

Communication from Public

Name: Pike Beveridge

Date Submitted: 02/16/2021 11:00 AM

Council File No: 21-0046

Comments for Public Posting: This comment was intended to be shared verbally during the meeting on 2/16/2021. It is in regards to Item 21-HACLA Acquisition Motion "Expanding HACLA acquisition would protect low income communities, BIPOC communities, and other populations vulnerable to being unhoused. Working cooperatively with organizations and coalitions who support this measure would help stabilize neighborhoods at risk of gentrification, at risk housing could be rehabbed, multifamily housing could be purchased, and permanent affordability could be assured. Pandemic and the housing crisis in LA require bold measures to help protect Angelenos from eviction and homelessness. Thank you Pres. Martinez and the council for your time."

Communication from Public

Name: Josie Clerfond

Date Submitted: 02/16/2021 09:44 AM

Council File No: 21-0046

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Josie Clerfond and I am the Coalitions and External Relations Manager for TRUST South LA, a grassroots member-led Community Land Trust in South Los Angeles. TRUST South LA works to ensure permanent housing affordability and housing justice for low-income Black and Brown residents of Los Angeles. We strongly support this motion. TRUST South LA is a member of the LA CLT Coalition, a collective of five neighborhood-based, BIPOC-led community land trusts in Los Angeles. We have met regularly to make progress on the acquisition of rental properties that are put on the speculative real estate market, and work with existing residents to avoid displacement. TRUST South LA has already acquired one building alongside organized residents, which keep our communities affordable and retain the social fabric of our neighborhoods. The Council constantly champions the need for affordable housing, and the expansion of the Housing Acquisition Program would further our collective goals of creating an accessible and affordable city for all. The LA CLT Coalition would immediately leverage funds from the expansion of the program to secure naturally occurring affordable housing units, and accelerate the City of Los Angeles' goals to increase affordable housing, and preserve housing stability for Angelenos. We strongly endorse the motion to support and expand the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) housing acquisition program. This will be an important step to preserve homes given the necessity of prompt action to address the economic fallout of COVID-19. During this crisis, we understand that many residents of South Los Angeles are not only one paycheck, but one moratorium away from eviction and possible homelessness. Thus, we urge the entire Council to act in favor of the expansion of the HACLA housing acquisition program. We look forward to working with HACLA to scale and implement this program.

Communication from Public

Name: Chase Engelhardt
Date Submitted: 02/15/2021 11:15 PM
Council File No: 21-0046

Comments for Public Posting: Thank you to Council President Martinez for advancing this important motion to explore strategies to stabilize tenants and communities by preserving low-cost housing and preventing speculation. This is the kind of motion Healthy LA—a coalition of over 330 organizations—has been advocating for since the beginning of the pandemic. Empowering the Housing Authority to expand their acquisition program is a great opportunity to grow our public housing stock and strengthen our social housing infrastructure. Social housing is held in the public's hands in perpetuity for the sake of stabilizing affordable rents and advancing housing security goals. The social housing model is a global best practice that the City of LA can advance through this motion. A program like this will go a long way in preventing on-going increases of newly unhoused Angelenos. Our tremendous housing crises in LA demands a broad coordination of resources across the City, County and respective agencies. To the extent that this motion represents an opportunity to expand partnership across HACLA, HCID and County agencies we see that as a critical step in the right direction. (words of caution) We also want to note that in our understanding, HACLA's current acquisition program combines both affordable units and market rate units. We believe the intention of this motion is to deepen the City's commitment to making housing more stable and accessible to those who need it the most. We also recommend that the expansion of HACLA's acquisition program not unintentionally come at the expense of HACLA's other critical public housing and housing voucher programs. Thank you again Council President Martinez for introducing this important motion. Sincerely, Chase Engelhardt Climate Planning and Resilience Coordinator Climate Resolve

Communication from Public

Name: Christiana

Date Submitted: 02/16/2021 10:33 AM

Council File No: 21-0046

Comments for Public Posting: Pass the FEMA motion now to house the unhoused. There is money available from FEMA to reimburse hotels and we must act to stop the deaths of the unhoused community that have been forced onto the streets in increased numbers since the pandemic.