

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Hi, My name is Yvonne Sun and I'm the director of SSG SILVER a non-profit health and human services agency serving older adults in the city of LA for the last 25 years. I am writing to request that projects serving older adults be given priority in the scoring process. Currently, we are seeing an unprecedented increase in older adults facing housing insecurity. Many older adults live on a fixed income and are facing challenges sustaining housing given the rising cost of housing, health care, and other basic items they need to live in the community. The availability of affordable and accessible housing that meets the ADA needs of older adults are limited and oftentimes this forces older adults to find housing in very undesirable settings and puts their health and safety at risk. We are also seeing older adults forced to relocate from communities where most of their support system are. This further perpetuates decline in health and mental health. Currently, older adults constitute approximately 25% of people experiencing homelessness. The lack of available affordable and accessible housing stock has been one of the leading challenges contributing to the increase in this number. In addition, for projects that are available, many older adults do not meet the threshold criteria to be prioritized given the current screening that does not take into account the risk factors faced by older adults. Please consider prioritizing projects targeting older adults and evaluate the tools used to screen for eligibility in projects being developed to better meet the needs of this population.