

Church of the Blessed Sacrament 6657 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California 90028 • (323) 462-6311 • Fax (323) 462-0113

April 30, 2014

Honorable Paul Krekorian 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012 FAX Number: (213) 978-3092

#### RE: DEDICATION OF FORMER CRA FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING – SUPPORT - Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

Blessed Sacrament Church urges you to support the motion to dedicate to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund a portion of the new property tax funds, coming to LA City as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. Blessed Sacrament Church recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support creation of desperately needed affordable housing and to spur economic development in the City.

There is a lack of affordable housing for those desiring to continue to work and live in Hollywood. Blessed Sacrament parishioners comprise of many young adults who are starting careers, elderly, unemployed and immigrants (57% Latino, 25% Asians). Affordable housing is also needed for our parish programs, e.g. The Center transitions homeless to housing with supportive services.

LA City Has a Dire Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring. According to the *New York Times*, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers make under \$25,000 per year, however, and nearly 75% of LA City workers make under \$50,000 annually.

The results of these statistics are dire. Many families are forced to live in unsafe housing or to double up – indeed, the *LA Times* recently called Los Angeles County an "overcrowding epicenter" of the country. Others are forced into homelessness. Between 2011 and 2013, the homeless population in LA City has grown by 26% and now numbers nearly 30,000 men, women and children. In most of the rest of the country, the numbers of homeless people decreased during the same time.

Besides providing much-needed homes, an investment in affordable development brings both good jobs and millions of dollars in other investment to the City. In addition, affordable developers regularly replac e blighted and crime-infested properties with beautiful developments that make neighborhoods able to attract other economic investment.

## Loss of CRA/LA and Other Funds Have Cut the Affordable Housing Trust Fund by over 75% since 2008.

Despite the critical need for affordable developments -- as well as the jobs, outside monies, and neighborhood beautification they bring -- funding for affordable housing in Los Angeles has been cut by over 75% since 2008. The largest share of the reduction came from the elimination of the CRA/LA, which used to generate \$50 million in redevelopment tax increment dollars annually to build affordable homes in the City. Adoption of the currently proposed 2014 budget would provide only about \$26 million for affordable development this year, down from \$108 million in 2008.

## The City Should Dedicate for Affordable Housing a Portion of the New Property Tax Dollars It Receives from the Dissolution of the CRA/LA.

Since 2012, an estimated \$121 million in CRA/LA tax increment that used to go to the CRA/LA for affordable housing and other economic development has gone to the City's general fund. A motion made by Councilmembers O'Farrell and Cedillo, and seconded by Councilmember Fuentes, would dedicate a portion of the former CRA/LA monies for affordable housing. Given the enormous need for affordable development in the city, Blessed Sacrament Church urges the Budget Committee to pass the motion and dedicate 50% of the former CRA/LA funds the city receives for affordable housing as part of the 2014-2015 budget.

Sincerely,

Jolanda Brown

Ðr. Yolanda S. Brown, Ď. Min. Parish Life Director



April 30, 2014

Honorable Paul Krekorian 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012 FAX Number: (213) 978-3092

RE: DEDICATION OF FORMER CRA FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING -- SUPPORT Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

Clifford Beers Housing (CBH) urges you to support the motion to dedicate a portion of the new property tax funds, coming to the City of LA as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. CBH recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support the creation of desperately needed affordable housing, particularly for special needs populations such as homeless and people living with mental illness, and to spur economic development in the City.

Clifford Beers Housing develops affordable housing for individuals and families with limited incomes, including households that are either homeless or at-risk of homelessness and have a member living with a mental illness. These households receive a high level of supportive services to ensure that they are successful in permanent housing environments. CBH's model for affordable, supportive housing focuses on reducing homelessness and increasing community reintegration. CBH has two projects in operation and one under construction in the City of LA. The two projects in operation have not only housed needy individuals and families, but have created approximately 360 jobs.

#### LA City Has a Dire Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring.

According to the *New York Times*, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers make under \$25,000 per year, and nearly 75% of LA City workers make under \$50,000 annually.

The results of these statistics are dire. Many families are forced to live in unsafe housing or to double up – indeed, the *LA Times* recently called Los Angeles County an "overcrowding epicenter" of the country. Others are forced into homelessness. Between 2011 and 2013, the homeless population in the City of LA has grown by 26% and now totals nearly 30,000 men, women and children. In most of the rest of the country, the number of homeless people decreased during this same time.

In addition to providing much-needed homes, an investment in affordable development brings both good jobs and millions of dollars in other investment to the City. Affordable developers also regularly

replace blighted and crime-infested properties with beautiful developments that attract other economic investment.

Loss of CRA/LA and Other Funds Have Cut the Affordable Housing Trust Fund by over 75% since 2008. Despite the critical need for affordable development -- as well as the jobs, outside monies, and neighborhood beautification they bring -- funding for affordable housing in Los Angeles has been cut by over 75% since 2008. The largest share of the reduction came from the elimination of the CRA/LA, which used to generate \$50 million in redevelopment tax increment dollars annually to build affordable homes in the City. Adoption of the currently proposed 2014 budget would provide only about \$26 million for affordable development this year, down from \$108 million in 2008.

