



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

DECLARATION OF LOCAL HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, Section 231(i) of the Los Angeles City Charter and Section 8.33 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code provide that the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles has the authority to declare the existence of a local emergency due to the existence of a critical shortage of local affordable housing and/or an emergency on homelessness; and

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2022, I declared the existence of a local emergency on homelessness with a sunset of six months subject to renewal. The City Council renewed the declaration of emergency and established a new sunset date of July 9, 2023; and

WHEREAS, although significant progress has been made since I declared the homelessness emergency in December of last year, the City still faces a critical shortage of local affordable housing, and the number of individuals unhoused and unsheltered remain far too high; and

WHEREAS, the City still finds itself in an emergency because most if not all of the concerns articulated in the recitals in my December declaration are true today; and

WHEREAS, the unhoused population in the City is greater than two times the total number of interim beds, as established in the annual Homeless Inventory Count submitted to the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. This alone is sufficient to authorize my declaration of this local housing and homelessness emergency under Section 8.33 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, the City's housing supply is projected to be at least 40 percent below its annual housing production goals as established in the Housing Element approved by the State Department of Housing and Community Development and reported in the City Planning Department's quarterly Housing Production Report. This is yet another independent basis for me to declare this local housing and homelessness emergency under Section 8.33 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, declaring this emergency will enable the City to continue to mobilize local resources, coordinate inter-agency response, accelerate procurement of housing units, use mutual aid, and seek assistance and potential reimbursement by the State and

Federal governments - all critical to the ongoing efforts to respond forcefully and successfully to this housing and homelessness crisis; and

WHEREAS, because current conditions remain consistent with those in existence during the pendency of the local emergency I declared in December of last year, the Los Angeles City Council retains its full authority to consider a variety of City ordinances to codify the measures necessary to address this homelessness crisis; and

WHEREAS, although the City has been and is acting with urgency, including implementing a roadmap to house thousands of Angelenos and building an unprecedented number of supportive housing units and shelters, this emergency declaration is necessary to continue to mobilize resources, save lives, and provide for the public health, welfare, and safety of all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I thereby declare the existence of a local emergency on affordable housing and homelessness and direct all City Departments to take necessary steps for the protection of life, health and safety in the City of Los Angeles. The Executive Directives issued by me in response to the original declaration of emergency and its renewal shall remain in full force and effect through the pendency of this declaration.

I DIRECT that, as authorized under Section 8.33 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code, I shall coordinate citywide planning and respond with respect to unsheltered or unhoused individuals in conjunction with the City Administrative Office, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, Los Angeles City Housing Department, Los Angeles City Planning Department, and all other necessary departments and agencies. I shall also coordinate the City's efforts to address this declared emergency with the County of Los Angeles, the State of California, and the federal government.

I FURTHER DIRECT, that the continuing state of emergency shall be regularly evaluated, in coordination with City Council, by reference to key performance indicators of progress in addressing the emergency, including, but not limited to:

- Decrease in the number and size of encampments;
- Regulatory relief from other jurisdictions and within Los Angeles City agencies to create flexibility to address the crisis;
- Relaxation in the restraints that limit the ability of the City's proprietary departments to create flexibility to address the crisis;
- Increased housing placements;
- Increased starts on new affordable housing options;
- An increase in temporary and permanent housing units;
- Increased outside aid through access to mental health and substance use beds;
- A decrease in the number of persons being evicted from existing housing units;
- A decrease in the number of persons falling into homelessness.

I FURTHER DIRECT that all relevant City departments and agencies continue to cooperate by compiling and delivering to the Mayor information about the specific and necessary resources and support that the City should request from Los Angeles County, the State of California and the Federal government to address this crisis.

I THEREFORE DIRECT that the Declaration of Local Emergency shall take effect immediately with respect to a critical shortage of local affordable housing and the homelessness crisis, and that notice shall be given of this Declaration through the most feasible means.



KAREN BASS
Mayor

Dated at Los Angeles, California

Date: July 7th, 2023

Time: 5:14 p.m.

Filed with the City Clerk

Date: July 7, 2023

Time: 6:04 pm

By:  

Signed with ClerkSign
Jul 07, 2023 6:04PM