

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, We write to you in our capacity as cultural historians and tour guides, and authors of the guidebook “How To Find Old Los Angeles,” which recommends dozens of historic businesses—and which may soon need a new edition to accommodate all that have closed down. A Los Angeles Legacy Business Program is an excellent idea today—just as it was in July 2019 when the motion to consider such a program was introduced. Since San Francisco implemented its program in 2015, Legacy Business Programs have been established in cities and states around the country, and are a well understood tool in the public policy toolkit. Los Angeles can easily adapt these programs to one that suits the needs of our community. During the period after this motion was introduced and while it has languished in committee, we have lost many beloved, historic Los Angeles establishments that might have benefited from such a program, but will never get the chance. These losses include the Pacific Dining Car, 101 Coffee Shop, Four 'N Twenty, Du-Par's, Label's Table, Oil Can Harry's, Stan's Donuts, Lucques, Beverly Soon Tofu, Plum Tree Inn, Wah's Golden Hen, Dong Il Jang, Jun Won, King Eddy Saloon, Corky's Restaurant and Cork Lounge, Bernard Burgers, A & Z Nut Wagon, Alex Fish Market, Mikawayaya Sweet Shop, Haru Florist and Pig 'n Whistle. And just this week, Greenblatt's Deli closed forever after 95 years in business. We can't afford to lose any more of our beloved cultural landmarks, and we want City Hall to do everything in its power to protect and preserve these small businesses that have served our community for generations. Please bring the Legacy Business Program to the floor for a vote and DO SOMETHING to help our legacy businesses—before there aren't any legacy businesses left in Los Angeles to be helped. Sincerely, Cynthia Walters and John Croshaw