

City Clerk Department

March 7, 2013

Diana Alvarado
Facilities Implementation – Pacific Area
U.S. Postal Service
1300 Evans Ave. Ste. 200
San Francisco CA 94188-8200

RE: Opposing the Sale of the Berkeley Main Post Office

At its meeting of March 5, 2013, the Berkeley City Council adopted Resolution No. 66,025-N.S. opposing the sale of the Berkeley Main Post Office and submit said resolution to USPS prior to the close of their public comment period on the potential sale of the facility.

Sincerely,

Mark Numainville, CMC

City Clerk

Enclosure: Resolution No. 66,025-N.S.

Cc: Platinum Advisors, LLC
Barbara Lee, Congresswoman
Dianne Feinstein, Senator
Barbara Boxer, Senator
Barack Obama, President
Tom Bates, Mayor
Jesse Arreguin, Councilmember, District 4
Laurie Capitelli, Councilmember, District 5
Susan Wengraf, Councilmember, District 6
Christine Daniel, City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 66,025-N.S.

OPPOSING THE SALE OF THE BERKELEY MAIN POST OFFICE

WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service (USPS) has announced the possible sale of Berkeley's historic and heavily used Main Post Office located at 2000 Allston Way; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Main Post Office is both an official landmark of the City of Berkeley and is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, on July 31, 2012 the City Council created the Post Office Subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, USPS will be holding a public meeting on February 26, 2013 to explain the proposal and hear comments from the public; and

WHEREAS, USPS has a 15 day written public comment period that will expire on March 13, 2013 and the City Council wishes to submit this resolution before the public comment period ends; and

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2013 the Post Office Subcommittee held a public meeting where members of the community had the opportunity to address their concerns regarding the possible sale of the Berkeley Main Post Office.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City of Berkeley formally opposes the sale of the Historic Berkeley Main Post Office building and requests that the United States Postal Service maintain existing services at the Berkeley Main Post Office.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the USPS suspend, for one year, efforts to sell the Berkeley Main Post Office building and work with the City of Berkeley with the goal of continuing the USPS's ownership of the building, and the leasing of the rear portion of the building to provide an ongoing income stream to the USPS.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Berkeley requests that USPS immediately impose a moratorium on all sales of Post Office buildings nationwide.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Berkeley will request that its federal representatives hold hearings on the requirement that the USPS pre-fund its pension obligations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Berkeley shall reach out to other cities affected by the sale of postal facilities to develop a collective response.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be sent to the USPS, Congress members Lee and Speier, Senators Feinstein and Boxer and President Obama prior to the expiration of the public comment period which ends on March 13, 2013.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Berkeley City Council on March 5, 2013 by the following vote:

Ayes:

Anderson, Arreguin, Capitelli, Maio, Moore, Wengraf, Wozniak and Bates.

Noes:

None.

Absent:

Worthington.

Tom Bates, Mayor

Attest:

Mark Numain ville, CMC, City Clerk