



June 13, 2024

Mr. Alfredo Melesio Jr
Director
City of North Las Vegas
Business License Division
2250 Las Vegas Blvd, North, Suite 110
North Las Vegas, NV 89030

Re: North Las Vegas Municipal Code – Chapter 5.02 – Sidewalk and Open-Air Vendors

Dear Director Melesio:

The Vegas Chamber (“Chamber”) is the largest and broadest-based business organization in Nevada, representing thousands of job creators, and is focused on helping Nevada businesses succeed and grow. It is the mission of the Chamber to support employers, their employees, and the Southern Nevada community since its founding in 1911. The Chamber has done so by advocating and supporting public policy initiatives that are fair, equitable, and predictable to businesses.

The Chamber appreciates the opportunity to provide input through the Business Impact Statement (“BIS”) process on behalf of our members regarding the proposed ordinance pertaining to Sidewalk and Open-Air Vendors for potentially impacted businesses in the City of North Las Vegas.

The proposed changes and amendments to the North Las Vegas Municipal Code (NLVMC)– Chapter 5.02 do not create a direct or significant economic burden upon a business and nor do they directly restrict the formation, operation, or expansion of a business.

The Chamber notes that the proposed ordinance is essential to ensure parity and equity within the food service industry and the greater business community. The Chamber supports the proposed ordinance as drafted. With over 70 different industry sectors represented by the Chamber that must be licensed by state and local governmental entities, operational parity is fundamental.

The requirement of a local government business license is an ordinary part of the operational process for any business in Southern Nevada, and the Chamber agrees with those provisions proposed the City of North Las Vegas. The requirement for a sidewalk vendor to obtain a business license does not create undue hardship nor does it place these operators at a different level or disadvantage compared to other food service operators, rather it creates parity within the industry.

Food safety standards are a critical necessity for a community that is a global destination attracting millions of domestic and international visitors each year. The Chamber supports the requirement for a permit from the Southern Nevada Health District to operate as a sidewalk vendor in NLVMC 5.60.050.

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This is consistent with existing policy for businesses that handle and prepare food for sale and consumption by the public.

The Chamber supports the annual fee of \$150 as proposed in NLVMC 5.60.040. This is a fair fee and does not create undue hardship for a business to operate in the City of North Las Vegas. This is particularly evident when compared to other food service providers (including restaurants, catering companies, and mobile food trucks) that must pay an annual licensing fee to operate in the City.

The Chamber firmly supports the provisions of NLVMC 5.60.080 to establish limits on operation hours and requiring the appropriate health permits from the Southern Nevada Health District as a practical restriction for public safety and access to sidewalks. It balances the desire for a small business or entrepreneur to succeed as a Sidewalk Vendor in the City of North Las Vegas while preserving the need for public access and safety on local sidewalks and rights-of-way.

Finally, the Chamber concurs with the limitations proposed in NLVMC 5.60.070. These provisions align with the legislative intent of Senate Bill 92 of the 2023 Legislative Session. Local government should set reasonable limitations while addressing local factors such as distance separation, public safety access, proximity to resort hotels, entertainment district, farmers markets, licensed food establishments, as well as preserve the rights of private property owners and other local specific considerations.

We understand that the development of a new ordinance to regulate a new and emerging industry can be a daunting task, and we appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments. If we can provide any further assistance or information, please contact us at 702.641.5822.

Sincerely,



Mary Beth Sewald
President & CEO



Hugh Anderson
Government Affairs Committee, Chairman