

Communication from Public

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Date Submitted: 09/16/2022 08:20 AM

Council File No: 21-0042-S3

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Committee Members, It is long past time for the local eviction moratorium and rent freeze to end. The pandemic crises should not be used to rush through permanent regulations that are counterproductive to shared goals of making housing more affordable and available in the city. As a housing provider, I do not understand why a rent freeze remains on properties when the economy is fully reopened, employment is robust, and operational costs skyrocket. The freeze should not continue. Housing providers need financial flexibility to operate. My costs have increased by 25% (trash collection, utilities, maintenance, etc.) since 2020, yet I cannot raise rents to adjust for inflation. I'm running a business and I'm almost operating at a LOSS. State and federal action put in place permanent protections for those effected by the pandemic and disbursed billions of dollars in rental assistance. Despite the enormous progress made both in our understanding of COVID-19 and the economy, the city continues policies that remain the same as those that were instituted at the very beginning of this pandemic – ignoring entirely both the changed circumstances and the outsized impact such policies have had on the city's housing providers. The local moratorium was specifically intended as a temporary measure in response to the onset of the pandemic. At this juncture, it is critical that the city allow regular rental operations to resume. The justification for the temporary actions in 2020 no longer reflects today's reality. The moratorium and rent freeze must end now. I know owners who have sold their properties due to these measures. These continued measures are bad for our communities and will make housing more expensive and harder to find. I help house Los Angeles and desperately need help. Thank you.