

VERBAL

TRANSPORTATION

MOTION

Enhancing LA's Outdoor Dining by Permanently Adopting the City's Al Fresco Program

On May 29, during the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration and the City's Safer-At-Home and Safer LA orders, Mayor Eric Garcetti announced the LA Al Fresco program. LA Al Fresco aims to help local food purveyors reopen safely and allow customers and employees to maintain physical distancing by temporarily relaxing the rules that regulate outdoor dining. LA Al Fresco is a program that allows restaurants, permitted sidewalk food vendors, and food trucks to utilize sidewalks, private parking lots, street parking spaces, lane closures, and street closures for dining.

The LA Al Fresco Program, which has received tremendous feedback from restaurants, diners and restaurant adjacent neighborhoods, looks to support the heavily impacted industry by allowing restaurants to continue to operate in a safe, physically distanced setting. Additionally, in many instances, outdoor dining has provided additional dining space for smaller, family owned restaurants, while taking advantage of Southern California's climate and preserving the unique character of neighborhoods with smaller shops and restaurants.

After the local emergency is lifted, expectations for in-restaurant dining will likely have changed and flexible outdoor dining settings should continue to be made available. These outdoor dining options must follow ADA guidelines for the public right-of-way and additional safety measures implemented where necessary.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Chief Legislative Analyst, Department of Transportation and Bureau of Engineering, with the assistance of the Bureau of Street Services, Department of Building and Safety, Department of City Planning and City Attorney, as needed, report back on the feasibility of developing a permanent Al Fresco program that allows for a streamlined outdoor dining permit process, including but not limited to a potential program structure, eligibility criteria, safety and infrastructure requirements, and a plan that would enable interested businesses to opt-in to the permit program.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the City Attorney, Bureau of Engineering and Department of Transportation, report on any changes to State or County Codes would need to be made in order to effectuate this program.

PRESENTED BY:


DAVID E. RYU
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: _____