



October 27, 2020

The Honorable Chris Cate
Councilmember, 6th District
City of San Diego
202 C Street, 10th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Councilmember Cate:

On behalf of Lutheran Social Services, I am pleased to write in support of your policy proposal to enact a temporary moratorium on rent increases for City lessees who can demonstrate financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lutheran Social Services submitted its own letter to the City on September 18th and is currently awaiting a response. We in no manner wish to have our independent request substituted by the current collective effort made by your office. At the same time, we wish to express our support for this policy proposal.

The proposal seeks to halt scheduled rent increases between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2021 for city lessees who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is our belief that the City should not be raising rents on organizations such as Lutheran Social Services that provide important services to the community and contribute to the local economy who are struggling during these unprecedented times.

It is for these reasons Lutheran Social Services supports your policy proposal to establish a temporary moratorium on rent increases for City lessees amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Darlene Mees". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Darlene Mees
Senior Area Director
Lutheran Social Services