

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/12/2025 04:30 PM

Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: please post



11/07/2025

Dear Councilmembers and Staff,

This year, Los Angeles has suffered losses to our communities and industries, from devastating fires, to Federal funding cuts, an oversubscribed City budget, and other critical attacks on Angelenos' social safety nets.

Additionally, the City Attorney has now requested over \$12 million dollars for additional outside counsel resources (report no. R25-0523 by the Office of the City Attorney). This request includes \$850,000 to fight the Venice Dell Community, which is in addition to the \$620,000 already spent to fight the Venice Dell Community. This exorbitant use of funds will exacerbate the City's dire budget and housing crises. Worse still, the City Attorney filed suit against the non-profit developers, accusing them of failing to build the very project the City has been blocking. This is no longer just about killing Venice Dell, but upending two long standing and successful affordable housing developers who have provided high quality housing and services in LA for decades. The City is facing damages over \$10 million to avoid building a desperately needed and long-promised housing development.

Not only is the City spending egregiously, but killing the Venice Dell Community will have serious consequences for the City. As noted in the letter of inquiry from the State's Housing Accountability Unit, should the City decide to further delay and deny the Venice Dell Community, it may be found to be acting in opposition to the City's approved Housing Element, which would initiate reconsideration of the City's Prohousing Designation status. Penalties could include a loss of state funding for affordable housing, monthly fines, a loss of local control over building and zoning decisions, court-ordered compliance, and more.

We urge you to reject this request from the City Attorney and protect Los Angeles' integrity, fiscal health, and commitment to inclusive housing. Your leadership is vital to ensure that Los Angeles remains a city for all and uses taxpayer dollars responsibly.

Sincerely,

The ACT-LA Coalition

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/12/2025 04:31 PM

Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: please post



Dear Councilmembers,

This year, many of our organizations and partners have struggled with numerous devastating blows to our communities and industries, from devastating fires to Federal funding cuts, an oversubscribed City budget, and other critical blows to Angelenos' social safety nets.

It is astounding that additionally, the City Attorney has now requested over \$12 million dollars for additional outside counsel resources (report no. R25-0523 by the Office of the City Attorney, dated October 17, 2025).

This request includes an additional \$850,000 to fight the Venice Dell Community, which is in addition to the \$620,000 already spent to fight the Venice Dell Community. This exorbitant use of funds further exacerbates both the City's dire budget and housing crises. Worse still, the City Attorney filed suit against the non-profit developers, accusing them of failing to build the very project the city has been blocking. This is no longer just about killing Venice Dell but upending two long standing and successful affordable housing developers who have provided high quality housing and services in LA for decades. The city is facing damages of over \$10 million to avoid building a desperately needed and long-promised housing development it has already agreed to build. Legal responses from the City have all failed to date, yet the funding requests continue.

Not only is the city spending egregiously, but killing the Venice Dell Community will have serious consequences for the city. As noted in the letter of inquiry from the State's Housing Accountability Unit (enclosed), should the city decide to further delay and deny the Venice Dell Community, it may be found to be acting in opposition to the City's approved Housing Element, which would initiate reconsideration of the City's Prohousing Designation status. Penalties could include a loss of state funding for affordable housing, monthly fines to the city, a loss of local control over building and zoning decisions, court-ordered compliance, and much more.

We urge you to reject this unconscionable request from the City Attorney and protect Los Angeles' integrity, fiscal health, and commitment to inclusive housing. Your leadership is vital to ensure that Los Angeles remains a city for all — one that upholds its promises, invests in affordable housing, and uses taxpayer dollars responsibly.

Sincerely,

John Maceri
Chief Executive Officer
The People Concern

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/12/2025 04:32 PM

Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: please post

STEERING COMMITTEE:

Suzanne Thompson, *Chair, Co-Founder, Music and Film Producer*

Eric Ahlberg, *Independent Music Producer*

John Mooney, *Glass Blower*

Gloria Vando, *Publisher/Editor/Poet*

Zed Aquarian, *Filmmaker*

Alaya Aquarian, *Performance Artists*

Emily Winters, *Co-Founder, Chair Emeritus, Muralist/Visual Artist (Feb. 7, 1936-Dec. 28, 2024)*

Don Geagan, *Veteran's for Peace (Nov. 3, 1935 – Aug. 20, 2025)*



Honorable Councilmembers
Los Angeles City Council
City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

November 4, 2025

Dear Councilmembers,

This year, many of our community organizations and partners have endured a cascade of challenges, from devastating fires to federal funding cuts, an oversubscribed City budget, and other blows to Angelenos' already fragile social safety nets.

It is therefore deeply troubling that the City Attorney has now requested more than \$12 million for additional outside counsel resources (Report No. R25-0523, Office of the City Attorney, dated October 17, 2025).

Included in this request is an additional \$850,000 to fight the *Venice Dell Community*, on top of the \$620,000 already spent opposing it. This exorbitant use of public funds further worsens both the City's fiscal strain and its ongoing housing crisis. Even more concerning, the City Attorney has filed suit against the nonprofit developers, accusing them of failing to build the very project the City itself has obstructed.

This is no longer merely an effort to halt Venice Dell, it is an assault on two long-standing, highly respected affordable housing developers who have served Los Angeles for decades, providing quality housing and community services. The City now faces potential damages exceeding \$10 million to avoid constructing a much-needed and long-promised affordable housing development it has already agreed to support. Legal efforts to date have failed, yet the funding requests persist.

If the City continues down this path, the consequences extend far beyond Venice. As noted in the letter of inquiry from the State's Housing Accountability Unit, further delay or denial of the Venice Dell Community may place Los Angeles in violation of its own Housing Element, triggering a review of the City's Prohousing Designation. Penalties could include the loss of state housing funds, significant monthly fines, diminished local control over zoning and building decisions, and court-ordered compliance.

