

Communication from Public

Name: David Barboza
Date Submitted: 03/01/2022 09:04 AM
Council File No: 22-0158
Comments for Public Posting: Abundant Housing LA supports the motion dated 2/9/2022 in this Council File. Please refer to the attached letter.



2/24/2022

The Honorable Mike Bonin, Nithya Raman and Marqueece Harris-Dawson
Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Support – Council File 22-0158 – Facilitating Shelters for People Experiencing Homelessness

Dear Councilmembers,

We write on behalf of Abundant Housing LA in support of your motion dated February 9th, 2022, in **Council File 22-0158**, which directs the Department of City Planning to report back on options to allow shelters for people experiencing homelessness and other interim housing options for formerly unhoused people in a broader range of zoning districts during a declared shelter crisis, and to report back on options for streamlining the approval of these forms of housing.

Abundant Housing LA is a pro-housing, nonprofit advocacy organization working to help solve Southern California's housing crisis. We support reforms to legalize more homes, make homes easier to build, increase funding for affordable housing, and protect tenants, which are all needed to make housing more affordable, improve access to jobs and transit, promote greater environmental sustainability, and advance racial and economic equity. As a community organization, in order to maintain our independence, we do not accept financial support from housing developers or their consultants.

The need for additional shelter beds, interim housing and permanent supportive housing in the City of Los Angeles is a serious and well-documented problem. The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's November 2021 [Homelessness Statistics by City report](#) provides clarity in this regard. In the January 2020 homeless count, which predates the widespread impact of COVID-19 in California, there were 41,290 unsheltered people counted in the City of Los Angeles. In the most recent quarter assessed by the report, only 1,749 people were placed into permanent housing, only 6,863 people were placed into interim housing, and only 2,601 people received rapid re-housing assistance. Housing placements are not keeping up with the identified need, let alone with the needs of those people who do not show up in the count because of the difficulty inherent in counting people who may seek to stay out of view due to issues such as public and police harassment.

As you explore options to facilitate badly-needed shelter, please also bear in mind that homelessness cannot effectively be addressed apart from the larger housing affordability crisis,

which is driven by a housing shortage. For example, between 2014 and 2019 median rent in Los Angeles increased by 28.0% per American Community Survey data, while the overall consumer price index between those years rose only 7.6%. When housing prices rise faster than inflation, people of modest means are forced to live in overcrowded conditions, forgo other necessary expenses and in the most extreme cases, are pushed into homelessness. We must ensure that we are not exacerbating homelessness faster than we are ameliorating it.

For these reasons, we are proud to support your motion, and we offer our thanks to you for bringing this important proposal forward.

Sincerely,

Leonora Camner

Leonora Camner
Executive Director
Abundant Housing LA

David J. Barboza

David J. Barboza, AICP
Director of Policy and Research
Abundant Housing LA

Communication from Public

Name: S. Homeowner

Date Submitted: 03/01/2022 09:41 AM

Council File No: 22-0158

Comments for Public Posting: NO! It is WRONG to allow homeless to shelter ANYWHERE they choose in L.A. County! L.A. has a tremendous amount of HH and HHH taxpayer money and should make reasonable arrangements for the unhoused without using residential and business properties. Working Angelenos are living in tiny apartments and having to pay tax dollars for L A to build \$500,000.00 units for 1 homeless individual - how ridiculous - what a waste of these dollars while better options wait. Get going on remodeling old hotels, and other facilities into "dorm-like" housing! It works for students, why would it not work for homeless people? Small shared rooms, bathrooms, living and kitchen areas would be a blessing for any person who needs housing while they are encouraged to find employment. Drug treatment must be addressed - this is NOT just a housing issue - it is Drug and substance addiction issue which can cause mental illness. People are dying on our streets while L A pretends it's just a housing issue. We are not fooled. We see the illness, drug use, filth, etc. What are you doing to help? Our so called leaders are allowing it all. Not enforcing any laws, while crime grows and L A declines. The City and County have wasted so much TAXPAYER money while not solving this problem. Get going with something without interrupting neighborhoods with homes, schools and businesses who are paying for everything. Stop wasting our tax dollars!

Communication from Public

Name: H

Date Submitted: 03/01/2022 09:19 PM

Council File No: 22-0158

Comments for Public Posting: OPPOSE this motion. It would permit homeless housing in churches and other houses of worship located in residential areas. Project Room Key was a similar program. Crime and drug use increased in those facilities and neighborhoods. Let's not make the same mistake again and further entrench the homeless population near single-family residences. With all the millions in HHH and other funds, there should be a lot of sufficient housing available.