



COUNCILWOMAN GERRIE SCHIPSKE
Fifth District, Long Beach, California

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333 West Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach, California 90802
Telephone: 562-570-6932
Fax: 562-570-6857
district5@longbeach.gov
www.lbdistrict5.com
Blog: www.gerrieschipske.com

April 17, 2012

Lauren Perkins
Land Use and Housing Department
City of San Diego
202 C Street, 10th Floor
San Diego, Ca 92101

Dear Ms. Perkins,

Last October, the Long Beach City Council passed an ordinance to create a foreclosure registry program to address the community concern over vacant, abandon or foreclosed properties that lower property values and can attract public nuisance. Our goal is to protect residential neighborhoods from becoming blighted due to the lack of adequate maintenance from these foreclosed properties.

Since the launch of the program, January 2012, 1700 properties have been identified and over 1500 homes have register in the program. Our Code Enforcement Bureau manages the program and has been able to take a more proactive approach to locating, contacting, and connecting with the property owner and addressing the various maintenance concerns with the property in a timely manner.

I recommend this program for any city that is suffering from a large number of foreclosed properties.

Sincerely,


Gerrie Schipske
Fifth District Councilwoman

File1.5.15

Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske

333 West Ocean Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-570-6932
Fax: 562-570-6857



Fax t r a n s m i t t a l

To: Center on Policy Initiatives
Arthur Sanez

Fax#: (619)584-5748

From: Tiffany Andrews
Chief of Staff
Office of Councilwoman Schipske
562-570-6854 office

Date: April 17, 2012

Re: Foreclosure Registry letter

Pages: 2

Notes: Arthur.
Enclosed is the letter you requested. A hard copy has been mailed.
-Tiffany

CITY OF MURRIETA

Police Department - Code Enforcement Division
24701 Jefferson Ave., Murrieta, CA 92562
Telephone: (951) 461-6330 Fax: (951) 696-3608



To: Arthur Saenz

From: Tiffani Zimmer, Office Specialist

Re: Abandoned / Foreclosure Program

Mr. Saenz:

As we previously discussed on the telephone and via e-mail I am sending a follow-up to our discussion in regards to the Abandoned / Foreclosure Program for the City of Murrieta. There are many benefits we've discovered, as a result of having this program in our city and we have seen successes in regards to eliminating blight and maintaining property values.

Vacant homes can bring a myriad of negative issues and cause both local law enforcement and private home owners anguish. By requiring banks, real estate agents, or property management companies to register their abandoned/foreclosed properties, it has awarded the city with immediate contact information, if a vacant home becomes a problem. We, along with local law enforcement, are able to make contact with the service agent for a property to assist in the removal of squatters, graffiti, junk, trash, and debris. If the home is broken into or unsecured, we are able to restore the security of the residence to keep out any unwanted persons or activities.

The program is also a tool for the city to make analysis, by tracking and managing how the economy is affecting our community. We are able to make determinations on certain areas which have experienced higher levels of foreclosures and how they can possibly affect city staff and resources. This can include, higher levels of patrol, increased levels of crime, or increased demands of calls-for-service; these statistics assist in determining current and future needs assessments for the police, fire, and code enforcement departments.

The registration fee, which is collected yearly, can be used to cover the cost of new personnel and equipment necessary to maintain our community. The registration fee also helps us maintain the program created specifically for our city, to track pre-foreclosure activity. If there is an emergency at a location and we are unable to make contact with the service agent, we are able to expeditiously resolve the issue with the funds collected, and prevent public nuisances from occurring. Our goal is to maintain the health, welfare, and safety of our citizens and community.

If I can be of any further assistance or you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am glad to assist you with creating a program for your city, that will prove just as beneficial for your agency, as it has been for the City of Murrieta.

Sincerely,

Tiffani Zimmer
Office Specialist, City of Murrieta Code Enforcement

