

The Safe Food Delivery Initiative

In recent years, food delivery platforms have become increasingly popular among Los Angeles County residents. Mobile phone apps such as GrubHub, UberEats, Postmates, DoorDash, and others have helped restaurant sales surge. According to a recent Los Angeles Times article, food delivery sales have grown over 20% in the last five years while restaurant traffic has remained stagnant. Food delivery platforms are an important contributor to the economy here in Los Angeles County as they provide delivery partners with supplemental income and provide patrons with easy access to their favorite restaurant dishes.

While food delivery platforms are an overall benefit to our County, it is important to ensure that drivers are practicing safe food handling. There are measures that can be taken to ensure that food is safe from contamination while in transport, which will improve overall customer satisfaction and maintain the integrity of delivery orders. As a County, we should partner with our food delivery platforms to educate drivers on safe food handling and with the California Restaurant Association to integrate sealed delivery packaging that will help protect food from contamination during transport. By giving the industry an opportunity to work with the County to achieve these goals, we can help minimize the impact to consumer pricing and maintain consumer demand by avoiding a formal mandate.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Public Health to engage the California Restaurant Association, food delivery platforms, and other pertinent stakeholders in an effort to develop an educational campaign on safe food handling for food delivery platforms and restaurants, that underscores the importance of preventing food contamination by deploying food safety methods such as the integration of sealed packaging and appropriate safe food handling training for those that deliver food, and report back to the Board within 45 days.

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MOTION

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