

MARCH 2, 2020

BELOW IS ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO GIVE PUBLIC COMMENT AND TAKE ACTION ON SOCIAL MEDIA IN SUPPORT OF THE HEALTHY LA PLATFORM FOR THE **LA CITY COUNCIL** MEETING ON DECEMBER 15 AT 10AM.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR GIVING VERBAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Call in at 9:45 am to give a public comment! To dial in, call 1 (669) 254-5252 and use Meeting ID No. 160 535 8466 and then press #. Press # again when prompted for participant ID. **Once admitted into the meeting, press *9 to request to speak.**

Once it is your turn for public comment, you will be asked what agenda item you would like to speak on **General Public Comment** You will be given 1-minute to speak.

Talking Points

- My name is _____ and I am \$XXXX in debt from back rent.
- Existing eviction protections are essential to allowing people to shelter safely in place, but they do not sufficiently address the massive amounts of rent debt that tenants have been accruing during the pandemic. And rental assistance programs have only reached a fraction of the tenants who need support.
- At some point, the bill will be due for this unpaid debt, and low-income tenants who are already severely rent burdened and still without steady income will not be able to pay it back.
- More than half of all people in Los Angeles experienced a COVID-related loss of household income and food insecurity is at an all-time high. This crisis is not affecting everyone equally - those at the lowest income levels, tenants, and people of color are bearing the brunt on all fronts. Low-income communities of color have disproportionately experienced job losses and are more likely to be behind on rent. Many are making the impossible choice between paying rent or feeding their families.
- The City needs to set up a mortgage and small landlord relief program NOW, allocate
 local funds AND be vocal in calling for federal funding to be allocated for this purpose.
 The federal government is not going to do this without pressure and the City should be
 our biggest advocate and set an example by creating the type of program needed NOW.

- The City of LA also pays \$1.1 billion on interest and fees of its current municipal loans.
 The City should fight for better loan terms, refinance and invest that money in saving peoples housing rather than sending it to Wall St.
- The City also needs to ratify its commitment to LA City's Responsible Banking Ordinance, in order to shift financial burden to banks who continue to make millions during this time.
- DO NOT DELAY the cancellation of rent. It is within your powers NOW & delaying this
 action will only result in massive evictions and death. Most of the rent debt is unlikely to
 be paid at this point because tenants do not have the money. City leaders need to be
 realistic about that and shift the unfair burden and responsibility away from tenants and
 aggressively find real solutions to provide relief to small landlords who need it.

SOCIAL MEDIA POST

Link to download graphics HERE.

Caption Graphic Twitter: CALL-TO CALL-IN TO DEMAND #CANCELRENT & INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING PUBLIC COMMENT Call-in on Tuesday, December 15 at 10 AM #CANCELMORTGAGES! Last LA City Council meeting of the year is 1. Dial 1 669 254 5252 TUES, DEC. 15, 10AM tmrw & we haven't heard a plan from electeds 2. 160 535 8466 and press Call-in to give general public comment at the last City Council meeting of the year. Thousands of tenants & homeowners are going into the holiday season and starting off the new year thousands of dollars in debt and at risk of eviction. 2 address the oncoming eviction crisis. We 3. Press # again when prompted for participant [D. expect & demand better! Call-in & make Once admitted into the meeting, press *9 to request to speak public comment in support of #CancelRent. LA City Council has the power to cancel the rent Speak on GENERAL NOW and save lives by keeping people housed 5. PUBLIC COMMENT Visit the @HealthyLA_Coa toolkit 4 talking points: bit.ly/HLACITYACTION Click on picture for direct link Instagram and Facebook: Tomorrow is the last LA City Council meeting of the year & we haven't heard any plan from our electeds that addresses the oncoming eviction & economic crisis. Eviction=Death! Housing=Health! Advocates and organizers are working day after day to develop policy solutions and put pressure on state & federal governments. And there is so much that our City leaders could also be doing NOW to keep people housed and save lives. We need to let them know that we expect and demand better. Call-in and make general public comment in support of #CancelRent &

#CancelMortgages. Visit the #HealthyLA Toolkit with talking points for comment: bit.ly/HLACITYACTION	