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OAKLAND  
2010 APR -8 PM 3:07

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

**DRAFT**

RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER JEAN QUAN

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RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AB 1755 (SWANSON) ADDING SEISMIC  
RETROFITTING IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LIST OF ELIGIBLE USES FOR  
CONTRACTUAL ASSESSMENTS

WHEREAS, seismic safety is a serious ongoing concern of Oakland and the State of California because of the very high likelihood of a major earthquake in the Bay Area causing significant and catastrophic damage, and

WHEREAS, seismic experts predict that Oakland would lose 1/3 of its housing in the event of a major Bay Area earthquake with significant loss of life and economic devastation to the City; and

WHEREAS, seismic retrofitting reduces loss of life and livelihood by ensuring that buildings and homes are properly prepared for the next large earthquake so that residents can continue to live and work in Oakland following a major disaster, and

WHEREAS, the costs typically associated with seismically retrofitting a house in order to ensure safety can be extremely high and for many homeowners, create a major barrier to having the needed repairs completed, and

WHEREAS, Oakland has taken the lead in the Bay Area in encouraging property owners to proactively mitigate disaster damage by seismically strengthening their residential buildings through the New Homeowner Seismic Strengthening Program (2007), Low Income Homeowner Seismic Strengthening Program (2008), and Multi-Family Soft Story Seismic Screening Program (2009), and

WHEREAS, Oakland's own experience with its New Homeowner Seismic Strengthening Program demonstrated that when homeowners have an incentive to retrofit, they will do so---in the two years that the program was operational, 425 homeowners retrofitted their cripple wall homes--, and

WHEREAS, Oakland continues to seek alternative funding mechanisms to make seismic retrofitting more affordable and provide an incentive to help property owners protect their homes in the event of an earthquake, and

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WHEREAS, contractual assessments are an established mechanism for cities and counties to designate areas within which willing property owners can choose to finance the installation of permanent distributed renewable generation, energy efficiency improvements as well as water efficiency improvements through low-interest loans that would be repaid as an item on the property owner's property tax bill over 20 years, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Oakland City Council supports and sponsors AB 1755 (Swanson), which would amend Sections 5898.12, 5898.20, 5898.21 and 5898.22 of the Streets and Highways Code relating to contractual assessments, so that they would also apply to financing the installation of seismic strengthening improvements to homes and buildings, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the City Administrator and the City's state lobbyist are directed to advocate for the City's position on AB 1755 to the State Legislature.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

AYES- BROOKS, DE LA FUENTE, KAPLAN, NADEL, REID, QUAN, KERNIGHAN and PRESIDENT BRUNNER

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
LATONDA SIMMONS  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the  
City of Oakland, California

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