

Communication from Public

Name:

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Council File No: 23-0038-S7

Comments for Public Posting: Honorable Councilmembers: I am commenting in my personal capacity on the ULA Expenditure Plan. I support Measure ULA. I support eviction defense, tenant protections, rental assistance, and programs that help people stay housed. But I am concerned about how this program is being managed. This issue did not come out of nowhere. ULA has been before the CITY since 2023, and this expenditure plan file has been active since 2024. LAHD, COUNCIL, the HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE, and the BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE have had many chances to address contract timelines, reporting, and service continuity. So it is frustrating to hear that contracts expired on March 31, but services continued in April, May, and June while new contracts were still being finalized. That should have been handled before the contracts expired, not after the fact. This is not just LAHD's responsibility. COUNCIL shares responsibility too. COUNCIL cannot keep approving funding, asking for reports, waiving committee review, and then act surprised when the same problems come back later. For items involving major contracts, expired contracts, payments, or legal questions, the right offices need to be present. That includes LAHD LEADERSHIP, LAHD BUDGET AND CONTRACTS, the RESPONSIBLE PROGRAM BUREAU, the CITY ATTORNEY, the CAO, and the CONTROLLER or appropriate fiscal staff. One staff person should not be left to answer legal, fiscal, contract, and program questions for the whole CITY. This is not about delaying help to tenants. It is about doing the work correctly. The CITY should help tenants, pay for legitimate services, and manage public money responsibly. I ask COUNCIL to require clear public reporting on ULA contracts, including expiration dates, renewal status, services provided, dollars spent, households served, and whether work is being done under a fully approved contract. Helping tenants and requiring accountability should not be treated as opposites. Both are part of doing the job. Thank you.