

EXTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

The City Clerk's Office received
the attached correspondence regarding
**the Budget on the
5-12-15 City Council Agenda**

LARA WEISIGER

From: Ewart Wetherill <redwetherill@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2015 3:12 PM
To: City Clerk
Subject: Letter to mayor and council

City clerk -

Thank you for kindly offering to insert a paper copy of the appended letter in each council member folder for Wednesday's council meeting.

It is greatly appreciated, Red Wetherill

28 Cove Road
Alameda, California 94502

28 April 2015

Open letter to mayor Trish Spencer and members of city council

Dear Mayor Spencer and council members:

In your current budget deliberations, please consider the serious and pressing need for additional building inspectors to handle the substantial number of new residential units that have recently been authorized for Alameda.

Over the past 30 years I have seen several examples of low-quality construction that have been accepted, including our own brand-new house. Together with 15 of our neighbours we filed a successful lawsuit against the builder, leading to the complete replacement of defective siding. Since that time, however, widespread adoption of the practice of "design-build" construction has largely eliminated architect/engineer inspections prior to acceptance of buildings, so the only check on quality of work is done by the building inspector.

Since housing comprises much of the value of property in Alameda its inherent quality is of prime importance. For this reason I request that you resist the easy temptation to go along with some of the budget proposals put forth by the previous city council and allow sufficient time to fully assess the situation you have inherited while you still have a little time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ewart A. Wetherill", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Ewart A. Wetherill, AIA emeritus

c. Alameda Sun
Alameda Journal