



4x4 Joint Task Force Committee on Housing  
City Council and Rent Board

## 4 X 4 JOINT TASK FORCE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING CITY COUNCIL/RENT STABILIZATION BOARD

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 – 3:00 p.m.

### **PUBLIC ADVISORY: THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH VIDEOCONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE.**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(3), City Council Resolution 70,030-N.S., and Rent Board Resolution 21-29, this meeting of the City Council and Rent Stabilization Board's **4 x 4 Joint Task Force Committee on Housing** (Committee) will be conducted exclusively through teleconference and Zoom videoconference. Please be advised that pursuant to the Resolutions and the findings contained therein that the spread of COVID-19 continues to be a threat to the public health and that holding meetings of City legislative bodies in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of the public and members of legislative bodies. Therefore, **there will not be a physical meeting location available.**

**To access this meeting remotely:** Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone, or Android device by clicking on this URL: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82863248059?pwd=SGtvRlNjMStLclZNNmRmdi9objhWQT09>. If you do not wish for your name to appear on the screen, then use the drop-down menu and click on "Rename" to rename yourself to be anonymous. To request to speak, use the "Raise hand" icon by rolling over the bottom of the screen.

**To join by phone:** Dial 1-669-900-6833 and enter Webinar ID: 828 6324 8059 and Passcode: 302897. If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, Press \*9 and wait to be recognized by the Committee Chair.

To submit a written communication for the Committee's consideration and inclusion in the public record, email [BTran@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:BTran@cityofberkeley.info) with the Subject line in this format: "PUBLIC COMMENT ITEM FOR 4 X 4 COMMITTEE." Please observe a 150-word limit. **Email comments must be submitted to the email address above by 1:00 p.m. on the day of the Committee meeting in order to be included.**

Please be mindful that this will be a public meeting and all rules of procedure and decorum will apply for meetings conducted by teleconference or videoconference.

This meeting will be conducted in accordance with Government Code Section 54953 and all current state and local requirements allowing public participation in meetings of legislative bodies. Any member of the public may attend this meeting. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to DéSeana Williams, Executive Director of the Rent Board, at (510) 981-7368 (981-RENT). The Committee may take action related to any subject listed on the Agenda.



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Wednesday, February 1, 2023 – 3:00 p.m.

### Minutes to be Approved

1. Roll call: Mayor Arreguín called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.  
Present: Mayor Arreguín, CM Hahn, CM Harrison, RBC Johnson, RBC Marrero, RBC Alpert, RCB Walker.  
Absent: CM Robinson.  
Staff present: Steve Buckley, Lief Bursell, Nate Dahl, Brendan Darrow, Ollie Ehlinger, Stefan Elstrand, Jen Fabish, Alene Pearson, Be Tran, DéSeana Williams.
2. Land Acknowledgment Statement: *The Berkeley Rent Stabilization Board recognizes that the rental housing units we regulate are built on the territory of xučyun (Huchiun-(Hooch-yoon)), the ancestral and unceded land of the Chochenyo (Cho-chen-yo)-speaking Ohlone (Oh-low-nee) people, the ancestors and descendants of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County. This land was and continues to be of great importance to all of the Ohlone Tribes and descendants of the Verona Band. As we begin our meeting tonight, we acknowledge and honor the original inhabitants of Berkeley, the documented 5,000-year history of a vibrant community at the West Berkeley Shellmound, and the Ohlone people who continue to reside in the East Bay. We recognize that Berkeley's landlords and tenants have and continue to benefit from the use and occupation of this unceded stolen land since the City of Berkeley's incorporation in 1878 and since the Rent Stabilization Board's creation in 1980. As stewards of the laws regulating rental housing, it is not only vital that we recognize the history of this land, but also recognize that the Ohlone people are present members of Berkeley and other East Bay communities today.*

The Land Acknowledgement Statement was read aloud.

3. Approval of the agenda: M/S/C (Arreguín/Harrison) Approve the agenda as written. Roll call vote. YES: Arreguín, Hahn, Harrison, Johnson, Marrero, Alpert, Walker; NO: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: Robinson. Carried: 7-0-0-1.
4. Public comment on non-agenda matters: No speakers.
5. Approval of December 14, 2022 Committee meeting minutes (see attachment): M/S/C (Arreguín/Harrison) Approve the December 14, 2022 minutes as written. Roll call vote. YES: Arreguín, Hahn, Harrison, Johnson, Marrero, Alpert, Walker; NO: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: Robinson. Carried: 7-0-0-1.

6. Discussion and possible recommendations on a moratorium on rent increases (requested by Chair Simon-Weisberg): The committee briefly discussed this item, but agreed by consensus to table it given that Chair Simon-Weisberg was unable to attend today's meeting. There were four public speakers.
7. Discussion and possible recommendations to City Council regarding amendments to the Demolition Ordinance (Steve Buckley, Planning Department, see attached February 1, 2022 staff report to the Planning Commission): The committee discussed this item, but agreed to delay formulating substantive recommendations until Chair Simon-Weisberg could be present. There were five public speakers.

M/S/C (Arreguín/Alpert) Recommend that the Planning Commission delay discussion/action on this item to allow for further analysis and action by the 4x4 Committee. **Friendly amendment by Hahn (accepted)**: That the delay be until such time as the 4x4 can transmit formal recommendations to the Planning Commission. Roll call vote. YES: Arreguín, Hahn, Harrison, Johnson, Marrero, Alpert, Walker; NO: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: Robinson. Carried: 7-0-0-1.

8. Discussion and possible action regarding the expiration of the Eviction Moratorium (see attached BMC 13.110) and amendments to the COVID-19 Emergency Response Ordinance (requested by Mayor Arreguín): The committee agreed by consensus to table this item due to Chair Simon-Weisberg's inability to attend today's meeting. Several committee members expressed a sense of urgency about addressing this item, and Mayor Arreguín mentioned his intent to bring a budget referral to Council to request more funding for COVID-19 rent relief. There were four public speakers.
9. Discussion of possible future agenda items: The committee will schedule a special meeting in February to discuss the items tabled at today's meeting, with item 8 as the top priority, item 6 as the second priority, and item 7 as the third priority.
10. Confirm next meeting date: The committee did not discuss this item.
11. Adjournment: M/S/C (Arreguín/Hahn) Adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote. YES: Arreguín, Hahn, Harrison, Johnson, Marrero, Alpert, Walker; NO: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: Robinson. Carried: 7-0-0-1. The meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Mayor Jesse Arreguín  
City Councilmember Sophie Hahn  
City Councilmember Kate Harrison  
City Councilmember Rigel Robinson

Rent Board Chairperson Leah Simon-Weisberg  
Rent Board Commissioner Xavier Johnson  
Rent Board Commissioner Vanessa Danielle Marrero  
Rent Board Commissioner Dominique Walker