

Resolution by North Hollywood West Neighborhood Council Supporting the United to House Los Angeles Citizens' Initiative on the November 2022 Ballot

WHEREAS rising rents, widespread tenant evictions and a lack of affordable housing have made Los Angeles the city with the worst housing and homelessness crisis in the country;

WHEREAS in 2019, the City of Los Angeles ("the City" or "City") had a higher percentage of cost-burdened renter households (59%) than any other major American city. About 32% of City renters are severely cost-burdened, meaning they spend more than 50% of their income on rent;

WHEREAS the age group in the City with the highest rates of rent burden seniors aged 65 years and older. Among the 42% of City seniors who rent, 65% are cost burdened; among the 58% of seniors who own their homes, more than 38% are cost burdened;

WHEREAS an estimated 30,000 formal evictions are filed in the City of Los Angeles each year and the vast majority of tenants who receive an eviction notice do not have access to an attorney and do not know how to exercise their rights;

WHEREAS there has been a sustained increase in effectively housing people who are unhoused in the City, in 2020, there was a 16.1% increase (to 41,290) homeless persons, largely because of the economic pressures of lost jobs, evictions or rising rents. Effective preventative interventions, including significantly increasing the production of affordable and supportive housing and strengthening tenant protections, could dramatically reverse this pattern and reduce the number of persons who are experiencing homelessness on our streets;

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated housing instability among the City's lowest wage earners and makes them more susceptible to falling into homelessness;

WHEREAS imposing a "Homelessness and Housing Solutions" real property transfer tax on the highest priced properties in the City will generate an ongoing revenue source which will allow the City to employ robust tenant stabilization policies and practices to proactively keep vulnerable households from losing their homes and significantly increase the number of homes that are affordable to the City's Lower Income Households, thereby directly preventing and reducing homelessness across the City and lowering the City's housing costs;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the North Hollywood West Neighborhood Council supports the Los Angeles Program to Prevent Homelessness and Fund Affordable Housing ("House LA") ballot initiative.



Signed by Gregory Wright, President, North Hollywood West Neighborhood Council, on August 10, 2022