
Date: March 7, 2023

R-17

To: Honorable Mayor Rex Richardson and Members of the City Council

From: Councilwoman Suely Saro, Sixth District
Vice Mayor Cindy Allen, Second District
Councilwoman Megan Kerr, Fifth District

Subject: Presentation on the City's Rental Assistance Programs and Resources

RECOMMENDATION

Request the City Manager to work with the Development Services Department to present current rent assistance programs and resources for tenants and landlords to the City Council in 30 days.

DISCUSSION

The COVID-19 Emergency Tenant Protections for renters in LA County is scheduled to expire on March 31, 2023¹. The County's COVID-19 Tenant Protections Resolution (formerly the LA County Eviction Moratorium), which went into effect March 4, 2020, provides certain protections to residential tenants, commercial tenants and mobile home space renters affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in Los Angeles County.

Updates to the City Council on available rental assistance programs is crucial and it is important we continue looking at policies and opportunities that may better serve the ongoing needs of Long Beach residents. Throughout the COVID-19 emergency we have reassessed policies, and applied updates as the nature of the emergency has changed, or the expectations of its impacts developed. Policies that were initially not intended to last for more than a few months had continued to their third year, showing the pandemic had created long-term challenges and uncertainty for residents. With the expiration of the County's COVID-19 Tenant Protections Resolution, it is important that we continue to serve the ongoing needs of residents by reviewing programs and assistance available.

This item requests an update be brought back to the City Council to include information about rental assistance programs available for tenants and landlords in response to the expiration of LA County's COVID-19 Emergency Tenant Protections for renters. It is important we receive resources and information and clarify concerns in advance of the expiration.

¹ <https://dcba.lacounty.gov/noevictions/>

FISCAL IMPACT

No Financial Management review was able to be conducted due to the urgency and time sensitivity of this item.

SUGGESTED ACTION

Approve Recommendation.

EQUITY LENS STATEMENT

Staff will consider issues of equity and access with any program proposals brought forward to ensure the City's commitment for everyone reaching their highest level of health and potential for a successful life, regardless of background, neighborhood, or identity.