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## RESOLUTION NO. 2020-HA 001

A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD THE CITY OF CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA. APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING AN **EMERGENCY** RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO ASSIST LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS WHO ARE UNABLE TO PAY RENT DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS RESPIRATORY DISEASE (COVID-19) PANDEMIC AND TO ACCOMPLISH OTHER IMPORTANT PUBLIC PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor of the State of California proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as of May 20, 2020, Johns Hopkins University reported 4,995,127 confirmed COVID-19 cases globally and 328,079 deaths; 1,551,102 cases nationally, with 93,416 deaths; and 83,869 cases in California, with 3,485 deaths. Further, as of May 20, 2020, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health reported 40,857 cases in Los Angeles County with 1,970 deaths, which includes 130 cases and 14 deaths in Culver City; and

WHEREAS, the State of California, the County of Los Angeles, and the City of Culver City have taken aggressive actions to limit the number of COVID-19 cases and curb the spread of the coronavirus, including issuing shelter in place orders and imposing restrictions on business operations; and

WHEREAS, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures taken to slow its spread and protect the public's health and safety have impacted record numbers of workers; and

WHEREAS, as of May 14, 2020, California's Employment Development Department reports it has processed 4.7 million claims for unemployment benefits in the

previous nine weeks, compared to about 700,000 claims processed over a two-month period at the height of the last recession; and

WHEREAS, the Public Policy Institute of California reports that about 12.3 million Californians in families headed by working age adults live in or near poverty, and the largest number of poor and near-poor Californians live in Los Angeles County; and

WHEREAS, low-income households are more likely to be employed in industries that have been severely impacted by COVID-19 and are less likely to hold jobs that allow them to continue working from home; and

WHEREAS, the Public Policy Institute of California reports a 24% poverty rate among workers in the accommodation and food service sector, which has been severely impacted by reduced tourism and dining out; and a disproportionate share of essential workers such as laborers, cooks, cashiers, and personal care aides are poor or nearly poor; and

WHEREAS, low-income households are less likely to have access to health benefits and paid sick leave or to have the financial resources to weather a health or economic crisis or pay unexpected child care costs; and

WHEREAS, various orders have been issued by the State of California and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, as well as a number of local communities, designed to protect residential tenants from eviction caused by the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, under the authority of CCMC Section 3.09.020, the City Manager of the City of Culver City issued a Public Order imposing a moratorium on residential tenant evictions (the "Residential Tenant Eviction Moratorium"), prohibiting a landlord from evicting a residential tenant in the City of Culver City during this

local emergency period if the tenant is unable to pay rent due to circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 26, 2020, in response to growing evidence of the critical need for residents to shelter in place, the City Council of the City of Culver City directed the City Manager to expand the Residential Tenant Eviction Moratorium to prohibit all evictions of residential tenants through May 31, 2020, subject to certain limited exceptions and on March 27, 2020 the City Manager issued a Second Supplement to Public Order, consistent with the City Council's direction; and

WHEREAS, included in the Residential Tenant Eviction Moratorium was a provision that requires a tenant who has an inability to pay rent during the local emergency period and who qualifies for protection under the Moratorium to pay any rent that remains unpaid ("Back Rent") within six months of the expiration of the local emergency period; and

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2020 the City Council directed the City Manager to extend the period for the payment of Back Rent to 12 months, and on April 28, 2020, the City Manager issued an Eighth Supplement to Public Order consistent with City Council's direction, and on May 11, 2020 the City Council confirmed the Eighth Supplement to Public Order; and

WHEREAS, on May 18, 2020 in order to preserve and increase housing security and stability, and prevent residents from falling into homelessness due to the COVID-19 health crisis, the City Council directed the City Manager to further extend the Residential Tenant Eviction Moratorium to August 31, 2020, or the end of the local emergency period, whichever occurs first; and on May 19, 2020, the City Manager issued a Twelfth Supplement to Public Order consistent with City Council's direction; and

WHEREAS, because of the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on lower income households, those households are less likely to have the funds to make full or partial rent payments during the local emergency period and will be faced with paying substantial Back Rent after termination of the local emergency period, in addition to paying their rent as it comes due under the terms of their rental agreement ("Base Rent") and will thus be at higher risk of eviction; and

