

April __, 2026

D R A F T (for PPCC Board approval)

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Environmental Health, Mobile Food Program

via email to ehvip@ph.lacounty.gov

Dear Los Angeles County Department of Public Health:

Founded in 1973, Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) is the most broad-based organization in Pacific Palisades – the community that was devastated by the Palisades Fire in 2025 and is now engaging in recovery and rebuilding. **Our community's concern with protection of public health and safety – and in particular, mitigation of ongoing fire hazards – cannot be overstated.**

PPCC respectfully requests your involvement in investigating all "pop-up street vendors" who are now operating within our community's boundaries and have been observed not in compliance with the County of Los Angeles health and safety standards. Licensed brick and mortar food services are required to have hot potable water to wash and clean utensils, windscreens to prevent flies from entering food, restrooms for staff to use and wash their hands, etc. The stakeholders in this community are equally concerned that all street vendors be in similar compliance and properly permitted and inspected by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

We bring to your attention at least three street vendor locations within our Pacific Palisades neighborhoods that we ask you to investigate and take appropriate enforcement action as needed for any and all violations of health and safety standards:

1. 15120 Sunset Blvd.(in the commercial Village)
2. Upper Marquez Ave. & Sunset Blvd.
3. Marquez Pl. & Sunset Blvd.

These street vendors appear to operate daily from morning until late afternoon. Some of the specific problems observed by stakeholders are the following:

- the operation at the Marquez Pl. location is **positioned adjacent to an open field containing brush and weeds, increasing fire risk.** Additionally, neither of the Marquez locations appear to have fire extinguishers present.
- Open-flame cooking utilizing both charcoal and propane equipment on public sidewalks, directly adjacent to parked vehicles and pedestrian traffic
- Lack of a compliant handwashing station (no dedicated sink with running potable water, soap, and paper towels)
- Food storage and preparation occurring within personal vehicles rather than approved facilities
- Raw meat being stored and handled in plastic bags at ambient outdoor temperatures without proper refrigeration or temperature control
- Food items, including sauces or marinades, being stored in repurposed non-foodservice containers (e.g., one-gallon vinegar jugs), raising sanitation and contamination concerns
- Use of non-commercial containers and equipment not designed for safe food service operations
- Cooking grease washed down the storm drain at the Sunset Blvd. location.

These conditions present a clear risk of cross-contamination, foodborne illness, fire hazard and general public safety concerns.

PPCC acknowledges that street vendors provide a service that is enjoyed by workers and other visitors to the community during the ongoing rebuild of Pacific Palisades. **Public health and safety, however, must come first.**

Aside from proper food handling, food temperature controls, hygiene and fire hazard, we are also concerned that our sidewalks remain free of obstruction from carts and tents, as per L.A. Municipal Code Sec. 56.12. Additionally, local, licensed eateries are concerned that these unpermitted street vendors are affecting their revenue, as well as a loss of sales tax collection that should be remitted to the California State Board of Equalization to help pay for vital city services.

Accordingly, out of serious concern for the health and safety of our community, we respectfully request immediate attention by the County Health Dept.'s Environmental Health division to inspection and enforcement of pop-up street vendors in the Pacific Palisades community.

Via copy of this letter to County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath, Mayor Karen Bass, Councilwoman Traci Park, Los Angeles City Fire Dept. (LAFD) Chief Jaime Moore and County Public Health Director Dr. Barbara Ferrer, we also bring these health and safety risks to their attention and **request coordinated action by the City and County to effectively address the substantial fire hazards posed by pop-up street vending operations in Pacific Palisades.**

This request was [unanimously] approved by the PPCC Board at its regularly scheduled public meeting on April 23, 2026.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated prompt response.

Sincerely,

Sue Kohl, President
Christina Spitz, At-large Representative
Lorie Cudzil, Area 6 Representative
Pacific Palisades Community Council

cc:

Hon. Lindsey Horvath, LA County Supervisor, District 3
Hon. Karen Bass, Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Hon. Traci Park, LA City Councilwoman, District 11
Jaime Moore, Chief, LAFD
Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Director, LA County Dept. of Public Health

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