

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:** Ruth Schwartz

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**Council File No:** 20-0102

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please see attached support letter for item #2. Thank you.



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January 27, 2021

Los Angeles City Council  
Homelessness & Poverty Committee  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: Support for Right to Housing Motion (Council File 20-0102)**

Dear Homelessness & Poverty Committee Members,

Shelter Partnership strongly supports Councilmember Ridley-Thomas' motion regarding an analysis on the implementation of a Right to Housing policy (Item 2 of the Homelessness & Poverty Committee agenda for January 28, 2021). Shelter Partnership is a nonprofit organization collaboratively solving homelessness in Los Angeles County through policy analysis, program design, resource development, and advocacy in support of agencies and local governments that serve the homeless.

We know that homes end homelessness. In California, homelessness among veterans has decreased nearly 40% since 2009, and homelessness among families has decreased more than 25% since 2007, as a result of substantial investments in creating housing for these populations (2018 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Annual Homeless Assessment Report). Los Angeles County is short more than 500,000 affordable housing units (CA Housing Partnership, Los Angeles County Housing Need Report 2020), and there is no way to increase housing production to this scale without bold policies like a right to housing. As Councilmember Ridley-Thomas has stated in many a venues, "homelessness continues to be the moral crisis of our time" and establishing a right to housing is our moral obligation.

Thank you again for your leadership on this difficult issue. Please feel free to reach me at 213-943-4580 or [rschwartz@shelterpartnership.org](mailto:rschwartz@shelterpartnership.org) for any additional information.

Sincerely,

Ruth Schwartz  
Executive Director