

Communication from Public

Name: Anthony Dedousis
Date Submitted: 02/19/2021 12:31 PM
Council File No: 21-0042
Comments for Public Posting: Hello, Please see attached for Abundant Housing LA's letter SUPPORTING this motion. Thank you, Anthony Dedousis



February 19, 2021

Council President Nury Martinez
Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

[CF 21-0042](#) - *Emergency Renters Assistance Subsidy Program - SUPPORT*

Dear Council President Martinez,

Abundant Housing LA is a pro-housing, nonprofit advocacy organization working to help solve Southern California's housing crisis. Our organization supports more housing at all levels of affordability and reforms to land use and zoning codes, which are needed in order to make housing more affordable, improve access to jobs and transit, promote greater environmental sustainability, and advance racial and economic equity.

We write to express our strong support for your motion calling on HCID and the CLA to create a report analyzing how many Los Angeles tenant households are behind on rent, the average rent debt per tenant, the total outstanding unpaid rent debt, how many small landlords are behind on their mortgage, how many landlords are in jeopardy of foreclosure, and any other relevant information. This report will help develop a new program framework for the Renters Assistance Program that will be able to provide assistance to both renters and small landlords.

The Emergency Renters Assistance Subsidy Program made over \$100 million available to help low-income renters who were suffering as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the need for assistance was far greater than these funds could cover. This motion would provide the city with important data on how many renters and landlords are struggling due to COVID-19. A new framework for the Renters Assistance Program will help provide assistance to more low-income tenants and help small property owners who are also affected by the pandemic.

Thank you for bringing this important motion forward, which we are proud to support.

Sincerely,

Leonora Camner
Executive Director
Abundant Housing LA

Anthony Dedousis
Director of Policy and Research
Abundant Housing LA