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OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. C.M.S.

Introduced by JOHN GEORGE DEMOCRATIC CLUB/POST SALON/OAKLAND ALLIANCE/WELLSTONE DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL CLUB/BLOCK BY BLOCK ORGANIZING NETWORK/MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLUTION DECLARING, RENEWING AND CONTINUING THE CITY COUNCIL'S DECLARATION OF A LOCAL HOUSING EMERGENCY DUE TO THE SEVERE IMPACTS AND CALAMITIES CAUSED BY THE CRITICAL HOUSING SHORTAGE, LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOME OWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES, AND SKYROCKETING RENTAL RATES CAUSING DISPLACEMENT OF LONGTERM RESIDENTS AND GENTRIFICATION; ESTABLISHING A 90-DAY MORATORIUM ON NO-CAUSE EVICTIONS AND ON RENT INCREASES NOT AUTHORIZED BY EXISTING RENT CONTROL PROVISIONS.

WHEREAS, a report by the City of Oakland in September 2015 concluded that Oakland's market rate rents are well above what is affordable to the typical Oakland renter (<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/oakca1/groups/ceda/documents/report/oak056016.pdf>); and

WHEREAS, the typical Oakland renter earns less than \$30,000 per year; and

WHEREAS, 60% of Oakland residents are renters; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland is experiencing an unprecedented housing crisis, with the median two-bedroom apartment now offered for rent at \$2950 per month, an increase of 40% in the year between Summer of 2014 and Summer of 2015; and

WHEREAS, in order to prevent the further displacement of Oakland 's current residents from their home city, emergency measures are required to protect the access of Oakland residents, particularly low-income and working people, to rentals in the city; and

WHEREAS, the Housing shortage continues to overwhelm Oakland residents and has had a devastating impact upon the public health, and safety of our citizenry; and

WHEREAS, other jurisdictions in the Bay Area, namely, the City of Berkeley, the City and County of San Francisco, and the County of Alameda have recognized

the gravity of the housing crisis in the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Oakland has declared its support of Oakland residents who can no longer afford to live in our City due to the escalating housing costs and rental rates; and hereby pledges to establish housing policies and programs to assist long term Oakland residents in their efforts to remain residents of our City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council will renew its declaration of a local housing emergency at each of its regular Council meetings to assure that the housing crisis remains in the forefront and that efforts continue to address this crisis; and

WHEREAS, the Council's declaration of a local emergency due to the existence of a critical scarcity of housing with respect to the availability and affordability continues to exist; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Oakland finds that it is important to renew and continue the declaration of emergency related to the Housing crisis because the crisis continues to overwhelm Oakland residents and is having a devastating impact upon the public health and safety of our residents and the citizenry; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council of the City of Oakland finds and proclaims that local emergency exists due to a critical local public health and safety crisis regarding the Housing crisis and pursuant to Government Code section 8630 does so declare; and be it

RESOLVED that the Oakland City Council hereby declares a state of emergency in the City and establishes a 90-day moratorium on no-cause evictions and on rent increases not authorized by existing rent control provisions, so that the City can develop and implement strategies that protect and expand access for Oakland renters to housing which they can afford with their existing incomes; and be it

RESOLVED that the city will also develop and implement strategies that counter the present epidemic of eviction and displacement of long term Oakland residents and workers; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the City publicly release its recommendations for strategies to address the housing crisis for discussion and response by stakeholders and that restoration of evictions and rent increases in the City be tied to evidence that housing which is affordable to existing Oakland residents is available; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council of the City of Oakland hereby proclaims and orders that a local emergency continues to exist within the City of Oakland which led to the enactment of this local emergency declaration, and the

emergency will continue until its termination is proclaimed and ordered by the City Council, and will be reviewed every 14 days by the City council pursuant to Government Code section 8630; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Clerk shall communicate this resolution to all City Departments, to the President Pro Tempore of the California Senate and the Speaker of the California Assembly, to the Alameda County District Attorney, to the California Congressional delegation and Senators, and to President Obama.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, CAMPBELL-WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLEN, KALB,
KAPLAN, REID AND PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS City Clerk and
Clerk of the Council of the City of
Oakland, California