

April 29, 2016

Honorable Members of the Budget and Finance Committee City Council, City of Los Angeles c/o Holly L. Wolcott, City Clerk Att: Richard Williams 200 N. Spring Street, Rm. 395 Los Angeles CA, 90012

RE: HCIDLA Budget

Honorable Members of the Budget and Finance Committee:

As Chair of the Housing Committee I am sending comments on next year's budget FY 2016-17 as it relates to the Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department (HCIDLA). I urge you to consider funding additional requests as they relate to the Department's involvement with LAHSA, and their role in new mandated requirements.

The City Council has voiced their support in prioritizing solutions to hlep our homeless population, and is reflected in the financial commitment in this year's budget. I urge the committee to take into consideration HCID's responsibility for administrative oversight and compliance with LAHSA's several contracts which provide much needed services. It is prudent to allow them an additional \$235, 474 for staff to provide the required oversight of the proposed \$50.8 million in LAHSA homeless programs.

In addition, HCID will add 3 additional programs this coming year that may merit the addition of new staff and/or funding. The development of an Assessment of Fair Housing for the City of Los Angeles is crucial and dependent on the City's ongoing funding from HUD. A qualified expert consultant is critical to develop and complete all AFH aspects to HUD's satisfactions by July 5, 2017.

Just as important, is the City's compliance with the settlement associated with the Communities Actively Living Independent and Free et al. vs. City of Los Angeles.

Lastly, and perhaps the most important ask from my office will be to ensure HCID is fully staffed and able to meet the demand associated with the Seismic Retrofit Program. A landmark

legislation, we must ensure HCID is able to support the newly generated work load. Contrary to the belief that HCID's work scope as it relates to seismic work will be done at the back end of the project; all Tenant Habitability Plan's (THP) will be required at the beginning of the project.

I ask the committee members to look at these specific requests and ask the Department for any additional information.

Sincerely,

Gilbert A. Cedillo
Chair, Housing Committee
Councilmember, 1st District

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cc: Honorable Members of the City Council

Honorable Eric Garcetti, Mayor Sharon Tso, Chief Legislative Analyst

Miguel Santana, City Administrative Officer