ARLETA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Community Impact Statement

Regarding Council File: 17-0981

Council File 17-0981 (dubbed Restaurant Beverage Program Ordinance) seeks to expedite the administrative determination process (from 6 months down to 2 weeks) of Conditional Use Permits for alcoholic Beverages (CUB) sought by "less intensive" restaurants regardless whether a community is already saturated with alcohol licensed sites by the California Department of Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC).

These City of Los Angeles ministerial determinations would not be subject to CEQA review, public hearings, or appeals according to the March 21, 2018 report by the Planning Department. Therefore, neighborhood councils and the public at large will not be able to oppose, appeal, or comment upon this proposed expedited process.

The Arleta Neighborhood Council **does not support** this Streamlined CUB draft ordinance for the following reasons:

- The proposed process does not include public hearings nor an appeals process
- The Planning Department dismissed development of multiple sets of standards for different neighborhoods based on density of existing CUPs (or the number of ABC sites).
- Arleta and immediate surrounding communities already have an over-concentration of ABC sites (see attached map)
- An opting-out option in RBP has not been articulated for communities and neighborhoods
- Exterior advertising of alcohol has not been forbidden in the ordinance nor is there language in the same that prohibits interior signage advertising from being seen through windows from the exterior of the applicant's restaurant
- Drinking is not solely confined to regulated on-site alcohol consumption in Arleta (see pictures)
- Happy hours or drink specials are not prohibited in the standards
- There are insufficient policing resources (both local and State) to ensure both conditional use permit and alcohol license compliance even with existing ABC establishments
- The public is not able to directly report violations to the Monitoring Verification and Inspection Program (MViP)
- Arleta and Council District 6 are experiencing an acute presence of homeless individuals
 whereupon many of them continue to abuse both drugs and alcohol whether they are
 living (but not limited to) on the streets, in automobiles, flood control channels, alleys,
 or in motorhomes

- The proposed ordinance does not have a requirement for applicants to have verifiable proof that their primary residence is within the City of Los Angeles
- A streamlined permit revocation process has not been articulated in the proposed ordinance for CUB applicants nor for existing operators
- There is a complete disregard for proximity to sensitive uses in the proposed standards and many existing operators with permits and licenses to sell alcohol are already in violation of being within 500 feet proximity to: worship centers, parks, private schools, and child day care centers (see attached map)

The Mayor's Office, City Council, and its Committees must maintain the current CUB entitlement process, implement an expedited revocation process for nuisance ABC establishments, hire more code enforcement officers, and have an opt-out program for communities that do not wish to participate in RBP should the standards get adopted despite the opposition to them here, and require a public hearing requisite for all CUB applicants.



Figure 1. A can of 805 beer is in front of a single-family home in Arleta. February 24, 2019.



Figure 2. Same beer can in Fig. 1 at southwest corner of Sunburst Street and Beachy Avenue.



Figure 3. Litter: 12-pack box of Modelo beer at northeast corner of Kagel Canyon Street and Canterbury Avenue. February 24, 2019.



Figure 4. Same alcohol-related litter shown in Fig. 3



Figure 5. Single-family residences in the background of alcohol-related litter shown in Figures 3 and 4.



Figure 6. Modelo beer bottle at Walgreens, 9750 Woodman Ave on February 25, 2019.



Figure 7. Litter: Corona beer 12-pack box at southeast corner of Woodman Av and Filmore Street; in front of single-family home. February 27, 2019.



Figure 8. Litter: 12-pack box of Modelo beer at 9800 mid-block of Woodman Avenue in front of single-family home between Van Nuys Blvd and Lassen St. February 27, 2019.