

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Donna Sider
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2022 7:28 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Agenda item #10

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Council members representing your constituents,

I stand in support of our tenant's rights friends who

1. Extend the Pasadena moratorium through 12/31/22 (similar to the action taken by the County of Los Angeles). Review data from the Community Services department and the Housing Rights Center to determine a more appropriate end date for the city's moratorium.

2. Identify additional funding for a city-based rental assistance program for tenants, asking for help from our Housing Department and the real estate lobby to identify small landlords who need assistance.

With the present course of action Pasadena is culpable in the currently staggering numbers of homeless.

Thank you for listening to your constituents, considering and changing course!

Donna Sider

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McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Ferne Hayes
Sent: Sunday, May 01, 2022 10:44 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse; Gordo, Victor; Wilson, Andy; Hampton, Tyron; Kennedy, John J.; Rivas, Jose; Williams, Felicia; Madison, Steve; Masuda, Gene; Kurtz, Cynthia
Subject: City Council Meeting 5/2/22 Agenda Items 6 and 10

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Dear Mayor Gordo, City Councilpersons, and Interim City Manager,

AR10

As a person who has lived in Pasadena over 50 years and has seen the increasing number of unsheltered residents need to lie on concrete and park their belongings on bus benches, I want to urge you to make some changes in the Recommended Operating Budget 2023 that will help those experiencing homelessness.

I see the Housing Department's budget has actually been decreased from the Adopted 2022 Budget! And I also note the disparity in General Fund allocations.

Homelessness is a Public Health Crisis.

Both the Pasadena Public Health Department and the Pasadena Housing Department have the ability to provide needed services to the almost 300 unsheltered people (as per 2020 Homeless Count) yet neither Department is listed to receive ANY General Fund monies in the Recommended Operating Budget 2023. This makes no sense and needs to be corrected.

As you work toward approval of the 2023 Budget, trim from those who get most of the General Fund money and ensure some for Public Health and Housing.

AR6

I disagree with ending the moratorium on evictions for nonpayment of rent by tenants impacted by Covid. This should be extended through December as other cities have done. I am afraid that we will see more homelessness if these evictions are allowed and no additional rent assistance is available. Small landlords having difficulty should be sought out and assisted as well.

Thank you,

Ferne Hayes
District 7

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Virginia Robbins
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2022 8:28 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Today's Callender Re Rental Extension

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My comment for today's agenda. Pll ease recognize the importance and urgency for our community.

1. Extend the Pasadena moratorium through 12/31/22 (similar to the action taken by the County of Los Angeles). Review data from Community Services department and the Housing Rights Center to determine a better end date for the city's moratorium. This is not staff's recommendation and it should be!!!!

2. Identify additional funding for a city-based rental assistance program for tenants, and ask for help from the city's Housing Department and real estate lobby to identify small landlords who need assistance. Otherwise, we are contributing to already staggering homeless numbers.

Thank you,

Virginia Robbins

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Imogene Rocco
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2022 11:00 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: Housing

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Hello Mayor Gordo and council members,

With so many pending issues on the agenda I urge you to extend the eviction moratorium until the end of the year.

As residents we all live with the consequences of not having enough services to help citizens in our community struggling to secure safe and affordable housing.

This decision cannot be based on business but ethics. The pandemic has had devastating effects on families and to rebuild takes **time and patience**.

Please do not ignore that eviction creates bigger problems and contributes to the systemic inequity that exists and thrives when leaders are not accountable for the decisions that affect our most vulnerable citizens.

As a renter who is fortunate to not have fallen behind I acknowledge the privilege that my household has. There are solutions to assist landlords and save families from the threat of eviction. Property management has a responsibility to people not just profit.

I have faith and confidence that you, our city council, will vote in the best interest of this city and the constituents they serve who are recovering from the lockdown and fallout from Covid-19.

