

Communication from Public

Name: Union of Legal Services Workers of Los Angeles

Date Submitted: 03/10/2026 01:33 PM

Council File No: 20-1084-S4

Comments for Public Posting: Dear City Council Members: On behalf of the unionized legal services workers and our allies, we write in strong support of approving the recommendations of 20-1084-S4 to continue funding eviction defense and homelessness prevention services. This vote is not only about housing policy—it is about protecting the skilled, mission-driven workers that make Los Angeles’ tenant protections real. The City’s eviction defense infrastructure relies on legal services attorneys, tenant advocates, paralegals, case managers, and community educators—most of whom are union members—who dedicate their careers to public service and housing justice. These workers are the people who translate policy into action every day by helping tenants understand their rights, navigate complex legal systems, and remain safely housed. Stable contracts mean stable jobs, and stable jobs ensure that tenants across Los Angeles can continue accessing the legal support they need to stay in their homes. When contracts are delayed, reduced, or eliminated, the City risks losing experienced professionals whose knowledge, training, and community relationships cannot be replaced. The effectiveness of the City’s eviction defense system depends on retaining this skilled workforce. The workers who depend on these contracts do not only serve the community—we live in it. We are tenants, neighbors, and members of the same communities that are struggling under the weight of the housing crisis. Our ability to protect tenants depends on the security of our own jobs. Over the past year, we have experienced devastating immigration enforcement raids, cuts to healthcare and public benefits, and deepening economic insecurity for working families across Los Angeles. Our unions feel these pressures firsthand, which only strengthens our commitment to preserving these programs—not just for ourselves, but for the communities across the City of Los Angeles that depend on them. When legal services jobs disappear, tenants lose more than representation—they lose experienced advocates who help fight unlawful evictions, assert their rights, and prevent displacement before it occurs. Los Angeles has invested years building a citywide eviction defense system to address the housing and homelessness crisis. Undermining the workforce that sustains this system would mean losing experienced staff, fracturing trusted relationships with tenants and community partners, and

weakening one of the City's most effective tools for preventing and ending homelessness. We urge the City Council to stand with working people and the communities most impacted by the housing crisis. Protect the workers who defend tenants and who are tenants themselves. Protect the programs that prevent displacement. Protect the infrastructure that keeps Angelenos housed. Submitted on behalf of the following: Union of Legal Services Workers of Los Angeles (ULSW-LA) Pacoima Union of Legal Service Employees (PULSE) United Movement Legal Workers (UMLW)

March 8, 2026
Los Angeles City Council
Submitted via: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/publiccomment/>



20-1084-S4 Executing contracts to provide Eviction Defense Program and United to House LA (ULA) Homelessness Prevention Program services

Dear City Council Members:

On behalf of the unionized legal services workers and our allies, we write in strong support of approving the recommendations of 20-1084-S4 to continue funding eviction defense and homelessness prevention services.

This vote is not only about housing policy—it is about protecting the skilled, mission-driven workers that make Los Angeles’ tenant protections real. The City’s eviction defense infrastructure relies on legal services attorneys, tenant advocates, paralegals, case managers, and community educators—most of whom are union members—who dedicate their careers to public service and housing justice. These workers are the people who translate policy into action every day by helping tenants understand their rights, navigate complex legal systems, and remain safely housed.

Stable contracts mean stable jobs, and stable jobs ensure that tenants across Los Angeles can continue accessing the legal support they need to stay in their homes. When contracts are delayed, reduced, or eliminated, the City risks losing experienced professionals whose knowledge, training, and community relationships cannot be replaced. The effectiveness of the City’s eviction defense system depends on retaining this skilled workforce.

The workers who depend on these contracts do not only serve the community—we live in it. We are tenants, neighbors, and members of the same communities that are struggling under the weight of the housing crisis. Our ability to protect tenants depends on the security of our own jobs. Over the past year, we have experienced devastating immigration enforcement raids, cuts to healthcare and public benefits, and deepening economic insecurity for working families across Los Angeles. Our unions feel these pressures firsthand, which only strengthens our commitment to preserving these programs—not just for ourselves, but for the communities across the City of Los Angeles that depend on them.

When legal services jobs disappear, tenants lose more than representation—they lose experienced advocates who help fight unlawful evictions, assert their rights, and prevent displacement before it occurs. Los Angeles has invested years building a citywide eviction defense system to address the housing and homelessness crisis. Undermining the workforce that sustains this system would mean losing experienced staff, fracturing trusted relationships with tenants and community partners, and weakening one of the City’s most effective tools for preventing and ending homelessness.

We urge the City Council to stand with working people and the communities most impacted by the housing crisis. Protect the workers who defend tenants and who are tenants themselves. Protect the programs that prevent displacement. Protect the infrastructure that keeps Angelenos housed.

Submitted on behalf of the following:

Union of Legal Services Workers of Los Angeles (ULSW-LA)

Pacoima Union of Legal Service Employees (PULSE)

United Movement Legal Workers (UMLW)