

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**COUNCILMEMBER TAYLOR'S LOCAL BUSINESS EMPOWERMENT THROUGH
CONTRACTING ORDINANCE – UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED 7-0!**
PRESS RELEASE

OAKLAND, CA – Last Saturday, February 13, Councilmember Taylor along with the Oakland African American Chamber of Commerce and Post News Group hosted a town hall to discuss ways to mitigate local contracting disparities. A direct response to the city's 2017 Disparities Study, conducted by Mason Tillman Associates, that showed more than \$56M in lost contract dollars for the Black community during the 5-year study period. The purpose of the town hall was to receive community input on potential solutions, including Taylor's Local Business Empowerment Through Contracting (LBETC) Resolution & Ordinance.

While the resolution was passed unanimously during the Council's January 12th meeting, questions of financial and operational impact delayed the ordinance's second reading to today's council meeting. Co-sponsored by Councilmember Reid, this afternoon the ordinance was also unanimously approved by the councilmembers present in a 7-0 vote, following immense public support prior to and during the council meeting!

Responding to the ordinance's passage, Councilmember Taylor stated, "Thank you Oakland! This an important step in the continuous effort to eliminate local contracting disparities. This is undoubtedly a win for our local diverse business owners, who are currently missing out on millions of dollars in city contracting opportunities. There is still much work to do moving forward."

Understanding the importance of building upon his legislative success, Councilmember Taylor is eager to continue his work with an ever-growing coalition of diverse business stakeholders.