

CONSENT CALENDAR

October 16, 2018

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: City/UC/Student Relations (4x6) Committee

Subject: Adopt a revised Group Living Accommodations (GLA) Ordinance (No. 7445-NS) as recommended by the City/UC/Student Relations (4x6) Committee

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Berkeley City Council adopt a revised GLA Ordinance, which would respond to the housing crisis in Berkeley as well as promote fair and equal treatment of all residents. Specifically, we recommend amending BMC 13.42.040D, to delete language providing for the removal of bedrooms: revising BMC 13.42.020 to include a definition of property manager, and also amending BMC 13.42.036C to ensure consistency with the Community Noise Ordinance.

BACKGROUND:

The City Council referred amendments to the GLA Ordinance to the City/UC/Student Relations (4x6) Committee. We deeply appreciate Mayor Arreguin meeting with interested parties and playing an integral role in revising the language of the proposed compromise. On September 24, the 4x6 committee voted to send this proposal to the complete City Council for consideration of adoption. The vote was 6-0 in favor: 4-0 of the Councilmembers and 2-0 of the student Committee-members present.

For the first time, this ordinance will include a specific definition of the property manager's duties. Furthermore, these proposed amendments seek the withdrawal of section 13.42.040D, which allows the city to remove bedrooms. Allowing the city to remove bedrooms would exacerbate the housing crisis, as housing opportunities would decrease at a time when we should be seeking solutions to the lack of available housing.

Additionally, these proposed amendments seek to ensure a consistency throughout the Berkeley Municipal Code, in accordance with the Community Noise Ordinance.

Here is a link to the 4x6 recommendation with track changes:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/13jO3ddhZKulxmdr3nVtMRLxnL4hpcy9d/view?usp=sharing>

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Minimal.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: Consistent with our environmental standards.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmembers Kate Harrison, Susan Wengraf, Kriss Worthington, and Lori Droste

