

Communication from Public

Name: Priscilla Castaneda

Date Submitted: 02/03/2025 05:55 PM

Council File No: 25-0006-S16

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, my name is Priscilla. I'm from InnerCity Struggle, and I live in Paramount. I'd like to comment on item 2 and general public comment. I urge the committee to vote yes on item 2 with amendments to put back in a temporary rent increase pause and to remove the documentation requirement from the eviction defense. It has been a month since the fires broke out--tenants need these protections IMMEDIATELY, they should have already been implemented. LA is a city of renters-- renters who were barely holding onto their housing before the fires and now are facing rent increases and an increased risk of eviction from nonpayment of rent due to losing their income because of the fires. Waiting for financial aid like rental assistance, which LAHD said would take up to 8 months to get to tenants, cannot and will not prevent mass displacement that will happen soon without rapid and temporary protections. To receive eviction protections, tenants should just need to self-attest without documentation upfront. It should be up to the courts to review documentation if there is a dispute on the loss of income due to the fires. The more unnecessary requirements added to this defense, the less eligible people can access and use it. The rent increase pause also must be put back into motion. It is now February and potentially hundreds of thousands of RSO tenants are getting 4-6% rent increases under the old LARSO formula that should have been updated last year. Tenants already couldn't afford rent and now even more have lost income and stability due to the fires. We need a pause on the system to stabilize tenants in the aftermath of the fires. Vote yes on Item 2. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Michelle

Date Submitted: 02/03/2025 06:39 PM

Council File No: 25-0006-S16

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmember (insert last name) Hello my name is Michelle Espinoza born and raised here. I'm from East LA, MTB and I live in LA 90034. I am calling in support of Item 2 on Wednesday's Housing and Homeless Committee agenda with amendments to restore the temporary rent increase pause and to remove the burdensome documentation requirement from the eviction defense added to the motion. I urge the Councilmember to vote yes on item 2 and move forward with eviction protections and a rent freeze for RSO units. It is inexcusable that Council has failed to take action to protect Angelenos from displacement and rising rents. While I support financial aid to tenants, it will be far too late for most to avoid displacement-- LAHD said getting support to tenants would take 4-8 months minimum. It's been almost a month since the wildfires. As a member of the Housing and Homeless Committee, we call on your leadership to take action now. The wildfires have devastated our communities, and tenants who were already facing unaffordable rent and persistent rent burden are now more vulnerable than ever to displacement. Thousands of people have lost their homes, their neighborhoods, and their jobs. Price gouging has also been out of control as a result of these fires, worsening our affordability crisis. [PLEASE TAKE ACTION AND HELP LA RENTERS. WE ARE DEALING WITH THE AFTERMATH OF WILDFIRE DISASTER! I HAVE BEEN AFFECTED, WE ALL HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THIS DISASTER. UNFORTUNATELY I LOST MY JOB AND EDD is making it difficult to obtain disaster relief for self employed individuals.] LA City must pause evictions and rent increases to help people struggling to pay rent after losing their income and prevent further displacement and homelessness caused by the fires. Tenants are trying to recover from these wildfires, and cannot face the threat of losing their homes. Thank you, Michelle Espinoza

Communication from Public

Name: Robert Chlala

Date Submitted: 02/03/2025 10:27 PM

Council File No: 25-0006-S16

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of CD 1 and someone who has called LA home for so long I am asking the Council to wake up to the disaster facing our housing system as the cascade of housing and job loss from the fires hit. Rather than allowing it to happen and putting so many on our streets to suffer, pro active action to stop evictions and freeze rents is the only humane path. My research and work for many years has been on economic development and I am a professor in this field, but you don't need a PhD to understand the catastorhic consequences already visible with rent gouging and push-out. I just finished a research survey with 500+ South LA residents as well - all documenting illegal harassmment tactics evicting families with children 0 to 5. If you fear for small mom and pop landlords (few and far between) then institute some support. And trust me - developers have continued to come to LA and will do so, those threats are baseless. I am proud my rep is standing with everyday people; I only hope all the rest of the council particularly its President remember the core values of care and community and stave off more senseless loss. Thank you!

