

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Evan Murphy

**Date Submitted:** 04/22/2020 10:27 AM

**Council File No:** 20-0409

**Comments for Public Posting:** 78% of Angelenos live paycheck to paycheck and have had none for months now. You are looking at roughly 3 million at risk of homelessness. A future debt burden is untenable. Our calculations show that the line of tents, not tenants would stretch 3500 miles, sea to shining sea. Just with the new homeless created in Los Angeles alone. Without a full halt on rents and mortgages, this is the future you usher in. Covid is just one of the problems we face. They are all intertwined, but this solution, speeds to the rescue peace of mind, buys us time and frees up what little money we have on hand for food. 1200\$ from the stimulus is inadequate and too slow, but this measure would take immediate effect. Charging rent during a period of no work, is THEFT, Stealing from low income renters at the time they can afford it the least. You can imagine the ramifications on crime and public safety as this chaos grows. Our city has burned before for less injustice. If rent is not paid mortgages will not be paid banks will not pay their investors the government will bail out the banks If they are not bankrupt by that time. Investors are the only people who will gain, investments are not assured. HOUSING MUST BE INSURED! This graph shows the line of tents spreading across the country, this is within your influence. SAVE THE PEOPLE OF LOS ANGELES! SHOW LEADERSHIP THAT WILL SPREAD THROUGH THE WORLD!

# **A FUTURE OF TENTS OR TENNANTS? YOU DECIDE.**

**THREE MILLION NEW HOMELESS FROM LOS ANGELES  
ALONE STRETCH FROM  
SEA TO SHINING SEA **3354 MI****



**YOU CAN STOP THIS  
RENT AND MORTGAGE HALTS NOW!**



**78% OF ANGELENOS LIVE PAYCHECK TO PAYCHECK**

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lois DeArmond  
**Date Submitted:** 04/22/2020 08:23 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-0409

**Comments for Public Posting:** While the motion is well-intentioned, and I thank the Councilmembers for their consideration in trying to assist renters, piling up debt is not what renters need. Even if the debt is classified as consumer debt, and not a legal cause for eviction, debt is debt. The minute it is created, it goes on one's credit report, thus adversely affecting one's credit score. People would come out of this crisis burdened with thousands of dollars owed, and no way ever to get out from under it. If they are unable to pay it back, their credit will be destroyed, and they will never be able to rent another home. What we need today, immediately, is cancellation of rent and mortgage payments, retroactive to March 4, and lasting until the emergency order is lifted. No more debt, no more evictions. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/21/2020 04:48 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0409

**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose Council File 20-0409. Consumer Debt Motion. This unfairly seeks to classify unpaid rent as a consumer debt and not subject to the unlawful detainer process. City Council must understand that most all Property Owners/ Landlords have very large expenses and are unjustly targeted by Renters and Lawmakers alike. There is a terribly misconception that Property Owners/Landlords are like kings in castles simply counting money. THAT IS WRONG !! Most residential units barely bring in what is needed to cover theses costs. Property Owners carry the burden of mortgages, property taxes, state and local taxes, insurance, and ongoing maintenance etc. DON'T MAKE THINGS HARDER THAN THEY HAVE TO BE!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** William M. Baker

**Date Submitted:** 04/21/2020 04:20 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0409

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Los Angeles City Council: I am an apartment owner in the city of Los Angeles and I urge you not to pass item 38, file 30-0409. I am a responsible owner and complying with all the city health and safety requirements including the soft-story retrofit program. As an owner I must follow the rules and pay the ongoing bills - the plumber, maintenance, roofer, gardener, cleaning as well as the utilities, trash and a variety of taxes and fees. These bills must be paid in a timely fashion, without any discount, moratorium or forgiveness, otherwise there are consequences for me, the building and all the residents in the form of additional legal consequences and a decrease of service and maintenance of the property. While I understand the need to provide relief to the residents such as the ordinance to provide a grace period of one year to pay any unpaid rent that accrued during the coronavirus period. After the one year, the resident should pay the balance otherwise the owner should have the discretion to proceed with an unlawful detainer action. Thank you for your consideration.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Justin

**Date Submitted:** 04/21/2020 03:21 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0409

**Comments for Public Posting:** Landlords should not be able to evict tenants over rent debt. The COVID-19 emergency has no sustainable plan in place to provide relief for renters without income of no fault of their own. Landlords should not have the power to intimidate, harass, or evict tenants in an act of immediate retaliation should an adequate relief plan be passed. It is more ideal to have rental repayment be negotiated between the tenant and landlord. Los Angeles City Council should instead cancel rent through a moratorium and protect vulnerable communities. Los Angeles needs to make a stand for housing justice, stop punching down on renters, and stop supplying landlords with weapons to antagonize renters. Support Item 38 and reclassify unpaid rent as consumer debt.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Anastasia Howe Bukowski

**Date Submitted:** 04/21/2020 03:29 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0409

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am a citizen of Los Angeles and I am calling to demand that LA City Council implement a reclassification of rent as consumer debt during this state of emergency. Due to cancellations and closures in response to the coronavirus pandemic, Angelenos are losing massive amounts of income, and many find themselves suddenly unable to make rent payments. Many are also unable to afford food and medicine in tandem with rent payments. Stable housing is crucial to maintain social distancing and prevent the further spread of the coronavirus. We must act now to reclassify rent as consumer debt statewide, in addition to an indefinite moratorium on evictions and housing closures. If necessary to achieve this reclassification of rent as consumer debt for the most vulnerable citizens, mortgage payments and property tax payments should also be suspended until the end of the crisis. ??I, and my fellow Angelenos, demand an immediate reclassification of rent as consumer debt. No one should have to struggle in such a crisis.??Thank you for your time.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lois DeArmond  
**Date Submitted:** 04/20/2020 12:40 PM  
**Council File No:** 20-0409

**Comments for Public Posting:** I urge the full Council to vote YES on this Motion, with the caveat that: creating consumer debt may instantly and negatively affect a person's credit rating, and that if the tenant is unable to repay the debt, their credit will be destroyed, making it virtually impossible ever to secure another rental. Creating more debt is, I believe, not the best course to resolve the problem, and this needs to be addressed before the vote. Thank you to Mr Bonin, Mr Ryu, and Mr Harris-Dawson for the motion.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Moses Kagan

**Date Submitted:** 04/20/2020 05:49 PM

**Council File No:** 20-0409

**Comments for Public Posting:** Am writing to express my strong disagreement with Item 38 on the Council Agenda (the "Consumer Debt Motion"). You have already given tenants 12 months to pay back rent with no late fees or penalties... basically, forcing landlords to provide 0% interest loans to their tenants. By removing the threat of eviction, you would make it incredibly difficult for landlords to collect on these 0% interest loans, even after the 12 months have elapsed. The effect would be to impose major credit losses on many owners, particularly those with little time / money (in other words, the mom and pops). Besides expediency, what is the argument for forcing one small slice of the city to bear a hugely disproportionate share of the burden of addressing this crisis? If the city wants to relieve tenants (a worthy goal!), why not have the city pay the costs of doing so?