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**Grow the Richmond**

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# GROW THE RICHMOND

9th January 2018

**Supervisor Sandra Lee Fewer**

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244  
San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

Dear Supervisor Fewer and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors,

Thank you, Supervisor Fewer, for recently proposing to sponsor legislation that would end debt-service and property tax passthrough for landlords in San Francisco.

We are writing on behalf of Grow the Richmond, a group of residents in the Richmond who support building more housing and protecting residents from displacement, to express our support and to urge the Board of Supervisors to enact this upcoming legislation.

The Richmond District is mostly composed of renters (64%)<sup>1</sup>, and many of those renters live in rent-controlled units. The 7% rent increase that is allowed to service the landlord's debt under existing policy<sup>2</sup> can be tremendously harmful for a renter, 44%<sup>1</sup> of whom are rent burdened already in our district.

This loophole must be closed, as other cities in the Bay Area such as Oakland<sup>3</sup> and San Jose<sup>4</sup> have done, so that we can protect our residents in rent-controlled units from displacement. We strongly support the combination of tenant protections such as this proposed legislation with increased housing production in order to allow us to keep our existing residents housed while welcoming new neighbors.

Again, we urge the Board of Supervisors on behalf of our members in the Richmond to support legislation to end debt-service and property tax passthroughs.

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<sup>1</sup> SF Planning. Richmond District Strategy Existing Conditions Report.

<sup>2</sup> SF Rent Board. Fact Sheet 5 - Landlord Petitions and Passthroughs.

<sup>3</sup> Oakland City Council Ordinance No. 13221

<sup>4</sup> San Jose City Council Ordinance No. 29730w

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Sincerely,

Jane Natoli

Asumu Takikawa

Bobak Esfandiari

Nick Carneiro

George Williams

Gina Marioni

Catherine Joor

On behalf of 136 other members of

Grow the Richmond