



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan 27, 2025

**FORMER OAKLAND CITY COUNCILMEMBER AND MAYORAL CANDIDATE
LOREN TAYLOR STATEMENT REGARDING HIS “OPEN CITY HALL” AND SMALL
BUSINESS AND DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PLAN**

Oakland, CA — Former Oakland Councilmember and Mayoral Candidate Loren Taylor will announce his plan, if elected, to require all City of Oakland employees to return back to City Hall. He will also introduce his small business and downtown revitalization plan with supportive small business owners who are frustrated with crime and the City’s lack of support. The plans will be announced at a press conference on Tuesday morning. Attendees will also include business leaders, workforce development professionals, and community members.

Taylor has heard from current and former city employees that the telecommute policy is not fair since work schedules can vary greatly between departments and it lacks accountability and clear guidelines. Also, it is difficult for employees to collaborate due to the lack of schedule uniformity therefore work performance and efficiency has suffered. Some employees believe the policy is inequitable since lower wage workers are less likely to be allowed to work from home than professional staff.

Taylor believes that it is critical that city workers return to work, “The City of Oakland must set the example that Oakland is open for business by requiring that all city employees return to work. Downtown businesses are closing everyday due to the lack of foot traffic.” Taylor will meet with businesses to find a path for all City workers to return back to downtown. According to Taylor, “The residents and businesses in Oakland have suffered under the weight of the recent corruption allegations and recall of Mayor Thao. It is time to focus on supporting our businesses so that we can have revenue to fund Oakland’s recovery.”