



Greater Houston Restaurant Association
550 Westcott Suite 380
Houston, Texas 77007

December 14, 2021

Honorable Mayor Sylvester Turner and Houston City Council
901 Bagby
Houston, TX 77002

Dear Mr. Mayor and Council Members:

Houston is known around the world as a Food Capital of the South. Our restaurants and bars contribute to our identity as America's most diverse city, while significantly contributing to our economy. The current pandemic has devastated our industry and we are looking for a multitude of options to recover and rebuild.

The City of Houston continues to support our local restaurant industry during the stressful times of COVID-19, in many ways. One was identifying options to convert unutilized vehicle space into seating for customers with the More Space Program approved by City Council on August 2, 2020.

We further support the continuation and / or expansion of the More Space: Main Street as an exciting program for both our industry and community. Focusing on the businesses along Main Street in downtown Houston, and allowing for dining and customers areas to expand into the car lanes, with car traffic closed over these few blocks is a great continuation the program goals and will transform Main Street into an interesting, vibrant destination.

The Greater Houston Restaurant Association, a chapter of the Texas Restaurant Association is in favor these efforts, recognizing the City is helping support our businesses and keep Houston a thriving, economically viable city.

Sincerely,

Melissa M Stewart
Sr. Executive Director, TRA Regions
Texas Restaurant Association