



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331
Telephone: (626) 458-5100
<http://dpw.lacounty.gov>

DEAN D. EFSTATHIOU, Acting Director

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

September 16, 2008

IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **B-2**

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**FINDINGS AND ORDERS OF THE
BUILDING REHABILITATION APPEALS BOARD
IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF ALTADENA,
LANCASTER, LITTLEROCK, AND PALMDALE
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action will adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board which provide for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board that provide for abatement of public nuisances at the following locations:

47407 5th Street West, Lancaster, California 93534
1805 East Carson Mesa Road, Palmdale, California 93550
9219 East Avenue V-12, Littlerock, California 93543
46705 70th Street, Lancaster, California 93535
9773 East Avenue H, Lancaster, California 93535
446 East Mendocino Street, Altadena, California 91001

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to provide for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures. The Building Code provides for a Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board to hear appeals on matters concerning public nuisances.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Service Excellence (Goal 1) and Community Services (Goal 6) as it provides services to the public that have a wide-reaching positive effect on the entire community. The action will provide for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no increase in net County cost or negative fiscal impact. Costs of the abatement work are billed to the property owners. Failure to pay the bill will cause a special assessment to be placed on the tax bill and a Notice of Abatement Lien will be recorded against the property with the office of the County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, the Building Code, provides for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures contained in Chapter 99.

Government Code Section 25845 requires that the property owners be provided an opportunity to appear before the Board and be heard prior to abatement of the nuisance(s) by the County. However, your Board adopted modified procedures that delegated the required hearing to the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board with the requirement that the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board make a written recommendation to your Board.

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board has conducted the required hearing for the properties listed below. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board considered all competent evidence and testimony offered by all persons pertaining to the matters of substandard properties. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding of facts in the matter and declared the following properties to be a public nuisance.

Your Board may either adopt these findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board without further notice of hearing or may set the matter for a de novo hearing before your Board.

ADDRESS: 47407 5th Street West, Lancaster, California 93534

Finding and Order: The Appeals Board made a finding that the property was substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following order: that the cleanup cost be recorded as a lien against the property.

ADDRESS: 1805 East Carson Mesa Road, Palmdale, California 93550

Finding and Orders: The Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by October 20, 2008, the demolition of the structure(s) be completed, (b) that by September 19, 2008, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, and miscellaneous personal property and maintained cleared thereafter, and (c) that by September 19, 2008, the abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) be removed and the property be maintained cleared thereafter. Demolition includes the removal of all foundations, slabs, walks, driveways, debris, and the proper abandonment of any sewer or sewage disposal system.

List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution in the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. The building was destroyed by fire and only the foundation and septic systems remain.
3. Attractive nuisances in the form of abandoned or broken equipment and neglected machinery.
4. Broken or discarded furniture and household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
5. ~~Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.~~
6. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.

7. Trailers, campers, and other mobile equipment stored for unreasonable periods of time in yard areas contiguous to streets or highways.
8. Wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

ADDRESS: 9219 East Avenue V-12, Littlerock, California 93543

Finding and Orders: The Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by September 19, 2008, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, miscellaneous personal property, and all excessive vegetation and maintained cleared thereafter and (b) that by September 19, 2008, the abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) be removed and the property be maintained cleared thereafter.

List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. Overgrown vegetation and weeds constituting an unsightly appearance.
3. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
4. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
5. Trailers, campers, and vehicles stored for unreasonable periods of time in yard areas contiguous to streets or highways.

ADDRESS: 46705 70th Street, Lancaster, California 93535

Finding and Orders: The Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by September 19, 2008, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, and miscellaneous personal property and maintained cleared thereafter and (b) that by September 19, 2008, the abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) be removed and the property be maintained cleared thereafter.

List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. Attractive nuisances in the form of abandoned or broken equipment and neglected machinery.
3. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
4. Dead tree limbs, barrels, garbage cans, tires, trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
5. Trailers, campers, and other mobile equipment stored for unreasonable periods of time in yard areas contiguous to streets or highways.

ADDRESS: 9773 East Avenue H, Lancaster, California 93535

Finding and Orders: The Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that the property be maintained clean, (b) that the structure(s) be maintained secured, (c) that by September 19, 2008, the pool be fenced to prevent unauthorized entry and maintained secured thereafter, and (d) that by October 20, 2008, the structure(s) be repaired per noted defects.

List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. The building is dilapidated, apparently abandoned, and is a health, fire, and safety hazard to the adjacent community. The building or structure must be secured or closed forthwith so as to prevent unauthorized persons from gaining access thereto.
3. Doors and windows are broken.

4. The electrical system is noncomplying and hazardous.

5. Overgrown vegetation and weeds constituting an unsightly appearance.
6. Broken or discarded furniture and household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
7. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
8. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.

The interior of the building was not accessible for inspection; therefore, additional defects may be found when an interior inspection is made.

ADDRESS: 446 East Mendocino Street, Altadena, California 91001

Finding and Orders: The Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by September 19, 2008, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, miscellaneous personal property, and all excessive vegetation and maintained cleared thereafter, (b) that by September 19, 2008, the abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) be removed and the property be maintained cleared thereafter, (c) that the structure(s) be maintained secured, and (d) that by October 20, 2008, the structure(s) be repaired per noted defects, rebuilt to Code, or demolished. Demolition includes the removal of all foundations, slabs, walks, driveways, debris, and the proper abandonment of any sewer or sewage disposal system.

List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
2. The building was open and accessible to children, vandalized, and existed as a fire hazard and a threat to public safety and welfare, until it was barricaded, as requested by the Fire Department.
3. The exterior stairway and landing are hazardous, deteriorating, and inadequate.
4. ~~The electrical service is potentially hazardous.~~
5. Overgrown vegetation and weeds constituting an unsightly appearance.

6. Attractive nuisances in the form of abandoned or broken equipment and neglected machinery.
7. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
8. Garbage cans and packing crates stored in front or side yards and visible from public streets.
9. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
10. Abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

Portions of the interior of the building were not accessible for inspection; therefore, additional defects may be found when an interior inspection is made.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board confirmed the County Building Official's findings that the listed properties are substandard because they are injurious to health, offensive to the senses, and obstruct the free use of neighboring properties so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property.

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Department of Public Works, Building and Safety Division.

Respectfully submitted,



Fo DEAN D. EFSTATHIOU
Acting Director of Public Works

DDE:RP:pc

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel