

Item 3.1: Displacement Response Strategy Update

City Council Study Session September 22, 2020



Purpose



Provide Council an update on the Displacement Response Strategy and receive Council feedback on next steps.

Background



October 2019: Study Session held to discuss options to respond to tenant displacement (Project 1.1).

Unanimous support for five key principles.

Unanimous support for six-pronged comprehensive, integrated Strategy.

Actions Taken Since Oct 2019



- Three public meetings held.
- Met with potential external partners/funders.
- Modified tenant relocation assistance ordinance.
- Participated in peer learning cohorts.

COVID-19 Considerations



- Significant impact on economy/employment.
- Disproportionate impact on lower wage jobs and households.
- Ability to pay rent severely affected, impacts tenants & landlords.
- Decrease in property values or financial distress could cause landlords to exit rental business.
 - Private sector may seek opportunities to purchase apartments for future redevelopment.

Acquisition/Preservation



Acquisition/Preservation programs is a best practice to address tenant displacement.

- Evaluation of up to 1,500 unit program.
- Lack of external sources of long-term capital.
- Requires local funding sources; existing sources insufficient.
- Recommended next steps:
 - Evaluate financing scenarios, local funding options, program design.
 - City as funder, not as developer or landlord.

Acquisition/Preservation



Question 1: Does Council agree with staff's recommendation regarding next steps to evaluate options for an Acquisition/Preservation Program?

Replacement Requirements



SB 330

- 1 for 1 replacement requirements; relocation assistance.
- Renders redevelopment projects infeasible unless significant density increases or other measures to incentivize development/reduce costs.
- Currently set to expire 1-1-2025.
- Interdependence with R3 zoning modifications work.
 - Demolished units have been CSFRA units on R3 sites.
 - R3 modifications could increase supply/housing diversity but lead to more redevelopment/demolition.
 - Need to balance increasing supply with replacement requirements.

Replacement Requirements



Recommended next steps:

Evaluate replacement requirements to go into effect after SB 330 expires, pursuant to the Ellis Act.

- Evaluate potential alternative mitigations.
- Focus is on replacing demolished CSFRA units.
- Close coordination with R3 zoning modifications team.

Question 2: Does Council agree with staff's recommendation regarding next steps to evaluate options for post-SB 330 replacement requirements for demolished CSFRA units?

Tenant Relocation Assistance



Modifications to the TRAO went into effect July 2020.

This item has been completed.

Landlord-Rental Set-Aside



Met with Housing Industry Foundation to explore opportunity but collaboration was not reached.

Staff to resume this effort and to contact landlords directly.

Tenant Selection Preference



A program may have some potential issues with fair housing requirements.

Recommend focusing on other strategies – such as Acquisition/Preservation Program, replacement requirements, etc – to achieve same goal without similar fair housing concerns.

Modifications to City Code



As part of Replacement Requirements analysis, evaluate provisions pursuant to Ellis Act for replacement of demolished CSFRA units.

Summary of Questions



Question 1: Does Council agree with staff's recommendation regarding next steps to evaluate options for an Acquisition/Preservation Program?

Question 2: Does Council agree with staff's recommendation regarding next steps to evaluate options for post-SB 330 replacement requirements for demolished CSFRA units?



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