolution in order to activate either the general or ASUZ provisions of the ordinance. This would, in effect, allow eligible businesses to participate in the programs. Per City Charter Section 558(b)(2), proposed resolutions must be referred to the City Planning Commission (CPC) for its report and recommendation prior to being considered by the City Council. However, to streamline the process and simplify any future adoption or modification of geographic areas, at its March 10, 2022 meeting, the CPC invoked City Charter Section 559 to delegate authority to the Director of Planning to review and make recommendations on its behalf for future City Council Resolutions relating to the implementation of the RBP Ordinance.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 558 and 559, I find that the enclosed resolutions that have been introduced, as evidenced by the accompanying Findings, are in conformity with public necessity, convenience, general welfare, and good zoning practice and therefore comply with the intent of City Charter Section 558(b)(2). As such, on behalf of the CPC, I recommend the approval of the enclosed resolutions that would activate the general version of the RBP in the entirety of

Council Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, and 13 and activate the general and ASUZ versions in different portions of Council District 15.

Sincerely,

VINCENT P. BERTONI, AICP
Director of Planning

VPB:av:nm:hsc:lr:rl

Enclosures

Resolution (Council File 17-0981-S1)
Resolution (Council File 17-0981-S2)
Resolution (Council File 17-0981-S3)
Resolution (Council File 17-0981-S4)
Resolution (Council File 17-0981-S5)
Resolution (Council File 17-0981-S6)
Resolution (Council File 17-0981-S7)
Resolution (Council File 17-0981-S8)