

MOTION

In November 2022, almost 60% of voters in the City of Los Angeles supported Measure ULA, also known as United to House LA, at the ballot box. Measure ULA is an ordinance establishing, funding, and authorizing programs to increase permanent supportive and affordable housing stock and to provide resources to tenants at risk of homelessness through a 4% tax on sales/transfers of real property exceeding \$5 million and through a 5.5% tax on sales/transfers of real properties of \$10 million or more, with exceptions. It is expected to generate approximately \$600 million to \$1.1 billion annually, the largest source of revenue for these programs to date. Measure ULA is now in effect, and its Homelessness and Housing Solutions Tax will be imposed starting April 1, 2023.

Measure ULA was a community-led initiative for which there was an inclusive grassroots campaign that helped collect more than 98,000 signatures to qualify for the ballot. The language of the measure was drafted by homelessness service providers, affordable housing nonprofits, and renters' rights organizations. Once implemented, the tax created by the measure will: offer crucial direct cash assistance for low-income older adults and people with disabilities on the verge of homelessness; fund direct legal assistance for thousands of people who are at risk of eviction; supplement acquisition, preservation, production, rehabilitation, lease, or operation activities to stabilize low-income people in existing housing and to build new supportive and affordable housing; and help monitor and enforce existing tenant protections and invest in tenant education. Importantly, the measure requires the City to establish a Citizen Oversight Committee to develop funding guidelines, conduct housing-needs assessments, monitor program implementation, and audit fund expenditures, among other key provisions.

With over 40,000 Angelenos without a permanent home in the City of Los Angeles, the need for Measure ULA has never been more pronounced. The measure also comes on the heels of the recently approved 2021-2029 Housing Element, which includes concrete, meaningful, and bold strategies to tackle the City's urgent housing, homelessness, and equity challenges that align with Measure ULA funding priorities. Measure ULA will help fund critical programs referenced in the 2021-2029 Housing Element related to the development of affordable housing and the strengthening of tenant protections—in addition to other citywide homelessness prevention and anti-displacement priorities. As the City begins to phase out tenant protections put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic, the expeditious implementation of Measure ULA is all the more important. The City must be prepared to effectively make use of Measure ULA dollars as soon as they become available.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Los Angeles Housing Department, with assistance from the City Administrative Officer, the City Attorney's Office, the Department of Finance, and any other relevant departments, to report back within 15 days on the implementation of Measure ULA. The report back should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Foundational guidelines and resources needed to effectively implement Measure ULA, including an analysis of how to utilize existing vacant positions and any new positions required, alongside a robust recruitment and hiring strategy to fill all positions;
- Strategies for continued consultation with community-based organizations, advocacy groups, and experts in the field, including the authors of the ballot measure; and
- Plans to begin collecting ULA revenue beginning April 1, 2023.

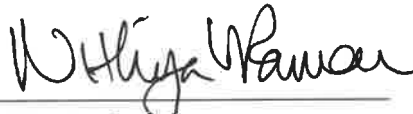
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I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct the City Administrative Officer and Los Angeles Housing Department, with assistance from any other relevant departments, to report back within 15 days with a plan for the expenditure of up to \$500,000 (as detailed in Measure ULA and to be paid back in full from future Measure ULA revenue) to establish the House LA Fund and House LA Program, including establishment of the Oversight Committee, as soon as possible, prior to April 1, 2023.

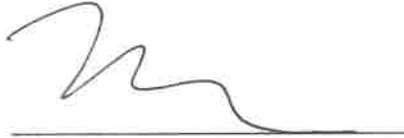
I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council instruct the City Administrative Officer and Los Angeles Housing Department, with assistance from any other relevant departments, to identify within 15 days any existing City, County, State, or federal funds—including the City's General Fund and Reserve Fund—that could be utilized to effectively and expeditiously support rent relief, homelessness prevention, and affordable housing programs prior to Measure ULA revenue becoming available.

PRESENTED BY:


NITHYA RAMAN
Councilmember, 4th District


EUNISSES HERNANDEZ
Councilmember, 1st District

SECONDED BY:



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