



City of
OAKLAND
California

Media Contact:

Karen Boyd
City Administrator's Office
Communications Director
510-449-4401
kboyd@oaklandnet.com

Facebook: CityofOakland

Twitter: @Oakland

News from: City of Oakland

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 11, 2017

Mayor Libby Schaaf Issues Executive Order 2017-1: Improving Safety of Non-permitted Spaces While Avoiding Displacement

Oakland, CA — Mayor Libby Schaaf today issued Executive Order 2017-1 (<http://www2.oaklandnet.com/w/OAK062364>) to address the critical need to improve the safety of former warehouse and industrial buildings that have been converted to non-permitted use while avoiding displacement of vulnerable communities, particularly in face of the regional affordability crisis.

“Buildings in Oakland should be safe places to live, work and play. In the wake of the Ghost Ship tragedy, unpermitted living, assembly and work spaces are under heightened scrutiny,” said Mayor Schaaf. “We must unite as a City to improve the safety of non-permitted spaces while also working to avoid displacing vulnerable community members.”

This executive order outlines new inspection protocols and outlines five priority tasks consistent with existing regulations to enhance safety in unpermitted spaces while reducing the risk of displacement. It also clarifies the immediate work ahead to first enhance safety, while also protecting cultural community assets and working to prevent unnecessary tenant displacement during this time of unprecedented housing insecurity.

“I look forward to implementing the additional steps Mayor Schaaf has established in this Executive Order,” stated City Administrator Sabrina Landreth.

Today Mayor Schaaf also urged the City Council to call a Special Meeting of the City Council this Tuesday, January 17, to approve Councilmember Kaplan’s amendments to the Code Enforcement Relocation Program Ordinance as an Emergency Ordinance so these enhanced protections can take effect as soon as possible.

“We will never forget those lost in the Ghost Ship Warehouse Fire and we will learn all we can from this horrific tragedy to make Oakland a safer and more resilient community,” said Mayor Schaaf.

#