

From: [Garrett](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: 1.24.24 Agenda Item # 24 Misdirected extortion "Affordable Housing" fees
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1.24.24 Agenda Item # 24 Misdirected extortion "Affordable Housing" fees

Dear Council,

Of course your version of affordable housing is effectively socialism. That is, in excess of odious rent control even, your intent is to dictate prices of residential rental property and limit the free market in housing. Socialism has always resulted in defective economics and does not produce wealth or reduce poverty as well as capitalism and free markets. In this, your understanding is nil.

Additionally, commercial real estate has ZERO to do with residential housing. You might as well attach a fee to do ANYTHING, and deposit it into the so-called "Affordable Housing Fund".

That it will find limited revenue as extra tall commercial buildings are currently scarce apparently doesn't mean you won't turn over every rock to extract money from the free market in housing, and also increase costs of whatever commercial venture seeks a building over some height (thus raising their prices passed on to everyone, yes, a very selective socialism again).

One has only to test ideas by scale (suppose every building was subject to these fees and what effect that would have) instead of "OH, well, only a few will have to pay this" type false justifications.

I can't believe you didn't find some leftist city to quote "Well, (leftist cesspool) Oakland does this" in the usual false justification for anything even unrelated to housing fee extortion.

Of course you don't really say what the money will be used for, exactly how, and you don't care, it's money, money, money for the city to play with extracted by coercion from the private sector when your real purpose is to provide the services everyone can access, not a select few deserving of this housing "charity" (charity is instead voluntary) or not. Do you think you are HUD?

Garrett Philipp