

MOTION

Last Friday a coordinated effort between Council, Department of Building and Safety (LADBS), Fire Department (LAFD), Police Department (LAPD), and others resulted in the shut-down of a building that was housing 40 individuals, including children, in inhumane living conditions. There were no functioning bathrooms, people had been using buckets to defecate; trash covered nearly every surface; bugs were crawling along the floors and the beds. Most rooms had no windows or access to exit the building.

This was not an abandoned building that had been taken over. People living there had been paying rent to an unscrupulous individual.

Building and Safety had a case on the property, Fire Department had a case, and City Attorney had a case, but none of the departments had been talking to each other. Perhaps if they had coordinated efforts the building could have been shut down sooner and the individuals moved into better living conditions.

Since the publicity of this incident, even more buildings have come to the City's attention as being nuisance properties that have living conditions for the tenants that are not up to code.

The City needs to do a better job of coordinating our efforts to shut down these nuisance properties, including improving collaboration between departments and creating financial incentives for owners to comply with the law.

I THEREFORE MOVE, that the City Council instruct LADBS, LAFD, LAPD, Department of Water and Power, City Attorney, and other necessary departments to report on how we can better coordinate efforts to expedite the shutdown of nuisance properties that are being used for housing purposes.

I FURTHER MOVE, that the City Council instruct LADBS to report back on increasing fines to building owners for these violations.

PRESENTED BY: 

CURREN D. PRICE, JR.  
Councilmember, 9<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

JUN 26 2019

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