



United to House LA

2025 JUN 17 AM 11:06

June 16, 2025

Dear City Councilmembers,

The United to House LA (UHLA) coalition designed and successfully campaigned for the passage of Measure ULA. ULA includes 11 essential affordable housing production, preservation and homelessness prevention programs demanded by voters to help address our City's housing crisis. Three of those programs are at risk of being severely interrupted when vulnerable households need them most. The Eviction Prevention & Defense program, the Tenant Outreach & Education program, and the Short-Term Emergency Assistance program may be delayed due to inaction by the City.

We are writing today to bring to your immediate attention that **we have been informed that the City will not be executing the new five year contract with Stay Housed LA**, with Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA) as lead contractor. On April 25, 2025, the City Council approved the execution of this contract (Council File No. 20-1084-S4), which was then signed by the Mayor on May 1, 2025. The current contract expires on June 30, 2025.

As you know, **Stay Housed LA has been implementing rental assistance, eviction defense, homelessness prevention, and tenant outreach and education activities for the City for the past four years.** Stay Housed LA includes eleven legal service providers and sixteen community based organizations to deliver these critical services throughout the entire City, and prevent homelessness and stabilize housing for thousands of Angelinos each year. The ULA program requires eviction defense and prevention, outreach and education, and tenant anti-harassment services, all of which fall under the Stay Housed LA contract, so failing to execute the contract will negatively impact the ULA requirements.

We need your urgent intervention to ensure that your vote to approve a new five year contract is implemented by the Los Angeles Housing Department. If this contract were to expire in approximately two weeks, without the replacement contract executed, there could be NO NEW services provided to people facing eviction, illegal rent increases, and other actions that threaten people's housing. There would be NO access to critical rental assistance payments that keep people housed. There would be NO tenant education and outreach services, reaching those most in need across the City and providing additional supports to those most impacted by the immigration raids.

In the past four years, Stay Housed LA provided full scope representation to over 4,200 tenants and limited legal services to over 15,000 tenants. According to Stay Housing LA data, 56% of represented tenants remained in their homes for a long term collective economic benefit of \$20,161,073 (savings from not moving) and soft landings were provided to another 38%, with these tenants receiving collective economic benefit of \$21,613,570 (waived back rent, relocation assistance, fee waivers). Stay Housed LA provided over \$9.5 million dollars in rental assistance to keep people in their homes. Stay Housed LA outreached close to 840,000 city tenants, and held hundreds of workshops. This year, with ULA funding, Stay Housed LA could be achieving its largest expansion yet, vastly increasing the number of attorneys with a target of representing 3,000 tenants. **All of this impact will abruptly end on June 30, 2025, without any notice to tenants and limited notice to the dozens of staff members, without your immediate intervention.**

We understand that the City Attorney has directed LAHD to not execute the approved contract. We call on City Councilmembers to assert your authority, and ensure your vote is implemented. In this instance, the role is clear in the original motion - to approve the contract in form. If the City Attorney does not choose to approve the contract in form, LAHD has Council authority to execute it as is, including at this time under the current state of emergency order on homelessness.

Thank you,

Joe Donlin

On behalf of the United to House LA Coalition Steering Committee

act·LA
Housing Jobs & Transit for All



KIWA
WORKERS FOR JUSTICE

SCANPH
California's National Association of Homeless Providers

SAJE
STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR A JUST ECONOMY

seiu 2015
California's Long Term Caregivers

MOVELR



UNITEHERE!
LOCAL 11

United Way
GREATER LOS ANGELES

LA FAMILY HOUSING

ACE
INSTITUTE

UTLA
UNITED TEACHERS LOS ANGELES

