

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jenny Townsend

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 06:13 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** I live in una Favella del Inferno myself. I know la Povertà from birth. These residents need the city authorities to rescue them from the landlord who raises the rent cumulous high. The Hillside is in Chinatown. I never go downtown anymore to Little Tokyo. My Chinatown is south of Little Italy. I want to support the teams who are working to get the City of Los Angeles to purchase Hillside & keep its rents affordable. I pay 67% of my dole for rent. I understand these people in Chinatown. Grazie miglia.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Amanda Lasher

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 10:00 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** I support the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please authorize the LA Housing Department to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown. We are in desperate need of affordable housing in LA and what this landlord did during the pandemic is sickening.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sam Trinh

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 10:05 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** Los Angeles City Council, I am Sam Trinh, representing the K3 Tenant Council, another tenants union in the city of Los Angeles. I am writing today to express my strong support for the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please take action to authorize the Los Angeles Housing Department (CF 21-0600-S101) to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown. Hillside Villa was built in 1988 with Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) funds, under a covenant guaranteeing all units to be affordable for 30 years. Since the covenant status expired in 2018, Tom Botz, who bought the building in 2000, has been pressuring tenants to "self-evict" by raising the rent. Many of these tenants have been in the building – and in the Chinatown community – for decades. Some are the second generation of their family to live in Hillside Villa. The current rents are up to 300% what tenants were paying under the affordability covenant. For most tenants in the building, the landlord is asking for 100% of their income or more. Tenants under Section 8 have seen drastic increases in both the overall rent and the portion they are responsible for. The motion to use a reserve fund loan to purchase Hillside Villa Apartments to keep it permanently affordable was initially made over a year ago. It has the support of over 30 community groups, State Senator Maria Elena Durazo, and over 400 of LA City residents who have written and called in for public comment. Despite the outpouring of public support for this motion, the Budget and Finance Committee requested a report from LAHD instead of voting in September, 2021. That report, which finally became available two weeks ago, lays out a clear way forward for the city to purchase the building with a reserve fund loan, which can be paid back by transferring ownership to HACLA. In the year that you have been deliberating, Tom Botz has collected hundreds of thousands of dollars in unfair rents through the ERAP and Housing is Key programs, not to mention the money he brags about getting from HACLA "like clockwork." There are no more excuses. Vote yes on this motion. There is no more time to waste while this exploitative landlord takes advantage of his tenants and of City, State, and Federal programs to enrich himself at taxpayer expense. The city council must take action NOW!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Milly Chi

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 10:20 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** Los Angeles City Council, I am Milly Chi, a Chinatown community member. I am writing today to express my strong support for the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please take action to authorize the Los Angeles Housing Department (CF 21-0600-S101) to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown. Hillside Villa was built in 1988 with Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) funds, under a covenant guaranteeing all units to be affordable for 30 years. Since the covenant status expired in 2018, Tom Botz, who bought the building in 2000, has been pressuring tenants to "self-evict" by raising the rent. Many of these tenants have been in the building – and in the Chinatown community – for decades. Some are the second generation of their family to live in Hillside Villa. The current rents are up to 300% what tenants were paying under the affordability covenant. For most tenants in the building, the landlord is asking for 100% of their income or more. Tenants under Section 8 have seen drastic increases in both the overall rent and the portion they are responsible for. The motion to use a reserve fund loan to purchase Hillside Villa Apartments to keep it permanently affordable was initially made over a year ago. It has the support of over 30 community groups, State Senator Maria Elena Durazo, and over 400 of LA City residents who have written and called in for public comment. Despite the outpouring of public support for this motion, the Budget and Finance Committee requested a report from LAHD instead of voting in September, 2021. That report, which finally became available two weeks ago, lays out a clear way forward for the city to purchase the building with a reserve fund loan, which can be paid back by transferring ownership to HACLA. In the year that you have been deliberating, Tom Botz has collected hundreds of thousands of dollars in unfair rents through the ERAP and Housing is Key programs, not to mention the money he brags about getting from HACLA "like clockwork." There are no more excuses. Vote yes on this motion. There is no more time to waste while this exploitative landlord takes advantage of his tenants and of City, State, and Federal programs to enrich himself at taxpayer expense. The city council must take action NOW! Sincerely, Milly

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sarah H Eggers

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 10:29 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** I support the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please authorize the LA Housing Department to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Terrence

