



CITY COUNCIL
Linda Maio

CONSENT CALENDAR
June 13, 2017

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Councilmembers Linda Maio, Kate Harrison, Sophie Hahn, and Ben Bartlett

SUBJECT: Adding Threat of Displacement of a Berkeley Resident to the Current Income Qualification Guidelines Which Would Place an Applicant in Priority Status for BMR (Below Market Rate) Units

RECOMMENDATION:

Refer to the City Manager adding to income qualification the status of pending displacement of a Berkeley resident or family, for priority eligibility for BMR units.

BACKGROUND:

We recently received a plea for assistance from a disabled grandmother who has been raising her grandson, currently at Berkeley High School. She is likely to lose her rental unit in an owner move-in eviction and may not be eligible for relocation assistance. While we work to help this grandmother, who is also disabled, we should revisit the BMR criteria and process for selection of applicants. Currently the family or applicant has to meet income requirements and the management companies apply their own criteria for qualification or use a lottery. The Council has been focusing on preventing displacement of Berkeley residents and the BMR process could help us address this concern. This item proposes that we look into how we might use the BMR selection process to assist in families at risk of eviction.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

CONTACT:

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