

Communication from Public

Name: Kelsey

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Comments for Public Posting: My name is Kelsey Atkinson, and I am a tenant in Council District #4. I support the maximum indoor temperature ordinance. Extreme heat is the most deadly weather condition we face. As our climate warms, there will be more days every year where we will be exposed to dangerous and life-threatening conditions in our homes. I live in a an over fifty year old rent controlled unit in Los Feliz. My landlord raises my rent each year but never makes upgrades in my apartment to improve the conditions. They do bare minimum repairs in order to remain legally compliant with systemic code enforcement and that's it. My unit is old, poorly insulated, and above garages which are not climate controlled at all. My floor gets so hot from the garages below in these heat weaves that I can literally feel the heat radiating from the garages downstairs through the floor while I'm wearing shoes. The heat continues to radiate through the building long after the sun sets. It has been especially unbearable in the past few weeks because night time temperates have not provided the usual relief/cooling off period. The only way to regulate the temperature in our unit is with air conditioning, which we thankfully had the means to purchase window units. These units would be truly a risk to health and safety absent air conditioning. I come home from work regularly in the summer to have the thermostat on my AC unit read over 90 degrees. All tenants should have access to adequate cooling in the same way that they are protected under the law to have adequate heating during the winter. Landlords for RSO units will not install AC units even if they know it is the right thing to do. The city must act to require cooling for tenants in order to ensure we all have access to safe housing in an ever warming world. Adequate cooling should be a habitability requirement in all homes just like heating is. This is not just a matter of comfort, this is a matter of health and safety.