
City Council

Notice of Motion

MM7.16	ACTION			Ward: All
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Improving CaféTO - by Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Paula Fletcher, seconded by Councillor Alejandra Bravo, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the City Manager to review the CaféTO program by the end of 2023 and to report to the Executive Committee with:

- a. improvements to ensure that the permits are issued well in advance of the expected installation date;
- b. improved communication strategies to businesses and Business Improvement Areas;
- c. any other improvements incorporating feedback received from stakeholders;
- d. consideration of whether any 2023 fees should be refunded or the 2024 fee schedule modified; and
- e. what additional financial assistance could be provided to participating restaurants for capital costs associated with installing the patios.

Summary

CaféTO is one of the signature programs of the City. Its success is crucial to supporting small businesses and creating a vibrant streetscape, especially crucial as businesses continue to recover from the pandemic.

After issues were identified by local businesses in May, I was pleased to see that staff elected to install all CaféTO locations that had been technically approved while the permits are still being reviewed.

This is a temporary fix and I am hoping that a more thorough review of the program will ensure its smooth operation going forward.

I know City Council is committed to making CaféTO work.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM7.16