## The City Should Dedicate a Portion of the New Property Tax Dollars it Receives from the Dissolution of the CRA/LA to Affordable Housing.

Since 2012, an estimated \$121 million in CRA/LA tax increment that used to go to the CRA/LA for affordable housing and other economic development has gone to the City's general fund. A motion made by Councilmembers O'Farrell and Cedillo, and seconded by Councilmember Fuentes, would dedicate a portion of the former CRA/LA monies for affordable housing. Given the enormous need for affordable development and more specifically, affordable development for special needs households, CBH urges the Budget Committee to pass the motion and dedicate 50% of the former CRA/LA funds the city receives for affordable housing as part of the 2014-2015 budget.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Luna Housing Director

CC:

Honorable Herb Wesson, Fax (213) 485-9829 Honorable Mitch Englander, Fax (213) 473-6925 Honorable Paul Koretz, Fax (213) 978-2250 Honorable Bob Blumenfield, Fax (213) 473-7567 Honorable Mike Bonin, Fax (213) 473-6926 Erika Pulst, Legislative Assistant, Fax (213) 978-1079 or Erika.pulst@lacity.org

1200 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 520, Los Angeles, CA 90017 | phone. 213.316.0108 | fax. 213.316.0111 affiliated with Mental Health America of Los Angeles



April 30, 2014

Honorable Paul Krekorian 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012 FAX Number: (213) 978-3092

> RE: DEDICATION OF FORMER CRA FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING --SUPPORT Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

The Alliance for Community Transit – Los Angeles (ACT-LA) urges you to support the motion to dedicate a portion of the new property tax funds, coming to LA City as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. ACT-LA recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support creation and preservation of desperately needed affordable housing and to spur economic development in the City.

ACT-LA is a broad-based coalition made up of organizations with national, state, regional, and local expertise, engaged in grassroots organizing, community economic development, affordable housing development, public health, environmental justice, and policy and legal advocacy. ACT-LA focuses on the interests of low-income communities and communities of color in creating a more sustainable Los Angeles. We strive for community transit: just, equitable, sustainable transit systems connecting neighborhoods for all. We believe that strong affordable housing policy - including a permanent source of revenue for both production and preservation – is a necessary ingredient in a comprehensive city-wide effort to ensure that our transit investment benefits all residents.

LA City Has a Dire Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring. According to the *New York Times*, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers make under \$25,000 per year, however, and nearly 75% of LA City workers make under \$50,000 annually.

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Besides providing much-needed homes, an investment in affordable development brings both good jobs and millions of dollars in other investment to the City. In addition, affordable developers regularly contribute beautiful developments that make neighborhoods able to attract other economic investment.

## Loss of CRA/LA and Other Funds Have Cut the Affordable Housing Trust Fund by over 75% since 2008.

Despite the critical need for affordable developments -- as well as the jobs, outside monies, and neighborhood beautification they bring -- funding for affordable housing in Los Angeles has been cut by over 75% since 2008. The largest share of the reduction came from the elimination of the CRA/LA, which used to generate \$50 million in redevelopment tax increment dollars annually to build affordable homes in the City. Adoption of the currently proposed 2014 budget would provide only about \$26 million for affordable development this year, down from \$108 million in 2008.

The City Should Dedicate for Affordable Housing a Portion of the New Property Tax Dollars It Receives from the Dissolution of the CRA/LA.

Since 2012, an estimated \$121 million in CRA/LA tax increment that used to go to the CRA/LA for affordable housing and other economic development has gone to the City's general fund. A motion made by Councilmembers O'Farrell and Cedillo, and seconded by Councilmember Fuentes, would dedicate a portion of the former CRA/LA monies for affordable housing. Given the enormous need for affordable development in the city, ACT-LA urges the Budget Committee to pass the motion and dedicate 50% of the former CRA/LA funds the city receives for affordable housing as part of the 2014-2015 budget.

The Dedication of the New Property Tax Dollars for Affordable Housing is a Crucial Component of a Comprehensive Affordable Housing Policy

ACT-LA believes that a dedication of 50% of the former CRA/LA funds to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund is vitally important and should be a fundamental component of a comprehensive, multi-pronged strategy to address the severe housing crisis that has gripped our city. We therefore urge the City to maximize the impact of dedicated revenue for affordable housing by implementing additional measures to create and preserve affordable housing, including land use and funding strategies for preservation of housing occupied by core transit riders in Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Community Transit – Los Angeles



THE PUBLIC INTEREST LAW OFFICE OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND BEVERLY HILLS BAR ASSOCIATIONS The Southern California Affiliate of The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

April 30, 2014

Honorable Paul Krekorian 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012 FAX Number: (213) 978-3092

> RE: DEDICATION OF FORMER CRA FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING --SUPPORT Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

Public Counsel urges you to support the motion to dedicate a portion of the new property tax funds, coming to LA City as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. Public Counsel recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support creation and preservation of desperately needed affordable housing and to spur economic development in the City.