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 10:59 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** Council File: CF 21-0600-S101 Los Angeles City Council, I am Terrence from LA Tenants Union Westside Local. I am writing today to express my strong support for the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please take action to authorize the Los Angeles Housing Department (CF 21-0600-S101) to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown. Hillside Villa was built in 1988 with Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) funds, under a covenant guaranteeing all units to be affordable for 30 years. Since the covenant status expired in 2018, Tom Botz, who bought the building in 2000, has been pressuring tenants to "self-evict" by raising the rent. Many of these tenants have been in the building – and in the Chinatown community – for decades. Some are the second generation of their family to live in Hillside Villa. The current rents are up to 300% what tenants were paying under the affordability covenant. For most tenants in the building, the landlord is asking for 100% of their income or more. Tenants under Section 8 have seen drastic increases in both the overall rent and the portion they are responsible for. The motion to use a reserve fund loan to purchase Hillside Villa Apartments to keep it permanently affordable was initially made over a year ago. It has the support of over 30 community groups, State Senator Maria Elena Durazo, and over 400 of LA City residents who have written and called in for public comment. Despite the outpouring of public support for this motion, the Budget and Finance Committee requested a report from LAHD instead of voting in September, 2021. That report, which finally became available two weeks ago, lays out a clear way forward for the city to purchase the building with a reserve fund loan, which can be paid back by transferring ownership to HACLA. In the year that you have been deliberating, Tom Botz has collected hundreds of thousands of dollars in unfair rents through the ERAP and Housing is Key programs, not to mention the money he brags about getting from HACLA "like clockwork." There are no more excuses. Vote yes on this motion. There is no more time to waste while this exploitative landlord takes advantage of his tenants and of City, State, and Federal programs to enrich himself at taxpayer expense. The city council must take action NOW!

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 11:12 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** Los Angeles City Council, My name is Kaera and I am writing today to express my strong support for the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please take action to authorize the Los Angeles Housing Department (CF 21-0600-S101) to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown. Hillside Villa was built in 1988 with Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) funds, under a covenant guaranteeing all units to be affordable for 30 years. Since the covenant status expired in 2018, Tom Botz, who bought the building in 2000, has been pressuring tenants to "self-evict" by raising the rent. Many of these tenants have been in the building – and in the Chinatown community – for decades. Some are the second generation of their family to live in Hillside Villa. The current rents are up to 300% what tenants were paying under the affordability covenant. For most tenants in the building, the landlord is asking for 100% of their income or more. Tenants under Section 8 have seen drastic increases in both the overall rent and the portion they are responsible for. The motion to use a reserve fund loan to purchase Hillside Villa Apartments to keep it permanently affordable was initially made over a year ago. It has the support of over 30 community groups, State Senator Maria Elena Durazo, and over 400 of LA City residents who have written and called in for public comment. Despite the outpouring of public support for this motion, the Budget and Finance Committee requested a report from LAHD instead of voting in September, 2021. That report, which finally became available two weeks ago, lays out a clear way forward for the city to purchase the building with a reserve fund loan, which can be paid back by transferring ownership to HACLA. In the year that you have been deliberating, Tom Botz has collected hundreds of thousands of dollars in unfair rents through the ERAP and Housing is Key programs, not to mention the money he brags about getting from HACLA "like clockwork." There are no more excuses. Vote yes on this motion. There is no more time to waste while this exploitative landlord takes advantage of his tenants and of City, State, and Federal programs to enrich himself at taxpayer expense. The city council must take action NOW!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ari

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 11:52 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** Los Angeles City Council, My name is Ariana Waters, I am a member of the Los Angeles Tenants Union. I am writing today to express my strong support for the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please take action to authorize the Los Angeles Housing Department (CF 21-0600-S101) to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown. Hillside Villa was built in 1988 with Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) funds, under a covenant guaranteeing all units to be affordable for 30 years. Since the covenant status expired in 2018, Tom Botz, who bought the building in 2000, has been pressuring tenants to "self-evict" by raising the rent. Many of these tenants have been in the building – and in the Chinatown community – for decades. Some are the second generation of their family to live in Hillside Villa. The current rents are up to 300% what tenants were paying under the affordability covenant. For most tenants in the building, the landlord is asking for 100% of their income or more. Tenants under Section 8 have seen drastic increases in both the overall rent and the portion they are responsible for. The motion to use a reserve fund loan to purchase Hillside Villa Apartments to keep it permanently affordable was initially made over a year ago. It has the support of over 30 community groups, State Senator Maria Elena Durazo, and over 400 of LA City residents who have written and called in for public comment. Despite the outpouring of public support for this motion, the Budget and Finance Committee requested a report from LAHD instead of voting in September, 2021. That report, which finally became available two weeks ago, lays out a clear way forward for the city to purchase the building with a reserve fund loan, which can be paid back by transferring ownership to HACLA. In the year that you have been deliberating, Tom Botz has collected hundreds of thousands of dollars in unfair rents through the ERAP and Housing is Key programs, not to mention the money he brags about getting from HACLA "like clockwork." There are no more excuses. Vote yes on this motion. There is no more time to waste while this exploitative landlord takes advantage of his tenants and of City, State, and Federal programs to enrich himself at taxpayer expense. The city council must take action NOW!



