

HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT relative to requiring all Housing Department (LAHD) administrative hearings, including those for the Rent Escrow Account Program (REAP), to be conducted in person.

Recommendations for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Hutt – Soto-Martinez):

1. REQUEST the City Attorney report with a draft ordinance amending Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 162.06 and recommendations to amend Rent Adjustment Commission Regulations 1200.00, to require all LAHD administrative hearings, including REAP and General Manager hearings conducted by the Department, to be scheduled in person on a permanent basis, with the ability for the public to watch and participate virtually. The draft ordinance should require LAHD to post all REAP hearings, General Manager hearings, and any other administrative hearing notices in one easily accessible place on the Department's website, with all notices posted in English and Spanish, and other accessible languages included depending on the neighborhood. The draft ordinance should further require LAHD to provide Spanish language interpretation at all administrative hearings, including REAP and General Manager hearings, and provide language interpretation in any available language if a member of the public makes a request for interpretation at least 72 hours prior to the hearing.
2. INSTRUCT the LAHD, with the assistance of the City Attorney, to report on recommendations to accept and consider evidence and testimony of new information at all administrative hearings, including REAP and General Manager hearings.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: Yes

For: NoHo Neighborhood Council

Summary:

On September 8, 2026, your Housing Committee considered an August 12, 2026 Motion (Hutt – Soto-Martinez relative to requiring all LAHD administrative hearings, including those for REAP, to be conducted in person. According to the Motion, since the COVID-19 pandemic, LAHD administrative and REAP hearings have been less accessible to the public, with hearings being conducted by phone and other technologies without full consideration of tenants and property owner's ability to participate. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion recommendations. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Housing Committee

COUNCILMEMBER	VOTE
PADILLA:	YES
JURADO:	YES
PARK:	ABSENT

RM

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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-