

MOTION

The Charter provides for a bid preference for bidders which are "local," with the term "local" defined to include only businesses located in the County of Los Angeles or the State of California, pursuant to Charter Section 371a. The City currently is not permitted to provide an additional bid preference on contracts for bidders which are located within the City boundaries, without amending the City Charter to do so.

If the Charter is amended to add "City of Los Angeles" to the definition of "local," the City would then be permitted to have an additional preference for businesses located within the geographic boundaries of the City of Los Angeles.

According to the National Institute for Public Procurement, models of local bid preferences across the country have assisted municipalities in setting and achieving social policy goals to assist residents, and improve and protect the local economy. "As local tax dollars are spent in a local economy, more jobs are maintained or created and income is generated for residents." And while procurement expenditures may rise in response to a local preference program, any potential added costs would be outweighed by the benefit of keeping tax dollars spent on contracts in the area, and thereby supporting the development, enrichment, growth, expansion and retention of the local business community and the City's workforce.

Additionally, expenses related to labor costs, rent / lease costs, utilities, insurance, sales taxes and business taxes, are often higher than the expenses incurred by businesses operating outside the City limits, and can place businesses located in the City of Los Angeles at a competitive disadvantage. In fact, Los Angeles is one of the ten most expensive places in the country to do business, creating a climate in which businesses must compete against firms with lower labor and business costs from neighboring cities, counties and states. As such, the City should be given the ability to provide a bid preference for bidders located in the City of Los Angeles, ultimately benefiting to our labor force, our residents and the local economy.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney, in consultation with the Bureau of Contract Administration and the City Administrative Officer, be requested to prepare and present the documents necessary to place before the voters on the next available ballot in 2022, a measure to add "City of Los Angeles" to the definition of "local" in Section 371a. of the City Charter, so that the City could be permitted to have an additional contracting bid preference for businesses that are located in the City of Los Angeles, consistent with other laws and constitutional limits on how far bid preferences can be implemented in the State of California.

PRESENTED BY: Paul Kretz
PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

Bob Blumenfeld
BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

Marqueece Harris-Dawson
MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON
Councilmember, 8th District

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SECONDED BY:
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JUN 29 2021

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Monica Rodriguez

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