

**Martha Alvarez, MMC**

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**From:** Martha Andreani <mandreani09@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 20, 2024 9:48 AM  
**To:** List - City Council; tmirzakhian@citymb.gov; Jaehee Yoon  
**Cc:** Bruce Moe; Liza Tamura, MMC  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council Meeting Agenda Item #12 for meeting on 02/20/2024

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Franklin, Mayor Pro Tem Amy Howorth, and Councilmembers David Lesser, Richard Montgomery, and Steve Napolitano:

Re: City Council Agenda Item #12 -- February 20, 2024 -- Outdoor Dining Task Force

I'm really concerned about the direction the City seems to be taking regarding Outdoor Dining. I'm particularly concerned because even though we've heard that we won't be allowing restaurants to serve diners on "walkstreet" encroachments, the City seems to be allowing some "flex areas" on the widened sidewalk proposed on the west side of Manhattan Avenue, and also to allow the wine shop "Uncorked" to use the walkstreet commercially for their wine bar. *Please, limit the scope of outdoor dining to protect our walkstreets, sidewalks, mixed-use and small-town charm.*

Why did people come to Manhattan Beach? Why do they still want to come? And why do they want to stay? It wasn't and isn't just to dine on our sidewalks and streets. It was for the character of the City -- a character that embraces our coastal city, our unique neighborhoods, our schools, our friendly retailers, our public safety, and yes - a City Council that supports the stated goal to maintain our charm and "small town atmosphere".

We celebrate that we have an environment for outdoor dining, but let's think of it as "patio dining" within the footprint of the restaurant such as The Kettle, El Sombrero, Hennessey's, and the newer Esperanza and Hook & Plow -- not tables and chairs on our sidewalks and "dining decks" in our streets.

My grandparents came to Manhattan Beach in the 1920's -- opening a restaurant and real estate office on Manhattan Avenue. I've known that businesses and residential properties can coexist -- happily. Our "walkstreets" are unique to our charm. I'm concerned that the Downtown, and parts of the North End, are becoming "restaurant centric".

Don't rewrite the General Plan and Municipal Codes for the purpose of accommodating and encouraging outdoor dining.

Thank you,  
Martha Andreani

## Martha Alvarez, MMC

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**From:** Suzanne Lerner @ Michael Stars <slerner@michaelstars.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 19, 2024 7:02 PM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Cc:** Talyn Mirzakhania; Jaehee Yoon  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council Meeting Agenda Item 12 Outdoor Dining Task Force - Feb 20, 2024

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Franklin and City Council:

I am quoting from Mayor Franklin's welcome letter to Manhattan Beach:

“ As Mayor, I am committed to continuing our traditions and serving our residents, visitors and businesses at the highest level possible. Along with my fellow Councilmembers, our top priorities are public safety and quality of life, with a focus on maintaining our small town atmosphere and low profile development. But wait, there's more! We're constantly changing and improving and we're taking steps to make Manhattan Beach more inclusive, more environmentally friendly, more beautiful with public art and revitalized public spaces.”

I too have been committed as a downtown resident to do my best to protect our quality of life, maintaining our small town atmosphere and low profile development.

Please note Chapter A.16 Commercial Districts A.16.010 Specific Purposes. A-CD

I am extremely concerned with the direction the Outdoor Dining Task Force has taken after reviewing their deck and proposals.

It appears the Task Force has focused on increasing outdoor dining by utilizing our corner sidewalk encroachments for dining, entertaining amplified music and shrinking the width of our streets, thereby creating more density.

Of particular concern to me are:

10th street encroachments - west and east side.

From what I gather from the deck, they have recommended that the west side of Manhattan Avenue be untouched which I appreciate. This was after widespread negative response from downtown walk street residents.

But the east side: to my knowledge homeowners and residents of 10th street above Manhattan Avenue did not receive any notice nor were contacted about the potential change to their street.

To recommend turning those east side encroachments into dining/drinking alcohol patios, it will increase noise exponentially for those folks as well as anyone living west of Manhattan Av.

It will also interfere with people waiting for the bus on 10th street. I wouldn't love waiting for a bus while dealing with a noisy bar right behind me.

Increased dining creates increased trucks, delivery, pickups, sewage, plumbers, rodents, vermin, traffic density,

Increased dining creates a bigger workforce in those establishments so there are far fewer or no parking spaces available to residents and visitors  
Increased dining creates double parked trucks and traffic density - cars and trucks are continuously driving/parking thru our side alleys - blocking residents to come/go to their garages....making the turns onto manhattan avenue hazardous to them as well as pedestrians and bikes.  
Trucks blocking our driveways and alleys so you cannot leave/come to your home nor even drive down the alley. I have been personally blocked for over 20 minutes from entering 9th place.  
These have been continual daily issues for my tenants and myself since outdoor dining was increased.  
We have been patient.

The suggested widening of the sidewalks seems like a good solution but.  
How many millions of dollars will this cost the city which in turn costs the taxpayers from having other city services available  
What would be the time frame for this to happen? I would assume years - a huge project affecting anyone downtown.  
Does this also include removal of all parking meters which i think is a great idea but cost prohibitive?  
Adding more cars to be parked on an angle with smaller streets is dangerous for anyone on a bike. How will bike riders stay safe?

Suggestions of "live entertainment (and/or) amplified music"  
This will just increase noise pollution to residents. Any type of music...this should not even be considered.

