

LARA WEISIGER

From: Jennifer Ott
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 8:54 AM
To: LARA WEISIGER
Subject: Fwd: City Council Workplan 2018/2019

Fyi

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Richard Bangert <rb94501@gmail.com>
Date: May 18, 2018 at 8:06:42 AM PDT
To: Trish Spencer <tspencer@alamedaca.gov>, Malia Vella <mvella@alamedaca.gov>, Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft <mezzyashcraft@alamedaca.gov>, Frank Matarrese <fmatarrese@alamedaca.gov>, Jim Oddie <joddie@alamedaca.gov>, Liz Warmerdam <lwarmerdam@alamedaca.gov>, Jennifer Ott <jott@alamedaca.gov>, Liam Garland <lgarland@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: City Council Workplan 2018/2019

Dear members of the City Council, Acting City Manager, Base Reuse Manager and Public Works Director,

I would like to comment on the work-plan category of "Take Action on Climate Change & Emergency Preparedness." Under that category it lists "Adopt Climate Action and Adaptation Plan 2019."

You don't need to wait another year (when the new Climate Action Plan is completed) to begin efforts on **climate adaptation**. The City **already approved** the conceptual plan for "De-Pave Park" on the west side of the Seaplane Lagoon about four years ago. The concept for the this "park" is, without question, adaptation to sea level rise. You don't need a Climate Action Plan to tell you this.

You can demonstrate a commitment to adaptation right now **by setting aside funds** to do the engineering and design for this shoreline ecological adaptation zone. Without this preliminary work, no cost estimates are possible, and, thus, no grants can ever be applied for. This project is a focused, relatively small, as opposed to the entire City, project that offers a chance to begin real work on adaptation. **Please earmark this project as a priority.**

Thank you,
Richard Bangert
Photo site: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/63740093@N03/>
Blog: <https://alamedapointenviro.com/>

LARA WEISIGER

From: Brian McGuire <brianrmcguire@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 7:30 AM
To: LARA WEISIGER; Liz Warmerdam; Trish Spencer; Jennifer Ott; Malia Vella; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft; Frank Matarrese; Jim Oddie; Liam Garland; PAUL ROLLERI
Cc: Gail Payne; Rochelle Wheeler
Subject: Council Workplan

Good Morning Council and Staff:

I wanted to write a quick note as you head into your workshop today. In reading through the presentation, I am struck by how we often lose sight of the big picture when framing the daily issues of running the city.

If you are unaware, just last Saturday evening, a father and his 22 month old son were sent to the hospital courtesy of another act of vehicular violence. They were on Clement Ave riding a bicycle towards their home, when a(n apparently) speeding driver turned right into them and then drove off. Thankfully, they will survive and recover, at least physically. I can only imagine the feeling the wife and mother felt from her bike a few feet away as this happened. When Clement Ave Complete Streets move forward, we must provide safe, separated bike facilities for this family, and all families. Enough is enough.

When discussing bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure and safety improvements, this report categorizes them under the heading of "Mitigate Traffic Congestion." While I am a believer in reorganizing how we allocate priority in our transportation system to mitigate congestion, it is only a part of why we do what we do.

I worry everyday that my family will be next. How we design our roads and infrastructure is most importantly considered under the heading in the report "Maintain Safety and Quality of Life." Alamedans should not have to live in fear of walking across the street or letting their kids bike to school. The recent "Slow Down In Town" campaign reinforces where we should be placing these priorities. Yet, I do not see anything about ending traffic violence on the safety heading in the report. I would love to see a comparison of how many Alamedans in the last ten years were sent to the hospital or unnatural deaths because of vehicular violence as compared to what we usually think of when we say violent crime.

Transportation is responsible for half of our greenhouse gas emissions contributing to climate change. Changing how we move people in Alameda is a primary imperative for the category "Take Action on Climate Change." Transportation issues are not specifically called out anywhere under this heading. Similarly, speak with the innovative employers we have and are trying to attract to Alameda Point and elsewhere and you will hear how projects like a bike and pedestrian bridge to Oakland can drive the category "Improve Local Economy and Attract Jobs."

We need to solve our transportation problems. The biggest transportation problem we have is the danger we have created by placing private car driving at the center of our transportation system.

