

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: I lost my house in Malibu to the fires on January 8th. I am also a housing provider with two, small buildings in the City of Los Angeles. This is a deeply personal issue for me. If the City Council approves yet another eviction moratorium, it will only encourage massive fraud as we saw during COVID. Thousands of tenants across the city who were already late on their January rent before the fires will claim fire-related economic harm to stave off eviction. Letters from employers will be falsified. Landlords will have no ability to verify the authenticity of these documents. Ask any landlord what happens when you call an HR department to verify employment. You are told they cannot speak to you without written authorization from the employee, which means that in actuality there will be NO burden of proof on the tenants. Are you going to add into this ordinance stiff financial and criminal penalties for fraud? For falsifying documents? I doubt it. Are you going to add a common sense amendment that states someone who was already delinquent in their January rent before the fires cannot use this as a convenient eviction defense? I doubt it. Are you going to offer property tax abatements for landlords affected by such a moratorium? Yeah, right. So once again, landlords are offered no protections from this council. I have suffered an immense loss. Mental, emotional, certainly financial. I am not asking the council to rebuild my home. But I am asking the council not to deprive me of income at this vital time based on a false premise. Where is the evidence of massive job loss? I can show you the evidence of my economic hardship. It's a pile of rubble off PCH. If you would use my personal tragedy and the tragedy of thousands of others to advance a years-long political agenda, shame on you. Housing providers are not your punching bags. It is discriminatory and unconstitutional and whether you realize it or not your constant attacks and over-regulation are the reason you have a supply and affordability problem in this city. Enough is enough.