Communication from Public

Name: Stina Pederson

Date Submitted: 02/03/2025 12:40 PM

Council File No: 25-0006-S16

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in support of eviction protections for Angelenos who lost income because of the fires. Housing is a human right and no one should be worried about being kicked out of their homes due to loss of income. The city can and should do more to protect tenants.

Communication from Public

Name: Jerilyn Ramirez

Date Submitted: 02/03/2025 10:45 AM

Council File No: 25-0006-S16

Comments for Public Posting: Please vote to provide eviction protection for those whose income was affected by the fires. Los Angeles must come together to protect and support everyone who experienced loss from the wildfires. The housing crisis that existed has only been exacerbated by the disaster, and allowing further evictions won't do anything to help. Please let those in homes remain there while we work to provide long term solutions to the housing and loss of income crises.

Communication from Public

Name: Lena Sullivan

Date Submitted: 02/03/2025 03:22 PM

Council File No: 25-0006-S16

Comments for Public Posting: I urge the committee to vote yes on item 2 with amendments to put back in a temporary rent increase pause and to remove the documentation requirement from the eviction defense. It has been a month since the fires broke out--tenants need these protections IMMEDIATELY, they should have already been implemented. LA is a city of renters-- renters who were barely holding onto their housing before the fires and now are facing rent increases and an increased risk of eviction from nonpayment of rent due to losing their income because of the fires. Waiting for financial aid like rental assistance, which LAHD said would take up to 8 months to get to tenants, cannot and will not prevent mass displacement that will happen soon without rapid and temporary protections. To receive the eviction protections, tenants should just need to self attest without documentation upfront. It should be up to the courts to review documentation if there is a dispute on the loss of income due to the fires. The more unnecessary requirements added to this defense, the less eligible people are able to access and use it. The rent increase pause also must be put back into the motion. It is now February and potentially hundreds of thousands of RSO tenants are getting 4-6% rent increases under the old LARSO formula that should have been updated last year. Tenants already couldn't afford rent and now even more have lost income and stability due to the fires. We need a pause on the system to stabilize tenants in the aftermath of the fires. Vote yes on Item 2. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Rebecca Dennison

Date Submitted: 02/03/2025 04:25 PM

Council File No: 25-0006-S16

Comments for Public Posting: Dear LA City Council Housing and Homeless Committee members, We are writing in strong support of the motion on the Committee's agenda this week to provide much needed tenant protections (Council File 25-0006-S16), in response to the multiple impacts of the fires on tenants and rent stabilized units. As a non-profit affordable housing developer, we know first hand the impacts on low wage workers, unhoused people, and other low income tenants that can go unnoticed during disasters and their aftermath - that we are experiencing now as Angelinos. Tenants who are impacted by the fires need every protection available to stabilize in the short term, and Los Angeles more broadly needs to prevent real estate speculation and competition for much needed units leading to displacement. Inaction will exacerbate the already overwhelming impacts of the fire. We are writing to urge you to take leadership on tenant protections and an equitable approach to fire relief and response, and vote YES on Item 2 on your agenda – including any amendments that strengthen tenant protections even further - on Wednesday, February 5th. Thank you in advance, Becky Dennison
Co-Executive Director Venice Community Housing

Communication from Public

Name: Chelsea Rosales
Date Submitted: 02/03/2025 04:58 PM
Council File No: 25-0006-S16

Comments for Public Posting: Hello my name is Chelsea . I'm from InnerCity Struggle and I live in District 14. I'd like to comment on item 2 and general public comment. I urge the committee to vote yes on item 2 with amendments to put back in a temporary rent increase pause and to remove the documentation requirement from the eviction defense. It has been a month since the fires broke out--tenants need these protections IMMEDIATELY, they should have already been implemented. LA is a city of renters-- renters who were barely holding onto their housing before the fires and now are facing rent increases and an increased risk of eviction from nonpayment of rent due to losing their income because of the fires. Waiting for financial aid like rental assistance, which LAHD said would take up to 8 months to get to tenants, cannot and will not prevent mass displacement that will happen soon without rapid and temporary protections. To receive the eviction protections, tenants should just need to self attest without documentation upfront. It should be up to the courts to review documentation if there is a dispute on the loss of income due to the fires. The more unnecessary requirements added to this defense, the less eligible people are able to access and use it. The rent increase pause also must be put back into the motion. It is now February and potentially hundreds of thousands of RSO tenants are getting 4-6% rent increases under the old LARSO formula that should have been updated last year. Tenants already couldn't afford rent and now even more have lost income and stability due to the fires. We need a pause on the system to stabilize tenants in the aftermath of the fires. Vote yes on Item 2. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/03/2025 04:58 PM

