

Communication from Public

Name: Reed
Date Submitted: 05/16/2025 11:39 AM
Council File No: 22-1154-S1
Comments for Public Posting: Don't Trust IKE

Don't Trust IKE!

Please do not allow this RFP to move forward. It is alarming that an RFP has not been released, and letters are already saying this will be an IKE program. Please do a thorough investigation on where the RFP language originated, who stands to gain from this RFP, and if there is any family connection to this RFP.

The company pushing this kiosk plan is IKE Smart City, has been accused of BID rigging and controversy throughout the country:

- **New Orleans, LA (2021–2022)** The city's Smart+Connected project was abandoned after officials were found to have **undisclosed financial ties** to companies in the winning bid, including IKE. *"Evidence supports bid-rigging and ethics violations,"* said the Office of Inspector General in its unreleased report, later referred to the District Attorney.
- **Santa Monica, CA (2022–2023)** IKE **threatened litigation** against competitor BIG Outdoor after losing a kiosk bid, alleging IP theft; the city faced accusations of a **closed, politically driven process**. *"IKE's actions demonstrate a desire to weaponize legal threats rather than compete transparently,"* said a local editorial board.
- **Seattle, WA (2024)** The ACLU raised alarms over **lack of data privacy safeguards** in IKE's kiosk program, noting vague policies and potential surveillance risks. *"The public should be horrified by how little oversight there is over these data-gathering machines,"* said ACLU's tech policy lead.
- **Los Angeles, CA (2022–2023)** Attempted to **bypass competitive bidding** by piggybacking IKE's Houston contract, sparking public backlash and warnings of **charter and CEQA violations**. *"This backroom process violates transparency, safety, and environmental oversight,"* wrote Councilmember Mike Bonin in a minority report.
- **Chicago, IL (2018-2022)** IKE hires lobbyist who is married to the Chicago City Clerk, who allegedly used her office to further her husband's lobbying efforts for which she stood to gain financially. *"These allegations of steering contracts and using one's elected office for personal gain are particularly disturbing and inappropriate, if not illegal. That's why I'm making an official request that the Inspector General use her authority to get to the bottom of it."* Chicago's Inspector General, Ald. Silvana Tabares
- **Miami, FL (2022–2024)**
IKE and Orange Barrel allegedly **funneled \$276,500 in PAC money** to a commissioner who sponsored pro-signage ordinances before being arrested on separate bribery charges. *"The LED billboard ordinance was tainted by undue influence and backdoor lobbying,"* said city advocates after the law was repealed.

This RFP follows a disturbing pattern of IKE pushing an advertising program that no one wants or needs that needs up costing the city millions in legal fees. **IKE wins taxpayers lose.**

LA has too many lawsuits and corruption scandals already, do not open the door to another.

Communication from Public

Name: CALIF Independent Living Center
Date Submitted: 05/16/2025 04:10 PM
Council File No: 22-1154-S1
Comments for Public Posting: CALIF Independent Living Center



CALIF

Communities Actively Living Independent & Free

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May 12, 2025

Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: CF **22-1154-S1 Interactive Kiosks**

To the Los Angeles City Council:

We are writing in opposition to the motion in Council File 22-1154-S1, which calls for a Request for Proposal for digital advertising kiosks throughout the city.

We are Systems Change advocates serving the disability communities in over 50 zip codes. We are also an Aging and Disability Resource Connection serving the aging and disability communities, utilizing the 211-phone system. One of our most requested services for assistance is in the area of transportation.

Many of our community members do not own their cars and have great difficulty using public transportation.

We advocated for the City Council to pass the Sidewalk and Transit Amenities Program with the promise of finally providing shelter and shade to our long-neglected bus riders. We also supported RaiseLA. This landmark program ensures the advertising money from the City of LA owned Sidewalk and Transit Amenities Program will directly pay for more bus shelters and transit amenities to improve the lives of bus riders. This landmark fund allows StreetsLA and LADOT to build bike and pedestrian safety improvements.

We also support STAP because this program has been fixing the city's decaying sidewalks and ensuring ADA compliance at every bus shelter they install. STAP has been helping the city meet its obligations under the Willett's Settlement.

We are deeply concerned that the City of LA is already attempting to undermine STAP and its commitment to building more bus shelters and improving the sidewalk. This competing kiosk program in the public right-of-way will take away advertising dollars from the bus shelter contract while offering zero benefit to bus riders. For every dollar the bus shelter program loses to kiosks, our communities lose shade, shelter, and ADA-compliant sidewalks.

In addition, the Sidewalk and Transit Amenities Program includes urban panels that will provide emergency messaging and community information and can be used for wayfinding during the Olympics.

Please do not move forward with this RFP that offers ZERO public benefit.

Sincerely,

Kristy Madden
Systems Change Advocate
CALIF Independent Living Center
213 261-8571 Ext 224 | kmadden@calif-ilc.org

Carrie Madden
Program Director
Aging and Disability Resource Connection
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**PERSONAL ASSISTANCE
SERVICES COUNCIL**



Diverse communities, Diverse Abilities, One Human Family!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 05/16/2025 04:50 PM

Council File No: 22-1154-S1

Comments for Public Posting: CCA represents over 300 members who share a mission to enhance Downtown Los Angeles' vibrancy and increase opportunity in the region. We are longstanding advocates of efforts to improve the city's public realm and enhance the experience of people visiting Los Angeles. We are writing in support of the City Tourism Department and Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board, partners who have expressed a need in the City of Los Angeles for implementation of the latest technology in digital wayfinding, including multi-lingual signage, interactive displays, and a customized experience for residents and visitors. CCA understands the need to enhance wayfinding and access to tourism information in our city. A comprehensive wayfinding system and digital interactive kiosk program can be important assets for achieving this goal, as noted in the City's own Tourism Master Plan. Such systems are used successfully in cities around the world, and we're eager to see Los Angeles take this step in building out its smart city infrastructure. Digital wayfinding kiosks offer a crucial upgrade to the City's existing static signage and help visitors from all over the world explore our city and discover its offerings. In particular, the IKE Smart City platform helps residents and tourists find local dining and retail establishments, public restrooms, events, museums, and cultural institutions, which is of particular importance given the 2026 FIFA World Cup, 2028 Olympics, and other global tourism events coming to Los Angeles over the next decade. For the reasons listed above, we support the LA Tourism visitor kiosk program and urge the City to move forward with a competitive Request for Proposals process.



March 31, 2023

Los Angeles City Council
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Digital Wayfinding Signage and Interactive Kiosks

Dear Councilmembers,

CCA represents over 300 members who share a mission to enhance Downtown Los Angeles' vibrancy and increase opportunity in the region. We are longstanding advocates of efforts to improve the city's public realm and enhance the experience of people visiting Los Angeles. We are writing in support of the City Tourism Department and Los Angeles Tourism & Convention Board, partners who have expressed a need in the City of Los Angeles for implementation of the latest technology in digital wayfinding, including multi-lingual signage, interactive displays, and a customized experience for residents and visitors.

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For the reasons listed above, we support the LA Tourism visitor kiosk program and urge the City to move forward with a competitive Request for Proposals process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nella McOsker", written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nella McOsker
President & CEO
Central City Association