



**HOUSING AUTHORITY
of the County of Los Angeles**

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Commissioners

Cordé D. Carrillo
Acting Executive Director

February 17, 2009

Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ORDINANCE TO EXPAND MEMBERSHIP OF THE LOS ANGELES
COUNTY HOUSING COMMISSION (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 Vote)**

SUBJECT

This letter requests approval of an ordinance to expand the membership of the Los Angeles County Housing Commission from nine to twelve, by adding two tenant members and one homeless or formerly homeless member, in order to comply with federal law and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirements. The ordinance also establishes two year terms for all tenant members and for the homeless or formerly homeless member.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve introduction of an ordinance to expand the membership of the Los Angeles County Housing Commission from nine to twelve, by adding two tenant members and one homeless or formerly homeless member, and to establish the terms of these members.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The proposed ordinance will expand the Housing Commission in order to comply with federal law and HUD requirements.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no impact on the County general fund associated with introduction and adoption of the ordinance.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On December 22, 1981, your Board established the seven-member Housing Commission as the advisory body to the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA). The Housing Commission reviews and provides recommendations on agenda items prior to their consideration by HACoLA's governing body, the Board of Commissioners.

On November 6, 2001, your Board expanded the Housing Commission to nine members in order to provide greater tenant representation. Currently, four of the nine members are tenant members, selected through a formal screening process to represent residents of properties owned or managed by HACoLA, or participants in the Section 8 Tenant-Based Program. Additionally, one nontenant member is selected by each of the five Supervisorial Districts.

The majority of Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) are required by federal law to have one tenant member on the PHA's governing body. On December 26, 2007, the President signed H.R. 2764, which waives HACoLA from this requirement, provided that HACoLA have at least six tenant members on its advisory body. HACoLA must add two tenant members to the Housing Commission in order to comply with this waiver.

HACoLA also participates in HUD's Shelter Plus Care (S+C) Program, which provides rental assistance for hard-to-serve homeless persons with disabilities in connection with supportive services funded from sources outside the program. In order to comply with S+C program requirements which seek input from homeless or formerly homeless individuals in policymaking, HACoLA will add a homeless or formerly homeless individual to the Housing Commission. There is no requirement that the individual be a resident of properties owned or managed by HACoLA or a participant in the Section 8 Tenant-Based Program.

The Acting Executive Director will develop standardized selection procedures for recruiting and interviewing prospective applicants to vacant tenant positions on the Housing Commission. All Housing Commissioners will continue to be appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

Nontenant members serve four-year terms, which are staggered so that members' terms do not expire concurrently. All tenant members, as well as the homeless or formerly homeless member, will serve for terms of two years from the date of their appointment. Tenant members' terms will not be formally staggered, but may become naturally staggered as members are appointed at different times to fill vacancies.

IMPACT ON CURRENT PROGRAM

The proposed ordinance will allow the Housing Commission to better represent the communities it serves, and will bring the Housing Authority into compliance with federal requirements.

Respectfully submitted,


CORDÉ D. CARRILLO
Acting Executive Director