

From: [Debbie Kellogg](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Potala Place Demolition
Date: Monday, October 19, 2015 2:44:55 PM

The condition of the properties described in tonight's action item have existed for YEARS, and now the staff finds it necessary to demolish them at taxpayer's expense?

There is no estimate for the cost to demolish around 5-6 buildings, public works should have provided council with an estimate based on the cost of demolishing businesses for the Shoreline City Hall parking garage.

There is no reference to public comment made at the hearing on the Aurora Square DEIS where long-time residents reported that a dry cleaner used to operate on the properties recommended for demolition. The last time the city staff failed to do their due diligence was during the construction of the Shoreline City Hall Parking Garage - a former dry cleaning operation cost the City (and its taxpayers) over \$300,000 to clean up the contaminated soil. There has been no due diligence done on these properties for any hazardous waste yet the city staff wishes to have council rush in and pass the resolution.

The City staff allowed the building that housed the Sugar's operation to fall apart, decline, tagged with graffiti, and become a gathering place for substance abusers without ever taking this action over a period of years when the federal government seized the property. How does the City propose any cost recovery for demolition, court costs, and time spent by the City Attorney's Office if the present property owner forfeits it the federal government in the present SEC case (not to mention a future case involving the IRS)?

For the staff to claim their is no financial impact is amazing, it demonstrates their failure to comprehensively consider all the impacts of the proposed action.

And what of the Potala application to vacate all of Westminster Way, after all, the City removed the truck route designation without any public process?