

From: [TRACI BUXTON](#)
To: [Clerk, King County Council](#)
Subject: Moratorium on rent and mortgage - amended
Date: Friday, April 17, 2020 7:30:35 PM

Please disregard my previous email.

Dear King County Councilmembers;

Please do not vote in favor of a rent or mortgage payment moratorium.

It will sound good to the public, many people will congratulate you, but if the Governor declares this, many people will quit making their payments. However, this move is illegal and could open our government and its citizens to lawsuits. If the President declares this, it could result in disastrous consequences for citizens.

In King County alone, there are hundreds (maybe thousands) of small-time, retired or semi-retired folks who are depending on the income of only a few rentals in order to support their livelihood. I am one of those.

We have three rentals plus a small retirement payment. Each rental is 25% of our income. We can be down one for a while - but not all of them. We don't even have a mortgage - like many retirees - but we have overhead, taxes, and life's necessities to pay for.

Please do not work to give your citizens permission to quit paying rent. Thousands of retirees could lose their ability to purchase the basics, let alone lose their homes - even if they don't have a mortgage payment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Traci Buxton
206-251-2719

From: [Tad Doviak](#)
To: [Clerk, King County Council](#)
Subject: Public comment
Date: Friday, April 17, 2020 8:14:56 PM

Regarding the proposed moratorium on rent and mortgage payments, I speak in opposition to such a proposal. Property owners and banks will need the income from those properties in order to make their own mortgage and property tax payments. A moratorium is not forgiveness. Multiple payments will stack up and come due all at once, creating an even greater burden on the renter or mortgage holder. Unless there is a plan to pay rent and mortgage payments for everyone, this seems to be short sighted and will likely cause more problems down the road. The responsible thing to do is that anyone who is financially affected by COVID19 should communicate with anyone they owe money to and work out a reasonable solution.

That's my two cents on this issue as someone who is currently out of work and would potentially benefit from this proposal. Please vote no.

Tad Doviak
Des Moines, WA

From: [Evelyn Chow](#)
To: [Clerk, King County Council](#)
Subject: Written Comments for 4/21 KCC Meeting
Date: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 9:17:14 AM

To all King County Councilmembers,

My name is Evelyn Chow and I am an Organizer at Real Change. I am writing today in support of Councilmembers Jeanne Kohl-Welles' and Girmay Zahilay's legislation proposing a rent and mortgage freeze in King County for the duration of the COVID-19 quarantine.

Too many of our neighbors and Real Change vendors have expressed stories of having to choose between rent and food during this time. With unemployment at an all-time high, we need good governance to take leadership and protect all residents.

One of our Real Change vendors, Lisa Sawyer, detailed her struggles to us to submit as testimony. Lisa is on a fixed income of \$750/month, while her rent is \$925/month. However, because Real Change has been closed, she has not been able to work selling papers to supplement her fixed income to make rent, let alone buy food or take care of other utilities/costs. "It has been a struggle day-by-day," she says. "Paying rent is the most difficult thing and it's always on my mind. I was 2 days late this month, thank God there are no late fees, and I have a feeling that if quarantine keeps going on, my debt will start piling on and I probably won't be able to catch up on it." Lisa's story is just one of the many we've been hearing in low-income communities right now.

Please enact this legislation so residents of King County can take care of themselves and their families in these unprecedented times.

EC

Evelyn Chow

Organizer | [Real Change](#)

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Image result for real change



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The Vendor Relief Fund keeps our community connected and supported during uncertain times. [Make your gift today to help Real Change respond to vendor needs. Thank you.](#)