City and County Look to Screw Over Renters
LA City & County Appear to be Launching an Economic Attack on LA Area Renters

Both the LA County Board of Supervisors and the Los Angeles City Council Housing voted to end COVID tenant protection for tenants this week.

The Board of Supervisors voted 3 to 2 to move forward with a plan to lift its COVID eviction and other renter protections by the end of the year.

Supervisors Holly Mitchell, Janice Hahn and Kathryn Barger voted to end protections.

Supervisors Sheila Kuehl and Hilda Solis voted against ending tenant protections.

Kuehl warned that it would be “extremely dangerous” to lift all of the renter protections enacted during the pandemic.

“I think the headline will be: ‘This board must love homeless people.’ They are going to make so many more of them,” Kuehl said.

Supervisor Hilda Solis, who also voted against the motion, said 58% of the renter households in her district are cost-burdened.

City of LA

The City of Los Angeles is also considering lifting many of its COVID protections against evictions and rent increases under a proposal by the LA Housing Department. It would allow rent increases for rent-controlled apartments beginning in 2024.

In a contentious and tense meeting, the Los Angeles City Council Housing Committee voted Wednesday to
recommend ending pandemic-era eviction protections in February — but did not approve the overall recommendations made by the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD).

LAHD suggested ending the moratorium on Dec. 31 Councilmember Gil Cedillo proposed an amendment to extend it by a month which was approved on a 3-1 vote. The committee also approved other amendments by Cedillo ensuring evictions related to unauthorized pets and the Ellis Act cannot be enforced until 60 days after the moratorium expires. Cedillo’s amendment were much weaker than those proposed by Councilmember Nithya Raman who unsuccessfully pushed for much stronger protections.

Cedillo and Councilmember John Lee pushed for the weaker proposals, while Raman and Councilmember Marqueece Harris-Dawson supported the stronger tenant protections. Councilmember Paul Krekorian was absent.

Other Councilmembers Strongly Disagree With Committee’s Action

“The Housing Committee failed to act today to protect renters, setting the stage for a huge wave of evictions that could significantly increase homelessness in LA,” Councilmember Mike Bonin said on Twitter.

Bonin called for the full council to reverse the Committee’s decision.

Councilmember Kevin de León, who chairs the Council’s Homelessness and Poverty Committee, disagreed with LAHD’s report. In a letter to his colleagues Wednesday, de León said he had “serious concerns that the recommendations in the report are hastily drafted, piecemeal and inadequate for the prevention of displacement and homelessness” in Los Angeles.

Coalition for Economic Survival Takes Aim at City and County

In a LA Times article reporter Summer Lin writes, Larry Gross, executive director of the Coalition for Economic Survival, called the lifting of renter protections an “outrageous and insensitive action.”

“What the city and county is providing is a New Year’s present for renters that they clearly don’t want,” he said.
The move will “open the floodgates” for evictions, he said, adding that many tenants will end up homeless or forced to move.

“It’s really shortsighted and doesn’t really address our affordable housing crisis and will add to the numbers of people who are going to be forced out on the street,” Gross said. “They were just all patting themselves on the back about how the homeless numbers have risen but haven’t risen as high as in the past. This is going to mean our homeless numbers will burst at the seams.”

**Things Still Up In The Air**

As the Housing Committee meeting debacle ended the LAHD report was not adopted. Even though Cedillo’s amendments were adopted to the committee report, they were ultimately not approved because the entire LAHD report was not adopted. As a result, the matter will now move to the Council’s Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Neighborhood Investment which will have to deal with all the issues from scratch before it goes before the full City Council.

The Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19 Recovery and Neighborhood Investment member are Council President Nury Martinez and Councilmembers Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Curren Price, Gil Cedillo and Mitch O’Farrell.

Your Action Needed Now

The Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) proposal will allow landlords to evict tenants for not paying their rent even if they’ve fallen behind for COVID-19-related circumstances.

In addition, tenants living in rent-controlled apartments in the City of LA — buildings built prior to October 1978 and accounting for three-quarters of the apartment stock — will once again face rent increases the following year, in January 2024.

In addition, the proposal calls for the following eviction protections to end on December 31, 2022:

Evictions for:
- Rent Owed
- Owner Occupancy
- Resident Manager
- Demolition & Removal from Rental Market (Ellis)
- Lease/Rental Violations for Pets, Additional Tenants, Noise

Cedillo’s proposal that passed the Housing Committee merely moves the expiration date one month to February 1, 2023.

These issues will soon go to the Ad Hoc Committee on COVID-19
TIME TO ACT NOW!!!

Contact City Council Members NOW to REJECT the Housing Committee and Housing Department Recommendations!

