



EAST BAY FORWARD

August 3, 2017

Attn: Oakland Planning Commission, Oakland City Council, City Attorney Barbara Parker:

East Bay Forward recently learned of a letter to Oakland City officials from the Oakland Warehouse Coalition (OWC). We are writing to offer support and solidarity on the most critical points about tenants rights in OWC's letter.

OWC's letter includes an extensive list of disturbing and ongoing problems:

- **Local developer Danny Haber is repeatedly and consistently abusing vulnerable and displaced Oakland tenants.** Haber has also repeatedly and brazenly violated Oakland's planning and building code. He demolished a building whose 100+ tenants had a legal right to return, without getting a permit. He displaced poor people from an SRO. He allowed his employee to occupy a currently red tagged apartment whose lawful tenant had been forced out. These acts are fully documented in items #3-6 in OWC's letter.
- Haber has faced minimal consequences for his bad actions, raising questions about the City of Oakland's commitment to basic rule of law. Oakland's inability to prevent Haber's spree of mass displacement also raises questions: **Does Oakland need new laws to protect people displaced from red-tagged buildings and to ensure their right of return can't be voided by a landlord acting in bad faith?**

East Bay Forward asks that the Oakland City Administrator immediately explain, in detail, why the City has been unable to prevent or correct Danny Haber's numerous illegal acts at 392 11th Street, 1919 Market Street, 669/671 24th Street, and 674 23rd Street.

We ask that the Oakland City Attorney explain, in detail, why a developer who is a serial bad actor and public nuisance cannot be sued or enjoined from undertaking further projects in Oakland. At the very least, Haber should be subjected to additional, pre-emptive oversight, including city inspections of any property that he buys in Oakland, prior to transfer of title.

We ask that the City Council and Planning Commission investigate Danny Haber's actions, and what can be done to prevent him from displacing more people. East Bay Forward can work with Council members to introduce legislation that would prevent other bad actors like Haber from exploiting vulnerable Oaklanders in the future.

We ask that the Oakland City Council schedule an informational item to take a report from the City Attorney and Director of Planning and Building about Haber's actions and their effect on

Oaklanders. We ask that this item take public comment *prior* to the staff report, so that Council can ensure that staff are answering *all* of the public's questions.

Sincerely,

The 558 members and supporters of East Bay Forward, including:

Justin Horner (Rockridge, Oakland)
Mike Davie (Oakland)
Ian Monroe (Temescal, Oakland)
Kiern Darkwater (Downtown Oakland)
Nathan Stalnaker (Oakland)
Ernest Brown (Oakland)
Tommaso Sciortino (Oakland)
Victoria Fierce (Downtown Oakland)
Jessee Lovegood (Oakland)
Michael Hoexter (Oakland)
Chris Kidd (Oakland)
Jennifer Jong (Oakland)
David Hall (Tenants Rights Attorney, Oakland)
Libby Lee-Egan (Berkeley)
Diego Aguilar-Canabal (Berkeley)
Alfred Twu (Berkeley)
Gregory Magofña (Berkeley)
Jonathan Morris (Berkeley)
Watson Ladd (Berkeley)
Mike Pavone (Berkeley)
Abby Thorne-Lyman (Berkeley)
Paul Anzel (Alameda)
Max Allstadt (NYC, former tenant in a building now owned by Haber)