

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KEITH CARSON Supervisor, Fifth District

Mr. Pedro Reyes Chief Policy Director California Department of Finance 915 L Street Sacramento, CA 95814-3706

## RE: Support for the Property Disposition on Foothill and Seminary Avenue

Dear Mr. Reyes:

As a member of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and a member of the Oakland Oversight Board, I am respectfully requesting that the Department of Finance allow for the disposition of the property in question on Foothill and Seminary to Sunfield Development, LLC so it can be transformed for retail and commercial use.

The proposed development of the underutilized property will provide continuous revenue to all the taxing entities though a number of avenues, including property tax, sales tax, payroll taxes and all of the other benefits enjoyed by government agencies as a result of successful economic development. Without disposition and the subsequent development of the property, the City of Oakland and other entities involved will not only lose revenue, but they will also be forced to endure the costs associated with blight and underdeveloped urban areas.

I am also Chair of the East Bay Economic Development Alliance; therefore I clearly understand the nexus between economic development, jobs, and healthy communities. Successful disposition and development of the property will allow for the creation of retail and commercial activity in a community where it is clearly lacking. Furthermore, the proposed activity will allow the City of Oakland to continue to pursue an enlightened development strategy that is aligned with other development in the region; all of these efforts are essential to keeping the East Bay one of the best places to live, work and do business as we move into the future. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Eith Garson

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