

MOTION

In September, 2021, the City Council passed the Tenant Anti-Harassment Ordinance (TAHO) to prevent and protect Angeleno tenants from landlord harassment. The measure affords individuals a private cause of action to pursue civil litigation against their housing provider in the event they feel that they have been illegally harassed.

In November, 2022, City voters passed the United to House LA (ULA) ballot measure. The ULA measure and ordinance, in effect since January 1, 2023, requires that a significant portion of annual ULA revenue be allocated toward "Protections from Anti-Tenant Harassment."

On August 29, 2023, the City Council approved interim program guidelines for six of the ten expenditure categories identified in ULA - including guidelines for Protections from Anti-Tenant Harassment. They also approved an inaugural ULA Expenditure Plan that allocates \$11,219,694 for the program. The Council instructed the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) to submit a detailed staffing and enforcement plan to fully enforce TAHO. That plan includes devoting \$3,000,000 toward legal service agencies to provide legal and litigation support to private individuals referred to those organizations.

This private cause of action is a critical piece in the multi-pronged effort to prevent and stop anti-tenant harassment. However, if legal service providers with the resources and capacity to undertake this type of time consuming litigation are not adequately available, that cause of action means nothing, especially for lower-income Angelenos who may be the most vulnerable to landlord harassment.

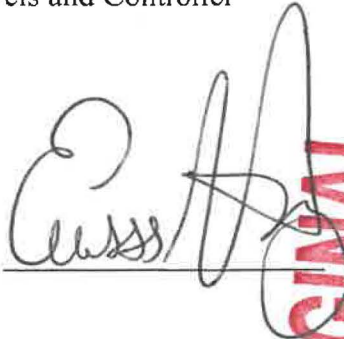
I THEREFORE MOVE that the General Manager of LAHD, or designee, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer and other relevant departments, be authorized to prepare and release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to solicit qualified legal service provider(s) to provide legal representation services for the ULA Protections from Tenant Harassment Program. The RFP shall be subject to review and approval by the City Attorney as to form. LAHD shall be responsible for assessing responses of the subject RFP and submitting results with recommendations to the Mayor and City Council, including funding levels and Controller instructions.

BB
PRESENTED BY:


NITHYA RAMAN

Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY:


ORIGINAL

NOV 01 2023