

Communication from Public

Name: Lyndsey Q Nolan

Date Submitted: 06/30/2020 10:48 AM

Council File No: 20-0148

Comments for Public Posting: I support and urge the City to use eminent domain to purchase Hillside Villa so dozens of families don't become homeless. This building is meant to be affordable and for the community. Act now and do the right thing!

Communication from Public

Name: Diane M. L. Tan

Date Submitted: 06/30/2020 09:57 AM

Council File No: 20-0148

Comments for Public Posting: As a longtime community advocate for maintaining and increasing affordable housing in Los Angeles Chinatown, I support the recommendations for the acquisition of Hillside Villa through the use of eminent domain to preserve and maintain that housing complex as affordable housing. With regard to the recommendations regarding Grand Plaza Apartments, I support the proposal to extend the affordability of that senior citizen housing complex by having a new 30-year regulatory agreement and requiring that 100% of the property shall be leased solely to senior residents aged 62 years and over. I support a requirement that all in-place tenants be protected with a lifetime rent adjustment cap. However, the limits on annual rent increases should not be based on the percentage change in HUD's Area Median Income, but on the local Area Median Income (AMI) for L.A. Chinatown. The AMI for Chinatown is approximately \$20,000. I am opposed to the proposed breakdown of how the units will be maintained because it precludes many of the very low and low income senior citizens from qualifying to rent there. There should be a larger percentage, such as 60% or more, allocated for very low and low income senior citizens, especially when there is an obvious shortage of affordable housing for seniors. I strongly oppose the proposal to allow the remaining 20% of the units to become "unrestricted" upon natural turnover vacancy because that is inconsistent and contrary to the proposal to extend the affordability of Grand Plaza Apartments. That completely changes the purpose and claimed objectives of maintaining Grand Plaza Apartments as affordable housing by allowing market rate rentals and failing to address the urgent and continued need for more truly affordable housing in Los Angeles Chinatown.

Communication from Public

Name: Kathryn Loutzenheiser

Date Submitted: 06/30/2020 11:13 AM

Council File No: 20-0148

Comments for Public Posting: I support item 73, accepting the report on using eminent domain on affordable housing developments to extend affordability. Affordable housing was pushed as a bandaid after the country decided to not develop any more public housing in 1999 with the Faircloth Amendment and after decades of a lack of funding for public housing. Affordable housing financing incentivizes private developers to create affordable housing so that the responsibility does not fall directly on the government. It is not true housing justice. It's more cost effective to retain affordable housing than to build new housing. Current estimates of constructing affordable housing put developing each unit at a cost of \$500,000 and an entire building may cost upwards of \$40,000,000. Developments built in the 80s and 90s are currently losing their affordability covenants, including the Hillside Villa apartments. Tom Botz has not cooperated with any previous proposals so eminent domain is the last option to make sure that the tenants of Hillside Villa can remain housed. LA has a violent history with eminent domain including the forced evictions of Chavez Ravine, Bunker Hill, and for freeway construction. There is no precedent for using eminent domain to preserve affordable housing in LA but there are examples from other U.S. cities that have used or considered the possibility such as Philadelphia, Seattle, Richmond, Boston and New York City. LA has the opportunity to stabilize communities and save livelihoods by using eminent domain in service of renters and those most vulnerable. This is such an important and historical moment to make the right decision. Support LA and make the right decisions to protect the most vulnerable before you go on break and don't have to live the experiences of those in poverty.

Communication from Public

Name: Zoe Nissen

Date Submitted: 06/30/2020 11:27 AM

Council File No: 20-0148

Comments for Public Posting: The city MUST use eminent domain to purchase Hillside Villa so dozens of families don't become homeless. This building is meant to be affordable and for the community. We already have an egregious amount of unhoused Angelenos and the city MUST do everything in its power to a) not add to that and b) actively work to house its citizens.

Communication from Public

Name: Brittani Nichols
Date Submitted: 06/30/2020 11:31 AM
Council File No: 20-0148
Comments for Public Posting: I'm in support of item 73 and think you should use eminent domain to purchase Hillside Villa and keep it permanently affordable. You all are an absolute disgrace when it comes to anything regarding renters or tenant's rights so you all need to make this happen.

Communication from Public

Name: Lindsay R Burke
Date Submitted: 06/30/2020 11:42 AM
Council File No: 20-0148
Comments for Public Posting: I support the city council in using eminent domain to keep Hillside Villa permanently affordable. It only makes sense cause we're in a housing crisis during a pandemic.

Communication from Public

Name: Mellie Nolen

Date Submitted: 06/30/2020 12:16 PM

Council File No: 20-0148

Comments for Public Posting: I support item 73. This is, once again, the bare minimum. We need to cancel rent, and we need to do it now.

Communication from Public

Name: Stacy

Date Submitted: 06/30/2020 12:30 PM

Council File No: 20-0148

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Stacy, and I am a resident of Los Angeles in District 5. I was among the 500 people who were on the phone waiting to speak but were cut off on June 30, 2020. I would like to speak on items 48, 73, and give general public comment. For item 48, please support the motion to invest in alternative, unarmed service providers for non-violent emergency calls. For item 73, please approve the recommendations to use eminent domain to purchase Hillside Villa and keep it permanently affordable. For general public comment, please reduce the LAPD budget by more than \$150 million. I demand that you defund the LAPD and adopt the People's Budget LA. For my general comment, as a Korean American, I would like to directly address Councilmembers John Lee and David Ryu to adopt the People's Budget and defund the police. You both made history as the first Asian-Americans in City Council and I now urge you to take your responsibility and be on the right side of history and vote for a greater cut than \$150 million. In the 80s, the LAPD held my immigrant father in a chokehold for disputing a parking ticket and had he died, I would not be alive today. In 1991, Soon Ja Du, a Korean liquor store owner your parents age, and from my parent's generation, killed Latasha Harlins, a Black girl, for assuming that she was stealing orange juice. If Latasha were alive today, she would have been 45, the same age as Mr. Ryu and a few years younger than Mr. Lee. Koreans are victims to police brutality, but we also enable the death of Black and Brown people by not taking action. Our immigrant parents faced racism and injustice, but Black and Brown communities faced worse. White people today have to contend with more than 400 years of racism because of their ancestors. We have the opportunity to address the wrongs of only the last 117 years, our immigrant parents' generations, those before them, and ours. Do the right thing and defund the police or you will also make history as the first Asian American councilmembers who did not do enough to address systemic racism. Regarding public comment, 40 min is not enough for 500 people. When public comment has become more accessible because we can call in instead of attending meetings in person, it is unacceptable that we are artificially restricted by unrealistic time limits. Neighbors like Glendale City Council have previously allowed their meetings to go to 3AM for the public. The comment

form in its current form does not ensure that general public comments will be received or connected to a specific City Council meeting. The form must be revised to ensure that general public comment is tied to a specific City Council meeting and not get lost. After calling President Martinez's office, I was directed to the Office of the City Clerk, whose number led me to circular recording messages. No one is available to address this. Given that the Council will soon be going on recess, please ensure that staff who will not be going on break use this time to optimize the public comment process by extending the comment period and ensuring that general comments on the form are traceable to specific City Council meetings.

Communication from Public

Name: Meridith
Date Submitted: 06/30/2020 12:45 PM
Council File No: 20-0148
Comments for Public Posting: Support Item 73: Use eminent domain to purchase Hillside Villa and keep it permanently affordable.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/30/2020 11:59 AM

Council File No: 20-0148

Comments for Public Posting: Support Item 73: Use eminent domain to purchase Hillside Villa and keep it permanently affordable.