SQUATTER PREVENTION

Richmond Municipal Code (RMC) 6.38

- **Maintain the property** by keeping bushes trimmed, the lawn mowed, and the blinds partially closed. If you are keeping the power on, put several lights on timers. Empty and neglected properties are prime targets for squatters.
- **Board the property** if necessary with a permit from the Planning Department.
- **Check on the property** weekly yourself or via a hired property manager.
- **Enlist neighborly help** to keep watch on the property. Encourage them to call you and the police if someone is seen "moving" or breaking in.
- **Post "No Trespassing" signs** with a contact number.
- **Turn off or transfer utilities to your name.** A property without operable water or electricity can be "red tagged" by City personnel, compelling any occupants to leave.
- **No house shall remain vacant for more than one year without submitting plans to the Planning Department.**

To read more of the RMC, visit:

https://library.municode.com/ca/richmond/codes/code_of_ordinances