



KAREN BASS  
MAYOR

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE NO. 6

Issue Date: November 1, 2023

**Subject: Temporary Use of Hotel Rooms Under the Residential Hotel Ordinance for Interim Housing of Unsheltered Individuals**

On December 12, 2022, my first day as Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, I issued a Declaration of Local Emergency regarding the crisis of homelessness that exists in the City of Los Angeles. This declaration was renewed monthly and then updated on July 7, 2023, reflecting my, and the City Council's, ongoing commitment to bring Angelenos experiencing homelessness inside and to broaden the City's available stock of affordable housing.

My Executive Directive No. 2 launched the Inside Safe Initiative, which has given over 1,600 Angelenos a chance to leave the streets for interim housing with connections to needed services and referrals to permanent housing. To further the City's urgent mission to help more Angelenos move inside, I am issuing this new directive to increase our access to hotel rooms and expand interim housing options for unsheltered individuals.

In 2008, in an effort to preserve affordable housing units for long-term residents of hotels, the Residential Hotel Unit Conversion and Demolition Ordinance (Los Angeles Municipal Code § 47.70 et seq, the "RHO") was enacted. The main focus of the RHO was to preserve thousands of hotel rooms as "residential," ensuring rooms in those hotels would continue to be rented to residents of Los Angeles and reducing the adverse impact of the diminishing rental housing supply, particularly on displaced low-income, elderly, and disabled Angelenos.

Many rooms within the designated Residential Hotels have been used as hotel rooms, and some may now be unsuitable for use as primary residences under current building code standards. City, State, and Federal efforts to boost the production of affordable housing have created new models, including Permanent Supportive Housing, that updated the landscape on which the Residential Hotel Ordinance was created. Many units

in the Residential Hotels are now vacant or rented to tourists or other visitors in violation of the RHO.

To address the City's desperate need for interim housing units in response to our homelessness crisis, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Los Angeles under Section 8.33 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code, I hereby order, effective immediately, that:

1. During this Local emergency, any unit in a Residential Hotel, whether a Residential Unit or Tourist Unit, may be made available for shelter and interim housing provided to an otherwise unsheltered individual under a booking or occupancy agreement with the City or other public agency so long as the unit was vacant at the time of the booking. Any such occupancy made available to unsheltered individuals shall not be deemed by the City to be a violation of the RHO.
2. The Los Angeles Housing Department shall conduct a comprehensive review of all Residential Hotels currently on the City's list and report back to me and to the City Council within 30 days with an assessment of the residential Hotel stock and occupancy rates and include a summary on the progress of pending appeals.
3. In reliance on the results of the above-referenced comprehensive review, the Los Angeles Housing Department, in consultation with and assisted by the City Attorney, the City Administrative Officer, and the Chief Legislative Analyst, shall propose updates to the Residential Hotel Ordinance and provide recommendations for administrative changes, guidelines, enforcement strategy, and needed resources to support the updates ordinance.

Executed this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2023



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