

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to activating the City of Los Angeles Mall.

Recommendation for Council action:

NOTE and FILE the July 23, 2025 Municipal Facilities Committee (MFC) report relative to activating the City of Los Angeles Mall.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Not applicable

Community Impact Statement: Yes

For:
Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council

Summary:

On August 5, 2025, your Committee considered a July 23, 2025 MFC report relative to activating the City of Los Angeles Mall. According to the MFC, the LA Mall, located at 201 North Los Angeles Street, was established in 1974 to provide retail and dining options for employees and visitors in the Civic Center area. For this reason, these businesses were open on weekdays and during business hours. During the COVID-19 pandemic, businesses across Los Angeles faced unprecedented challenges due to mandated closures, reduced foot traffic, hybrid working schedules as well as economic uncertainty. The LA Mall, in particular, struggled as decreased office occupancy and limited public gatherings significantly reduced customer activity, making it difficult for small businesses to remain viable. Similarly, other City-owned properties with commercial tenants faced financial distress as they relied on government offices, tourism, and daily commuters, many of whom shifted to remote work or reduced their in-person activities.

Over the years, particularly following the COVID-19 pandemic, the LA Mall experienced a steady decline, leading to the closure of many retail and dining establishments. In 2023 the LA Mall Food Court on the northern end of the property was permanently closed. Several stand-alone vacant spaces throughout the mid and southern section of the Mall have been repurposed for use by City Departments. As part of this update, GSD reviewed potential options to activate the LA Mall and support its remaining small businesses. While short-term improvements could enhance the site's appeal for events and limited public engagement, revitalizing the LA Mall as a commercial or retail center is no longer a viable option. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to note and file the MFC report. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Government Operations Committee

COUNCILMEMBER VOTE

PADILLA: YES

LEE: YES

JURADO: YES

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8/5/25

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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-