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November 20, 2023

Honorable Hydee Feldstein Soto
City Attorney

Vince Bertoni
Director of Planning

Osama Younan
General Manager, Los Angeles
Department of Building and Safety

At its meeting held on November 7, 2023, the Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee considered a Supplemental Report from the Department of City Planning (DCP) with revised recommendations and an Alternative draft Ordinance; Report from the City Attorney; and draft Ordinance amending Sections 12.03, 12.10.5, 12.11.5, 12.12.2, 12.13, 12.13.5, 12.14, 12.21, 12.21.1, 12.22, 12.24, and 16.02.1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to streamline Zoning Code regulations to create a permanent Al Fresco Program for outdoor dining on private property (Council file No. 20-1074-S4).

During the meeting, the Committee requested the following:

1. Instruct the DCP and the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS) to:
 - a. Post a City-issued identification in the outdoor dining area and make it clearly visible to the public indicating that the area is subject to the standards of the Al Fresco Ordinance.
 - b. Provide contact information/hotline phone number for LADBS, Code Enforcement after-hours complaints and/or concerns regarding the operation of the outdoor dining area and include 311 as the phone number to call during business hours.
 - c. Create a database of complaints based on addresses for the Al Fresco establishment.

2. Instruct the DCP, City Attorney's Office and relevant departments to report back on the Al Fresco establishment and the allotment of handicap parking including feasibility of revising the Ordinance to include parking spaces for people with disabilities.
3. Instruct the DCP and LADBS to report back on:
 - a. Outdoor dining are standards. Why changes in the draft ordinances become more restrictive and what are options for an appropriate, nuanced balance between protecting small business owners running the restaurants and their neighbors.
 - b. Background music allowance. How can it be ensured that the process that is established for background music is not unnecessarily burdensome to responsible restaurants.
 - c. How can it be ensured that the ordinance appropriately addresses these concerns?

Please prepare a response as requested by the PLUM Committee. When this matter is scheduled for Committee consideration, your attendance, or that of your designee, is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,

Candy Rosales, Committee Clerk
Planning and Land Use Management Committee
(213) 978-1078