Public Counsel is the nation's largest pro bono law firm of its kind, with a 40 year track record of fighting for the rights of low-income families, children and youth, veterans, and nonprofit organizations and small businesses in Los Angeles. Public Counsel's Community Development Project maintains a specific focus on preserving and expanding affordable housing opportunities. Our clients include community-based organizations involved in the development and preservation of affordable and supportive housing. Public Counsel is also a member of the Alliance for Community Transit – Los Angeles (ACT-LA) and we believe that a comprehensive affordable housing policy - including a permanent source of revenue for both production and preservation - is a necessary ingredient in a comprehensive city-wide effort to ensure that our transit investment benefits all residents.

LA City Has a Dire Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring. According to the *New York Times*, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers make under \$25,000 per year, however, and nearly 75% of LA City workers make under \$50,000 annually.

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April 30, 2014 Page 2 of 3

women and children. In most of the rest of the country, the numbers of homeless people decreased during the same time.

Besides providing much-needed homes, an investment in affordable development brings both good jobs and millions of dollars in other investment to the City. In addition, affordable developers regularly contribute beautiful developments that make neighborhoods able to attract other economic investment.

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The Dedication of the New Property Tax Dollars for Affordable Housing is a Crucial Component of a Comprehensive Affordable Housing Policy.

Public Counsel believes that a dedication of 50% of the former CRA/LA funds to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund is vitally important and should be a fundamental component of a comprehensive, multi-pronged strategy to address the severe housing crisis that has gripped our communities. We therefore urge the City to maximize the impact of dedicated revenue for affordable housing by implementing additional measures to create and preserve affordable housing, including land use and funding strategies for preservation of housing occupied by core transit riders in Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Doug Smith Equal Justice Works Fellow – Community Development Project

April 30, 2014 Page 3 of 3



April 30, 2014

Honorable Paul Krekorian 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012 FAX Number: (213) 978-3092

> RE: DEDICATION OF FORMER CRA FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING --SUPPORT Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

Abode Communities urges you to support the motion to dedicate to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund a portion of the new property tax funds, coming to LA City as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. Abode Communities recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support creation of desperately needed affordable housing and to spur economic development in the City. At Abode Communities, our mission is to open new doors in people's lives through creative and responsible design, development and operation of service-enhanced affordable housing. We specialize in building sustainable, multi-family affordable housing to address the needs of Southern California's large workforce, low-income families, seniors and individuals with special needs. Currently, we own 34 residential developments throughout Southern California, 14 of which are in the City of Los Angeles and provide affordable housing opportunities to more than 1,100 households. Our developments have created hundreds of construction jobs over the years, including, most recently, approximately 170 construction jobs at our Riverwalk at Reseda project currently under construction.

LA City Has a Dire Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring. According to the New York Times, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers make under \$25,000 per year, however, and nearly 75% of LA City workers make under \$50,000 annually.

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Besides providing much-needed homes, an investment in affordable development brings both good jobs and millions of dollars in other investment to the City. In addition, affordable

developers regularly replace blighted and crime-infested properties with beautiful developments that make neighborhoods able to attract other economic investment.

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## The City Should Dedicate for Affordable Housing a Portion of the New Property Tax Dollars It Receives from the Dissolution of the CRA/LA.

Since 2012, an estimated \$121 million in CRA/LA tax increment that used to go to the CRA/LA for affordable housing and other economic development has gone to the City's general fund. A motion made by Councilmembers O'Farrell and Cedillo, and seconded by Councilmember Fuentes, would dedicate a portion of the former CRA/LA monies for affordable housing. Given the enormous need for affordable development in the city, Abode Communities urges the Budget Committee to pass the motion and dedicate 50% of the former CRA/LA funds the city receives for affordable housing as part of the 2014-2015 budget.

Sincerely,

Director of Portfolio Management



### Hollywood Community Housing Corporation

April 30, 2014

Hoard of Directors

Kyle Arndı President

Karen Diehl Vice Presidens

Jerold B. Neuman Secretary

Ira Dankberg Michael G. Okamura Bonnie Tseng Maria Joyce Maynard Lois Starr Giyun Tuxusa

> Executive Director William F. Harris

Honorable Paul Krekorian 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012 FAX Number: (213) 978-3092

> RE: DEDICATION OF FORMER CRA FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING - SUPPORT Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

Hollywood Community Housing Corporation (HCHC) urges you to support the motion to dedicate to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund a portion of the new property tax funds, coming to LA City as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. HCHC recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support creation of desperately needed affordable housing and to spur economic development in the City.

HCHC has built over 700 units of affordable housing in the City of Los Angeles. Our developments provide housing and services for low income families, seniors, persons disabled by HIV/AIDS, and formerly homeless individuals and families. Our resident service coordinators connect our residents to the education, job training, and counseling services that they need to turn their lives around. Our housing developments have also provided hundreds of jobs in Los Angeles, contributing to much-needed economic development in the City.

## LA City Has a Dire Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring.

According to the New York Times, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers make under \$25,000 per year, however, and nearly 75% of LA City workers make under \$50,000 annually.

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Letter to Paul Krekorlan Page 2 of 2

## Hollywood Community Housing Corporation

Besides providing much-needed homes, an investment in affordable development brings both good jobs and millions of dollars in other investment to the City. In addition, affordable developers regularly replace blighted and crime-infested properties with beautiful developments that make neighborhoods able to attract other economic investment.

