



JOHN S. LEE
COUNCILMEMBER, 12TH DISTRICT

February 4, 2025

Dear Chair Raman and Members of the Housing & Homelessness Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed implementation of the eviction moratorium and to urge this committee to recommend to the full City Council a more tailored, specific response that directly addresses the needs of individuals and families impacted by the January 2025 Fires.

We as city leaders are unified in our desire to provide assistance to those who were impacted by the devastation of the fires, but I believe that an eviction moratorium would be an ineffective and disproportionate response. Extending such a policy across the entire city fails to target assistance to those most affected by the fires and would further exacerbate the financial burden on the property owners we rely on to provide housing in our city. We must act thoughtfully and decisively to ensure those directly affected by this disaster receive the relief they need without causing harm to others in the process.

To ensure that happens, I respectfully request that this committee consider the following amendments:

1. Request the City Attorney, with assistance from LAHD, to include in the ordinance a comprehensive list of documents that are eligible to be used for the declaration of proof of loss of income due to the 2025 fires, **under penalty of perjury**.
2. Amend the following language in Recommendation 2 to read: "Request the City Attorney, with assistance from LAHD, to prepare and present an ordinance, with an urgency clause, that prohibits the following types of evictions, **for three (3) months beginning February 1, 2025.**"
3. Request the City Attorney to make clear in the ordinance that these protections only apply to those individuals who meet the requirements under the declaration of proof of loss and were in their units prior to January 1, 2025.

I strongly urge the committee to recommend these targeted measures to the full City Council so we can move forward with a thoughtful, swift and focused response to the needs of our community.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent issue, and I look forward to working with each of you to ensure that we provide the necessary assistance to those who need it most.

Sincerely,

JOHN S. LEE
Councilmember, Twelfth District