

Composing Messages in Multiple Genres
By: Melissa Moreno Garcia

Genre: Letter

Dear Los Angeles Mayor Karen Brass,

May 28, 2023

I hope this letter reaches you. My name is Melissa Moreno and I am writing on behalf of the community in support of our Los Angeles street vendors. We, the community, are asking you to show your support of our street vendors and remove the “no vending zones.”

Being born and raised in Los Angeles, seeing street vendors on the sidewalk is a common occurrence. Whether it be taco stands, fruit carts, or hot dog carts, there are street vendors all over the city. When walking down Hollywood Boulevard, you see a variety of street performers in costumes, people displaying their large pet snakes, and a variety of hot dog/fruit vendors. It is part of the L.A. culture. Removing street vendors from these areas is removing culture from our city. Removing street vendors removes the delicious, savory treats that we have grown to enjoy. Everyone is aware of how hardworking street vendors are, so we never hesitate to show our support toward their stands and businesses.

The new “no vending zones” require street vendors to stay 500 feet from these zones. Some of the zones include Hollywood Walk of Fame, Dodger Stadium, and the Hollywood Bowl on event days. Making street vendors to sell on smaller, secluded sidewalks could increase a risk in their safety. They run the risk of their businesses being robbed or harassed without witnesses. Many street vendors depend on their businesses to make a living. According to Los Angeles Police Department Data, in the summer of 2022, a vendor was a victim 35 times in June and 29 times in July. They need to be in places with crowds walking by in order to promote their carts and sell well enough to bring money home for their families. Street vendors are not breaking any law and the city has already failed to provide real evidence justifying these bans, so we ask for you to have compassion and get rid of these “no vending zones” all together. You claim that street vendors create overcrowding on sidewalks and potential hazard toward pedestrians, but overcrowding is a problem at any public event, regardless if there are vendors or not because Los Angeles is a heavily populated city. Shame for putting the blame on street vendors for your lack of skills for controlling public traffic.

Attached below is a petition I created that people in the community have signed in favor of the removal of these “no vending zones.”

I hope to hear from you as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melissa Moreno

Genre: Instagram Post



Genre: Protest Signs