## Loss of CRA/LA and Other Funds Have Cut the Affordable Housing Trust Fund by over 75% since 2008.

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#### The City Should Dedicate for Affordable Housing a Portion of the New Property Tax Dollars It Receives from the Dissolution of the CRA/LA.

Since 2012, an estimated \$121 million in CRA/LA tax increment that used to go to the CRA/LA for affordable housing and other economic development has gone to the City's general fund. A motion made by Councilmembers O'Farrell and Cedillo, and seconded by Councilmember Fuentes, would dedicate a portion of the former CRA/LA monies for affordable housing. Given the enormous need for affordable development in the city, HCHC urges the Budget Committee to pass the motion and dedicate 50% of the former CRA/LA funds the city receives for affordable housing as part of the 2014-2015 budget.

Sincerely

William F. Harris Executive Director

# EAST LA COMMUNITY CORPORATION

530 SOUTH BOYLE AVENUE • LOS ANGELES, CA 90033 TEL (323) 269-4214 • Fax (323) 261-1065 • WWW.ELACC.ORG

April 30, 2014

Honorable Paul Krekorian 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012 FAX Number: (213) 978-3092

> RE: DEDICATION OF FORMER CRA FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING --SUPPORT Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

The East LA Community Corporation (ELACC) urges you to support the motion to dedicate to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund a portion of the new property tax funds, coming to LA City as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. ELACC recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support creation and preservation of desperately needed affordable housing and to spur economic development in the City.

ELACC is a community development corporation that is focused on advocating for economic and social justice in Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles by building grassroots leadership, developing affordable housing and neighborhood assets, and providing access to economic development opportunities for low and moderate income families. Boyle Heights and East LA are largely renter occupied low-income Latino neighborhoods with an aging housing stock. With development pressures coming from Downtown LA and with Metro's construction of the Gold Line which resulted in a loss of housing units, our neighborhood needs equitable and accountable development to prevent displacement of low-income residents. We believe that strong affordable housing policy – including a permanent source of revenue for both production and preservation – is a necessary ingredient in a comprehensive city-wide effort to ensure that public investment benefits all residents—and no one is left behind.

LA City Has a Dire Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring. According to the New York Times, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers make under \$25,000 per year, however, and nearly 75% of LA City workers make under \$50,000 annually.

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epicenter" of the country. Others are forced into homelessness. Between 2011 and 2013, the homeless population in LA City has grown by 26% and now numbers nearly 30,000 men, women and children. In most of the rest of the country, the numbers of homeless people decreased during the same time.

Besides providing much-needed homes, an investment in affordable development brings both good jobs and millions of dollars in other investment to the City. In addition, affordable developers regularly replace blighted and crime-infested properties with beautiful developments that make neighborhoods able to attract other economic investment.

# Loss of CRA/LA and Other Funds Have Cut the Affordable Housing Trust Fund by over 75% since 2008.

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Since 2012, an estimated \$121 million in CRA/LA tax increment that used to go to the CRA/LA for affordable housing and other economic development has gone to the City's general fund. A motion made by Councilmembers O'Farrell and Cedillo, and seconded by Councilmember Fuentes, would dedicate a portion of the former CRA/LA monies for affordable housing. Given the enormous need for affordable development in the city, the East LA Community Corporation urges the Budget Committee to pass the motion and dedicate 50% of the former CRA/LA funds the city receives for affordable housing as part of the 2014-2015 budget.

Sincerely

Alejandro Martinez Vice President of Real Estate & Asset Management



April 30, 2014

Honorable Paul Krekorian 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012 FAX Number: (213) 978-3092

> RE: DEDICATION OF FORMER CRA FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING -- SUPPORT Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

Women Organizing Resources, Knowledge & Services (WORKS) urges you to support the motion to dedicate to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund a portion of the new property tax funds, coming to LA City as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. WORKS is a nonprofit community development corporation serving over 4,300 individuals and families living at or below the federal poverty level. Over the past sixteen years we have developed close to 1,300 affordable housing units with permanent sources totaling \$265 million, thereby generating approximately 2,650 jobs. WORKS recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support creation of desperately needed affordable housing and to spur economic development in the City.

LA City Has a Dire Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring. According to the *New York Times*, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers make under \$25,000 per year, however, and nearly 75% of LA City workers make under \$50,000 annually.

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2

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Respectfully,

no que

Channa Grace President & CEO



THE PUBLIC INTEREST LAW OFFICE OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND BEVERLY HILLS BAR ASSOCIATIONS The Southern California Affiliate of The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

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Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

Public Counsel urges you to support the motion to dedicate a portion of the new property tax funds, coming to LA City as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. Public Counsel recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support creation and preservation of desperately needed affordable housing and to spur economic development in the City.

Public Counsel is the nation's largest pro bono law firm of its kind, with a 40 year track record of fighting for the rights of low-income families, children and youth, veterans, and nonprofit organizations and small businesses in Los Angeles. Public Counsel's Community Development Project maintains a specific focus on preserving and expanding affordable housing opportunities. Our clients include community-based organizations involved in the development and preservation of affordable and supportive housing. Public Counsel is also a member of the Alliance for Community Transit – Los Angeles (ACT-LA) and we believe that a comprehensive affordable housing policy - including a permanent source of revenue for both production and preservation - is a necessary ingredient in a comprehensive city-wide effort to ensure that our transit investment benefits all residents.

