Dear Chair Moss, Director Velasquez, and Members of the Committee,

My oral comment on Agenda Item 4 was interrupted before completion due to technical failure. Pursuant to **Government Code § 54954.3**, I am submitting my full statement for inclusion in the official record.

Please enter this statement in full.

COMPLETE PUBLIC COMMENT

Good afternoon. My name is Ruby Torralva-Pio.

I am submitting this written comment to ensure the full record reflects what I was unable to complete during live testimony.

I am placing this Committee on formal administrative notice that I am in possession of **California Public Records Act (CPRA) documents**, financial records, correspondence, and agency communications directly relevant to the matters addressed under Agenda Item 4. These materials are being prepared for review by legislative offices, including the office of Assemblymember Alexandra Macedo.

I. DOCUMENTED COUNTY REPRESENTATIONS

On **February 7, 2025**, Kings County Human Services Agency Director Wendy Osikafo formally represented to the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD):

"Kings County remains committed to completing construction of the Triangle Courtyard Homekey Project by December 31, 2025."

On **June 6, 2025**, Director Osikafo issued a subsequent letter stating:

- Approximately **$407,000** had been disbursed for construction milestones that were not completed
- The contractor **represented work as completed that was not performed**
- Project funds were **misappropriated**
- The site is currently **uninhabitable**, requiring an estimated **$4–$8 million** in corrective work
- The County **does not have funding available for temporary housing beyond July 31, 2025**

These two official communications present directly conflicting representations regarding the viability and status of Project 20-HK-00047.

II. OVERSIGHT AND ENFORCEMENT FAILURES

State audit findings establish broader systemic concerns:

- **State Audit Report 2024-109** identified deficiencies in oversight, training, and internal controls within HCD
- **State Audit Report 2023-102.1** determined homelessness data systems contain entries of **"undetermined reliability,"** including incomplete, placeholder, or inconsistent records

These findings raise serious concerns regarding:

- Accuracy of reported outcomes
- Reliability of program tracking
- Effectiveness of enforcement mechanisms
- Verification of compliance obligations, including accessibility requirements

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III. POST-DISCLOSURE STATE RESPONSE

Following the June 6, 2025 disclosure:

- The original project was no longer viable in its represented form
- The County lacked resources for continued housing support
- Significant funds had already been disbursed without corresponding deliverables

Subsequent actions under consideration or development include:

- Modification or release of long-term affordability restrictions
- Substitution of an alternate site (Holiday Lodge) as a replacement project
- Administrative restructuring of the original award

These actions raise questions regarding:

- Asset preservation
- Recovery of disbursed public funds
- Continuity of program intent
- Transparency in project substitution and amendment processes

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IV. REQUESTS FOR COMMITTEE ACTION

Based on the above, I respectfully request the following:

1. **Immediate hold on Agenda Item 4** pending clarification of:
    - Project status
    - Financial disposition
    - Compliance with Homekey program requirements
2. **Formal referral for legislative and/or forensic review** of:
    - Project 20-HK-00047
    - Disbursement and use of state funds
    - Contractor representations and oversight actions
3. **Public clarification from HCD** regarding:
    - Steps taken following the June 6, 2025 disclosure
    - Whether recovery actions or enforcement measures were initiated
    - Basis for any proposed project substitution or covenant modification
4. **Verification of compliance enforcement protocols**, including:
    - Accessibility (ADA) requirements
    - Construction and inspection verification
    - Ongoing monitoring of funded projects

V. RECORD NOTICE

I maintain documentation including:

- CPRA responses
- Financial records and disbursement data
- Correspondence between county and state agencies
- Supporting materials related to project status and oversight

These materials are available upon request and are being organized for formal review.

The integrity of publicly funded housing programs depends on accurate reporting, enforceable oversight, and transparent corrective action when failures occur.

I respectfully and humbly request that this Committee ensure these standards are upheld in this matter.

I have cc field representative of Assemblymember Mrs. Rosalinda Verde Alexander

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruby Torralva-Pio