

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Baron Davis

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**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Baron Davis. I am a former NBA All -Star, a serial entrepreneur, and an investor. Over the last several years, among my many organizations -- including Black Santa, SLIC, and Busines Inside the Game – I focus on empowering African American entrepreneurs and black young people to achieve their full potential. I grew up in South LA. I know the community and care deeply about South LA. When I met Martin and the SoLa team, I was incredibly impressed with what they are doing. I've visited their project at the Beehive and several of their ground-up affordable housing developments. I have had seeing first-hand what SoLa does for the community and for its tenants and I am very simply blown away. They are fully committed to the black and brown community in South LA. No other landlord that I am aware of is as actively involved in meeting the needs of their tenants. I have worked with SoLa to bring together community leaders and to ensure their vision and direction is aligned with the community. They have invested millions of dollars to improve housing options and housing affordability in South LA. They have acquired over 100 dilapidated buildings and renovated these buildings extensively while preserving affordability. They take South LA residents from dozens of programs and non-profits and provide them very nice, very respectable homes. If you look at what they have done for their tenant and the community during COVID, I stands as a prime example of true commitment to the black and brown residents of the area. SoLa has raised over \$40,000 and partners with my Black Santa organization to give almost 150 Chromebooks to South LA residents. They have – for free – arranged to have food and supplies delivered to their tenants since the start of COVID. I cannot tell you how meaningful that was to me. Martin, the CEO of SoLa, is a black business owner that is putting his money where his mouth is. I fully support this project and you have chosen an outstanding organization to work with in SoLa Impact. Regards, Baron Davis