

Department of Finance Legislative Summary

ORDINANCE NO.: 1213-17

DESCRIPTION: An emergency ordinance to make additional appropriations of Eight Million (\$8,000,000) in the General Fund for residential and commercial demolitions.

Demolitions have been an integral part of the City's housing strategy, particularly since 2006 as the foreclosure crisis and the collapse of the regional housing market created a sharp increase in vacancies and the associated blight. Since 2006, approximately 9223 residential and commercial structures have been demolished in the City.

The supplement will fund the expansion of the Safe Routes to School program to raze residential, mixed use, and commercial structures. The expanded program will target properties within 1000 feet of a Safe Route to School.

These properties are condemned structures for which rehabilitation is not a feasible option and are identified structures in which can proceed to demolition expeditiously.

These structures are public safety hazards and hot beds for criminal activities. Drug activity, prostitution and violent crimes occur in and around these structures. These structures are frequently the target of arsonists. Neighboring property owners do not want their families exposed to these hazards. Demolishing these nuisance structures will stabilize neighborhoods by reducing crime and improving property values.

ESTIMATED BUDGET: \$8,000,000.00

USING DEPARTMENTS: Department of Building and Housing

FUNDING SOURCE: General Fund