With care and concern,
Imogene Campbell

Sent from my iPhone

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Allison Henry
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2022 11:36 AM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse; Masuda, Gene; Hampton, Tyron; Williams, Felicia; Rivas, Jessica; Gordo, Victor; Kennedy, John J.; Wilson, Andy; Madison, Steve; Kurtz, Cynthia
Cc: André Coleman; editor@pasadenanow.com
Subject: 5-2-22 #10 AGENDA ITEM: DO NOT SUNSET EVICTION MORATORIUM IN JUNE

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Dear City Council and Mayor,

This letter is in strong OPPOSITION to sunsetting the Pasadena Eviction Moratorium at the end of June. The previous discussions of this item over the past few weeks showed that the majority of council did not understand the eviction process. It was clear that a walk-through of the eviction process may be useful. I worry many of you showed a disregard for a stem of homelessness that the end of our city's eviction moratorium will cause. As a resident, housing task force member, and someone who interacts with council and staff, I was concerned and disappointed because there was no discussion about the data in the report. Data from the staff report shows people on the verge of homelessness. We know that tenants are still awaiting housing is key funds and may not get them. There are also people behind on rent that did not apply for Housing is Key because they did not know or did not qualify.

Did you know that the Housing Rights Center is struggling to keep up with cases?

Did you know that our Community Services Division also helps tenants? I have asked twice for these numbers and have not yet received them, but tenants are being assisted by our city with letters and paperwork who will wind up having to leave their homes if you sunset this moratorium.

What are the plans? There are no plans in the agenda reports. **It seems that you are only bowing to pressure by at the very least the Foothill Realtors, who brought this to the city manager and it got agendized.**

Extend the Pasadena moratorium through 12/31/22--similar to the action taken by the County of Los Angeles). There technically is no reason given for the sunsetting of this moratorium. This is the explanation given in the staff report:

This ordinance is needed to sunset the City's moratorium on eviction for non-payment of rent by residential and commercial tenants impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Following the sunsetting of the eviction moratorium, tenants will still have up to six months to repay back rent owed.

This is not a reason for sunsetting an eviction moratorium.

Again, according to the April 11, 2022 staff report WHICH NONE OF YOU HAVE REFERENCED, I HOPE YOU HAVE READ IT:

--23% increase in demand for Housing Rights Center from 2020 to 2021 and during the period January 2020 through December 2021, Housing Rights Center responded to 1,614 Pasadena requests for assistance.

--1422 Pasadena households received state Housing is Key funds so far.

--275 Pasadena renter households with past due rent relief received the City's Emergency Rental Assistance Program("ERAP"). This program was completed in December 2020.

–356 Pasadena renter households received rental assistance from the County of Los Angeles. The County's COVID-19 Rent Relief program was completed in June 2021.

These numbers far exceed any numbers we encountered doing the homeless count this past February. Why are we even considering this? Ending the eviction moratorium now will result in homelessness.

Council, the Mayor, and staff should identify additional funding for a city-based rental assistance program for tenants; and ask for help from the city's Housing Department and real estate lobby to identify small landlords who need assistance. Otherwise, we are contributing to already staggering homeless numbers.

Please READ and use the data to ensure that people stay in their homes! Otherwise, you need to take responsibility for your contribution to homelessness. We can't try to end homelessness for our 300+ residents on the street and at the same time lift protections that prevent homelessness for THOUSANDS of tenants. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Allison Henry
D3 tenant resident
Housing Task Force Member

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Sonja Berndt <sonja.berndt19@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2022 12:00 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: City Council Mtg. 5/2/2022 -- Agenda Item #10 Ordinance Ending Eviction Moratorium

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Dear Mayor Gordo and Members of the City Council:

I have been a Pasadena resident for 19 years. I know first hand all of the enormous obstacles facing our unhoused to find permanent housing and achieve wellness.

I am deeply concerned that, with this ordinance, many more persons in Pasadena will fall into homelessness. I have listened to City Council meetings during which this subject was discussed. There was NO strategy or plan announced to assist those who will be evicted if this ordinance passes.

