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VALLEJO ISSUES PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY TO PREVENT PRICE GOUGING ON RENTALS

VALLEJO, CA – On June 27, 2019, the City Manager signed an emergency proclamation that will prevent price gouging and cap rental increases at 10%, consistent with the executive order issued by Governor Brown in 2017. The Governor’s executive order was a result of the 2017 and 2018 the wildfires and subsequent displacement of residents of neighboring counties that lost their homes.

The original executive order expired in December 2018 for Solano County, but the need for such protections in Vallejo did not. This need was illustrated by two properties (Strawberry Hill and Holiday Gardens) that recently provided notices to residents tenants of rental increases in excess of 100%. Approximately 600 residents would be impacted by these increases, with many residents at risk of being displaced and becoming homeless. The City has also received concerns regarding several other properties with significant increases planned for residents in the coming weeks.

On June 25, 2019, the City Council gave direction to staff to prepare an emergency ordinance addressing this issue. In the meantime, the City Manager has authorized an emergency proclamation that is effective for seven days, at which point it must be ratified by the Council to remain in effect. To that end, City staff is in the process of scheduling a special City Council meeting for the week of July 1st.

With this emergency proclamation in effect, as of June 27 landlords are prohibited from raising rents more than 10 percent annually and, if they do, they may be criminally prosecuted. This action taken by the City prevents any increases of over 10% at both Strawberry Hill and Holiday Gardens, as well as the other properties contemplating increases beyond 10 percent.

About City of Vallejo

The City of Vallejo, California is located in the Bay Area. The City serves a population nearly 122,000 people with a full service operation that includes police, fire, water, community planning, public works and related professional administrative services. The city is home to a wealth of culture, attractions and events from the popular theme park Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, to museums, parks, music venues, art galleries and theatres. One of the great small towns of Northern California, Vallejo’s residents, businesses and City Council are working together to help make Vallejo a safe and clean place to live, work and to enjoy all the attractions and events.

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