

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Mellem, Araceli
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 5:10 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: FW: URGENT - Public Comment for Meeting 2/6/25

From: Amber Lu
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2025 3:09 PM
To: Gordo, Victor <vgordo@cityofpasadena.net>; district1@cityofpasadena.net; fwilliams@cityofpasadena.net; Jones, Justin <justinjones@cityofpasadena.net>; Masuda, Gene <gmasuda@cityofpasadena.net>; Rivas, Jessica <jerivas@cityofpasadena.net>; Madison, Steve <smadison@cityofpasadena.net>; Lyon, Jason <jlyon@cityofpasadena.net>
Cc: RentalBoard <RentalBoard@cityofpasadena.net>; Rent Stabilization Dept <rentstabilization@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: URGENT - Public Comment for Meeting 2/6/25

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Dear Esteemed Council Members and Mayor Gordo,

It is crucial for you to protect the renters of Pasadena during this time of crisis. An eviction moratorium is necessary to defend against the inhumane greed and bad actors who are trying to take advantage of this tragedy for their own monetary gain. As a renter in Pasadena, we have created a happy and peaceful home despite the many issues we have faced with getting our landlord to make repairs. Our lives were completely disrupted when the fires came on Jan. 6 and fleeing our home in fear of the approaching flames was one of the scariest nights of our lives.

This fire has brought out the best and worst in people. It is beautiful how the community has come together to support victims of the fires. It has also shown the ugly side of people trying to profit from the suffering of others. The devastating loss of the homes and neighborhoods are a terrifying sight, but some of the homes that did not burn down are also lost. My home is one of them.

I have been unable to return since the fires because of ash and soot inside the house. My home was not properly weather proofed, with gaps in the front door and multiple other DIY fixes my landlord promised us were sufficient. We alerted him as soon as we evacuated, fearing for his safety and letting him know a fire was nearby. We stayed up all hours watching the fire grow and scared it would reach our house as it spread towards the 210. We have not been back to our home since the fires - except to assess the condition of the home and grab a few things (which maybe we should not have done). We have had two professional remediation companies come out to let us know if it was safe to return. Both said it was NOT okay for us to go home and that visibly they could already see the home would need professional and specialized treatment to be safe again.

Even after telling my landlord this in the middle of January, he did not actually come take a look at the home until this past weekend. After one look he said he could simply use an electric leafblower in each room to blow out the ash/soot and this would be sufficient. He was very quick to suggest we could move out if they needed to do repairs, or if we were "unable" to pay February rent. We have ALWAYS paid rent in full and on time, and the landlord told us we are model tenants many times. Yet when we pushed back on having to pay rent for a place that is not habitable, he demanded

rent or that we move out. We let him know we are happy, willing, and able to pay rent and have no intentions of relinquishing our unit. We would love to pay rent and move back home. But we cannot, because he refuses to acknowledge the work that needs to be done, because he refuses to call his homeowners insurance in fear of increased premiums, because he has stalled and still is stalling getting adequate cleaning done for the home. His callous greed is exactly why we NEED an eviction moratorium.

An eviction moratorium would only help the people of Pasadena. It would only stop bad actors who have the wrong intentions and are trying to take advantage of this disaster. The moratorium protects those who have lost everything, or who are at risk of losing their homes, because slumlords are seeing dollar signs. Let's put people over money, let's put victims over higher rental profits. This is your opportunity to protect the people - we desperately need your help. This is an urgent matter and it is not okay to let these landlords further distress and ruin the lives of people who have already experienced so much loss.

On behalf of myself and the other helpless tenants facing situations like this - PLEASE do what needs to be done and STOP these bad landlords from their bad faith actions. Please do not let us suffer further. We are already dealing with so many different moving pieces trying to get our lives back together. I am trying to reunite my family so we can be together again, and now I have to stress and direct my energy to protecting ourselves from our greedy and negligent landlord. People like him will profit if you do not act now to stop him and others from this greed. PLEASE do the eviction moratorium to protect the hardworking renters of Pasadena, and to stop the villainous intentions of those looking to kick others while they are down. Please do the right thing and stop this wrongdoing from happening. The power is yours to protect the people, please use it to help us!

Thank you for your time and consideration. I greatly appreciate your prompt attention to this and look forward to your help in fighting the evil lurking in our community.

Best,
Amber Lu

P.S. I believe I am in District 6 and 7 but this is important for all districts, all of Pasadena, all tenants.

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Harrison Cavallero
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2025 2:58 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse; Masuda, Gene
Subject: Eaton Fire Residents' Concerns

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Hello, my name is Harrison Cavallero, and I am a resident of Pasadena in District 4. I am on a block that has burned down structures all around us. I am calling on behalf of Eaton Fire residents who still have homes standing.

First, we want to acknowledge the City's response efforts thus far, but we have urgent concerns that need to be addressed. The needs of residents with standing homes often get overshadowed by the larger number of homes lost in the fire, and we are seeking immediate support in the following areas:

1. Town Hall for Standing Home Residents

We request a town hall specifically for those of us whose homes remain standing. Our challenges are different from those who have lost their homes, and we need a focused discussion to ensure our needs are met.

2. Public Statement on Safe Reentry

We need an official statement guaranteeing that NO renters or homeowners will be required to return to the area until Phase 2 FEMA cleanup has been completed. It is critical that reentry only happens when it is truly safe.

3. Insurance and FEMA Coverage Assurances

We seek guarantees from the Insurance Commission and FEMA that:

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- Our policies and available funding
- will cover thorough and high-quality testing for contaminants inside and outside our homes, including soil, water, and structural safety.
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- We receive coverage for temporary
- housing while cleanup, testing, and remediation efforts are conducted.

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4. Release of Scientific Testing Data & Future Testing Plans

We demand full transparency regarding environmental safety. This includes the immediate public release of all scientific testing data from January 7th onward from agencies such as:

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- South Coast Air Quality Management
- District
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- EPA
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- Department of Toxic Substances
-
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- Department of Health
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- US Forest Service
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Additionally, we request a clear plan for continued testing and a commitment to sharing this data in a timely and easily accessible manner.

How is the City of Pasadena able to help us with immediate action on these issues? We would like these questions addressed in her town hall today at 4 PM. How can we work together to ensure these concerns are addressed quickly and effectively?

Thank you for your time and support. We look forward to your response and a plan of action to ensure the safety and well-being of all Eaton Fire residents.

--
Harrison