

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](mailto: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(13) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 08/07/2019

Type of NC Board Action: For

#### Impact Information

Date: 04/17/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 19-0623

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary:

## REQUEST FOR CIS from Housing & Tenants Rights Committee

CF 19-0623 (Bonin / Harris-Dawson/ Ryu / Koretz)  
EMPTY HOMES PENALTY aka VACANCY TAX

The Silver Lake NC Housing and Tenants Rights Committee is submitting this request for a CIS to the Silver Lake NC, in support of CF 19-0623 (Empty Homes Penalty aka Vacancy Tax).

This CIS request was brought to Committee by Jane Demian of the LA Tenants Union and unanimously approved in our meeting of 7/11/19.

Link to the Motion:

[http://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2019/19-0623\\_mot\\_06-11-2019.pdf](http://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2019/19-0623_mot_06-11-2019.pdf)

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.

We request that the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council support this Motion.

Thank you,

Carol Cetrone Ninotchka Regets  
Co-chairs, SLNC Housing & Tenants Rights Committee

**Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Vote on 8/7/2019: 13 yea - 0 nay - 0 abstain**