

## Astrié charges against the majority for delaying construction in Terravella

The DA councilor points out that «there is plenty of money to deal with the operation with public money»

COMÚ D'ANDORRA LA VELLA



The leader of the opposition for Andorra la Vella, David Astrié, together with the democratic councilor, Miquel Canturri.



**David Astrié**

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION FOR THE CAPITAL

«The people of these homes cannot wait any longer. There is a 4.6-million-euros surplus in income»

ros, which is more than enough to finance the construction of this building and that would be the end of the story. Your attempt at public-private contracting has not worked”, he has spoken harshly to the members of the majority with a tone of suspicion. On this, both the Consul General Sergi González and the Minister of Housing have justified and have insisted that “there are still 22 days left to obtain a response”, while recalling that precisely this mandate, if it has done anything, “is to promote and approve proposals to fix the housing situation”.

An intense wave of reproaches that has been accompanied by another recommendation from Astrié to the chamber to “make a greater and more intense effort” to publicize the housing aid approved last November such as those of the ‘Revival’ program (this one specifically aimed at the

EL PERIÒDIC  
ANDORRA LA VELLA

A heated debate between the leaders and those with fewer seats in the chamber during the session of the Andorra la Vella Municipal Council is what has caused the tax exemption announced this afternoon by the capital’s Housing councilor, Marc Torrent, for the third public-private tender intended to finance the construction of the regulated price flats that will soon be established in Borda

Nova. We remember, located on Terravella Street and that would thus fit a total of 44 flats and 228 underground parking spaces.

«The last competition, which was the second, was empty and that’s why we had to call a new and more attractive one, which has until February 27th for the successful bidders to present themselves», was the phrase of a Torrent who later stressed that the law «offers them other alternatives that we are studying». For this reason, a David Astrié, head

of the municipal opposition, come out with to argue that «they should please act at once because the same situation has arisen as a year and a half ago and the future tenants cannot wait any longer». A claim, it is worth saying, that was accompanied by some subsequent explanations, in which the democratic councilor clarified to the press that according to what the Finance Councilor had told him, «there is a surplus derived from the income from the construction of 4.6 million eu-

emergence of empty flats) claiming that with better anticipation of these “they will reach further”. On the other hand, regarding the possible alternatives to this delay in construction, Astrié has remarked that “there is only one possibility that is not using public funds, which is to open an international tender, and that would already mean another year of delay”, he recalls. “The reality is that the Municipality has enough money to face this expense”, he told to journalists.

On the part of the leaders, Torrent has reaffirmed his position on the matter, specifying that “improving the public-private offer in question will also resonate in the face of future tenders and will thus attract other proposals with better conditions”, while disclosing that attempts were made to “add incentives” to the feasibility study that was on the table. In this sense, González has clarified that these are procedures and timeframes that are framed by law and that “we thus have rules of the game, but that we are not closing any options”. To end and close the debate, the two members of the majority responded that in order to finance the operation of the future construction with a negotiated process, «it will first be necessary to analyze whether the reason is sufficiently relevant, highlighting that sometimes



The consuls of the capital, Sergi González and Olalla Losada, seated and listening attentively to the minority's complaints.



**Marc Torrent**

HOUSING MINISTER

«First we have to wait for the competition to conclude and then we will assess whether there is a possibility of starting a negotiated process»

with this measure it is possible to grant and in a short period of time». Otherwise, the Minister of Housing informed the public that a possible revision of the criteria of the ‘Revival’ program has been reconsidered.

In another order, the opposition has been interested in an appeal presented by the College of Architects regarding the competition for the strategic vision of the future of the parish, alleging, among other issues, «intrusiveness». In this regard, the consul general, as also detailed by the secretary general during the Municipal session, explained that they made the relevant inquiries to the Ministry of the Interior, which

responded that «if there was reciprocity there would be no intrusion» and thus reiterated that «it is not the municipal jurisdiction to assess whether there is such intrusion».

Likewise, González recalled that the competition for the revision of the Urban Planning Plan was presented to architects and that the firm that reached the final «was 66% more expensive than the execution of the contract that was made with the firm in Barcelona» that was contracted, which is why it was rejected. In addition, he noted, regarding the problem raised by the rest of the municipal corporations, that Andorra la Vella «are willing to lar and work together with this group». In addition, during the session of the Municipal Council this Thursday, the green light was given, with the vote in favor of all the councilors, to the expansion of the collection of containers, which will be carried out three days a week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday), instead of two.

Finally, it should be mentioned that today’s Municipal Council started with a minute of silence in memory of Pepita Aguilar Ribera, who was the first female councilor of the Municipality and one of the promoters of the female vote in Andorra, as well as the first woman to vote in a general election, as the president mentioned at the beginning. ●

Your leading real estate agency in Andorra.

Our experience guarantees results, realtors since 1988.



(+376) 353 424 / (+376) 379 769

(+376) 747 747

laportella@andorra.ad

Casa Nova Olivet 10 · Ordino

www.laportella.ad