

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR SOLIS

February 18, 2025

L.A. Chinatown Firecracker Event Parking Fee Waiver

In 1978 a group of volunteers established the L.A. Chinatown Firecracker Run Committee, a 501(C)(3), to organize events that would aim to draw a large and diverse audience to Chinatown to take part of festive activities in celebration of the Lunar New Year. Their events and programs promote health, fitness, and cultural awareness to the greater Los Angeles community.

The L.A Chinatown Firecracker started with a 10k Run and over the decades it has evolved as the largest Lunar New Year 5K Run/Walk, 20 & 50 Mile Bike Rides, Kiddie Run, and Paw'er Dog Walk event in the United States. The annual event now attracts over 20,000 spectators and about 9,000 participants over a two-day period in celebration of Lunar New Year. Proceeds from the annual event are donated back to the Chinatown and surrounding communities. Community-based organizations and schools receiving proceeds from the event have created unique programs such as raising awareness of physical fitness and healthy lifestyles for seniors and youth. For instance, one project helped launch the Cal State University Los Angeles (CSULA) Food Justice program through the creation of culturally relevant gardens where young children learned to grow their own fruits and vegetables within a concrete urban landscape. In addition, proceeds

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from the event have been used to fund school field trips, launch a fine arts program underserved elementary schools in Chinatown, and many activities to support the health and physical fitness of youth.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors waive \$800, excluding the cost of liability, for 100 parking spots per day at Lot 45 on North Spring Street in Chinatown on Saturday, March 8, 2025 and Sunday, March 9, 2025 for the L.A. Chinatown Firecracker Lunar New Year 5K/10K Run/Walk, Bike Rides, Kiddie Run, and Paw'er Dog Walk event.

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HLS:dv