

AGN. NO.

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL**

February 3, 2026

**Authorize the Los Angeles County Museum of Art to Develop and Implement a Plan for the Sale of Alcohol**

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) is a critical cultural center for the Los Angeles region, showcasing a broad history of art for the public. As the largest art museum in the western United States, LACMA serves the community through extensive cultural programming, research initiatives, educational offerings, and exhibitions across a variety of media.

In 1938, Museum Associates, a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, was formed to encourage activities in the field of art, among other purposes, and has since constructed and operated the buildings of LACMA located in Hancock Park on Wilshire Boulevard. Chapter 2.92 of the Los Angeles County Code formally created LACMA and designated Museum Associates to regulate and control all matters connected with the management, operation, and maintenance of the LACMA buildings, subject to the supervision of the Board of Supervisors (Board).

LACMA's buildings and facilities have offered art and cultural exhibitions and events to the public since 1958. On April 9, 2019, the Board certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (State Clearinghouse No. 2016081014) and unanimously approved the construction and operation of a new 347,500 square-foot LACMA building, replacing four existing buildings. The new facility, known as the David Geffen Galleries,

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houses LACMA's permanent art collection and includes a theater, restaurant, café, wine bar, and outdoor venues for art, gatherings, and cultural events. Construction of the David Geffen Galleries is now substantially complete.

Through its food and beverage operator, Museum Associates previously sold and served alcohol at its flagship restaurant, Ray's & Stark Bar, under a general license issued by the State of California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), as well as under temporary catering permits during certain special events and fundraisers throughout the LACMA campus. As part of the construction of the David Geffen Galleries, the restaurant was relocated to a new location within the LACMA campus. As a result, a new license for the sale of alcohol throughout the LACMA facilities on Wilshire Boulevard, including for catered special events and fundraisers, is required.

Consistent with other County-owned sites that operate concessions serving alcohol, Museum Associates, in conjunction with the County, will develop a plan for the sale of alcohol at LACMA, including appropriate safeguards and safety conditions related to alcohol sales. The plan will require approval by the Department of Regional Planning and other applicable County departments before final license approval by ABC.

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

- 1) Find that authorizing the application and operation of alcohol sales and consumption at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) is within the scope of the impacts analyzed in the April 19, 2019, Final Environmental Impact Report previously certified by the Board;
- 2) Authorize the Director of LACMA to prepare a plan, in conjunction with Museum Associates and in consultation with the Chief Executive Office, the Department of Regional Planning, and key community stakeholders, to ensure safe and responsible distribution and consumption of alcohol on premises within the LACMA campus on Wilshire Boulevard;
- 3) Instruct and authorize the Director of LACMA, or his designee, to submit (or facilitate the submittal of) applications to, obtain approvals from, execute any agreements and additional documents with, and comply with the terms and conditions as required by the Department of Regional Planning, other applicable County departments, and the State of California Department of

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Alcoholic Beverage Control for the sale and consumption of alcohol at the LACMA campus on Wilshire Boulevard; and further direct and authorize the Chief Executive Officer, the Director of Regional Planning, and any other applicable County department to cooperate in the timely processing of such applications, obtaining approvals, and enforcing the required terms and conditions associated therewith.

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