

Extension of Moratorium Consideration of a Rent Freeze

Convening of Stakeholders

April 14, 2020 Item 8.1

Jacky Morales-Ferrand Director Housing Department

Rachel VanderVeen Deputy Director Housing Department **Christopher Alexander** Deputy City Attorney



Eviction Moratoriums for City of San José, County of Santa Clara, & State Executive Order







City of San Jose March 18, 2020 -April 17, 2020

Santa Clara County

March 24, 2020 -May 31, 2020

State Executive Order

March 27, 2020 -May 31, 2020



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Impact on Tenants due to COVID-19

Impact on Low-Wage Households

Increase in filings for Unemployment Insurance

Notices of Terminations Still Being Submitted







Resources for Landlords

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES)



State Mortgage Relief





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Extension to Align with County & State, and Provide Residents Relief

Align with County & State

Relief for residents waiting for financial assistance









Other Cities with Rent Increase Freezes

Housing







City of Glendale

Rent increases/ rent freeze until April 30th

City of Oakland

Rent increases limited to 3.5% for rent stabilized units until June 30th

City of Los Angeles

Rent increases prohibited for rent stabilized units until 60 days from Moratorium expiration





Rent Increase Freeze Provisions for Rent Stabilized Apartments & Mobilehomes

Housing







Length of Protection

Late Fees or Interest Prohibited

From adoption to 120 days after Moratorium expires From adoption to 120 days after Moratorium expires

Petitions

Rent stabilized tenants may petition for improper rent increases





Variations in Terms for the Rent Increase Freeze Provisions

Policy Issue	Staff Recommendation	CM Carassco, Peralez	CM Khamis, Davis, Foley	CM Jones
Effective Date of the Rent Increase Freeze	April 21, 2020	April 1, 2020	April 14, 2020 Exclude renewals already signed	
Duration of the Rent Increase Freeze	120 days after the expiration of the eviction moratorium	During the declaration of the National emergency	Duration of the Eviction Moratorium	Duration of the Eviction Moratorium and the repayment period





Variations in Terms for the Rent Increase Freeze Provisions

Policy Issue	Staff Recommendation	CM Khamis, Davis, Foley
Tenants Covered by the Rent Increase Freeze	Tenants living in apartments covered by the Apartment Rent Ordinance and the Mobilehome Rent Ordinance	Apply freeze only to tenants who experienced an income loss or disruption resulting from the COVID-19 crisis
Grounds for Petition	Allow tenants to petition regarding rent increases	Deny tenant petitions for rent decreases for service reductions related to the elimination of common area amenities such as pools, gyms, etc., if these amenities we closed in order to comply with County or State public health orders related to COVID-19



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Rent Increase Freeze Provisions

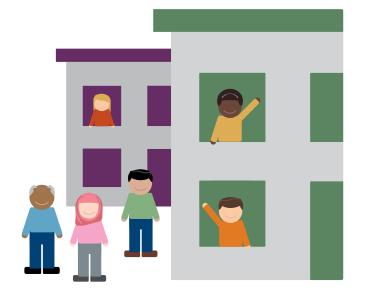
Temporary Rent Reduction

- Allow landlords under the Apartment Rent Ordinance to temporarily reduce rent
- Rent may be returned to "base level"
- Staff will evaluate how future rent increases are applied
- Banking of annual increases needs to be carefully considered





Convening of Stakeholders to Explore Alternative Solutions



Representatives of landlords & tenants

Possible Options:

- Mediation Program
- Payment Plan
- Repayment Period
- Prioritization





Variations in Direction Regarding Stakeholder Convening

Staff Recommendation	Mayor	CM Jones
Convene stakeholders representing landlords and tenants to explore alternative solutions to address the needs of our rental community impacted by COVID-19	As part of the Stakeholder Convening, direct City Staff to outreach to the Terner Center for Housing Innovation at UC Berkeley for their recommendations on alternative solutions for the rental community impacted by COVID- 19	Consider a Council led task force to initiate a convening of stakeholders representing landlords and tenants to explore alternative solutions to address the needs of our rental community impacted by COVID- 19. The task force could be modeled after the District 1 facilitated Small Business Advisory Task Force.





Potential Changes to Moratorium & Process

Potential Changes

- Anti-retaliation harassment
- Extending the tenant notification period

Process to Return:

 Direct City Attorney to return with amendments to Urgency & Companion Ordinances





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