

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: The City of Los Angeles faces a major housing crisis, both in cost and supply. If we are to combat the structural failure that is the homelessness we see, we need to get serious about what causes that homelessness in the first place. One of the major reasons is simple: it is too expensive to live. The rent, as it were, is too damn high. Our for-profit housing system is a disaster. Even for our housed citizens, the cost of that housing is a destructive force on their lives. Too many work multiple jobs, too many lack free time and time to spend with their children, too many are not given the opportunity to improve themselves as they are forced to slave away to pay for the most basic needed resource. Prop 33 would give the City a major tool to combat the greatest excesses of that system. It would allow us to cap the rent, and quell the greed of massive landowners and landlords. It wouldn't enforce anything, it wouldn't pressure the City to make a choice, it would simply allow our democratically elected officials to do what both the residents need and what the economic reality demands. If Prop 33 fails, nothing will systematically change. Housing will not get cheaper, and our crisis will likely continue. If Prop 33 passes, nothing will directly systematically change—except that it will empower our local governments to make a real positive difference for our citizens. As a proud Angeleno, and as a neighbor concerned about their fellow neighbors, I plead for the council to endorse Proposition 33. Thank you.