

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KATHRYN BARGER  
AND JANICE HAHN

APRIL 19, 2022

**AMENDMENT TO SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELLS MOTION REGARDING  
SUPPORTING OUTDOOR DINING OPTIONS COUNTYWIDE**

In June 2020, shortly after the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Safer at Home Public Health Order, Supervisors Barger and Hahn sought to find immediate solutions to the devastating financial impact to the restaurant and hospitality industry in Los Angeles County (County). Incorporating the expertise of the County’s Economic Resiliency Task Force’s recommendations, they asked County Departments to establish a temporary outdoor dining program, including guidelines and permitting, to help restaurants operate safely outdoors.

In July 2020, Supervisors Barger and Hahn asked the County to fast track changes to applicable County Codes to establish the temporary outdoor dining program and to take all necessary actions to begin issuance of permits, including seeking local, state and federal funding sources to mitigate costs to individual applicants.

As the pandemic continued and Public Health Officer Orders were modified to reflect new science, data, and guidance on indoor activities, restaurants and small businesses were able to begin their recovery and to slowly and safely begin operating indoors.

However, it became clear that the outdoor dining program had not only helped many in the industry survive, but had become a significant benefit to both businesses and patrons alike. Therefore, in June 2021, Supervisors Barger and Hahn asked the County to establish permanent Countywide guidelines for expanded options for outdoor dining spaces, including public sidewalks, alleys, and within the road right-of way, as well as private on-site and off-site parking facilities.

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Although the program was underutilized in communities most impacted by COVID-19, as many businesses were facing significant financial and supply chain related challenges, the establishment of the permanent outdoor dining program will continue to support the historic recovery of the restaurant and hospitality industry.

In addition, as a regional leader, the County should also encourage other jurisdictions to follow the County's lead to establish their own independent programs.

**WE, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Public Works, in consultation with the Department of Regional Planning and Department of Public Health, to send a joint letter to the leadership of all eighty-eight (88) incorporated cities to share the successes of the County's outdoor dining programs and to encourage them to adopt similar programs and policies.

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KB:aso