Date: April 8, 2016

To: Patrick H. West, City Manager

From: Amy J. Bodek, Director of Development Services

For: Mayor and Members of the City Council

Subject: Alcohol Nuisance Abatement Ordinance Update – 2nd Phase

On August 6, 2013, the City Council approved the Alcohol Nuisance Abatement Ordinance (ANAO) regulating legal nonconforming businesses selling beer, wine and distilled spirits for off-site consumption (liquor stores). The ANAO was established in response to community concerns regarding public safety, nuisance activity and poor site maintenance and appearance.

The first phase of implementation which started on January 10, 2014 and concluded in March 2015, resulted in a deemed approved status for 23 previously non-conforming liquor stores in Council Districts 8 and 9. On May 12, 2015, the City Council directed staff, through a Resolution, to further implement the Ordinance citywide, prioritizing Council Districts with the highest number of non-conforming liquor stores (Exhibit A – Type 21 Locations).

Staff began the second phase of implementation on July 8, 2015, which included 16 liquor stores in Council District 2, and three additional stores located in Districts 1 and 6. The subject business owners were informed about the provisions of the ANAO by an initial letter mailed on November 23, 2015 (Exhibit B – Letters to Owners). Follow-up letters were sent to all businesses that did not contact staff as requested in the initial letter. A final warning letter was sent on February 16, 2016, to three businesses that had made no attempt to comply with the Ordinance. To date, eight of the 19 liquor stores in this phase have been deemed approved.

The remaining non-compliant businesses have plans in place to obtain approval by April 30, 2016, except for the three properties noted above. Implementation of the ANAO has significantly improved the aesthetics at a majority of the affected liquor stores. Improvements include, but are not limited to, the removal of excessive window signage, security bars, window blockage, pay phones, and the installation of improved video surveillance and lighting systems. A number of liquor stores have reduced and/or relocated signage from windows, repainted, and pressure washed the sidewalk in front of the store. They have also provided the Police Department with access to their on-line video surveillance systems. These improvements are shown on the attached before and after pictures from several of the subject liquor stores (Exhibit C – Before and After Pictures).

Staff will continue to monitor all 19 businesses to ensure compliance by the end of April 2016, and will continue to work with the three businesses and property owners who have not fully complied. If the remaining non-conforming liquor stores still have not made
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progress, or shown effort to comply with the ANAO by the end of April, they will be subject
to a due process hearing in front of the Site Plan Review Committee, and a possible
revocation of their Type 21 liquor license.

The third phase of implementations is anticipated to begin in Council District 1 during the
first week of April, and includes 18 liquor stores.

For further information regarding this issue, please call Amy Bodek, Director of
Development Services, at (562) 570-6428.

AT IrritiinE:	EXHIBIT A – TYPE 21 LOCATIONS
    EXHIBIT B – LETTER TO OWNERS
    EXHIBIT C – BEFORE AND AFTER PICTURES

CC:
    CHARLES PARKIN, CITY ATTORNEY
    LAURA L. DOUD, CITY AUDITOR
    TOM MODICA, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
    ARTURO SANCHEZ, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
    REBECCA JIMENEZ, ASSISTANT TO THE CITY MANAGER
    LINDA TATUM, PLANNING BUREAU MANAGER
November 23, 2015

Hwang, Hae Kyun  
2218 E. 7th Street  
Long Beach, CA 90804

Dear Business or Property Owner,

The Long Beach City Council adopted new regulations that apply to liquor stores selling beer, wine and distilled spirits (Type 21 license). The regulations were adopted to ensure that stores are operated and maintained in a manner that does not create a nuisance in the surrounding neighborhood and to provide a safe environment for residents, patrons and employees. A deadline for compliance with the regulations was set for August 15, 2015. This is a reminder to advise you to move forward with the changes required to comply with the ordinance. The changes required were verbalized to you and are shown on the attached picture.

It is the City's expectation that you have completed, or have plans to complete all required improvements by January 28, 2016. Please keep in mind that additional requirements may be added to allow compliance with the ordinance. The added changes may include both exterior and interior changes.

If compliance is not obtained by the Business and/or property owners by January 28, 2016, a citation for violating the City's Municipal Code will be sent and may ultimately lead to the loss of your ability to sell beer, wine and distilled spirits if non-compliance continues.

We look forward to working with you on this initiative and assisting you throughout the implementation process. Please contact Steven Valdez at (562) 570-6571 or steven.valdez@longbeach.gov if you have any questions regarding the new deadline.

Sincerely,

Amy J. Bodek, AICP  
Director of Development Services

AJB: sv