

Sabha, Tamer

From: cityclerk
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 6:23 PM
To: Flores, Valerie; Iraheta, Alba; Jomsky, Mark; Robles, Sandra; Sabha, Tamer; Stevenson, Garrett; McMillan, Acquanette (Netta)
Subject: FW: Public Comment - PRHB Regular 10-24-2023 - Item 2

From: Simon Ybarra
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 6:22:59 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: cityclerk <cityclerk@cityofpasadena.net>; RentalBoard <RentalBoard@cityofpasadena.net>
Subject: Public Comment - PRHB Regular 10-24-2023 - Item 2

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Hello,

My name is Simon Ybarra, and I am a tenant in District 3. I am writing to express concerns about the revised term sheet for the prospective rent stabilization department (Item 2) and its impact on the ability of the PRHB to carry out its duties with regard to the appointment of Hearing Officers and the establishment of an operating budget.

I agree with the board's interpretation of how the City is to provide infrastructure support to the PRHB, and it seems reasonable to me that an executive director and other support staff positions should be hired according to city policy. However, it is an explicit responsibility of the Pasadena Rental Housing Board to appoint Hearing Officers per Section 1811(e)(4), and to delegate that responsibility to staff hired by the City Manager risks undermining the autonomy of the PRHB. Consequently, I believe it is necessary to further amend the revised term sheet's section to ensure that at least Hearing Officers, if no other candidates for staff, come before the board for approval.

Similarly to the responsibility to appoint Hearing officers, the board is explicitly responsible for the establishment of a budget for the implementation and enforcement of Article 18. It seems reasonable to comply with the charter's direction on how the budget is to be prepared in all manners except that the body responsible for reviewing, revising, and adopting the proposed budget ought to be the PRHB itself rather than the City Council. Section 1811(m) demands that the board be autonomous in the execution of its duties, and placing budgetary approval under the City Council is directly contrary to that objective.

Thank you for your time. Good luck with the integration process!

Sincerely,
Simon Ybarra