

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Hi LA Housing & Homelessness Committee, my name is Alex Dobbs. I am the Community Resource Pastor at Hope Community Church and a member of ACT-LA. I am writing to encourage your support of agenda item #3 at tomorrow's meeting, the motion for a social housing finance strategy. I want the city and responsible banks to have a plan to sustainably produce new social housing units and provide residents with new tools for collective ownership of social housing in LA. One reason I would love to see social housing in my community is that social housing is a way to provide homeownership for low-income families. I have talked with many of my neighbors about housing, and when I ask people what their hopes and dreams are for their family in regards to housing, the most consistent answer I get is that they want their family to own a home someday. With how expensive homes are, so many of us feel that buying a home in LA will be practically impossible in our generation. Funding social housing will create opportunities for low-income homeownership where people's rental payments can go towards them owning their unit or into a fund for maintenance costs. I believe that housing is a human right, just like education and healthcare, and investing in social housing is a way to create housing for the sake of housing people, rather than an investment for profit. Cities like LA have a responsibility to provide for the basic needs of residents and invest in the flourishing of the poor, which includes ensuring that housing is affordable and accessible. I ask that you support this motion and the funding of social housing in the long-term.