

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor, and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles can and should lead the nation toward a Green New Deal that aggressively responds to the climate crisis with the urgency and scale that it warrants;

WHEREAS, Los Angeles has long led the nation on policies encouraging renewable energy, green buildings, electrification, waste reduction, and environmental justice;

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles City Council directed the development of a Green New Deal for Los Angeles (CF #19-0156) in February 2019;

WHEREAS, the City also faces a housing affordability crisis, in which the private market is incapable of creating the supply of affordable housing that we need to meet demand;

WHEREAS, there are roughly only eight units of affordable and available housing for every 50 extremely low-income residents in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area; and roughly only nine units of available and affordable housing for every 32 residents living below 50 percent of the median income in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area;

WHEREAS, construction of new federal public housing has been capped at 1999 levels since passage of the *Faircloth Amendment*;

WHEREAS, a decades-long disinvestment in maintaining existing public housing has resulted in deferred maintenance costs in the billions of dollars,

WHEREAS, our nation's public housing stock contributes to the one-third of carbon emissions in the U.S. that comes from buildings, which also make up 39 percent of global carbon emissions; and decarbonizing our nation's public housing stock would be equivalent to removing 1.2 million cars from the road;

WHEREAS, energy retrofits could reduce the costs of public housing water bills by \$97 million, or 30 percent, per year, and bring down energy costs by \$613 million, or 70 percent;

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WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development estimates necessary repairs for public housing through 2030 costing \$90 billion, including the abatement of lead, mold, and toxins; and a broader overhaul to decarbonize could be added on to existing planned repairs;

WHEREAS, on November 19, 2019, Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez introduced H.R. 5185, the *Green New Deal for Public Housing Act*, which would commit up to \$180 billion over ten years to upgrade 1.2 million federally owned homes;

WHEREAS, such upgrades could include retrofitting for renewable energy like solar, wind, geothermal, hydroelectric energy; energy efficiency upgrades; building electrification; energy storage; and microgrids;

WHEREAS, upgrades could also include water quality upgrades and lead abatement; as well as roof replacements; and would create thousands of on-site construction jobs;

WHEREAS, H.R. 5185 would empower public housing facilities to produce energy and residents to vote on how profits shall be used;

WHEREAS, H.R. 5185 would allow for grants for community resiliency in the form of childcare centers, community gardens, senior centers, internet installation, bicycle infrastructure, healthcare clinics, learning centers, and organic groceries;

WHEREAS, H.R. 5185 would also repeal the *Faircloth Amendment* to allow for new construction of public housing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2019-2020 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for H.R. 5185, the *Green New Deal for Public Housing Act*.

PRESENTED BY:



MIKE BONIN

Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:


