

## **CITYWIDE UPDATES:**

### **Illegal Advertisements**

- **Last week, Councilwoman Yaroslavsky** introduced a motion with Councilmember Bob Blumenfield to crack down on illegal street-facing advertisements across Los Angeles. In too many neighborhoods, entire buildings are wrapped in ads, vacant lots display oversized signage, and digital billboards operate without permits. In some cases, property owners make more money from signage than from building housing or moving forward with development.
- Our motion directs the City Attorney, Planning, as well as Building and Safety to draft a stronger ordinance that creates real consequences. It would require operators to register with the City, disclose their full inventory of street-facing ads, face steep daily fines, and hold property owners accountable. It also reforms construction wall sign rules so advertising does not reward long-term vacancies and ensures the City receives appropriate revenue when public-facing advertising is allowed.

### **Speed Safety Systems Program Public Review Period**

- The Los Angeles Department of Transportation has begun the official public review period for the City's Speed Safety Systems Program pilot, which would install speed cameras at specific locations across the city.
- This pilot is designed to reduce speed-related injuries and deaths on our streets. LADOT is encouraging Angelenos to review the proposal and share feedback before the program launches. You can learn more about the pilot and submit comments through [LADOT's website](#).

### **RSO Updates Take Effect**

- As of February 2nd, updated rent increase rules took effect for apartments covered by the Rent Stabilization Ordinance ("RSO"). The Council adopted clearer, more predictable rules in November for annual rent increases, replacing decades of regulations that led to sudden, destabilizing stacked increases.
- The previous system allowed landlords to raise rent 3-8% annually based on inflation. Landlords could add 1-2% for master-metered utilities, even if costs were lower, plus a 10% increase for adding an adult or second child. These stacked increases could total up to a 20% jump in one year.
- The City also eliminated the utility surcharges and the add-on increases for additional adults or children. Renters will now see one clear annual increase they can better plan around, instead of a mix of separate charges. This update acknowledges that property owners are seeing real cost increases while avoiding the sharp spikes that put tenants at risk.

- This is the first major update to the City’s rent stabilization rules in more than forty years. It builds on other protections the Council adopted over the last couple of years to keep people housed, including just cause eviction standards, relocation assistance, right to counsel for tenants facing eviction, and funding for rent relief and tenant protections. Together, these policies aim to reduce rent shocks, prevent avoidable displacement, and give renters and responsible landlords a stable set of rules they can rely on. Visit [housing.lacity.org](https://housing.lacity.org) or call 866-557-7368 for more information.

### **2028 Games-Related Project Exemptions**

- Last week the City Council voted on exemptions for certain Games-related projects from planning and zoning requirements to support preparations for the 2028 Olympics and Paralympics.
- The Councilwoman supports moving efficiently to deliver the Games, but those exemptions need clear rules and strong oversight resulting in the Councilwoman's motion asking the Office of Finance to report back on a potential revenue-sharing agreement, so the City and taxpayers see a direct benefit from Games-related advertising activity.
- This week the Councilwoman also introduced a motion to strengthen regulations on signage, with a focus on clearer standards and meaningful enforcement against illegal signs.

### **Budget and Finance Committee Update**

- Last week, the Budget and Finance Committee heard a report from the Chief Administrative Officer on the impacts of H.R. 1 on the City’s finances, including risks to federal funding.
- The Committee also received a briefing from the City Attorney on affirmative litigation aimed at protecting City grants and challenging recent federal actions.
- In addition, we considered a staffing plan for the City Attorney’s Office and reviewed a report on the Department on Disability fee structure as part of this year’s budget instructions. These discussions are part of ongoing work to protect City resources and improve how Los Angeles delivers core services.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD SPECIFIC:**

#### **Free Tax Preparation | Thursday, March 26, 2026 | Iman Center**

- We are collaborating with the Iman Center and the Community investment for families department to offer free tax preparation for CD5 residents
- If your household earned less than \$80,000 in 2025 you are eligible for this service.
- Book online or call to make your appointment at (323) 909-1975 or <https://imancenter.youcanbook.me/>

### **Street Lights**

- Our office is partnering with Council District 11 to fund a dedicated repair crew focused on our districts. This will give the Bureau more capacity and help crews work through the backlog of repairs faster.
- Councilwoman Yaroslavsky introduced a motion with Councilwoman Eunisses Hernandez to finance a \$65 million citywide effort to convert eligible streetlights to solar power. The Bureau estimates approximately 60,000 lights can be converted to solar, and this will jumpstart that effort. Solar lights do not rely on copper wiring, which reduces vulnerability to theft.