

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Los Angeles Business Council

**Date Submitted:** 10/31/2022 06:47 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0658

**Comments for Public Posting:** October 31, 2022 TO: Members of the Los Angeles City Council  
FROM: Mary Leslie, President, Los Angeles Business Council  
RE: SUPPORT Council File 21-0658 (Raman) The Los Angeles Business Council (LABC) writes in support of Council File #21-0658 (Raman) and accompanying report from the City Administrative Officer (CAO), file number 0220-06001-0000, which recommends authorizing positions within the CAO's office, the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD), and the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD), to increase capacity for and management of affordable housing projects in the City of Los Angeles. The LABC is a 500+ member organization representing business and civic leaders from all industry sectors focused on innovative public policy that strengthens our economy while improving quality of life for all of us. For more than 80 years, the LABC has had a major impact on public policy by harnessing the power of business and government to promote progress in the Los Angeles region in the areas of energy, housing, transportation, international trade, and economic development. Facing a severe housing shortage, the City has committed to building 456,643 units by 2029, of which 184,721 units must be affordable to lower income households (Very Low and Low). At our current pace of production, we would need to more than double the speed at which such projects are developed to meet this target. The City should build on the Mayor's Executive Directive No. 13, which directed departments to prioritize affordable housing approvals, and further streamline and prioritize these projects. We believe that the creation of an Affordable Housing Liaison Unit within the CAO's office to provide project management services for 100 percent affordable housing projects will be critical in preventing delays to bringing these much-needed units online. Similarly, adding positions to LAHD's Land Use Unit and Affordable Housing Managed Pipeline Unit and to LAFD's capacity will remove delays due to staff shortages and lack of resources. With nearly 42,000 people experiencing homelessness in the City of Los Angeles, and 59% of Angelenos spending more than 30% of their income on rent, as well as the pending expiration of COVID-19 emergency eviction protections, the urgency of this moment cannot be over-emphasized. Increasing the number of affordable units in the City is paramount to preventing

homelessness and making Los Angeles a livable city for all. We urge you to support Council File #21-0658, sponsored by Councilmember Nithya Raman, when it comes before Council in the coming weeks. Kind regards, Mary Leslie President LABC



October 31, 2022

TO: Members of the Los Angeles City Council

FROM: Mary Leslie, President, Los Angeles Business Council

**RE: SUPPORT Council File 21-0658 (Raman)**

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Kind regards,

Mary Leslie

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President  
LABC