CITY CLERK APPROVES INITIATIVE ORDINANCE PETITION FOR CIRCULATION
LAND USE AND REPLACEMENT HOUSING REQUIREMENTS FOR HOTEL DEVELOPERS; PROGRAM TO UTILIZE VACANT HOTEL ROOMS FOR UNHOUSED INDIVIDUALS; POLICE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR HOTELS.

LOS ANGELES (February 9, 2022) — Los Angeles City Clerk Holly L. Wolcott announced that a petition draft for an Initiative Ordinance submitted on February 8, 2022, was approved by the Office of the City Clerk on February 9, 2022, for circulation and collection of signatures of registered voters in the City of Los Angeles. The official title and summary of the proposal as prepared by the City Attorney is included below:

LAND USE AND REPLACEMENT HOUSING REQUIREMENTS FOR HOTEL DEVELOPERS; PROGRAM TO UTILIZE VACANT HOTEL ROOMS FOR UNHOUSED INDIVIDUALS; POLICE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR HOTELS. INITIATIVE ORDINANCE.

The proposed ordinance would require a hotel development project of 100 or more rooms to obtain a land use permit based on factors including the market demand for the project, and the project’s impact on affordable housing, transit, social services, employees, and local businesses. A hotel development project of 15 or more rooms would be required to replace demolished or converted housing with an equivalent amount of affordable housing at or near the project site. The ordinance would create a program, subject to funding availability, to place unhoused individuals in vacant hotel rooms. A hotel would be prohibited from refusing lodging to program participants. The ordinance would establish special police permit requirements for hotels. A hotel would need to meet specified standards, including compliance with wage theft and employment laws, to obtain a permit and avoid disciplinary action. The ordinance’s requirements would be subject to certain exceptions and waivers.

In accordance with Charter Section 451(b), all names signed to the petition must have been secured not more than 120 days prior to the date of filing the completed petition. The petition must be signed by 64,785* registered voters of the City of Los Angeles. In addition, if the petition is not filed within two years after it has been approved for circulation, the proponents must entirely re-submit the petition for approval.

The Office of the City Clerk administers candidate filing for the City of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Unified School District. More information can be found on the City Clerk’s election website: https://clerk.lacity.org/elections or by contacting the Election Division at (213) 978-0444, or toll-free at (888) 873-1000 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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*Per Charter Section 451(b), the number of signatures reflects 15% of total votes cast for all candidates for the Office of Mayor at the last election at which the Mayor was elected.