LA City Has a Dire Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring. According to the *New York Times*, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers make under \$25,000 per year, however, and nearly 75% of LA City workers make under \$50,000 annually.

The results of these statistics are dire. Many families are forced to live in unsafe housing or to double up – indeed, the *LA Times* recently called Los Angeles County an "overcrowding epicenter" of the country. Others are forced into homelessness. Between 2011 and 2013, the homeless population in LA City has grown by 26% and now numbers nearly 30,000 men,

610 SOUTH ARDMORE AVENUE · LOS ANGELES, CA 90005 · TEL: 213.385.2977 FAX: 213.385.9089 · WWW.PUBLICCOUNSEL.ORG

April 30, 2014 Page 2 of 3

women and children. In most of the rest of the country, the numbers of homeless people decreased during the same time.

Besides providing much-needed homes, an investment in affordable development brings both good jobs and millions of dollars in other investment to the City. In addition, affordable developers regularly contribute beautiful developments that make neighborhoods able to attract other economic investment.

## Loss of CRA/LA and Other Funds Have Cut the Affordable Housing Trust Fund by over 75% since 2008.

Despite the critical need for affordable developments -- as well as the jobs, outside monies, and neighborhood beautification they bring -- funding for affordable housing in Los Angeles has been cut by over 75% since 2008. The largest share of the reduction came from the elimination of the CRA/LA, which used to generate \$50 million in redevelopment tax increment dollars annually to build affordable homes in the City. Adoption of the currently proposed 2014 budget would provide only about \$26 million for affordable development this year, down from \$108 million in 2008.

The City Should Dedicate for Affordable Housing a Portion of the New Property Tax Dollars It Receives from the Dissolution of the CRA/LA.

Since 2012, an estimated \$121 million in CRA/LA tax increment that used to go to the CRA/LA for affordable housing and other economic development has gone to the City's general fund. A motion made by Councilmembers O'Farrell and Cedillo, and seconded by Councilmember Fuentes, would dedicate a portion of the former CRA/LA monies for affordable housing. Given the enormous need for affordable development in the city, Public Counsel urges the Budget Committee to pass the motion and dedicate 50% of the former CRA/LA funds the city receives for affordable housing as part of the 2014-2015 budget.

## The Dedication of the New Property Tax Dollars for Affordable Housing is a Crucial Component of a Comprehensive Affordable Housing Policy.

Public Counsel believes that a dedication of 50% of the former CRA/LA funds to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund is vitally important and should be a fundamental component of a comprehensive, multi-pronged strategy to address the severe housing crisis that has gripped our communities. We therefore urge the City to maximize the impact of dedicated revenue for affordable housing by implementing additional measures to create and preserve affordable housing, including land use and funding strategies for preservation of housing occupied by core transit riders in Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Doug Smith Equal Justice Works Fellow – Community Development Project

April 30, 2014 Page 3 of 3





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April 30, 2014

Honorable Paul Krekorian 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012 FAX Number: (213) 978-3092

> RE: Dedicate 50% of CRA "Boomerang" Revenues to Housing Programs Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

LA City as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA) to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

The Move LA coalition was instrumental in getting Measure R, LA County's half-cent sales tax for transportation, on the ballot. Approved by 68% of voters in 2008, Measure R includes expansion of 12 light rail, subway and bus way lines which will make LA's transit system a truly robust one. For Move LA, it's not just about expanding transit, but also about building new residential development that is within reach of high-propensity transit users around the stations. Unfortunately, new market-rate apartments generally rent for over \$2,500/month while three-quarters of transit users, living on \$25,000/year, can afford only about \$625/month in rent, Just letting the market build new luxury apartments isn't going to solve our problem. We also need to both protect the older rent-stabilized apartments and to build new ones with affordable rents.

According to the New York Times, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000/year. Nearly half the workers in the city make under \$25,000/year and nearly three-quarters make under \$50,000. It should be no surprise that Los Angeles has the highest rates of overcrowding and homelessness in the nation.

Despite the critical need for new apartments with affordable rents, funding for housing programs in Los Angeles has been cut by over 75% since 2008. The largest share of the reduction came from the elimination of the CRA/LA, which used to generate \$50 million in redevelopment tax increment dollars annually to build affordable homes in the City.

Page 002

The City's general fund has already received a boost from the CRA boomerang money —an estimated \$121 million since 2012. It's time to restore our commitment to building high quality apartments with affordable rents. Move LA urges the Budget Committee to dedicate to affordable housing at least half of the former CRA/LA funds the city receives as part of the 2014-2015 budget.

Thank you for considering our views as you establish the City's priorities through the budget.

Sincerely,

Q 7 Jone

Denny Zane Executive Director

3235 N San Fernando Rd, #2C Los Angeles, CA 90065 Tel (323) 255-4343 Fax (323) 255-4848 mali@lavarchilacts.com www.favarchilacts.com



April 30, 2014

Honorable Paul Krekorian 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012 FAX Number: (213) 978-3092

#### RE: DEDICATION OF FORMER CRA FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING -- SUPPORT Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

FSY Architects, Inc. urges you to support the motion to dedicate to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund a portion of the new property tax funds, coming to LA City as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. FSY Architects, Inc. recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support creation of desperately needed affordable housing and to spur economic development in the City.

