

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Clark

Date Submitted: 11/07/2023 10:34 AM

Council File No: 20-0147-S19

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, my name is Sarah. I am a tenant in CD14. I am here to urge you to support a 6 month extension of the rent freeze for units subject to the Los Angeles Rent Stabilization Ordinance (LARSO). Utilities should never be included in the rent increase formula. Allowing landlords to raise rents by an arbitrary amount because they provide utilities, without considering the actual cost of those utilities, whether they are provided individually or collectively, and the many resources available to improve efficiency and reduce consumption will compound the challenges of tenants. Allowing rent increases based on utilities will also make the policy difficult to administer and enforce, and frustrate our ongoing efforts to address climate change in an equitable manner by undermining incentives for landlords to address energy efficiency in buildings. While the City waits for the RSO formula study to come back with recommendations, it cannot allow thousands of tenants to ENDURE up to a 6% rent hike. A 6% rent increase is not much better than what the formula was going to be without the Council's action today. It would still lead to substantial displacement and eviction, and likely drive an increase in homelessness. Rather than allow a 6% increase, the Council should keep the rent freeze in place until the permanent study comes back.