

From: Jordan Wynne [mailto:info@sg.actionnetwork.org]

Sent: Friday, August 28, 2020 4:48 PM

To: CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: STOP TENANT HARASSMENT AND UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS - Support Items 20 and 21, 9/1/2020 Agenda

-EXTERNAL-

Monique De La Garza,

Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers,

With the COVID-19 pandemic and joblessness raging on, my neighbors and I are stressed out every day. I am part of or allied with Long Beach's renter-majority—predominately Black, Latinx, Asian American, and other people of color—who are extremely vulnerable during these unstable times.

Despite the Eviction Moratorium in place, I have personally experienced or heard from my neighbors experiences of ruthless and coercive harassment by landlords toward tenants, including unlawful eviction attempts and lockouts, failure to make timely repairs, verbal and physical intimidation and threats, entry into the home without notice, false and deceitful information about current emergency housing policies—the list goes on and on.

As you know, I've also been advocating hard to help house individuals experiencing homelessness. Everyone In advocates and I saw the Project Homekey dollars opportunity as a way for the City to be able to set up more bridge, affordable, and supportive housing sites to help aid in bringing vulnerable people off the streets. We wanted to see 500 units of emergency housing propped up to get vulnerable folks experiencing homelessness during this pandemic into safe, sanitary housing. Unfortunately, the City only applied to fund 1 new site for a total of 100 beds, and is also defunding the Project Roomkey site which will leave everyone who took shelter there back out on the streets. With the funding that is coming in, it is CRITICAL that we make sure these folks do not get kicked back to the curb. 78% of our

population of people experiencing homelessness are unsheltered, and the City needs to commit to helping bring everyone in.

Housing is a human right, and everyone deserves the safe, quiet enjoyment of their home, especially during stay-at-home health orders. I urge the City Council to immediately adopt a commonsense ordinance to address tenant harassment in order to protect vulnerable families and seniors from being maliciously harassed in their homes.

Thank you.

Jordan Wynne