

Communication from Public

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Date Submitted: 01/14/2026 02:29 PM

Council File No: 26-0025

Comments for Public Posting: Hello my name is Angela Birdsong. I am addressing agenda item #5. I am a housing rights organizer for Los Angeles Community Action Network better known as LA CAN. I work in Council District 14, and I reside in the city of Inglewood, a close neighbor of the city of Los Angeles, and I am a landlord in Hermosa Beach. Congratulations for the milestone of ULA reaching 1 billion dollars raised for tenant protections from tenant harassment, for eviction defense, rental assistance and to create more affordable housing. Please let's make sure this money does not go to slumlords like landlord, Leo Pustilnikov at Hope for an Affordable Los Angeles who has applied for ULA funds to purchase more properties. In all of his buildings, tenants have been dealing with lack of mail delivery, removal of security, no heat for the 4th winter (two winters under his ownership!) in the Crescent Hotel, and there is MORE uninhabitable conditions in each of his buildings in Skid Row! When the landlord has not met his obligation to the City to maintain the buildings he currently owns that have open LAHD complaints and unaddressed code violations, he must not be allowed to get ULA funds. We fought to pass Measure ULA because we know that high-quality, dignified and affordable housing is the surest way to prevent homelessness. But since slumlord Leo Pustilnikov at Hope for an Affordable Los Angeles has assumed ownership of the former Skid Row Housing Trust buildings, we have witnessed tenants are getting improper eviction notices, their requests for repairs are delayed or ignored, and there are major security concerns. With seven people dying every day on our streets, we cannot afford to give public funds to slumlords, whose poor management practices directly jeopardize people's housing and health. Thank you