

Casey Erlenheim

From: Ruthie Abelson Olivas [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 11:56 AM
To: City_Clerk; Elizabeth Pabon; Rita Xavier; Patricia Ponce; Arturo Cruz; Abel Pineda
Subject: Public Comments agenda item 12

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed just cause ordinance (Agenda Item 12), scheduled for discussion and a vote on Feb. 2, 2026.

The proposed ordinance includes a hidden rent control provision, requiring housing providers to offer a right to return at the same rental amount that was in effect at the time of displacement if the unit is placed back on the market within one year. This policy may have unintended consequences, including reducing the availability and quality of rental housing in San Pablo.

I also oppose starting just cause protections on Day 1, which is far stricter than the state's one-year standard. This change would be especially difficult for housing providers with limited access to legal assistance.

There are more effective and less costly ways to support renters, including targeted rental assistance for vulnerable communities and policies that encourage new housing production at all income levels.

I urge you to vote **NO** on the proposed just cause ordinance and instead pursue solutions that balance renter protections with the long-term health and sustainability of San Pablo's housing market.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ruthie Abelson Olivas

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