

Candy Rosales < candy.rosales@lacity.org>

Fwd: Community Care Facilities Ordinance; Council File No: 11-0262

1 message

Sharon Gin <sharon.gin@lacity.org>

Tue, Feb 14, 2012 at 10:55 AM

To: Candy Rosales <candy.rosales@lacity.org>

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Maggi Fajnor < maggi4f@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Feb 13, 2012 at 1:06 PM

Subject: Community Care Facilities Ordinance; Council File No: 11-0262

To: sharon.gin@lacity.org

February 11, 2012

VIA EMAIL

Councilmember Los Angeles City Hall 200 North Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Community Care Facilities Ordinance

Case No: CPC-2009-800-CA CEQA: ENV-2009-801-ND Council File No: 11-0262

Dear Councilmember:

I am writing to request your vote to support the City's Proposed Ordinance regulating Community Care Facilities and Boarding Houses. For many years as a resident homeowner in the North University Park community, I have personally experienced the impacts of these de facto boarding houses and group homes in both the residential neighborhood where I live and in the surrounding community. As a repository for every variety of group home from parolee homes and halfway houses to student boarding/private dorms, my community has been plagued with these problems for many years.

These facilities exist throughout our City. There is overwhelming evidence of the tremendous burden that boarding houses place on low density zones and the various ways in which they threaten to permanently alter the character of those neighborhoods. While many facilities are well managed and

successfully self-regulate, the need for regulation by the City has been has been discussed and documented at City Council for several years. There have been multiple public hearings. Public comment has been submitted with evidence of the problems created. While we wait for your help, we have watched our neighborhoods destroyed by flippers and unregulated for-profit businesses. The proposed Ordinance addresses these Citywide issues by setting standards regulating the businesses which operate these for profit facilities.

Such regulation can be an important step in providing communities the tools to protect the quality of life for everyone in our residential neighborhoods while providing for the rights of those needing varied housing opportunities and those who need to supplement their household income. The current laws are vague and contradictory making any kind enforcement nearly impossible. The provisions of the Ordinance supplement and build upon existing laws and authority and provide a well balanced approach in that they take into account both the needs for a variety of housing situations and the need to maintain the character of our residential neighborhoods. The limits the Ordinance places on boarding houses are practical, well thought out and serve a legitimate purpose. This Ordinance simply requires those who would provide these facilities do so responsibly and with respect for the community within which they operate.

Months have now elapsed since the final draft of the proposed Community Care Facility Ordinance was drafted in September 2011 by the City Attorney in accordance with the City Council's instructions. For years the City's residents have watched their communities eroded. It is time to take a stand to enforce the existing prohibition against boarding houses and to provide the tools for residents to protect their communities.

The Ordinance addresses serious problems in our City and provides a reasonable balance between the rights of community care facilities and group home occupants and the rights of nearby residents. There have been many opportunities for those who support and those who do not support the Ordinance to have input in this process and express their views. While we believe that the Ordinance should provide even stronger protections for all of our low density residential neighborhoods, I urge approval by the City Council and an expeditious adoption of the proposed Ordinance.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Maggi Fajnor

2631 Orchard Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90007

maggi4F@gmail.com

copy to: City Councilmembers

Legislative Assistant, Sharon Gin