FSY Architects, Inc. has been involved in design and construction of affordable housing projects in Los Angeles since 1994 and has developed over 1,000 affordable units, working with various non-profit and for-profit organizations. In the past 5 years, we have completed several affordable housing projects, creating hundreds of construction jobs in the Los Angeles area\_\_\_\_\_\_

## LA City Has a Dire Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring.

According to the New York Times, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers make under \$25,000 per year, however, and nearly 75% of LA City workers make under \$50,000 annually.

The results of these statistics are dire. Many families are forced to live in unsafe housing or to double up – indeed, the *LA Times* recently called Los Angeles County an "overcrowding epicenter" of the country. Others are forced into homelessness. Between 2011 and 2013, the homeless population in LA City has grown by 26% and now numbers nearly 30,000 men, women and children. In most of the rest of the country, the numbers of homeless people decreased during the same time.

3235 N San Fernando Rd, #2C Los Angeles, CA 90065 Tel (323) 255-4343 Fax (323) 255-4846 <u>mail@favarchilects.com</u> www.fsverchitects.com



Besides providing much-needed homes, an investment in affordable development brings both good jobs and millions of dollars in other investment to the City. In addition, affordable developers regularly replace blighted and crime-infested properties with beautiful developments that make neighborhoods able to attract other economic investment.

## Loss of CRA/LA and Other Funds Have Cut the Affordable Housing Trust Fund by over 75% since 2008,

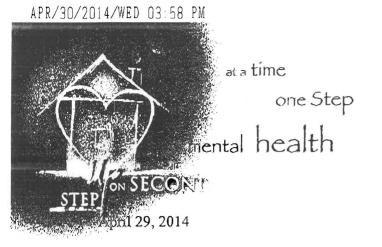
Despite the critical need for affordable developments -- as well as the jobs, outside monies, and neighborhood beautification they bring -- funding for affordable housing in Los Angeles has been cut by over 75% since 2008. The largest share of the reduction came from the elimination of the CRA/LA, which used to generate \$50 million in redevelopment tax increment dollars annually to build affordable homes in the City. Adoption of the currently proposed 2014 budget would provide only about \$26 million for affordable development this year, down from \$108 million in 2008.

#### The City Should Dedicate for Affordable Housing a Portion of the New Property Tax Dollars It Receives from the Dissolution of the CRA/LA.

Since 2012, an estimated \$121 million in CRA/LA tax increment that used to go to the CRA/LA for affordable housing and other economic development has gone to the City's general fund. A motion made by Councilmembers O'Farrell and Cedillo, and seconded by Councilmember Fuentes, would dedicate a portion of the former CRA/LA monies for affordable housing. Given the enormous need for affordable development in the city, FSY Architects, Inc. urges the Budget Committee to pass the motion and dedicate 50% of the former CRA/LA funds the city receives for affordable housing as part of the 2014-2015 budget.

Sincerely Viiay

Principal



Honorable Paul Krekorian 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012 FAX Number: (213) 978-3092

> RE: DEDICATION OF FORMER CRA FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING --SUPPORT Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

Step Up on Second urges you to support the motion to dedicate to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund a portion of the new property tax funds, coming to LA City as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. Step Up on Second recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support creation of desperately needed affordable housing and to spur economic development in the City.

Step Up on Second provides supportive housing to individuals who are chronically homeless with a serious mental illness and are the most vulnerable with decades of homelessness. We have been a developer of housing and a mental health service provider to our own projects for over eighteen years in Santa Monica, and over the past five years we have acquired and/or developed 76 supportive housing units in the City of Los Angeles. Last year we opened Step Up on Vine as a LEED Platinum facility that was recognized and visited by President Clinton. Additionally, these projects have generated approximately 230 jobs in the City of Los Angeles. Without the dedication of these funds, we are not likely to be able to provide this much needed housing for our most vulnerable citizens.

LA City Has a Dire Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring. According to the New York Times, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers make under \$25,000 per year, however, and nearly 75% of LA City workers make under \$50,000 annually.

The results of these statistics are very serious. Los Angeles has an overwhelming homeless population which can only be solved by housing production. Between 2011 and 2013, the homeless population in LA City has grown by 26% and now numbers nearly 30,000 men,

women and children. In most of the rest of the country, the numbers of homeless people decreased during the same time.

Besides providing much-needed homes, an investment in affordable development brings both good jobs and millions of dollars in other investment to the City. Our own Step Up on Vine, at Vine and Santa Monica Blvd., was a \$15 million investment that has upgraded that neighborhood.

Loss of CRA/LA and Other Funds Have Cut the Affordable Housing Trust Fund by over 75% since 2008.

Despite the critical need for affordable developments -- as well as the jobs, outside monies, and neighborhood beautification they bring -- funding for affordable housing in Los Angeles has been cut by over 75% since 2008. The largest share of the reduction came from the elimination of the CRA/LA, which used to generate \$50 million in redevelopment tax increment dollars annually to build affordable homes in the City. Adoption of the currently proposed 2014 budget would provide only about \$26 million for affordable development this year, down from \$108 million in 2008.

