

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Los Feliz Neighborhood Council, Los Feliz Neighborhood Council

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(18) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 07/17/2018

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 07/23/2018

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 18-0610

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT

TENANTS RIGHT TO COUNSEL PROGRAM / COUNCIL FILE 18-0610

The Los Feliz Neighborhood Council supports the Tenants Right to Counsel program proposed by Councilmember Paul Koretz, and seconded by C. Herb Wesson.

With the 2018 Los Angeles Homeless Count showing nearly 10,000 people experiencing homelessness for the first time, it can be reasonably concluded that the combined impacts of evictions and rental housing unaffordability are contributing substantially to the homelessness crisis in Los Angeles. Many of those receiving eviction notices were among the approximately 30,000 L.A. renters who received Unlawful Detainers (final evictions notices) in 2017.

Many tenants who have been served an eviction notice to terminate tenancy have limited access to legal representation. This program serves to provide apartment renters faced with eviction or landlord harassment with legal assistance they might not otherwise be able to obtain. The proposal calls for City staff to develop recommendations on developing the Tenants Right to Counsel program including prospective costs and funding sources and report back to the City Council within 120 days.

A Right to Counsel law was approved by voters in San Francisco in June 2018, and New York City adopted such a law in 2017. The City of Los Angeles should act to provide the right to counsel as soon as possible for the 60% plus of its residents who are renters.

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