WHEREAS, various actions have been taken at the federal, state, and local level to alleviate the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic but those actions have not included emergency rental assistance funds; and

WHEREAS, upon the dissolution of the Culver City Redevelopment Agency (CCRA), the Housing Authority assumed the rights, powers, assets, duties, and obligations associated with the housing activities of the former CCRA; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Health & Safety Code sections 34171(d)(1)(G) and 34176(e)(6), the Housing Authority receives annual repayments of amounts that were borrowed from, or payments owing to, the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund of the Redevelopment Agency ("ERAF/SERAF Funds"), which repayments shall be used in a manner consistent with the affordable housing requirements of Part 1 of the Community Redevelopment Law (Health and Safety Code sections 33000, et seq.); and

WHEREAS, section 33334.2(e)(8) of Part 1 of the Community Redevelopment Law authorizes the payment of subsidies to, or for the benefit of, lower income households, to the extent those households cannot obtain housing at affordable costs on the open market, provided that the rental units were not developed with direct government subsidies; and

WHEREAS, the use of ERAF/SERAF Funds for the payment of rental subsidies for the benefit of low-income tenants in the City of Culver City will assist in mitigating the disproportionate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on low-income households and will promote housing security and stability and the public health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the use of ERAF/SERAF Funds outside of the Culver City Redevelopment Project Area will be of benefit to the Project Area in that preserving the ability of low-income tenants to have access to shelter and sanitary facilities will help prevent the continuing spread of COVID-19 throughout the City and will protect the health and safety of persons working or residing in the Project Area.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of the Culver City Housing Authority DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, as follows:

- The Housing Authority Board has received and heard all oral and written objections to matters pertaining to this transaction, and all such oral and written objections are hereby overruled.
- The Housing Authority Board hereby finds and determines the foregoing recitals are true and correct.
- 3. The Housing Authority Board hereby approves and authorizes the use of \$1,505,000 of ERAF/SERAF Funds for the COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program ("COVID-19 ERAP"), of which \$1,145,000 shall be allocated for assistance with payment of Base Rent for a period not to exceed 12 months and \$355,000 shall be allocated for assistance with payment of Back Rent for a period not to exceed 3 months.
- 4. The Housing Authority Board hereby approves and authorizes the Housing Authority's operation of the COVID-19 ERAP as follows:

a. The COVID-19 ERAP program shall commence upon the termination of the Residential Eviction Moratorium period, currently scheduled to terminate on August 31, 2020, or the end of the local emergency, whichever occurs earlier, as such period may be extended; and

- b. Rent subsidies shall be provided to, or for the benefit of, households whose annual income, determined as of March 16, 2020, does not exceed 80% of the Area Median Income for Los Angeles County ("Low-Income Households"); and
- c. Eligibility shall be limited to Low-Income Households who are unable to pay their rent due to circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including but not limited to, loss of income due to a COVID-19 related furlough or workplace closure, a substantial increase in child care expenditures, health care expenses related to being ill with COVID-19, expenses or loss of income due to caring for a member of the tenant's household who is ill with COVID-19, and reasonable expenditures that stem from government-ordered emergency measures; and
- d. Eligibility shall be limited to Low-Income Households residing in the City of Culver City who have occupied their rental unit since March 16, 2020; and
- e. Low-Income Households shall be eligible for assistance with payment of Base Rent or assistance with payment of Back Rent, but shall not receive both types of assistance; and
- f. Eligibility shall include Low-Income Households who are tenants of single-family, multi-family, or accessory dwelling units, but shall not include unrelated persons in shared housing or occupants of mobile homes; and

## Certification of Resolution No. 2020- HA001

I, Jeremy Green, City Clerk of the City of Culver City, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly passed, approved, and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council, which was held on the 26th day of May 2020, at the Mike Balkman Council Chambers by the following vote:

AYES: Eriksson, Fisch, Lee, Small, Sahli-Wells

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Certified on this 26th day of May 2020, at the City of Culver City.

Jeremy Green, CMC, City Clerk Ex-Officio Clerk of the City Council City of Culver City, State of California