



June 17, 2021

San José City Council  
San José City Hall  
200 East Santa Clara Street  
San José, CA 95113

**Re: Agenda Item 8.4- Enact an Urgency and Companion Ordinance Implementing an Eviction Moratorium Through August 31, 2021 for Tenants Financially Impacted By COVID-19.**

Dear Mayor Liccardo, Vice Mayor Jones, and Councilmembers Arenas, Davis, Esparza, Peralez, Jimenez, Mahan, Carrasco, Cohen, and Foley,

As we continue to recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the timeline to return to normal operations will vary for different facets of life. The economic impact on renters has been so severe that solutions have come from all the way up to the federal level, and the effects of this impact continue to affect renters as many have incurred thousands of dollars of rental debt.

When the City of San Jose first implemented an eviction moratorium, it was in response to the severity of the impact of this pandemic on renter's ability to pay rent. Renters are still in dire need of this critical policy in order to stay housed and avoid the looming wave of evictions that will happen if the moratorium is not extended. In that spirit we recommend that the city council extend the eviction moratorium with the following modifications to city staff's proposal:

- 1. New Expiration Date-** In order to allow tenants to better recover and receive necessary assistance to get back to paying rent regularly, we recommend that the moratorium be extended until December 31st, 2021.
- 2. Percentage of Rent-** Staff is recommending that tenants pay 50% of rent for the months of July and August. This an increase from 25% under the state moratorium, and we are still at a point where the vast majority of tenants have not received financial assistance from any level. We recommend that we do not increase the percentage of rent that tenants would be required to pay for the months of July and August.
- 3. Documentation-** Staff is recommending increasing the amount of required documentation. Ongoing rental relief efforts have endeavored to require as little documentation as possible so that eligible tenants are not excluded simply because they lack access to a printer. In order to be consistent with ongoing efforts we recommend that the city does not add any form of required documentation, rather keep the same document requirements.

While various efforts towards rental relief serve as a crucial piece of eviction prevention, to date the vast majority of renters have yet to receive funds from different programs. We cannot expect renters to cover past debt if they are both still impacted due the COVID-19 pandemic and also have not received any form of rental assistance to date. It is of utmost importance that we continue to have critical protections such as the eviction moratorium in place. We urge council to act expeditiously to avoid what very well will be a tidal wave of evictions. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this matter.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Buchanan, Director of Public Policy, Working Partnerships USA  
Jennifer Loving, Chief Executive Office, Destination: Home  
Mathew Reed, Policy Manager, SV@Home  
Jane Wong, Staff Attorney, Law FOUndation of Silicon Valley  
Mayra Pelagio, Executive Director, Latinos United for a New America  
Sandy Perry, Affordable Housing Network  
Victor Vasquez, Organizing and Policy Director, SOMOS Mayfair  
Andrea Portillo, Organizing and Policy Manager, SOMOS Mayfair  
Steph Hanson-Quintana, Organizing Director, Sacred Heart Community Services  
Si Se Puede Collective, Collective Executive Director Team

**Fw: Public Comment - Item 8.4**

City Clerk &lt;city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov&gt;

Fri 6/18/2021 3:09 PM

To: Agendadesk &lt;Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov&gt;

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**From:** Zachary Schlagel [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 18, 2021 3:05 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment - Item 8.4

[External Email]

Good afternoon. On behalf of PATH (People Assisting The Homeless), we would like to express our support for extending the local eviction moratorium. While we are thankful for the historic level of support via the emergency rental assistance funds, many of these dollars have not yet reached those in need. We remain concerned about the potential for a wave of newly unhoused individuals and would urge you to give the process more time. We will continue to work with you, fellow homeless service providers and housing advocates to get these much needed funds out to those who need them as quickly as possible.

Respectfully,  
Zach Schlagel

Zachary Schlagel  
He/Him/His  
Senior Director of Public Policy  
PATH  
[REDACTED]

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