

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 09/25/2022 07:37 AM

Council File No: 21-0042-S3

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Members of the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Neighborhood Investment, It is time for the City's eviction moratorium and rent increase freeze to end. These emergency measures were put in place well over two years ago in response to serious public health and safety concerns. Since that time, significant strides have been made in addressing the virus with the availability of a vaccine and booster shot and through the reopening of the economy with businesses resuming normal operations, with the exception of the rental housing industry. These emergency measures have gone well beyond their intended purpose. Rental housing providers must be permitted to resume normal operations. Nearly all jurisdictions across the nation have recognized these advancements and have ended similar emergency measures. Yet, the City's emergency policies remain unchanged from those that were instituted at the very beginning of this pandemic. Both the eviction moratorium and rent increase freeze must end this year. As a responsible small business rental housing provider, I have faced tremendous financial hardships during the last over two years caused by the City's temporary emergency measures and skyrocketing building and operational costs which continue to rise. I have also struggled to pay numerous City rate and fee increases which have also significantly increased over the last few years. Small business rental housing providers have already started to sell their buildings which will make affordable housing even more limited and will harm entire communities. It is time to end these temporary emergency measures. The City must also thoughtfully consider any permanent housing policies and should not use the unprecedented events of the COVID-19 pandemic to hastily advance permanent regulations that will negatively impact the City's affordable housing. Thank you for your consideration. Dr Daniel Dunkelman.