



Rent Stabilization Board  
Chair of the Board

August 9, 2021

Jenny Wong, Berkeley City Auditor  
2180 Milvia Street  
Berkeley, CA 94704

**Re: Potential Audit of the Berkeley Rent Board**

Dear Ms. Wong,

As Chair of the elected Berkeley Rent Board, I write to request that your office place the Rent Board on your list of agencies to be audited during the 2021-2022 fiscal year. It is my understanding that the Auditor's Office has not conducted a formal audit of our agency in quite some time. We believe that a fair and impartial review of our systems and structure will benefit both the Board's staff and its elected Commissioners.

Berkeley has changed a great deal over the last 20 years, and we have, unfortunately, lost much of this city's diversity. The Board was established to promote affordability and discourage displacement of Berkeley's most vulnerable populations. Our goal remains to foster stability throughout the community so that all residents are able to enjoy safe and decent housing as both state and local law requires. We understand that a community benefits from strong policies that encourage neighborhood stability. I believe an audit conducted by your office will greatly benefit us – we strive to provide the best and most efficient service to the community.

I think you will find that our program offers a great service to the community and look forward to working with my fellow Commissioners and staff to improve our services.

Please let me know if and when you might be able to attend a Board meeting and discuss this matter with the rest of the Commissioners. We generally meet the third Thursday of every month – I would be happy to schedule a presentation from you when you are available.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Please let me know if you would like to discuss this further.

Very truly yours,

Leah Simon-Weisberg  
Rent Board Chair