

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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July 13, 2010

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

Dear Supervisors:

# **ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#37 JULY 13, 2010

SACHI A. HAMAI EXECUTIVE OFFICER

FINDINGS AND ORDERS OF THE
BUILDING REHABILITATION APPEALS BOARD IN THE
UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF BLACK BUTTE, LANCASTER,
LITTLEROCK, SAUGUS, AND SUN VILLAGE
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5)
(3 VOTES)

#### SUBJECT

This action will adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board pursuant to Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, Building Code, which provides 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:

15408 Sierra Highway, Saugus, California 91390

40030 East 240th Street, Black Butte, California 93591

40040 East 240th Street, Black Butte, California 93591

10156 East Avenue R-14, Littlerock, California 93543

10554 East Avenue S-14, Littlerock, California 93543

12002 East Avenue R, Sun Village, California 93543

15174 Lanfair Avenue, Lancaster, California 93535

16147 Sweetaire Avenue, Lancaster, California 93535

#### PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to provide for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures. Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, Building Code, provides for a Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board to hear appeals on matters concerning public nuisances.

## <u>Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals</u>

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) and Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3) 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

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: 15408 Sierra Highway, Saugus, California 91390

Finding and Order: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following order: that by July 16, 2010, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, and miscellaneous personal property and 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. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
- 3. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 4. Garbage cans and packing crates stored in front or side yards and visible from the public street.
- 5. Trailer and other mobile equipment stored for unreasonable periods of time in yard areas contiguous to streets or highways.

ADDRESS: 40030 East 240th Street, Black Butte, California 93591

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by July 16, 2010, 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 July 16, 2010, 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. Broken or discarded furniture and household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
- 4. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
- 5. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 6. Trailers, campers, boats, and other mobile equipment stored for unreasonable periods of time in yard areas contiguous to streets or highways.
- 7. Abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

ADDRESS: 40040 East 240th Street, Black Butte, California 93591

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by July 16, 2010, 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

July 16, 2010, 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. Broken or discarded furniture and household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
- 4. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
- 5. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 6. Trailers, campers, and other mobile equipment stored for unreasonable periods of time in yard areas contiguous to streets or highways.
- 7. Abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

ADDRESS: 10156 East Avenue R-14, Littlerock, California 93543

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by July 16, 2010, the structure(s) be repaired per noted defects, (b) that the property be maintained secured to prevent unauthorized entry, and (c) that the property be maintained clean.

#### 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, 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. Doors and windows are broken.
- 4. Overgrown vegetation and weeds constituting an unsightly appearance.

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

ADDRESS: 10554 East Avenue S-14, Littlerock, California 93543

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by

July 16, 2010, 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 July 16, 2010, the structure(s) be repaired per noted defects, and (c) that the structure(s) be maintained secured to prevent unauthorized entry.

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

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

ADDRESS: 12002 East Avenue R, Sun Village, California 93543

Finding and Order: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following order: that by July 16, 2010, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, and miscellaneous personal property and 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. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
- 3. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.

ADDRESS: 15174 Lanfair Avenue, Lancaster, California 93535

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by July 16, 2010, 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 July 16, 2010, the trailers, campers, boats, and other mobile equipment 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, weeds, and debris constituting an unsightly appearance.
- 3. Broken or discarded furniture and household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
- 4. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
- 5. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 6. Trailers, campers, boats, and other mobile equipment stored for unreasonable periods of time in yard areas contiguous to streets or highways.

ADDRESS: 16147 Sweetaire Avenue, Lancaster, California 93535

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by July 16, 2010, the structure(s) be repaired per noted defects, (b) that the property be maintained secured to prevent unauthorized entry, and (c) that the property be maintained clean.

#### 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, 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.
- Doors and windows are broken.
- 4. The nonconforming detached utility shed is in a state of disrepair and hazardous and should be demolished.
- 5. Electrical system is noncomplying, damaged, or potentially hazardous.
- 6. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
- 7. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.

## **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 the Department of Public Works, Building and Safety Division.

Respectfully submitted,

Hair Farher

**GAIL FARBER** 

Director

GF:RP:nm

c: Chief Executive Office County Counsel Executive Office