Council File No: 25-0006-S16

Comments for Public Posting: Greetings..... I urge you to vote NO on further eviction protections/ rent freezes. Affordable housing providers cannot continue to solve the problems of City of Los Angeles by having further financial burdens placed on them. We urge LA City to fix it's own problems rather than try to transfer the burdens on to others such as affordable housing providers . We strongly propose that the LA City create it's own special funding resources such as emergency HUD Section 8 vouchers for Fire victims and other such emergency funds that could be used for Fire victims to seek out/ rent housing. We are Mom & Pop affordable housing providers in San Fernando Valley. We continue to not have recovered financially due to the devastating effects inflicted upon us by government officials mandated covid' 19 rent moratoriums which allowed numerous manipulative tenants to not pay us rent due us and force us to become their slaves requiring that we perform free (for them) tasks to fix their toilets & other appliances while they smugly stood by. A sizable number of tenants (ours as well as those of other owners) did not even apply to government websites to try to get approval for government to send us past due rent money (probably b/c they knew they would not qualify). We did apply to all such Covid rent relief websites and did everything to encourage some tenants to submit their covid 19 tenant rent applications except to beg on knees!!! It was absolutely ridiculous biased that government denied our rent payment requests because the tenant did not complete their portion--even though government allowed tenants to "self-certify" they were affected by covid to get out of paying rents due! We alone have experienced almost \$200,000 in unpaid covid and post covid rents --made worse by tenants who hired government funded sleazy lawyers to do all to delay evictions/ demand jury trials --costing us another \$50,000 in legal fees (and ,yes,another year post covid to live rent free in our units and on our backs). We experienced several tenants and squatters (who moved into units during covid) milk eviction moratorium policies so that they got to live rent free for over 5 years! I personally was raised by poor parents who did not even graduate from High School but they encouraged me to work very hard all my life to enable a better life for myself and children. I worked as an RN for almost 60 years, lived frugally, and saved (skimmed) to purchase rental housing in

LA City. Many of my relatives fought (and some died) in World War II. A number of my relatives fought in the hills of Italy and also stormed up on the first day and up the deadliest beach-- Omaha Beach-- during the Normandy Invasion. My Veteran relatives thought they were fighting for US freedoms--including the freedom to own and enjoy one's own property. I fear they must be rolling over in their graves to see how descendants such as myself are experiencing overbearing government officials attempting to abolish property rights of property Owners. --These property rights are the guaranteed property rights per our sacred USA constitution Our constitution--specifically the Fifth and Fourteenth amendments--guarantees that the government cannot take private property without due process and without providing giving owners with just compensation. As public officials, it is your duty to uphold our sacred constitution and to lawfully obey our constitution --this includes owner's property rights. We should not have to fear continued government overreach/ encroachment on our freedoms during our declining years. Of note, we have seen our vacancy rate recently RISE to a concerning rate and have been told by others that they are seeing increased vacancy rates in the San Fernando Valley--including your District! The notion that there is rent gouging is either rare or more likely an opportunist tenant organization myth (aka lie). We have even lowered some vacancy asking rents lately because units are staying vacant since before 2025! Please STOP trying to solve L A City problems by inflicting further pain and restrictions on the backs of us housing providers. Please vote NO on this and all potential future eviction moratoriums and rent freezes and other private property rights restrictions. Please urge others to do so as well. Please stop continued attacks such as these types of proposals that are increasingly helping to destroy the presence of Mom & Pop Affordable Housing Providers within the City of Los Angeles. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/03/2025 05:02 PM

Council File No: 25-0006-S16

Comments for Public Posting: Hello my name is Carla Torres . I work in district 14, I'd like to comment on item 2 and general public comment. I urge the committee to vote yes on item 2 with amendments to put back in a temporary rent increase pause and to remove the documentation requirement from the eviction defense. It has been a month since the fires broke out--tenants need these protections IMMEDIATELY, they should have already been implemented.