

CONSENT CALENDAR October 16, 2012

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Susan Wengraf, District 6

Subject: Letter to United States Postal Service Regarding Removal of

Neighborhood Mail Collection Boxes

RECOMMENDATION

Request that the City Manager write a letter to the United States Postal Service, Office of Consumer Affairs asking for the following information:

- 1. The noticing requirements before a box can be removed.
- 2. The location of all the collection boxes in Berkeley that are being surveyed and audited for removal.
- 3. The results of the survey.
- 4. Requesting that the City be notified 2 weeks in advance of the removal of any USPS collection boxes.

BACKGROUND

The week of September 24th, my office started receiving calls from constituents that neighborhood mailboxes were disappearing without any notice to the community. After, several phone calls to the Berkeley Post Office, the only information that I could obtain was that boxes with less than 25 letters/day were being removed. I was informed that the locations of the boxes could not be revealed as it was "classified."

Rep. Barbara Lee's office has indicated that there is a process/audit that must be followed before any boxes are removed. The City should be informed so that citizens can be notified in a timely manner.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION None

CONTACT PERSON

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