



Rita Moreno <rita.moreno@lacity.org>

PROTECT OUR RSO HOUSING; Oppose Council File #18-1245

1 message

Edward Kijewski <the110press@mac.com>
To: Rita.Moreno@lacity.org

Sat, Nov 23, 2019 at 9:07 AM

Honorable Councilmembers:

Unregulated growth, from a medical standpoint, is known by another name: cancer. The City, Councilmembers, voters, activists, and tens of thousands of tenants applauded when the HSO passed. Finally, we thought, a remedy. Now Mitch O'Farrell wants to stop the treatment of a catastrophic disease.

Lance J. Robbins, and excessively greedy scofflaw developers like him, are a cancer because they destroy those least able to protect themselves...those voters most in need of the protection you are all sworn to provide. During the Youth Hostel invasion in the late 80s, Councilmember Ruth Galanter helped us fight for FOUR years to stop the illegal use of our RSO apartments for increased profits at the expense of our homes. Result: an exhausted victory.

But it's a fight we're waging yet again. We thought we won that fight, too, with the HSO ordinance that was supposed to go into effect July 1. Instead you gave developers 120 days, merely to register. That date has also come and gone. Instead of enforcing the new ordinance, you're now contemplating Councilmember O'Farrell's proposed loophole that has every scofflaw developer salivating. A multimillionaire occupying an RSO unit? Seriously? Everyone is laughing except tenants in RSO buildings.

I used to have 57 neighbors in The Ellison Apartments, some of whom I'd known for forty years, now I have "neighbors" for twenty hours who are then replaced by a new set of bargain-hunting tourists, new "neighbors," twenty hours later. I've lost almost 50 neighbors, hell, I've lost an entire neighborhood! At 70 years of age, I'm awfully tired of this battle, and I'm damned tired of this blatantly illegal hotel that Mitch O'Farrell proposes to semi-legitimize (any semi-excuse, semi-loophole, or semi-delaying tactic is like gold for unscrupulous developers and their equally unscrupulous lawyers).

We need developers and development, but what we can't have is criminals in charge of development, criminals who ignore the laws. It should be obvious, but I'll point it out anyway: **scofflaw developers are a contagious cancer that will infect decent developers who will then copy the unlawful tactics of contemptuous developers who routinely flout laws on the books...**at the expense of victims like the remaining tenants in my own RSO building, The Ellison Apartments.

An irrefutable fact: if left unchecked, this class of developer will destroy affordable housing throughout our city. It's up to you and your City Hall colleagues to send a strong message to developers: Los Angeles welcomes development but not at the expense of affordable housing...or the law.

Thank you,
Bruce Kijewski
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Rita Moreno <rita.moreno@lacity.org>

Protect Our Housing / CF #18-1245

1 message

Keisha Woods <info@email.actionnetwork.org>

Sat, Nov 23, 2019 at 5:28 PM

Reply-To: woodskeisha888@yahoo.com

To: rita.moreno@lacity.org

Rita Moreno,

Dear Mayor Garcetti and Councilmember O'Farrell,

Los Angeles is in a housing crisis, worsened by the thousands of units on the market that have become short-term rentals. After years of discussion, Los Angeles' ordinance on homesharing finally went into effect. I am outraged by Councilmember O'Farrell's attempt to weaken the critical protection of rent controlled units in the ordinance. The policy will make enforcement more difficult by erasing the bright line protecting rent stabilized units. I urge you Councilmember O'Farrell to withdraw his support and allow the current policy to work in protecting our housing, particularly rent-stabilized housing from being transformed into de-facto hotels.

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