



Kriss Worthington

Councilmember, City of Berkeley District 7

2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704

PHONE 510-981-7170 FAX 510-981-7177 kworthington@ci.berkeley.ca.us

CONSENT CALENDAR

March 20, 2007

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmembers Kriss Worthington and Gordon Wozniak

Subject: Making a More Manageable Move-Out

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Berkeley City Council authorize \$5,000 - \$10,000 as a City expenditure to encourage UC to create a trash and materials collection program to facilitate a cleaner move-out process for the end of the school year, in May 2007.

BACKGROUND:

In recent years, the City has encountered difficulties in managing waste and unwanted materials associated with the moving out process at the end of the school year. For example, furniture, housewares and trash are often abandoned along sidewalks and street corners, prompting complaints from neighborhood residents. Our office has in the past spent a large amount of time simply referring City staff to send out trucks, helping people directly to move items away, or requesting that landlords clean up their properties. A better facilitated moving out process can reduce the burden on students, long-time residents, and City staff.

Ideally, this is a process that is best and most appropriately facilitated by the University during the end-of-the-semester rush. Last year, the City paid the full cost of placing dumpsters around densely-populated student areas. Since realistically, we know that the University does not have a program in place, it is probably necessary for the City to contribute to this process to leverage UC to make these urgently needed improvements. The clean up program could designate a drop off location where unwanted furniture and materials can be dropped off. A central and accessible location would allow residents who are moving out to drop off or pick up used furniture and materials that would be otherwise thrown out. This will minimize the amount of waste produced, allowing unwanted household items and furniture to be reused, as well as concentrate the unwanted items in a central pick up location. Additionally, used computer and electronic equipment can also be collected and the City can work with the Alameda County Computer Resource Center to perform a one-day pick up/collection from the site. The move-out program should also include targeted pick-ups, by identifying and performing general trash pick up in select residential areas.

It is important that the area covered include not only University-related housing units such as dormitories, cooperatives, fraternities, and sororities, but also residential areas with high concentrations of students. The program should not last for just one day, but over the 7-10 day period when the vast majority of move-outs occur.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

\$5,000 – \$10,000

CONTACT PERSON:

Councilmember Kriss Worthington 981-7170

Councilmember Gordon Wozniak 981-7180