Demand COVID Eviction Protections Are NOT Weakened or Eliminated & Should Actually Be Strengthened:

LA City Council Members:

The contact information comes directly for the City of LA web site. If emails bounce, call their office to request correct email address.

Gil Cedillo - Gilbert.Cedillo@lacity.org - 213-473-7001 - @gilcedillo
Paul Krekorian - councilmember.Krekorian@lacity.org – 213-473-7002 - @PaulKrekorian
Bob Blumenfield - councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org – 213-473-7003 - @BobBlumenfield
Nithya Raman - contactCD4@lacity.org – 213-473-7004 - @nithyavraman
Paul Koretz - paul.koretz@lacity.org – 213-473-7005 - @PaulKoretzCD5
Nury Martinez - councilmember.martinez@lacity.org – 213-473-7006 - @CD6Nury
Monica Rodriguez - councilmember.rodriguez@lacity.org – 213-473-7007 - @MRodCD7
Marqueece Harris-Dawson - councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org – 213-473-7008 - @mhdcd8
Curren D. Price, Jr. - councilmember.price@lacity.org – 213-473-7009 - @CurrenDPriceJr
Heather Hunt - heather.hunt@lacity.org – 213-473-7010
Mike Bonin - councilmember.bonin@lacity.org – 213-473-7011 - @MikeBoninLA
John Lee - councilmember.Lee@lacity.org – 213-473-7012 - @CD12LA
Mitch O'Farrell - councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org – 213-473-7013 - @MitchOFarrell
Kevin de León - councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org – 213-473-7014 - @Kdeleoncd14
Joe Buscaino - councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org – 213-473-7015

ASPCA Joins CES in Telling LA City Council to Keep Pets & Families Together!

If we don’t act now, countless Los Angeles residents may soon find themselves having to make a heartbreaking decision: give up their beloved family pet or lose their home.
During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Los Angeles City Council enacted an emergency order that protected tenants who acquired pets, even if a tenant’s lease explicitly prohibited owning animals. Recently, the Los Angeles Department of Housing recommended that the city council reverse these protections, which could leave families with pets open to eviction or homelessness. Furthermore, if the city council proceeds with this recommendation, L.A.’s overcrowded and understaffed animal shelters will be flooded with animals who could have, and should have, remained in loving homes.

The City of Los Angeles Board of Animal Services Commissioners recently passed a resolution calling on the LA City Council to prevent tenant evictions for pets by requiring landlords to allow pets adopted during COVID in violation of a rental agreement to continue residing there for the duration of the animal’s natural life, or the tenant voluntarily vacates the units.

**What You Can Do**

At any moment, the L.A. City Council could act on this motion. Please use our form by clicking here to urge your Councilmember to allow companion animals acquired during the pandemic to reside in their current dwelling for the duration of the pet’s life or for the duration of the current tenant’s occupancy.

**Click Here to Send Letter to LA City Council**

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**KNOW YOUR TENANT RIGHTS!**

**ATTENTION ALL RENTERS!**

*Attend the* Coalition for Economic Survival Tenants' Rights Zoom Clinic

To sign up for the next Coalition for Economic Survival Tenants’ Rights Clinic via ZOOM Request a Link by emailing: HelpingLARenters@gmail.com

The Clinic serves the entire Southern California area. Accommodations for Spanish and Russian speakers are provided.

CES holds the Clinic *Every Saturday* via Zoom at 10 am. and every Wednesday at 6 pm for West Hollywood Renter To request a link to register for any Clinic email: HelpingLARenters@gmail.com.
To register > Click here

Coalition for Economic Survival

Tenants' Rights Clinic

Know Your Renter Rights

To request a registration link, email: HelpingLArenters@gmail.com

Serving renters throughout Southern California & beyond...

Accommodations for Spanish & Russian speakers are provided.

Every Saturday at 10 AM

To register > Click here
SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE COALITION FOR ECONOMIC SURVIVAL

* Secure tenants' rights
* Preserve existing affordable housing
* Prevent tenant displacement

Show your support for CES' work by making a Donation Now!

The economic justice victories that CES has won over the years such as rent control in the cities of Los Angeles and West Hollywood, creating the city of West Hollywood and winning numerous laws to combat slum housing, secure tenants' rights and preserve affordable housing has only been possible with the generous financial support from people like you. 2022 marked CES' 49th Anniversary year. Help make it another year of victories by clicking here to donate now.

With us all facing this pandemic that threatens us both health-wise and economically, CES has committed to continue providing tenants with information and assistance on their rights. Thus, we need your financial support more than ever.

Join CES, Donate to CES TODAY!

DONATE NOW: $3
DONATE NOW: $5
DONATE NOW: $10
DONATE NOW: $25
DONATE NOW: $50
DONATE NOW: $100