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Office of the City Attorney  
Barbara J. Parker  
City Attorney

October 18, 2011

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Honorable City Council  
Oakland, California

Re: Proposed Emergency Demolition Ordinance

Dear President Reid and Members of the Council:

The City Attorney's Office has not reviewed the proposed Emergency Demolition Ordinance, which, as of the time of drafting this letter, has not yet been provided to us. We were advised of the plan to place it on the October 18th Council agenda at the October 13<sup>th</sup> Rules Committee, the same day that the item was due for publication. As you know, it is necessary to review the ordinance for form and legality, including consistency with the City Charter and state law.

Given the significant loss of staff in this Office, we may not have resources or time to provide review or comment on the proposal prior to its consideration on October 18<sup>th</sup>. We may have time to work on the ordinance in time to provide input for the November 1, 2011 City Council meeting, if the item is put over; or, a Special City Council Meeting may need to be held.

As we advised previously, we will include a similar notice in the packet if we are not given enough time to complete an adequate legal review. The number of "last-minute" requests has been increasing. We understand that City staff also has not been given sufficient time to timely provide appropriate input in assisting council members. This is an additional concern for the City Attorney's Office because staff has administrative responsibilities and technical expertise that are outside of this office's purview and are necessary for our Office to do an adequate legal review.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barbara J. Parker', written over a horizontal line.

Barbara J. Parker  
City Attorney