

HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT relative to vacant, habitable housing units and a potential Empty Homes Penalty structure in the City of Los Angeles.

Recommendations for Council action, as initiated by Motion (Bonin - Harris-Dawson - Koretz - Ryu - O'Farrell):

1. INSTRUCT the Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department, with the assistance of the Department of City Planning, the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP), to report on the amount of vacant, habitable housing units in the City of Los Angeles, and the reasons why they remain vacant.
2. INSTRUCT the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer, and in consultation with the City Attorney, and any other relevant City department, to examine Empty Homes penalties, vacancy taxes, and speculator taxes in other jurisdictions, and report with policy options for a potential Empty Homes Penalty structure in Los Angeles, for consideration by voter in 2020, and with incentives and other policy options to place units into productive use and in an emergency.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: Yes.

For:

Los Feliz Neighborhood Council
Central Hollywood Neighborhood Council
Wilshire Center Koreatown Neighborhood Council
Greater Echo Park Elysian Neighborhood Council

For, if amended:

Greater Cypress Park Neighborhood Council

Summary:

At a regular meeting held on August 28, 2019, the Housing Committee considered a Motion relative to vacant, habitable housing units and a potential Empty Homes Penalty structure in the City of Los Angeles. Council Member Bonin provided comments and requested an amendment to include the LADWP. Committee Member Krekorian also commented and recommended additional amendments determine the reasons for the vacancies and options to incentivize placing units in productive use and for emergencies. After an opportunity for public comment, the Committee recommended approving the Motion as amended. This matter is now submitted to the Council for consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,


HOUSING COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
CEDILLO	YES
KREKORIAN	YES
HARRIS-DAWSON	ABSENT

RM

-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-