Please extend the eviction moratorium through at least 12/31/22. In addition, task city staff with reviewing data from the Community Services Department and the Housing Rights Center to determine a better end date for our City's eviction moratorium. Finally, identify additional funding for a city-based rental assistance program for tenants.

Thank you.

Sonja K. Berndt
Pasadena

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: James Clark
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2022 3:34 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: 5/2/22 Agenda Item 10

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Members of the City Council,

A vote to sunset the eviction moratorium is a vote to increase homelessness in Pasadena. Council members who vote for this now will be remembered when they claim to fight homelessness later. The staff report indicates this decision was reached in consultation with commercial real estate brokers but without any input from tenants. The pandemic continues for everyone -- which you know full well, as you make this decision in a closed session over Zoom.

Those who claim the eviction moratorium is unfair have a funny idea of fairness. The ongoing pandemic is not fair. Poverty and homelessness are not fair. Children's food and shelter being threatened by the financial and medical circumstances of their parents isn't fair. Who does this council prioritize when you try to make things fair?

Let's seriously take on the housing crisis in this city by identifying the resources we have to keep people housed. We are a great city and we are capable of meeting this challenge, but we will continue to fail if we don't prioritize keeping our neighbors housed. Please extend the moratorium until December 31st.

Thank you,
James Clark

05/02/2022
Item 10

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Una Lee Jost
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2022 5:16 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse; Flores, Valerie; vedlacuba@cityofpasadena.net; Bell, Cushon; Dyson, Darla; Porras, Susana; Sullivan, Noreen; Morales, Margo; Suzuki, Takako; Thyret, Pam
Subject: 2022-05-02 Pasadena City Council Special Meeting Meeting - Public Comment, Agenda 10 - EXTEND the COVID-19 eviction moratorium for residential tenants

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Dear Councilmembers,

I'm Una Lee Jost, PUSD parent, and longtime tenant and resident of Pasadena, District 4.

I'm also a member of the PTA, the nation's largest volunteer-led child advocacy association working to drive improvements in the education, health and well-being of all children and families.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Agenda 10, the second reading of a proposed city ordinance to amend and sunset the City's existing eviction moratorium for residential and commercial tenants who experience financial impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Inequality in housing was greatly exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and pandemic housing insecurity has increased to epic proportions in our renter-majority City and beyond.

This is particularly true for students and families within our Pasadena Unified School District community, as low-income and Brown/Black households make up two-thirds of PUSD students and families, and the PUSD two-thirds majority are also the households with highest risk of severe disease, hospitalizations and deaths due to COVID-19. Many have lost family members and income earners to COVID-19 and employment has not returned to pre-pandemic levels.

As the PUSD Board noted in a 2018 resolution, Pasadena is a renter majority city at 56%; that eviction imposes an especially high burden on school-aged children and their families, including an increased absence from school and other educational disruptions that can have long-lasting effects; that it was important to support renting families by creating sustainable housing for Pasadena; and that stable housing for families and their communities leads to stronger positive outcomes for all in PUSD.

Moreover, the pandemic is not over, especially with COVID-19 cases increasing nationwide by 29.2%, and in California by 23.1%. PUSD schools also reported 64 new COVID-19 cases in just the past two weeks.

For the sake of our PUSD students and families, I add my voice to the following urgent requests of Allison Henry, Pasadena City Council Housing Task Force member and Co-Founder of the San Gabriel Valley Tenants Alliance:

OUR REQUESTS:

1. Extend the Pasadena moratorium through 12/31/22, and review data from Community Services department and the Housing Rights Center to determine a better end date for the city's moratorium.

2. Identify additional funding for a city-based rental assistance program for tenants, and ask for help from the city's Housing Department and real estate lobby to identify small landlords who need assistance. Otherwise, we will be contributing to the already staggering homeless numbers in our City.

Los Angeles County has the foresight to extend their non-payment eviction protections through the end of the year; please do the same in Pasadena.

Please do the right thing for our renter-majority city, including the many renter households that make up the majority of our PUSD students and families. Thank you.