

COUNCIL MEETING DATE:
Monday, May 21, 2018

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENCE
RECEIVED REGARDING COUNCIL PACKET

Item Closed Session 1:
Conference with Legal Counsel - Government Code Section
54956.9(d)(2) – Rent Review Ordinance

PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE

Please return to Eileen Harrington, Administration

Eileen Harrington

From: Anne Hsu
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2018 5:05 PM
To: Eileen Harrington
Subject: FW: Rent Review

From: Sam Sorokin [mailto:sam@premiumpd.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 9:06 PM
To: citycouncil <citycouncil@albanyca.org>
Subject: Rent Review

Dear Mayor McQuaid & Members of the City Council,

Obviously, I was very disappointed that our meetings and letters, as well as all the opposition comments at the study session resulted in absolutely no changes to the draft Rent Review Ordinance. This includes the most important one, which is the consequence that voids the rent increase. We are still deciding as an organization what we should do in response. However, even with all the issues I have with the program, during the meeting we learned an even more troubling fact. The city manager said that this program, that will cost tax payers \$100,000 to \$150,000, is only expected to serve 10 to 15 people a year. How can you justify such an expensive program with so much opposition that will cost around \$10,000 for each mediation? Isn't there a better way to use the money. How about giving that \$10,000 to 15 low income residents who need it. Property owners are already taxed a lot. But, I know for me personally I would rather see my money going to directly help those in need.

We all realize that you have spent a lot of time trying to create this program. However, nobody would fault you with changing your mind and deciding to use our tax dollars in a better way. Rent Review in its current form creates rent control. This is not what is right for Albany. Please do the right thing.

SINCERELY,

SAM SOROKIN
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(CLOSED 12-1PM for Lunch)

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