The City Should Dedicate for Affordable Housing a Portion of the New Property Tax Dollars It Receives from the Dissolution of the CRA/LA.

Since 2012, an estimated \$121 million in CRA/LA tax increment that used to go to the CRA/LA for affordable housing and other economic development has gone to the City's general fund. A motion made by Councilmembers O'Farrell and Cedillo, and seconded by Councilmember Fuentes, would dedicate a portion of the former CRA/LA monies for affordable housing. Given the enormous need for affordable development in the city, Step Up on Second urges the Budget Committee to pass the motion and dedicate 50% of the former CRA/LA funds the city receives for affordable housing as part of the 2014-2015 budget.

Sincerely,

Tod Lipka President & CEO



Venice Community Housing Corporation 720 Rose Avenue, Venice, California 90291-2710 Tel: (310) 399-4100 Fax: (310) 399-1130 Web: www.VCHCorp.org

April 30, 2014

Honorable Paul Krekorian 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012 FAX Number: (213) 978-3092

> RE: DEDICATION OF FORMER CRA FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING --SUPPORT Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

The Venice Community Housing Corporation (VCH) urges you to support the motion to dedicate to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund a portion of the new property tax funds, coming to LA City as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. VCH recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support creation of desperately needed affordable housing and to spur economic development in the City. VCH is a nonprofit affordable housing developer that has created 195 units of permanent and transitional housing for low and no income people on the Westside of Los Angeles. We have another 21 unit permanent supportive housing project in predevelopment that will house at least 20 chronically homeless individuals and contribute over one hundred jobs to the local economy.

LA City Has a Dirc Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring. According to the New York Times, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers make under \$25,000 per year, however, and nearly 75% of LA City workers make under \$50,000 annually.

The results of these statistics are dire. Many families are forced to live in unsafe housing or to double up – indeed, the *LA Times* recently called Los Angeles County an "overcrowding epicenter" of the country. Others are forced into homelessness. Between 2011 and 2013, the homeless population in LA City has grown by 26% and now numbers nearly 30,000 men, women and children. In most of the rest of the country, the numbers of homeless people decreased during the same time.

Besides providing much-needed homes, an investment in affordable development brings both good jobs and millions of dollars in other investment to the City. In addition, affordable developers regularly replace blighted and crime-infested properties with beautiful developments that make neighborhoods able to attract other economic investment.

## Loss of CRA/LA and Other Funds Have Cut the Affordable Housing Trust Fund by over 75% since 2008.

Despite the critical need for affordable developments -- as well as the jobs, outside monies, and neighborhood beautification they bring -- funding for affordable housing in Los Angeles has been cut by over 75% since 2008. The largest share of the reduction came from the elimination of the CRA/LA, which used to generate \$50 million in redevelopment tax increment dollars annually to build affordable homes in the City. Adoption of the currently proposed 2014 budget would provide only about \$26 million for affordable development this year, down from \$108 million in 2008.

The City Should Dedicate for Affordable Housing a Portion of the New Property Tax Dollars It Receives from the Dissolution of the CRA/LA.

Since 2012, an estimated \$121 million in CRA/LA tax increment that used to go to the CRA/LA for affordable housing and other economic development has gone to the City's general fund. A motion made by Councilmembers O'Farrell and Cedillo, and seconded by Councilmember Fuentes, would dedicate a portion of the former CRA/LA monies for affordable housing. Given the enormous need for affordable development in the city, Venice Community Housing urges the Budget Committee to pass the motion and dedicate at least 25% of the former CRA/LA funds the city receives for affordable housing as part of the 2014-2015 budget.

Sincerely,

Steve Clare Executive Director



1619 Paramount Boulevard • Montebello,California 90640 Tel:(323) 722-3955 • Fax:(323) 722-3837 www.MHDCCA.org

Via Fax: (213) 978-3092

April 30, 2014

Honorable Paul Krekorian Councilmember City of Los Angeles 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012

> RE: DEDICATION OF FORMER CRA FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING --SUPPORT Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

Montebello Housing Development Corporation (MHDC) urges you to support the motion to dedicate to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund a portion of the new property tax funds, coming to LA City as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. MHDC recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support creation of desperately needed affordable housing and to spur economic development in the City. MHDC's mission to educate and assist in the delivery of safe, sanitary, quality and affordable housing to individuals and families of modest financial means has been the driving force of the organization. Affordable housing is essential for all Californians to live with dignity and safety; it is essential for children to succeed in school and in life. MHDC plays an important role by assisting households on modest budgets in becoming homeowners as well as helping families preserve homeownership.

LA City Has a Dire Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring. According to the *New York Times*, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1-bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach of workers making under \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers make under \$25,000 per year, however, and nearly 75% of LA City workers make under \$50,000 annually.

The results of these statistics are dire. Many families are forced to live in unsafe housing or to double up – indeed, the *LA Times* recently called Los Angeles County an "overcrowding epicenter" of the country. Others are forced into homelessness. Between 2011 and 2013, the homeless population in LA City has grown by 26% and now numbers nearly 30,000 men, women and children. In most of the rest of the country, the numbers of homeless people decreased during the same time.



