



DRAFT MINUTES
CITY OF SANTA MONICA
HOUSING COMMISSION MINUTES
March 21, 2019



1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Santa Monica Housing Commission was called to order by Chair Soloff at 4:33 p.m. on Thursday, March 21, 2019, at the Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street.

A. ROLL CALL

- **Present:** Chair Soloff
Vice Chair Hilton
Commissioner Bloch
Commissioner Gerwitz
Commissioner Katz
- **Absent:** Commissioner Buchanan
Commissioner Keintz
- **Staff Present:** Housing Manager, Barbara Collins
Housing Program Manager, Jim Kemper
Commission Secretary, Alison Hughes

2. PUBLIC INPUT

- **Steven Weinraub** – expressed concern regarding the maximum loan amounts, as defined by the Housing Trust Fund guidelines.
- **Olga Zurawska** – expressed concern regarding the condition of homeless shelters in Santa Monica. [[WRITTEN COMMENT](#)]
- **Melinda Soderbergh** – OPCC fundraiser, shared her support for their work.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes for the February 21, 2019 Housing Commission meeting.

Motion by Chair Soloff, seconded by Vice Chair Hilton to approve the February 21, 2019 minutes with the revisions read into the record and provided in writing by Chair Soloff.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Chair Soloff, Vice Chair Hilton, Commissioner Bloch,
Commissioner Katz, Commissioner Gerwitz

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Commissioner Buchanan, Commissioner Keintz

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

5. ACTION ITEMS

A. DRAFT FY 2019-20 ACTION PLAN

Discussion and possible action regarding the draft FY2019-20 Action Plan, which proposes activities for use of federal Community Development Block Grant and HOME funding implementing the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. [[DRAFT PLAN](#)]

Staff presentation by Senior Administrative Analyst, Claire Hester, Human Services Division. [[STAFF HANDOUT](#)]

Public Input

- **Steven Weinraub** – expressed confusion about the City's recent land acquisitions and asked specifically to know the address and funding source for the 19th Street property.

No action was taken.

B. WORK PLAN

Discussion of annual work plan and potential priorities, and possible action setting long-range agenda and work plan.

April 18th Meeting

Motion by Vice Chair Hilton, seconded by Chair Soloff that the Housing Commission for “April – National Fair Housing Month,” invite attorneys Mr. Gary Rhoades of the City Attorney’s Fair Housing Office and Ms. Denise McGranahan of the SM/Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, to our April meeting to share statistics/data on: 1) The number of Fair Housing complaints annually; 2) The type/nature of Fair Housing complaints; and 3) The resolution and/or outcome of the complaints.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Chair Soloff, Vice Chair Hilton, Commissioner Bloch, Commissioner Katz, Commissioner Gerwitz

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: Commissioner Buchanan, Commissioner Keintz

6. HOUSING MANAGER’S REPORT

Barbara Collins reported on the following:

- April 9th City Council agenda items: 1) Housing Commission’s POD recommendations that includes a request for additional staffing to administer the program; and 2) City-owned land recommendation regarding affordable housing.
- Addendum to the Ellis Report will soon be finalized and will be provided to Housing Commissioners when released.
- A recent, extensive city audit found the HUD Section 8 and HOME programs to be compliant – there were no issues or concerns.
- Housing Division staff updates: one Senior Development Analyst accepted a new job outside the City; another Senior Development Analyst is on maternity leave; consultants are being considered to assist with critical project needs; and hiring replacement staff for

the vacant positions and new staff for new program initiative are pending Council approval.

- The presidential administration proposed dramatic changes to the overall housing budget, particularly to the HOME program.

7. CHAIR/COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Vice Chair Hilton provided a handout, "Demand for co-living grows in L.A." (*Los Angeles Times*, March 8, 2019).

Co-living housing offers separate, private bedroom/bathrooms, with a shared kitchen/common area. Hilton said for future homeless housing, shared common areas may facilitate the community supports/case management requirement for this type of housing.

[\[VICE CHAIR HANDOUTS\]](#)

8. ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSING COMMISSION

On the order of the Chair, the Housing Commission meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

The next regular Housing Commission meeting date is scheduled on Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael Soloff
Chair, Housing Commission

Alison Hughes
Housing Commission Secretary