I think that if you give an inch, people will take a mile.

As a downtown resident living on a walk street...i have always loved living downtown and being able to enjoy the small town character of manhattan beach - where you can be a resident living on a walk street feet away from the commercial streets and at the same time protected by the ordinance passed 20 years ago that protects our encroachments from commercial development.

I appreciate the Council and hope that you will utilize your leadership to protect Manhattan Beach as the jewel it is and continue to protect our quality of life.

Thank you very much.

Suzanne Lerner  
124 Tenth Street  
Manhattan Beach, CA. 90266

Suzanne Lerner  
Co-Founder/CEO  
Michael Stars  
(310) 422-1661  
[www.michaelstars.com](http://www.michaelstars.com)  
[www.suzannelerner.com](http://www.suzannelerner.com)

## Martha Alvarez, MMC

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**From:** Niklas Tostar <niklasnwt@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 20, 2024 11:52 AM  
**To:** City Clerk; List - City Council  
**Cc:** Talyn Mirzakhanian; Jaehee Yoon  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City Council Meeting Agenda Item 12 Outdoor Dining Task Force - Feb 20, 2024

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Franklin and City Council Members,

I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to take a moment to share my concerns about the recent proposals from the Outdoor Dining Task Force. As someone who recently moved to Manhattan Beach on a downtown walk street, it has been a wonderful experience, and I am invested in maintaining the unique small-town atmosphere we all cherish.

My particular concern lies with the recommendations for 10th street encroachments on the east side. It appears that some or most residents were not informed about potential changes, particularly the proposal to convert these areas into dining spaces. This shift would lead to increased noise levels for residents and disruptions for those utilizing public transportation on 10th street.

The implications of increased outdoor dining, including amplified music and expanded sidewalks, raise questions about the associated costs, implementation timelines, and impact on parking, pedestrian/cyclist safety. Moreover, the introduction of live entertainment will compromise the peaceful coexistence we currently enjoy in our downtown area. Proposed plan raises significant issues related to sanitation and public order. Outdoor dining would undoubtedly lead to an increase in trash and attract rodents.

These restaurants were built to host a specific amount of guests, which directly correlates to the size of the staff, kitchens, trash bins, dishwashing areas, bathrooms, waiting areas, etc. - increasing the amount of guests without the increasing infrastructure to support it would be unhealthy and disadvantageous to all parties. These consequences not only threaten the well-being of our community but also compromise the cleanliness and safety of our shared spaces.

Preserving the charm and quality of life in Manhattan Beach is paramount to many of us residents. I believe in the Council's ability to carefully consider these matters and ensure that any changes align with the best interests of the community. I ask you to carefully reconsider the outdoor dining proposal on walk streets. While I understand the draw to increase dining to the few restaurants who were lucky enough to be part of this proposal and be next to a walk street, we must not sacrifice the unique qualities that set Manhattan Beach apart from other towns, which is a cherished, healthy and charming community loved by many. Everyone who has visited us in Manhattan Beach has commented how surprised they are about the atmosphere and how it's not the "Los Angeles" they were expecting.

I really appreciate your time and attention to this matter Council!

-Niklas

## Martha Alvarez, MMC

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**From:** City of Manhattan Beach <CityOfManhattanBeach@manhattanbeach.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 20, 2024 12:12 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Outdoor Dining Concerns from Walk Street Resident next to Tabula Rasa and Slay Italian

**EXTERNAL EMAIL:** Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Message submitted from the <City of Manhattan Beach> website.

**Site Visitor Name:** Mia Johansson  
**Site Visitor Email:** miajohansson03@gmail.com

Dear City Clerk,

I hope this letter finds you well. My name is Mia Johansson and I am a resident living on a walk street adjacent to the corner of Tabula Rasa, diagonally across from Slay Italian. I am writing to express my urgent concerns about the proposed outdoor dining areas, some of which are slated to be situated right next to our patio on 124 10th street, where we frequently spend time outdoors.

Maintaining the walk streets as public seating areas and green spaces not only sustains the downtown ambiance but also crucially separates the bustling activities from the peaceful residential zones. Removing this separation would severely change the feeling from living in a peaceful suburban neighborhood, to being right outside of a busy restaurant. I would be deeply upset if this were to occur right on our doorstep.

Restaurants in Manhattan Beach have already secured outdoor dining spaces on public sidewalks and parking areas due to COVID, and they've retained these spaces even after the pandemic has subsided. There's no legitimate justification for them to further encroach on public areas. Manhattan Beach boasts an abundance of dining choices, and the city does not need to transform into a food court. Moreover, expanding restaurants beyond their intended capacity would more than double issues such as traffic, waste, delivery trucks, and heightened noise levels.

I ask you to weigh the potential consequences of compromising Manhattan Beach's distinctive beach town charm with its tranquil walk streets. There are few places in Los Angeles that offer a similar atmosphere, and it is your responsibility to act in the best interest of Manhattan Beach residents, rather than succumbing to the voices of a select few, albeit vocal, restaurant owners.

For any further inquiries, please feel free to contact me at 707-480-8180.

Best Regards,  
Mia Johansson

124 10th street, Manhattan Beach, Unit #3 Corner of Tabula Rasa and diagonal from Slay Italian

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH**  
CITY ENOTIFICATION