

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(6) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(2) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 7/13/2019

Type of NC Board Action: For if Amended

Impact Information

Date: 08/23/2019

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 19-0623

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: Los Angeles has a shortage of more than 500,000 units of affordable housing for low income renters. The high cost of housing is exacerbating our already severe homelessness problem. Thousands of people are falling out of the housing market and landing in a growing number of encampments on our streets. At the same time a significant amount of Los Angeles housing stock remains vacant. The 2017 American Community Survey of the US Census showed there were 111,810 vacant housing units in the City of Los Angeles. This Motion proposes an “Empty Homes Penalty” or vacancy tax as has been done in Vancouver, Paris, Washington DC and Oakland. The stated object of empty homes penalties has been to 1) return empty or under-utilized properties to use as long-term rental homes, 2) help relieve pressure on the region’s rental housing market, and 3) create a revenue stream for affordable or homeless housing and services. This Motion requests that HCID report on the amount of vacant, habitable housing units in Los Angeles, and requests that the Chief Legislative Analyst with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer, examine Empty Homes penalty, 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 voters in 2020. GCPNC supports the general idea behind this motion but we want to make sure the result allows for exceptions for extenuating circumstances and we are interested in expanding the scope to include protections for commercial and retail space.