

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 02/02/2024 09:53 AM

**Council File No:** 23-1167

**Comments for Public Posting:** For posting to the council file



February 2, 2024

Councilmember Hugo Soto-Martinez  
Chair - Civil Rights, Equity, Immigration Aging and Disability Committee  
Los Angeles City Hall  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: Item 2 – Removal of Sidewalk Vending Permanent Locations (CF 23-1167)**

Dear Councilmember Soto Martinez:

Central City Association (CCA) represents 300 businesses, nonprofits, and trade associations with a shared mission of enhancing Downtown Los Angeles' vibrancy and increasing opportunity in the region. Sidewalk vending is part of Los Angeles's culture. CCA has been supportive of the city's sidewalk vending program enacted in 2018 so long as there were reasonable rules and guidelines for vendors to follow that preserve public health and safety along with appropriate resources for enforcement. However, after five years of the program's operations, it is apparent that more effective enforcement measures are needed to regulate and manage it.

As Downtown Los Angeles continues to recover from the challenges of the pandemic, public safety's role in the revitalization process becomes even more prominent. Enforcing sidewalk vending regulations is an essential part of that strategy. In areas where street vendors operate, pedestrian and vehicular traffic can become congested, leading to crowded sidewalks and obstructed pedestrian pathways. This not only hampers the free flow of foot traffic, but also poses safety risks for both vendors and pedestrians.

Moreover, the enforcement of regulations is paramount to maintain the cleanliness and sanitation of our public spaces. Strict adherence to public health standards and waste disposal is crucial to prevent adverse environmental impacts and maintain a safe, welcoming, and attractive community for workers, residents, and visitors.

We are confident that a balance can be struck between supporting the interests of sidewalk vendors and improving public safety. This will not only enhance the overall quality of life for those in Downtown, but also foster a thriving and equitable local economy.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to continuing to work with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nella McOsker".

Nella McOsker  
President & CEO  
Central City Association

CC: Councilmember Heather Hutt  
Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez  
Councilmember Imelda Padilla  
Councilmember Monica Rodriguez