

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Trystan Lynn
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 9:50 PM
To: Emanuel Najera; Dianne Romero-Chavez; brandonprhb@gmail.com; Barbara Pitts; Yaneli Soriano; Ryan Bell; Deborah Dunlop; Lourdes Gonzalez; Allison Henry; arnold.siegel; Adela Torres; PublicComment-AutoResponse; Hampton, Tyron; Cole, Rick; Jones, Justin; Masuda, Gene; Rivas, Jessica; Madison, Steve; Lyon, Jason
Subject: special meeting comment

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Hi. As a resident in the area that has been affected by the eaton canyon fire, I demand that the rental housing board:

Publish a list of all registered buildings so that we can determine if our unit is registered. It is law to have been registered, and we have that right to know if our landlord has followed so that they may not unlawfully treat us for money.

Hold a press conference and publish a notice to remind everyone that article XVIII Is currently in FULL EFFECT. What the landlords obligations are when it comes to habitability, smoke and ash damage, and hazardous indoor air quality. When I pointed out that there were downed cords and missing planks to the fencing that keep me safe to my landlord, they simply told me it isn't their problem. There needs to also be temporary assistance and the right to first return. The fire were not our fault, and we should not be pushed out of housing even further. They nor you would like it very much if a natural disaster happened and on top of loosing everything, you also no longer were allowed to even come back.

I also formally recommend that city council:

NO RENT INCREASES during the Pasadena state of emergency for ALL units. We had to pay for evacuation - gas, temporary housing, pet lodging, food and necessities that had to be left behind, etc. We lost work. We came back to having to clean everything up ourselves, and were told that it had to be a certain way - professionally. We should not be further punished by paying MORE when we are trying to get caught up on life again.

A moratorium on evictions. Employment locations have burned down Home are unlivable. People are sheltering fire victims. Helping people in need with the extra expenses should not cost them their housing. The seizure of vacant units to house those who lost their homes to fire.

Getting on top of quadrennial inspections. Everyone knows these units are not being inspected every four years. I personally have lived here since 2019 and have never had one here. These inspections are important.

Thanks for your time.
trystan

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McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Anonymousemail
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 4:08 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: City response to fires - removal of illegal aliens to create more available housing

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The response of the City of Pasadena to the fires is inadequate because the City of Pasadena is facilitating the presence of aliens unlawfully in the United States that are occupying housing that should be reserved only for individuals lawfully present in the United States.

Concealing, harboring or shielding aliens or encouraging or providing inducements for aliens to remain in the United States is a federal crime.

The City of Pasadena is directly spending more than \$111,000 a year to rent a building located at 500 N. Lake Avenue, Pasadena, CA.

The City of Pasadena is providing that building for free to a group (National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON)) that expressly works to facilitate employment for aliens unlawfully in the United States. The City of Pasadena does this knowingly.

As a result, the City Attorney should initiate an outside investigation of City of Pasadena elected officials and employees for the following violations of Federal law:

1. Harboring – Subsection 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii) makes it offense to conceal, harbor or shield from detection in any building any alien in the United States in violation of law.
2. Encouraging/Inducing – Subsection 1314(a)(1)(A)(iv) makes it an offense to encourage or induce an alien tp reside in the United States.
3. Conspiracy/Aiding and Abetting – Subsection 1324(a)(1)(A)(iv) expressly makes it an offense to engage in a conspiracy to commit or aid or abet for forgoing offenses.

The City of Pasadena's actions have involved several elected officials who acted to approve the disbursement of government funds for this purpose as well as multiple government employees to coordinate this ongoing effort. All such officials should be investigated for criminal liability under multiple federal criminal conspiracy statutes.

As a result, every City employee involved in any ongoing effort to violate Federal immigration law would potentially face five years in prison.

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Concealing, harboring or shielding aliens could also trigger liability under the federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO) statute. Civil RICO remedies are available to any person injured in his business or property by reason of a violation” and “shall recover threefold the damages he sustains and the cost of the suit, including reasonable attorney’s fee”. Public officials who have committed RICO violations may be sued in their individual capacities.

This is a demand that NDLON be investigated by the City to determine if it is engaging in actions like facilitating illegal employment for aliens that constitute harboring, encouraging/inducing illegal residence in the United States and/or conspiring with elected officials and city employees to aid and abet such violations.

McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Ken Kules
Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2025 1:11 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: City Council Agenda Item 2: CITY RESPONSE TO WINDSTORMS AND FIRES

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As a Pasadena resident that lived south of the 210 freeway, I initially didn't feel threatened by the Eaton fire. We experienced a power outage on Tuesday afternoon but that was related to the wind storm that accompanied the fire. On Tuesday evening, however, my wife was getting evacuation notices and a "Bert fire" was being reported to be just blocks from our home by by "Watch Duty." The only "official" evacuation on-line was being reported by CalFire - with the disclaimer that it was not really official. That was the extent of the evacuation warning. My neighbor's tree fell in the street, blocking egress from our "no outlet" street. We only learned later from neighbors that SCE had opened the gate to the nearby nursery, allowing limited egress from our neighborhood. My wife, and daughter-in-law decided that all signs were pointing to imminent danger and decided to evacuate. I walked to the reported location of the Bert fire and concluded that it may not have occurred.

