

CITY OF OAKLAND



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December 23, 2019

Greg Geiser, CEO
WedgeWood Properties
2015 Manhattan Beach Blvd
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Dear Mr. Geiser,

I am writing to you regarding a group of homeless mothers who are now living at your 2928 Magnolia Street property which was previously vacant. As you know, the issue of vacant homes in Oakland is of deep concern for many constituents and in 2018, Measure W, the Vacant Property Tax, passed with over 70% of Oakland voters support because we are facing an unprecedented housing crisis where homelessness has grown 47% since 2017.

As the Oakland City Council President, I'd like to urge a mediation between the parties, designed to find a mutually acceptable path forward, as efficiently as possible.

This situation can be turned from strife into an opportunity for Wedgewood and the local Oakland community to work together to resolve this matter. For example, the Oakland Community Land Trust ("OakCLT") is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to combating community deterioration and expanding sustainable housing and economic development opportunities for low-income residents of Oakland and they are interested in working with you. They have successfully secured city and private funds to enable first time home buyers, tenants, and others to create community land trusts. Once a home becomes a part of the OakCLT, it will continue to serve low-income families in perpetuity. This may be a viable solution for all the parties, as OakCLT could buy it from you.

We encourage working with our local community partners to find an amicable solution. Please do not hesitate to contact Bobbi Lopez at my office at (510) 238-7082 with additional questions or follow up.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Kaplan', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Rebecca Kaplan
City of Oakland, Council President