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kate Grodd

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 03:53 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly support the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please authorize the LA Housing Department to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 05:35 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** I support the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please authorize the LA Housing Department to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Valerie Hurt

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 02:45 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** I support the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please authorize the LA Housing Department to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown. Housing is a human right.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Rachael Mason

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 03:26 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** I support the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please authorize the LA Housing Department to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown

## Communication from Public

**Name:** jacob w

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 01:34 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** Los Angeles City Council, I am writing today to express my strong support for the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please take action to authorize the Los Angeles Housing Department (CF 20-0600-S101) to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown. Hillside Villa was built in 1988 with Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) funds, under a covenant guaranteeing all units to be affordable for 30 years. Since the covenant status expired in 2018, Tom Botz, who bought the building in 2000, has been pressuring tenants to "self-evict" by raising the rent. Many of these tenants have been in the building – and in the Chinatown community – for decades. Some are the second generation of their family to live in Hillside Villa. The current rents are up to 300% what tenants were paying under the affordability covenant. For most tenants in the building, the landlord is asking for 100% of their income or more. Tenants under Section 8 have seen drastic increases in both the overall rent and the portion they are responsible for. The motion to use a reserve fund loan to purchase Hillside Villa Apartments to keep it permanently affordable was initially made over a year ago. It has the support of over 30 community groups, State Senator Maria Elena Durazo, and over 400 of LA City residents who have written and called in for public comment. Despite the outpouring of public support for this motion, the Budget and Finance Committee requested a report from LAHD instead of voting in September, 2021. That report, which finally became available two weeks ago, lays out a clear way forward for the city to purchase the building with a reserve fund loan, which can be paid back by transferring ownership to HACLA. In the year that you have been deliberating, Tom Botz has collected hundreds of thousands of dollars in unfair rents through the ERAP and Housing is Key programs, not to mention the money he brags about getting from HACLA "like clockwork." There are no more excuses. Vote yes on this motion. There is no more time to waste while this exploitative landlord takes advantage of his tenants and of City, State, and Federal programs to enrich himself at taxpayer expense. The city council must take action NOW!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Amelie Cherlin

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 02:16 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing today to express my strong support for the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please take action to authorize the Los Angeles Housing Department to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Griffin Rowell

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 02:18 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** I support the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please authorize the LA Housing Department to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Paul Des Marais  
**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 01:16 PM  
**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** Los Angeles City Council, I am Paul Des Marais. I am writing today to express my strong support for the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. Please take action to authorize the Los Angeles Housing Department (CF 20-0600-S101) to use a reserve fund loan to preserve 124 units of affordable housing in Chinatown. Hillside Villa was built in 1988 with Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) funds, under a covenant guaranteeing all units to be affordable for 30 years. Since the covenant status expired in 2018, Tom Botz, who bought the building in 2000, has been pressuring tenants to "self-evict" by raising the rent. Many of these tenants have been in the building – and in the Chinatown community – for decades. Some are the second generation of their family to live in Hillside Villa. The current rents are up to 300% what tenants were paying under the affordability covenant. For most tenants in the building, the landlord is asking for 100% of their income or more. Tenants under Section 8 have seen drastic increases in both the overall rent and the portion they are responsible for. The motion to use a reserve fund loan to purchase Hillside Villa Apartments to keep it permanently affordable was initially made over a year ago. It has the support of over 30 community groups, State Senator Maria Elena Durazo, and over 400 of LA City residents who have written and called in for public comment. Despite the outpouring of public support for this motion, the Budget and Finance Committee requested a report from LAHD instead of voting in September, 2021. That report, which finally became available two weeks ago, lays out a clear way forward for the city to purchase the building with a reserve fund loan, which can be paid back by transferring ownership to HACLA. In the year that you have been deliberating, Tom Botz has collected hundreds of thousands of dollars in unfair rents through the ERAP and Housing is Key programs, not to mention the money he brags about getting from HACLA "like clockwork." There are no more excuses. Vote yes on this motion. There is no more time to waste while this exploitative landlord takes advantage of his tenants and of City, State, and Federal programs to enrich himself at taxpayer expense. The city council must take action NOW!



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lionel Mares

**Date Submitted:** 05/24/2022 01:33 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600-S101

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Council Members, I am writing to urge you to support the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. They have been pleading for the city to help them stay housed in their apartment. The cost of living in Los Angeles County has skyrocketed which resulted in many people struggling to find stable housing in the worse housing crisis in years. I don't know much about the situation but I can understand the frustration and anxiety that many of these people face. They are running scared and don't want to become homeless due to inaction by the city of Los Angeles City Council to use Eminent Domain to acquire this specific location to ensure that the residents do not become displaced and/or homeless. They want to be able to live there but they need your help to ensure that they don't face eviction by the landlord. Please, help the Hillside Villa Tenants' Association. The world is suffering because of Poverty and Crime and Homelessness. I ask that the City Council members to please help the impoverished and working class families and individuals to stay housed. Don't ignore them. Do the right thing. "I don't quite know How to say How I feel Those three words Are said too much They're not enough"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GemKqzILV4w>