For the next few days, it was never clear whether the fire was progressing southerly to - or beyond - the 210 freeway. I could have allayed my concerns by getting in my car and driving north to see for myself but was mindful that doing so might interfere with the ongoing fire-fight. Those days were filled with frantic worries that fire in our neighborhood was potentially imminent. It was only after the fire had substantially been contained that we learned that relative;ly small areas of the City were involved in the fire.

Someone in the City of Pasadena must have been aware of how the fire was progressing. How is it that information wasn't being shared with the community?

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McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Millie Root <
Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2025 1:53 PM
To: PublicComment-AutoResponse
Subject: I am your Constituent

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Dear Pasadena City Council,

Although my home is safe, so many of my friends and FAMILY's homes are not. I need you to do the following to protect the generations of families that call Pasadena home:

No rent increases during the City of Pasadena state of emergency for all units (including single family homes).

A moratorium on evictions. This should be an obvious one.

Many people's places of employment have burned down

Many people's homes are uninhabitable. An eviction moratorium gives them an extra layer of protection to withhold rent until repairs are made.

Many people will be sheltering fire victims, including myself! This may have substantially increased their expenses and may make it hard for them to make rent. Their charity in a time of great need should not cost them their housing!

Currently, price gouging can only be punished after the fact. This would prevent it from happening in the first place. If tenants cannot be evicted, their units cannot be re-let for higher rent.

The seizure of vacant units to house those who lost their homes to the fire. I am talking about the CalTrans houses that are EMPTY right now.

Getting on top of quadrennial inspections.

Every unit is supposed to be inspected at least once every four years. We know this isn't happening. These inspections are more important than ever.

It is your job as our council to protect the people you serve, US. Please follow through with these demands. These points are backed up by many housing experts and by families. Additionally, the Rental Housing Board is formally recommending you take these actions immediately.

I look forward to my friends and family being able to afford and move back into their homes in the near future.

Thank you,
Constituent Millie Root
Pasadena, CA 91105

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McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)

From: Rashna D <r...>
Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2025 2:28 PM
To: RentalBoard; PublicComment-AutoResponse; Rivas, Jessica; Yaneli Soriano
Subject: Comment for Rental Housing Board Special Meeting

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To the Rental Housing Board & City Council Members,

The windstorm and fires have destroyed much of Altadena and many structures in Pasadena. Smoke damage and poor air quality have left a large number of homes uninhabitable. Many people have been made homeless. These events are already putting a huge strain on the rental market and many landlords are taking advantage of the crisis. We need immediate security that our rents won't increase at this time and to ensure there aren't any evictions in order for landlords to rent to desperate people at higher rates. Seizing vacant units would also significantly alleviate the issue. It's more important than ever to ensure landlords are adhering to tenant protection laws without exception.

Affordable housing in Pasadena has been an ongoing issue well before the devastating fires and this situation has only made it worse. Last year homelessness increased 18.1% overall. That is a huge increase and mainly due to pandemic era protections being stripped away without a solution to the housing crisis.

For these reasons I urge the Rental Housing Board to do the following:

- 1.) Publish a list of all registered buildings so tenants can determine if their unit is registered.
- 2.) Hold a press conference and publish a notice to remind everyone of the following:
 - Article XVIII is in full effect
 - landlord's obligations when it comes to habitability, smoke/ash damage, and hazardous indoor air quality
 - temporary relocation assistance and the right to first return being in effect
- 3.) Recommend the following to the City Council:
 - A complete rent freeze for all units including single family homes, during the state of emergency. The price gouging laws are not enough and even a 3-10% increase in rent can be a lot for people who are already struggling and dealing with the trauma of the devastating fires. There should be no increase in rent at all during this time.
 - An eviction moratorium during the state of emergency. Many homes and places of employment have burned and the eviction moratorium would give tenants an extra layer of protection until repairs are made. Renters are sheltering fire victims and this increases living expenses, which also might make it hard for some renters to pay rent. Many mortgage companies have already

exempted homeowners from making their payments for the next of couple months and renters should be allowed the same grace without the worry of being evicted. Price gouging can only be punished after the fact and there are already many documented cases of it happening. Enacting these protections would prevent it from happening in the first place. If tenants cannot be evicted then landlords wouldn't be able to re-lease at a higher rate.

- Seizing vacant units to house those who lost their homes in the fire or have been displaced due to proximity of fire damage (smoke, ash, hazardous debris, etc).
- Inspecting rental units more consistently. Every unit is supposed to be inspected at least once every four years and this has not been happening. These inspections are extremely important now more than ever.

I can say from personal experience that this fire has been very traumatizing due to the close proximity and so many people losing their homes and livelihood. Many places I use to frequent have completely evaporated in the fire and I, like many of my neighbors, know at least a couple people who lost their homes.

Homeowners have strong protections, but unfortunately renters still do not and it's made more apparent during times of devastating disasters. Renters need the same protections in place and need to stop being seen as temporary or replaceable. This is why I strongly urge the Rental Housing Board and City Council members to be proactive in enacting the above mentioned protections.

Thank You,
Rashna Dordi - District 5 Resident