

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 11/03/2025 01:14 PM

**Council File No:** 25-1225

**Comments for Public Posting:** please post to the council file



---

November 3, 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 (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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "StepCar".

Stephanie Caridad  
*Executive Director*

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 11/03/2025 01:41 PM

**Council File No:** 25-1225

**Comments for Public Posting:** please post



Manuel Bernal  
Chair  
Cesar Chavez  
Foundation

Orson Aguilar  
Vice Chair  
Latino Prosperity

Mercedes  
Martin  
Secretary  
Buchalter

Aaron Elster  
Treasurer  
Buchalter

Arnoldo Ulloa  
Member  
Edgemoor Infrastructure

Rigoberto Lopez  
Member  
Cesar Chavez  
Foundation

Victor Lopez  
Member  
NBC Universal

Yamileth Villanueva  
Member  
CISLA

Danielle Guillen  
Member  
CauseIMPACTS

Jose Orozco Pelico  
Member  
USC Credit Union

Lupe Guzman  
Children's Institute, Inc.

Monica Mejia  
President and CEO  
ELACC

Adalia Rodriguez  
VP & COO  
ELACC

November 3, 2025

Councilmember Hernandez  
Councilmember Nazarian  
Councilmember Blumenfield  
Councilmember Yaroslavsky  
Councilmember Padilla  
Councilmember Rodriguez  
Councilmember Padilla  
Councilmember Soto-Martinez  
Councilmember Mcosker  
Councilmember Lee  
Council member Park  
Councilmember Jurado

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 (and punitive 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, all because of NIMBYISM and bias against low income people.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Monica Mejia". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Monica Mejia  
President and CEO

## **Communication from Public**

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 11/03/2025 05:02 PM

**Council File No:** 25-1225

**Comments for Public Posting:** please post



November 4, 2025

Dear Councilmembers,

We are writing with concern about the many devastating blows to our communities and related infrastructure the city faces - from Federal funding cuts to an oversubscribed City budget – and yet 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, a much needed and already approved low-income housing project in Venice, in addition to the \$620,000 already spent for the same purpose. Legal responses from the City have all failed, yet the funding requests continue.

The City is facing damages of over \$10 million to avoid building a desperately needed and long-approved housing development it has already agreed to build. This excessive use of funds would further exacerbate both the City's dire budget and our ongoing housing crises.

But the letter of inquiry from the State's Housing Accountability Unit, makes it clear: if the City decides to continue to 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 and a series of serious penalties.

Please reject this unbelievable request from the City Attorney. We need your leadership 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,

Judy Branfman

Where Has All The (affordable) Housing Gone?