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**MITCH O'FARRELL**  
Councilmember  
13th District

Public Safety  
Member

Public Works and  
Gang Reduction  
Member

Energy and Environment  
Member

March 1, 2016

Honorable Jose Huizar, Chair  
Planning and Land Use Management Committee  
City of Los Angeles, 3rd Floor  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: ITEM NO. (2) 14-0057-S3, Tuesday, March 1, 2016**

Dear Colleagues:

As you know, the City of Los Angeles is the least affordable rental market in the nation and now has the largest number of rent burdened households, spending more than 30% of their income on rent. Additionally, approximately 26,000 Angelenos are homeless and lack access to housing and other basic necessities.

It is critical that the City do what it can to encourage the production of affordable and permanent supportive housing. Site Plan Review can increase the cost and legal risk associated with developing affordable housing projects in the City, subjecting affordable housing developers to a lengthy application process and possible CEQA lawsuits. Affordable housing developers are less likely to be able to carry the cost of such delays that other market rate developers may be better positioned to weather.

Establishing a new ministerial process for affordable housing projects is an important step the City can take to increase the City's affordable housing production. I respectfully request that your Committee move this item forward so that we can continue to explore opportunities to amend the Site Plan Review ordinance that could establish a new ministerial review process for affordable housing projects.

With kind regards,

**MITCH O'FARRELL**  
Councilmember, 13<sup>th</sup> District  
Los Angeles City Council  
City of Los Angeles

CC: Honorable Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Vice Chair  
Honorable Mitchell Englander, Member  
Honorable Gil Cedillo, Member  
Honorable Felipe Fuentes, Member  
Sharon Dickinson, Legislative Assistant