

City of Los Angeles

Tiena Johnson Hall, General Manager
Tricia Keane, Executive Officer

Anna E. Ortega, Assistant General Manager
Luz C. Santiago, Assistant General Manager
Craig Arceneaux, Acting Assistant General Manager



Karen Bass, Mayor

LOS ANGELES HOUSING DEPARTMENT
1910 Sunset Blvd, Ste 300
Los Angeles, CA 90026
Tel: 213.808.8808

housing.lacity.gov

April 10, 2025

Honorable Members of the City Council
City of Los Angeles
Room 395, City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Attention: Office of the City Clerk

TERMINATION OF RENT REDUCTION AND THE REMOVAL OF PROPERTIES FROM THE RENT ESCROW ACCOUNT PROGRAM (REAP)

The Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) respectfully submits this transmittal for your approval and recommends terminating rent reductions and REAP case removal for the properties listed below. All properties have met the requirements in the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) 162.08.

LAHD is requesting to calendar the following REAP cases for the April 23, 2025, City Council agenda.

1. Case No. 96229 represents the property at 685 E 51ST ST, Los Angeles CA 90011, Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 5108-012-012.
2. Case No. 496568 represents the property at 685 E 51ST ST, Los Angeles CA 90011, Assessor Parcel Number (APN) 5108-012-012.

The LAHD requests the City Council to consider this matter as soon as possible for the purpose of removing the properties from the REAP.

TIENA JOHNSON HALL
GENERAL MANAGER

By:  (FOR)

Michael L. Prendergast, Director
Rent Escrow Account Program
Compliance Division

TJH:MP:LR:Nf:aq

Attachments: Resolutions

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The Honorable Curren D. Price, Jr.
Council Member, Ninth District
Room 430, City Hall Office
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Attention: Curtis Earnest, Chief of Staff

PROPERTY RECOMMENDED FOR REMOVAL FROM THE RENT ESCROW ACCOUNT PROGRAM (REAP)

The Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) is recommending to the City Council the termination of the rent reductions and the termination of the escrow account for the units placed into the REAP program. The file will be submitted to the City Clerk and anticipated to be heard at the City Council meeting on April 23, 2025.

PROPERTY PROFILE:

Owner: FORWARD & 777 LLC
Address: 685 E 51ST ST, Los Angeles CA 90011
APN: 5108012012
Number of Total Units: 3

REAP INFORMATION:

Case Number: 496568
Case Opened: July 22, 2015
Total Units in REAP: 2 – 685 E 51st St & 687 E 51st St
Initial Violations Cited: 32
Citing Agency: Code Enforcement Division, Los Angeles Housing Department
Violations: Fire Warning Devices, Sanitation, Weatherproofing, Maintenance, Electrical, Plumbing/Gas, Heating/Ventilation
Current Status: Violations Cleared due to Vacancy / LAHD Lack of Jurisdiction

Should you or your staff have any questions regarding the REAP case or disposition, please contact Liseth Romero-Martinez, REAP Manager at 213-808-8828 or email liseth.romero@lacity.org.

Michael L. Prendergast, Director
Compliance Division

CC: Marisa Alcaraz, Housing & Legislative Deputy,
Sherilyn Correa, Housing & Planning Deputy,
Genevieve Arce, Legislative Deputy,
Alexander Ponder, Legislative Deputy,
James Westbrook, Deputy Chief of Staff,
Xavier Clark, Planning Assistant

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has made a commitment to preserve the City's housing stock in safe and sanitary conditions by using code enforcement and encouraging landlord compliance with respect to the maintenance and repair of residential buildings; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 173,810, the Rent Escrow Account Program (REAP), was adopted by the City Council and Mayor to be cumulative to and in addition to any other remedy available at law, to enforce the purposes of the Housing Code and to encourage compliance by landlords with respect to the maintenance and repair of residential buildings, structures, and premises and portions of those buildings, structures, and premises; and

WHEREAS, the owner(s) of the property located at **685 E 51ST ST, Los Angeles CA 90011**, hereinafter "the subject property," was cited for violations which caused the placement of the property into REAP (Case No. **496568**); and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) Code Enforcement Division independently evaluated and cleared the cited code violations; and

WHEREAS, the property owner has paid to the satisfaction of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) any outstanding and non-appealable electric service and/or water charges; and

WHEREAS, LAHD recommends closing the REAP escrow account and terminating the rent reductions ordered for the subject property and releasing escrow funds pursuant to REAP; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 162.08 (D) through (G) provides recovery by LAHD of administrative fees and penalties including outstanding rent registration fees and penalties, inspection fees, added inspection costs or administrative costs, and pre-paid monitoring fees for two annual inspections beyond the initial inspection and re-inspections included in the Systematic Code Enforcement Program (SCEP) fee;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL THAT:

All orders affecting the units and the common areas have been cleared by the appropriate enforcement agency; no other outstanding orders affecting the units or common areas of the building remain; and all outstanding and non-appealable electric service and/or water charges pertaining to the subject property have been paid to the satisfaction of LADWP.

THEREFORE, City Council terminates rent reductions ordered pursuant to REAP and pursuant to LAMC Section 162.08.F, rent will be restored to the original levels 30 days after LAHD mails the tenants of the subject property the notice of the restoration. The Department shall file and record with the Los Angeles County Recorder's Office a certificate terminating the REAP recording on the subject property.

IN ADDITION, City Council terminates the rent escrow account and the funds in the escrow account shall be paid to the extent available in the following order: Administrative fees pursuant to LAMC Section 162.07.B.1 that have not yet been collected; any outstanding fees and penalties imposed pursuant to Article 1 of Chapter XVI of the LAMC; any outstanding rent registration fees due if the subject property is subject to the Rent Stabilization Ordinance and any penalties thereto pursuant to LAMC Sections 151.05 and 151.15. Any remaining funds shall be returned to the property owner.

SPECIFICALLY, the subject property shall be removed from REAP and the Controller is authorized to expend funds from the Code Enforcement Trust Fund #41M to reduce liability from the REAP Escrow Account #2220 upon proper demand by the General Manager of LAHD.

IN ADDITION, LAHD shall conduct an expedited systematic inspection of the subject property and impose inspection fees and administrative costs associated with such inspections; the owner of the subject property shall prepay LAHD for two annual inspections beyond the initial inspection and re-inspection included in the SCEP fee for the subject property.