We urge you to **reject this unconscionable request** from the City Attorney and to protect Los Angeles' integrity, fiscal health, and commitment to equitable, inclusive housing. Your leadership is essential to ensure that Los Angeles remains a city for all, one that honors its promises, invests in affordable housing, and uses taxpayer dollars responsibly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Suzanne L. Thompson".

Suzanne Thompson, *Chair*
Venice Arts Council

The Venice Arts Council, an all-volunteer committee of visual and performance artists, poets, authors, musicians, filmmakers and community activists, is devoted to preserving and promoting the creative spirit that defines Venice. For over two decades, the Council has championed public art, cultural heritage, and community expression values that reflect the soul of our neighborhood and the belief that art and culture are inseparable from social justice, equity, and civic life. The Venice Arts Council is proud to be fiscally sponsored by Venice Community Housing, a trusted 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to strengthening the Venice community.

P.O. Box 993, Venice, CA 90294

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/12/2025 04:32 PM

Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: please post



November 12, 2025

Dear Councilmembers,

This year, many of our organizations and partners have struggled with numerous devastating blows to our communities and industries, from devastating fires, to Federal funding cuts, an oversubscribed City budget, and other critical blows to Angelenos' social safety nets.

The request for over \$12 million dollars for additional outside counsel resources (report no. R25-0523 by the Office of the City Attorney, dated October 17, 2025). - including an additional \$850,000 to fight the Venice Dell Community, which is in addition to the \$620,000 already spent to fight the Venice Dell Community, would further exacerbate both the City's dire budget and housing crises. As you know, this affordable and supportive housing development project has already been approved by Council. The City is facing damages over \$10 million to avoid building a desperately needed and long-promised housing development it has already agreed to build.

As noted in a letter of inquiry from the State's Housing Accountability Unit, should the City decide to further delay and deny the Venice Dell Community, it may be found to be acting in opposition to the City's approved Housing Element, which would initiate reconsideration of the City's Prohousing Designation status. Penalties could include a loss of state funding for affordable housing, monthly fines to the City, a loss of local control over building and zoning decisions, and court-ordered compliance.

We urge you to reject this request for additional funding for outside counsel and protect Los Angeles' integrity, fiscal health, and commitment to inclusive housing. Your leadership is vital to ensure that Los Angeles remains a city for all — one that upholds its promises and legal commitments, invests in affordable housing, and uses taxpayer dollars responsibly.

Sincerely,

Mary McGuire
Chief Impact Officer

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/12/2025 04:33 PM

Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: please post

November 12, 2025

Dear Councilmembers,

This year has brought extraordinary challenges for our city and its partners — from devastating wildfires and federal funding reductions to an oversubscribed City budget and growing strain on the social safety net. These circumstances demand that every public dollar be invested wisely to strengthen Los Angeles' housing system and protect the well-being of its residents.

According to Report No. R25-0523 from the Office of the City Attorney (dated October 17, 2025), a request has been made for more than \$12 million in additional outside counsel resources, including \$850,000 related to the Venice Dell Community project — in addition to \$620,000 already allocated. At a time when Los Angeles faces both a housing crisis and severe fiscal pressures, it is essential that the City's legal and financial strategies directly support its stated goals of affordability, equity, and stability.

The Venice Dell Community represents a critical step toward those goals — providing deeply needed affordable housing and services that align with the City's Housing Element and pro-housing commitments. The City Attorney has filed suit against two long-standing and successful affordable housing developers who have provided high quality housing and services in Los Angeles for decades. The City is facing damages of over \$10 million to avoid building a desperately needed and long-promised housing development that it had already agreed to build. Prolonged litigation not only increases costs but risks delaying or derailing a project that is central to addressing the housing shortage. It could also invite state review of Los Angeles' Pro-Housing Designation, as noted in the letter from the State's Housing Accountability Unit, potentially jeopardizing future state housing funds and local planning authority.

We strongly urge the Council to reconsider this funding request in light of the City's urgent housing needs, fiscal responsibilities, and long-term credibility with state and community partners. Los Angeles has the opportunity to demonstrate leadership by prioritizing investments that move us closer to a more inclusive, equitable, and financially sustainable city — one that keeps its promises to the communities it serves.

Sincerely,



Katie Hill
Chief Executive Officer
Union Station Homeless Services



825 E. Orange Grove Blvd.
Pasadena, CA 91104
P 626.240.4550
F 626.798.1640
www.unionstationhs.org

PROGRAMS

Coordinated Entry System
Family Solutions
Holly Street Housing
Adult Center
Family Center
Euclid Villa
Centennial Place
DHS Programs

Communication from Public

Name: Ian Svilokos

Date Submitted: 11/12/2025 10:06 PM

Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: I urge you to reject the City Attorney's request for \$12 million in additional outside counsel funding, including \$850,000 to continue fighting the Venice Dell Community project. The City has already spent over \$600,000 opposing this desperately needed affordable housing development, and legal responses have all failed. Continuing to fund this fight not only wastes taxpayer money, it risks state penalties and threatens Los Angeles' Prohousing status. Please protect the city's fiscal health, integrity, and commitment to inclusive housing by voting no on this request.

Communication from Public

Name: Patti Oblath

Date Submitted: 11/13/2025 07:28 AM

Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: I urge you to reject the City Attorney's request for \$12 million in additional outside counsel funding, including \$850,000 to continue fighting the Venice Dell Community project. The City has already spent over \$600,000 opposing this desperately needed affordable housing development, and legal responses have all failed. Continuing to fund this fight not only wastes taxpayer money, it risks state penalties and threatens Los Angeles' Prohousing status. Please protect the city's fiscal health, integrity, and commitment to inclusive housing by voting no on this request.