The Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council
City Hall
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

11/16/20

Re: Council File: 20-1313: Citywide Emergency Rental Assistance Subsidy Program / COVID-19 Pandemic / Landlord Participation

Position: Support

Dear Councilmembers,

On October 13, Councilmember Cedillo moved to instruct the Housing and Community Investment Department to report back to the Housing Committee with recommendations on the feasibility of subsidizing renters who applied for and rightfully won the COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Subsidy Program, but were denied due to the refusal of a landlord to participate.

Within the boundaries of the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council, resident renters have voiced concerns about their own landlords refusing to participate in this program. The economic devastation of COVID-19 has been felt in our neighborhood and it is imperative we address the shortcomings of this well-intended rent subsidy program to ensure we are justly providing assistance to those renters who are in need.

Therefore, East Hollywood Neighborhood Council (EHNC) expresses its support for Council File 20-1313 and asks the city to report back to the Housing Committee with a list of the landlords that refused to participate, alongside recommendations on how the City could require landlords to participate In the citywide Emergency Rental Assistance Subsidy Program in order to address these unintended consequences of depriving tenants throughout the City from their right to receive aid. EHNC supports subsidizing renters directly if their landlords are refusing payment from the city.

Sincerely,

East Hollywood Neighborhood Council

CC:

Hon. Mitch O'Farrell Councilmember,
13th District Los Angeles
City Hall 200 N. Spring Street, Rm 480
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Hon. Nury Martinez City Council President
Councilmember, 6th District Los Angeles
City Hall 200 N Spring Street, Ste 470
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Mayor Eric Garcetti
Los Angeles City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012