



Interoffice Memorandum

AGENDA ITEM

September 12, 2022

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
-AND-
County Commissioners

FROM: Jon V. Weiss, P. E., Director
Planning, Environmental, and Development Services
Department

SUBJECT: September 27, 2022 – Work Session
Tenant Bill of Rights

Over the last several months, the Board has held numerous discussions related to housing challenges in Orange County. Specifically, rapidly rising rents, increasing evictions, and the lack of education and legal services for tenants have been topics of interest. At the June 23, 2022 Special Board meeting, staff presented a brief overview of the typical provisions and state of practice in Florida regarding a Tenant Bill of Rights. There was majority interest from the Board in further developing an ordinance for a Tenant Bill of Rights, and the Board directed staff to schedule a Work Session to consider specific elements to be included in a future ordinance. It is important to note that the Board has already passed an ordinance requiring 60-day notice for rent increases beyond 5% and for the termination of certain residential tenancies. This provision is becoming increasingly common in many Tenant Bill of Rights across Florida.

At the September 27, 2022 Board meeting, staff will present a proposed framework of a Tenant Bill of Rights for discussion. Staff will provide a background, staff recommendations for inclusion in a Tenant Bill of Rights, and several optional elements that the Board may consider for inclusion. Staff will also share feedback from stakeholders including Florida Rising (a tenant advocacy group), community legal service providers, and apartment associations. Staff will also update the Board on the status towards establishing the Office of Tenant Services, and discuss next steps of implementation, including future workshops and public hearings.

This item is for informational purposes; no action is required.

JVW/SS/fb