



[Commission Name]

INFORMATION CALENDAR

March 12, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Housing Advisory Commission

Submitted by: Igor Tregub, Chairperson, Housing Advisory Commission

Subject: Code Enforcement Review Update

INTRODUCTION

The Housing Advisory Commission wishes to inform the City Council that Jenny McNulty, as the new Resilient Buildings Program Manager, has graciously committed to attending a future Housing Advisory Commission Meeting or Housing Advisory Subcommittee meeting (to be determined) to discuss:

- The Commission's code enforcement oversight role with respect to the code enforcement responsibilities of the Housing Inspection Section and Community Services.
- The new manager's views on how the Commission can best implement that role with respect to the code enforcement responsibilities of the Housing Inspection Section and Community Services.
- The City Council referral to strengthen the Residential Housing Safety Program
- The Seismic Retrofit program

The meeting will occur within approximately the first three months of the new Manager's tenure. The details of scheduling the meeting will be worked out with the help of the Commission Secretary in consultation with the Commission.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

With this action, the Commission is beginning to implement its code enforcement oversight duties as defined in the ordinance that establishes the Commission. See below for more details.

The Commission supported sending this information item with the following vote:

Action: M/S/C (Lord/Johnson) to send an information report to the City Council regarding the Commission's upcoming meeting with the Resilient Buildings Program Manager to discuss:

- The Commission's code enforcement oversight role;
- The new manager's views on how the Commission can best implement that role;

- The City Council referral to strengthen the Residential Housing Safety Program; and
- The Seismic Retrofit program.

Vote: Ayes: Johnson, Lewis, Lord, Owens, Sargent, Tregub and Wolfe. Noes: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Wright (excused).

#### BACKGROUND

Berkeley Municipal Code 19.44.020(B) items (5) and (6) assign limited oversight duties to the Housing Advisory Commission:

*5. The Commission shall make recommendations to the City Council regarding code enforcement priorities.*

*6. The Commission shall monitor code enforcement procedures to ensure adherence to Council policies and shall make recommendations for changes in such procedures to the City Council.*

The Commission has no currently established practice for performing those duties, and has begun the work of creating such a practice.

"Code enforcement" related to housing extends beyond just the activities that will be overseen by the new Resilient Buildings Program Manager, but that manager will oversee some critical activities.

Our hope in meeting with the new manager is to share our perspectives, develop mutual understandings, and to begin to establish an efficient, effective, mechanism by which the Commission can *"monitor code enforcement procedures to ensure adherence to Council policies and shall make recommendations for changes in such procedures to the City Council."*

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

No significant impact.

#### POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

This activity may later result in recommendations to the City Council on the basis of the Commission's findings from reviews of code enforcement procedures.

#### FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Possible indirect benefit from helping to ensure code enforcement activities are appropriately prioritized.

#### CONTACT PERSON

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