

Dear Council Member

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In November, 2015, Block by Block Organizing Network (BBBON) sent you a letter urging you to declare a housing emergency in Oakland (along with nine other recommended actions to implement the “Housing Roadmap” that you had recently approved). BBBON received no adequate response from you.

On April 5, you will have the opportunity to officially declare the emergency that most Oakland residents readily see all around us negatively impacting friends, family and co-workers.

I URGE YOU TO VOTE YES! Such an emergency declaration will mean:

- a moratorium on no cause evictions
- a moratorium on rent increases

In addition, I URGE YOU TO PASS THE “RENTERS UPGRADE INITIATIVE,” or put it on the November, 2016 ballot for the voters to decide. That initiative to strengthen protections for renters was developed from the recommendations of the Tenants’ Rights Working Group of Mayor Schaff’s Housing Cabinet.

I plan to pay close attention to the vote on April 5 and follow future City Council actions to respond to Oakland’s ongoing crisis in housing.

Sincerely,

E-mail