

Communication from Public

Name:

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Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: please post

November 21, 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.

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 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, 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,



Tak Suzuki
Co-Executive Director
Little Tokyo Service Center