

Communication from Public

Name: Dr. Laura Duncan

Date Submitted: 11/05/2025 04:29 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' Pro-housing status. Please protect the city's fiscal health, integrity, and commitment to inclusive housing by voting no on this request.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/05/2025 05:52 PM

Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: please post

November 5, 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,



Cynthia Strathmann
Executive Director, SAJE

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/05/2025 05:53 PM

Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: please post



November 5, 2025

Dear Councilmembers,

This year, organizations like the Downtown Women's Center (DWC) and our partners across the housing and homelessness sector have faced devastating blows to our communities and our shared mission. From the long-term impacts of fires and federal funding cuts to an oversubscribed City budget and mounting pressure on our already fragile social safety net, these challenges have had a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable Angelenos, compromising safety, health, and stability across our city.

As the first and only organization in Los Angeles focused exclusively on serving women and gender-diverse individuals experiencing homelessness and housing instability, DWC sees every day that housing ends homelessness. Through decades of providing permanent supportive housing, we know that stable, dignified homes are the foundation for safety, healing, and well-being — not just for individuals, but for entire communities. Every delay in building affordable housing limits pathways out of homelessness and erodes the stability our communities need.

In this moment, when affordable housing development has slowed to a near standstill, Los Angeles must act with urgency and integrity to move projects like the Venice Dell Community forward.

We are deeply concerned to see the City Attorney requesting an additional \$850,000 in legal fees to fight the Venice Dell Community, on top of the \$620,000 already spent. This exorbitant use of funds not only strains the City's dire budget but also undermines progress toward addressing our housing crisis. Worse still, the City Attorney's suit against the nonprofit developers — organizations with decades of proven success building high-quality, service-enriched affordable housing — creates a chilling precedent that jeopardizes future projects across Los Angeles.

The City now faces potential damages exceeding \$10 million to avoid building a desperately needed and long-promised housing development it has already agreed to support. Legal efforts to block this project have failed to date, yet new funding requests continue.

As noted in the State's Housing Accountability Unit letter of inquiry, should the City continue to delay or deny the Venice Dell Community, it risks violating its own Housing Element and losing its Prohousing Designation. Such a decision could have far-reaching consequences, including loss of state funding, monthly fines, and diminished local control over housing and zoning decisions.

We urge you to reject this funding request from the City Attorney and instead reaffirm Los Angeles' commitment to inclusive, equitable, and timely housing production. Your leadership is vital to

ensuring Los Angeles remains a city for all — one that upholds its promises, invests in solutions that end homelessness, and uses taxpayer dollars responsibly to build the housing our communities urgently need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy Turk", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Amy Turk, LCSW

CEO

Downtown Women's Center

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/05/2025 05:53 PM

Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: please post



November 5, 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 therefore disheartening that additionally, the City Attorney has now requested over \$12 million dollars of taxpayer money 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. More concerning still, the City Attorney filed suit against the non-profit developers, accusing them of failing to build the very project the City appears to be blocking. This is no longer just about stymieing one development, but upending 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 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, suggesting the most fiscally and ethically responsible approach is to support the housing development wholeheartedly.

Not only is the City spending wasteful, but quashing 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. As a valued housing and homelessness partner to the City, we and the people we serve would be substantively harmed if the City were to lose this designation.

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 — one that upholds its promises, invests in affordable housing, and uses taxpayer dollars responsibly.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Hark Dietz, LCSW
Chief Executive Officer, PATH

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/05/2025 05:54 PM

Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: please post

November 4, 2025

Dear Councilmembers,

This year, many of us 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,



Tara Barauskas
Executive Director

Communication from Public

Name: Colin Warn

Date Submitted: 11/05/2025 08:24 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:

Date Submitted: 11/05/2025 02:04 PM

Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: please post



Los Angeles Community Action Network

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, 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,

Adam Smith

Organizer, Los Angeles Community Action Network

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/05/2025 02:04 PM

Council File No: 25-1225

Comments for Public Posting: please post

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Denice Wint
President
EAH Housing

Veronica Garcia
Vice President
People's Self Help
Housing

Monica Mejia
Treasurer
East LA Community
Corporation

Faizah Malik
Secretary
Public Counsel

Lara Regus
Ex-Officio
Abode Communities

Luz Soto
At-Large
SRO Housing

Sherin Bennett
California Housing
Partnership

Kelsey Brewer
Jamboree Housing
Corporation

Lesley Hampton
National Community
Renaissance

Vanessa Luna
Brilliant Corners

Elda Mendez-Lemus
LA Family Housing

Milo Peinemann
American Family Housing

Kenny Rodgers
Low-Income Investment
Fund

Van Scott
Coalition for Responsible
Community Development

Victoria Senna
Hollywood Community
Housing Corporation

Karen Michail Shah
KMO Partners, LLP

Derrick Wada
Cabrillo Economic
Development
Corporation

Ben Winter
Linc Housing



November 4, 2025

Los Angeles City Council
200 N Spring St Room 435
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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.

In this context, we must oppose the City Attorney's 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).

This request includes a request for \$850,000 to fight the Venice Dell Community, which is in addition to the \$620,000 already spent to block the project. This exorbitant use of funds further exacerbates both the City's dire budget and housing crises. Additionally, the City Attorney filed suit against the non-profit developers, accusing them of failing to build the very project that has been slowed by various City actions. 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 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, appearing to read 'Emily Ramirez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Emily Ramirez
Senior Associate of Legislative & Regulatory Policy
SCANPH

Communication from Public

Name: Dana Stewart

Date Submitted: 11/05/2025 12:24 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: Michael

Date Submitted: 11/05/2025 10:54 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.