Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCSupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information
Neighborhood Council: Hollywood United Neighborhood Council
Name: Jim Van Dusen
Phone Number: (213) 304-7410
Email: jim@myhunc.org
The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(10) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)
Date of NC Board Action: 02/13/2023
Type of NC Board Action: For if Amended

Impact Information
Date: 02/19/2023
Update to a Previous Input: No
Directed To: City Council and Committees
Council File Number: 20-1074
Agenda Date:
Item Number:
Summary: The Hollywood United Neighborhood Council (HUNC) supports efforts by the City of LA to streamline its disjointed planning process and plans such as the potential Al Fresco (AF) ordinance appear to be an attempt to do so. Because the AF proposal is so specialized, HUNC has concerns and recommendations regarding the program and process: 1. The original AF program was implemented in response to the COVID emergency to aid restaurants during the severe downturn of business, a program that HUNC has supported as a temporary measure during the pandemic. With the emergency now being lifted, it is unclear why there is a need for a permanent AF ordinance as procedures to implement outdoor dining currently exist. 2. The AF ordinance will be another layer of bureaucracy, further complicating the planning system due to the specialized nature of this program. The City's efforts at streamlining planning approval processes should be for the entire process and not for specialized, redundant programs. 3. HUNC recognizes that there is a value in AF dining but this proposed ordinance assumes that all outdoor dining areas are the same which is not the case. Each outdoor dining project should be separately reviewed and the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) process remain in effect. 4. Existing CUP's should remain in effect and not overridden by a new AF ordinance. 5. There is sense that this program has been forced through the system with minimum transparency and that Neighborhood Councils and stakeholders will be excluded from the input process now and for any future AF approvals. Doing so will subvert the program and could lead to abuses. 6. HUNC supports the letter and questions posed from LA PLUM of March 1, 2022 (attached).

PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT (PLUM) COMMITTEE REPORT relative to transitioning the LA Al Fresco Program to a permanent program.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. CONCUR with the recommendations of the Transportation Committee, dated February 1, 2022, attached to the Council file, as follows:

   a. INSTRUCT the Department of City Planning (DCP), Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS), Los Angeles Department of Transportation, Bureau of Engineering (BOE), and other applicable City departments, to develop a set of proposed regulations and processes, which are consistent and complementary, for a permanent Al Fresco and outdoor dining program.

   b. INSTRUCT the DCP, in coordination with the LADBS, Los Angeles Fire Department, and City Attorney, to prepare and present a Citywide Ordinance creating a permanent Al Fresco program and generally streamlining outdoor dining provisions throughout the Zoning Code.

   c. INSTRUCT the DCP and LADBS to report to the Council within 90 days with a status report regarding the development of outdoor dining provisions, including consideration of the following:

      i. Strategies for managing public parking in high-demand areas.

      ii. Strategies for the promotion of transit and other modes of transportation to reduce parking demand.

      iii. Noise issues, including whether different rules should apply depending on whether the outdoor dining is on a side of structure facing residential uses.

      iv. Alcohol service

      v. Strategies for streamlining the approval process, such as the Restaurant Beverage Program or creating standard plans or a pre-approved kit of parts for outdoor dining areas.

      vi. Enforcement of requirements and conditions, including cooperation among the LADBS, BOE, Bureau of Street Services, and Los Angeles Police Department, and including ability to conduct inspections and enforcement during evening and weekend hours.

   d. INSTRUCT the DCP to:

      i. Conduct an outreach process to current Al Fresco participants, community stakeholders, and industry representatives, in the preparation of the permanent Al Fresco and outdoor dining Ordinance.

      ii. Pursue a programmatic coastal development permit for the new regulations within the Coastal Zone.

2. DIRECT the BOE to create a portal for the Al Fresco program on the BuildLA web page, which will centralize applications for sidewalk dining, on-street dining, and outdoor dining on private property, as noted in the joint report from the DCP and LADBS dated December 22, 2021 (Joint Report), and as previously instructed by the Council on October 20, 2021 by Amending Motion (Raman – Rodriguez).

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the DCP or LADBS. Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

<u>Community Impact Statement</u>: None submitted

<u>Summary</u>:
At a regular meeting held on March 1, 2022, the PLUM Committee considered the Joint Report and the Transportation Committee report dated February 1, 2022, relative to transitioning the LA Al Fresco Program to a permanent program. DCP provided an overview of the matter. After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee recommended to approve the recommendations contained in the Joint Report and Transportation Committee report as amended, as detailed above. This matter is now submitted to the Council for consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

PLANNING AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MEMBER	VOTE
HARRIS-DAWSON:	YES
CEDILLO:	YES
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
LEE:	YES
RODRIGUEZ:	YES

CR
20-1074 _rpt_PLUM_03-01-22

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-