

APR 28 2009

09-0951
old CF 06-0477

HOUSING, COMM & ECON. DEVELOP

MOTION

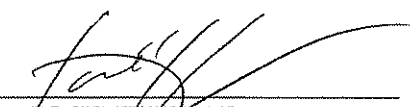
The Council previously recognized that the City's emergency preparedness and response capabilities could be enhanced by having a larger percentage of its police and fire fighters living in the City. LAPD estimates that around 80 percent of its sworn officers live outside the City. LAFD puts its figure at 75 percent. With most sworn staff spending only a fraction of their work week in the City, we are losing out on one of the greatest advantages of having sworn officers living locally, their ready availability in disasters.

In response to the Council's prior attempt to develop a housing program designed to encourage sworn police and fire personnel to purchase homes and live within the City (CF #06-0477), the Los Angeles Housing Department aggressively marketed the City's moderate income homeownership program to the Los Angeles Police Department and Los Angeles Fire Department. Unfortunately, the City's moderate income homeownership program has been suspended due to lack of funds.

The City will soon begin deliberations around the creation of a mixed income housing ordinance. As part of the discussion, developer options will be discussed, such as allowing residential developers to build affordable units off site or pay a fee in lieu of building the actual units. As additional options, the City should allow developers to (1) build off site moderate income ownership units reserved for police officers and firefighters or (2) use the in lieu fees for the same purpose.

In 2006, LAHD reported that both Long Beach and Oakland provided down payment assistance to police officers and fire fighters. Since the City no longer has such a program, we should consider creative ways to assist the men and women who protect us find places of their own to live within the boundaries of the City, if they so desire.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Housing Department and CLA be requested to include in any discussion of the proposed mixed income housing ordinance options for developers to provide off site moderate income ownership units reserved for City of Los Angeles police officers and firefighters as an alternative for proposed affordable housing levels.

PRESENTED BY: 
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SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

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