Honorable Paul Krekorian April 30, 3014 Page 2

Besides providing much-needed homes, an investment in affordable development brings both good jobs and millions of dollars in other investment to the City. In addition, affordable developers regularly replace blighted and crime-infested properties with beautiful developments that make neighborhoods able to attract other economic investment.

Loss of CRA/LA and Other Funds Have Cut the Affordable Housing Trust Fund by over 75% since 2008. Despite the critical need for affordable developments -- as well as the jobs, outside monies, and neighborhood beautification they bring -- funding for affordable housing in Los Angeles has been cut by over 75% since 2008. The largest share of the reduction came from the elimination of the CRA/LA, which used to generate \$50 million in redevelopment tax increment dollars annually to build affordable homes in the City. Adoption of the currently proposed 2014 budget would provide only about \$26 million for affordable development this year, down from \$108 million in 2008.

## The City Should Dedicate for Affordable Housing a Portion of the New Property Tax Dollars It Receives from the Dissolution of the CRA/LA.

Since 2012, an estimated \$121 million in CRA/LA tax increment that used to go to the CRA/LA for affordable housing and other economic development has gone to the City's general fund. A motion made by Councilmembers O'Farrell and Cedillo, and seconded by Councilmember Fuentes, would dedicate a portion of the former CRA/LA monies for affordable housing. Given the enormous need for affordable development in the city, the Board of Directors and Staff of MHDC urges the Budget Committee to pass the motion and dedicate 50% of the former CRA/LA funds the city receives for affordable housing as part of the 2014-2015 budget.

Sincerely,

MHDC Robert onzon **President** 



NeighborWorks"

April 30, 2014

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER Dora Leong Gallo

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The Honorable Paul Krekorian Chair, Budget Committee 200 N. Spring Street, Room 435 Los Angeles, CA 90012

> RE: DEDICATION OF FORMER CRA FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING -- SUPPORT Council File 14-0361

Dear Councilmember Krekorian:

A Community of Friends (ACOF) urges you to support the O'Farrell-Cedillo motion to dedicate a portion of the new property tax funds coming to the City of Los Angeles as a result of the dissolution of the former CRA/LA, to the City's Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the City's FY 2014/15 budget. ACOF recommends that you dedicate 50% of this revenue to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to support the creation of much needed affordable housing and to spur economic development in the City.

ACOF is a nonprofit developer of permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless individuals and families living with mental illness. We have completed 31 apartment buildings in the City of Los Angeles, providing affordable homes connected with services to over 1,280 adults and several hundred children. Our work has created close to 3,000 construction jobs in the past 20 years, not including the local vendors we utilize for day-to-day apartment operations.

LA City Has a Dire Need for Affordable Homes and the Economic Investment They Bring. According to the New York Times, Los Angeles is the least affordable city in the country. The average rent on a 2-bedroom, 1bath apartment in Los Angeles is out of reach for any worker making less than \$29 per hour or \$60,000 per year. Nearly 50% of LA City workers earn less than \$25,000 per year, and nearly 75% earn less than \$50,000 annually.

The impact of these statistics is grim. Many families are forced to live in unsafe housing or to double up – indeed, the *LA Times* recently called Los Angeles County an "overcrowding epicenter" of the country. Others are forced into homelessness. Between 2011 and 2013, the homeless population in LA City has grown by 26% and now numbers nearly 30,000 men, women and children. In most of the rest of the country, the numbers of homeless people decreased during the same time.

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The Honorable Paul Krekorian April 30, 2014 Page 2

Besides providing much-needed homes, an investment in affordable housing development brings both good jobs and millions of dollars in other investment to the City. In addition, affordable housing developers regularly replace blighted properties with beautiful developments that make neighborhoods able to attract other economic investment.

Loss of CRA/LA and Other Funds Have Cut the Affordable Housing Trust Fund by over 75% since 2008. Despite the critical need for affordable housing -- as well as the jobs, outside investment, and neighborhood beautification they bring -- funding for alfordable home development in Los Angeles has been cut by over 75% since 2008. The largest share of the reduction came from the elimination of the CRA/LA, which used to generate \$50 million in redevelopment tax increment dollars annually to build affordable homes in the City. Adoption of the currently proposed 2014 budget would provide only about \$26 million for alfordable development this year, with virtually all the funds coming from federal resources.

The City Should Dedicate for Affordable Housing a Portion of the New Property Tax Dollars It Receives from the Dissolution of the CRA/LA. Since 2012, an estimated \$121 million in CRA/LA tax increment that used to go to the CRA/LA for affordable housing and other economic development investment has been sent to the City's general fund. A motion made by Councilmembers O'Farrell and Cedillo, and seconded by Councilmember Fuentes, would dedicate a portion of the former CRA/LA monies for affordable housing. Given the enormous need for affordable housing development in the City, ACOF urges the Budget Committee to join the Housing Committee in approving the motion, and dedicate 50% of the former CRA/LA funds the City receives for affordable housing development as part of the 2014-2015 budget.

Sincerely,

Dora Leong Gallo Chief Executive Officer