Respectfully,

Brian McGuire

Laura Woodard
908 Centennial Ave
Alameda CA 94501
heylauraw@gmail.com

May 11, 2018

Office of the City Clerk
City of Alameda
2263 Santa Clara Avenue, Room 380
Alameda, CA 94501

Attn: City Clerk Lara Weisiger

Dear Mayor Spencer, Vice Mayor Vella, and Councilmembers Oddie, Ashcraft, and Matarrese:

In my volunteer work advocating for tenants, I have spoken to many people who have faced unfair no-cause evictions. The recent displacement of so many Alamedans has been disruptive and traumatic for many.

The city of Alameda has received a dramatic increase in transfer fees this past year, including the sale of Summer House Apartments for \$234 million. Unfortunately, this fiscal increase parallels rising fear and instability for the renters who make up 53% of Alameda's residents.

National statistics show only 10% of renters have legal protection when facing hearings for eviction. It is only fair that a portion of the money collected seed a tenant legal fund. We renters request that \$500,000 be allocated to establish a three year program to help the most vulnerable among us—seniors and people living with disabilities on fixed incomes, low-income working poor, and immigrants.

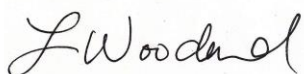
The cities of Richmond, Oakland, and Berkeley provide legal protection to all low-income renters. I strongly recommend that a similar program be adopted and implemented in our city.

Our city is now known by equity firms and investors looking at desirable locations with weak renter protections as "landlord friendly." While the city offers workshops on how to legally evict a tenant, it currently stands back from offering tenants help in staying in their homes.

Blackstone, the equity investor that bought Summer House, is known for its aggressive rent increases and evictions. Summer House was the largest real estate sale in the Bay Area for all of 2017. It is only right and just that tenants have access to legal representation in the face of that level of power.

City staff expect additional transfer fees to augment the budget in the year ahead. This is a rare opportunity to direct uncommitted funds toward redressing the imbalance of power and wealth in Alameda. I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Laura Woodard



WWW.THEALAMEDARENTERSCOALITION.ORG P.O. Box 2322 Alameda, CA 94501

May 10, 2018

Honorable Mayor Trish Spencer
Vice Mayor Malia Vella
Councilmember Marilyn Ashcraft
Councilmember Jim Oddie
Councilmember Frank Matarrese

Re: Budget Referral on May 15th, 2018

Dear Mayor Spencer, Vice Mayor Vella, and Councilmembers Oddie, Ashcraft, and Matarrese:

The city of Alameda has received a dramatic increase in transfer fees this past year, including the sale of Summer House Apartments for \$231 million in the largest real estate sale in the Bay Area for all of 2017. Unfortunately, this fiscal increase for the city parallels rising fear and instability for the renters who make up 53% of Alameda's residents. The city has a rare opportunity to catch up with other cities in the Bay Area who have both searchable data registries and legal protection for their renters.

As California faces an unprecedented housing crisis, our city has been racked with unsustainable rent increases and ongoing evictions, including no-cause and retaliatory evictions. The displacement of Alamedans has negatively impacted our local businesses, schools and the demographic makeup of our community. And yet, Alameda is not conducting citywide residential data collection. We have no clear benchmark or hard facts to provide adequate planning for this city's present and future housing needs. We propose that \$250,000 be matched by rent program fees to initiate a searchable database.

National statistics show only 10% of all renters have legal protection when facing hearings for eviction. Existing sources of Bay Area legal aid, such as the East Bay Community Law Center and Centro Legal, have already contracted with the cities of Oakland, Berkeley, and Richmond to provide legal services to their renters. Alameda city residents do not qualify. It is only fair that a portion of the transfer fees collected seed a tenant legal fund in Alameda. We propose that \$500,000 be allocated for a three-year pilot legal aid program to help the most vulnerable among us.

Our city is now known by equity firms and investors looking at desirable locations with weak renter protections as "landlord friendly." Blackstone, the equity investor that bought Summer House, is known for its aggressive rent increases and evictions. It is only right and just that tenants have access to legal representation in the face of that level of power. An investor and landlord at the January 2018 RRAC meeting expressed this view of Alameda, pointing to ordinance 3148. After being denied the full rent increase requested, the investor sought advice from the city attorney on how to evict the tenant without cause. While the city offers workshops on how to legally evict a tenant, it currently stands back from offering tenants help with staying in their homes.

We look forward to discussing further how these uncommitted funds can provide the city with real data collection and legal representation for all residents who need it.

Sincerely,

Mari Perez-Ruiz
ARC President