

MOTION

On August 13, 1999, the Council adopted the 'Citywide Nuisance Abatement Program and Problem Property' ordinance (Ordinance No. 172782), Council File No. 95-1088-S12. The ordinance makes it unlawful for a property owner to permit the accumulation of trash, debris, vehicle parts, rubbish, excessive vegetation or other similar nuisance conditions on a parcel or in and around any building or structure located on a parcel. In addition, the Department of Building and Safety has the authority to fence off the parcel, and to levy civil penalties.

Without doubt many of our vacant buildings create hazardous conditions, such as but not limited to, break-ins, squatters, fires, overgrown vegetation that creates lack of sight, as well as fire hazards and varmints, and where criminal activity may occur.

During these challenging economic times and where public health is of utmost concern, property owners who neglect their properties need to be held accountable, and must be responsible actors who do not create a threat to the public health and safety of our neighborhoods, or contribute toward their deterioration and instability.

The Department of Building and Safety and the City Attorney must enforce the City's Nuisance Abatement and Problem Property Ordinance and mandate compliance from property owners who neglect their properties, and enforce compliance using all available civil penalties - including ACE citations - and initiate nuisance abatement administrative proceedings to achieve compliance.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney, with the assistance of the Department of Building and Safety (LADBS), be REQUESTED to notify property owners AND financial institutions that carry a mortgage on the property via written correspondence when LADBS issues an Order to Abate Vacant Structure for violations of LAMC 91.8904 *et seq*, AND warn they could be subject to fines, criminal prosecution, and recovery of city abatements costs through a lien against the property, if corrective action is not taken prior to the compliance date on a LADBS Order.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Attorney and the Department of Building and Safety, be REQUESTED to report with recommendations and the necessary resources to begin issuing ACE citations for violations of LAMC 91.8904 *et seq*, that are not corrected prior to the Compliance Date on a LADBS Order.

PRESENTED BY:

PAUL KORETZ (verbal)
Councilmember, 5th District

JOE BUSCAINO (verbal)
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY: _____
MITCH O'FARRELL (verbal)
Councilmember, 13th District