

## MOTION

The City of Los Angeles has taken unprecedented steps to combat the spread of COVID-19. Non-essential businesses have been shuttered, museums and other public spaces have been closed, and it is requiring social distancing. Tourism in the City has all but stopped due to the pandemic, which has severely impacted businesses who are reliant on tourism. El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument is the birthplace of the City and it is home to many notable attractions: the Avila Adobe, the oldest standing house in the City, the Siqueiros Museum, the Italian American Museum, the Sepulveda House, and the Chinese American Museum. Olvera Street Merchants, who celebrate 90 years in 2020, are facing significant impacts as all vacation tours and school tours have been postponed. Museums, sit down restaurants and merchant stores are all closed in compliance with the City and State of California directives.

The City has a long-standing relationship with the Merchants who are facing catastrophic strains on their operations. Many merchants at the Monument may be forced to close permanently if corrective action is not taken. In order to aid these legacy family owned business merchants, many of whom have rental agreements with the City that are decades old, the City should assist the Merchants in this time of need.

I THEREFORE MOVE that El Pueblo waive rent payments due from merchant tenants at the El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument for the months of April 2020 and May 2020. Any rent paid prior to the effective date of this motion should be credited towards future rent due.

I FURTHER MOVE THAT the El Pueblo Department report back in two weeks on the impacts that merchant tenants are encountering and the financial impact to Department operations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The report back should include additional recommended options to address the impacts of this emergency in the coming months to aid both Merchants and the Department.

PRESENTED BY: 

JOSE HUIZAR

Councilmember, 14<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

  
APR 22 2020