

Jeff Wasserman
1324 East Shore Drive
Alameda, CA 94501

Alameda Mayor Trish Herrera Spencer
Alameda City Council
2263 Santa Clara Blvd
Alameda, CA 94501

March 12, 2017

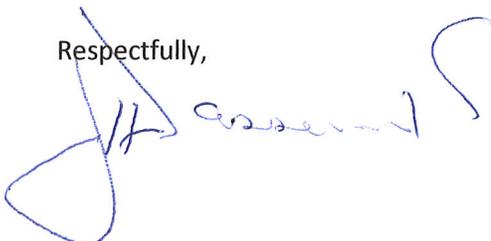
Dear Mayor Herrera Spencer & Alameda City Council,

I'm following up on the waterfront "access point" parks along Fernside Drive that I wrote you about in October of 2016, to request an update on what is being done with them. As an Alameda resident and homeowner who is fortunate enough to live along the water, I urge you to KEEP public access to these three waterfront public access points along Fernside Blvd. I attended the September meeting of the City Council where you voted to allow my neighbors to purchase the water lot behind their homes from the Army Corps of Engineers. I applaud your decision. I love the ability to look at the bay from our yard, and I want all my Alameda neighbors to be able to do the same, regardless if they live along the water. The East End waterfront public access points were designed and approved for public access, and I love to see people come enjoy our waterfront pocket parks at the end of Central Ave and Liberty Ave. It is a shame that a few of our Fernside neighbors have decided to illicitly block or encroach on these waterfront public access points and to deny public access and / for private gain. I pay my \$200 per year to Alameda to keep my waterfront view, but the water itself is public, and the shoreline below the high water mark is also common law public access. Unless our Alameda government enforces these public use rights, some property owners will unfairly benefit through a de facto theft of public waterfront access, essentially stealing public property and water access for their own private benefit.

The windfall you have given my neighbors along the deepwater channel by allowing them to purchase the valuable Army Corps of Engineers owned waterfront land for \$10,000 each will MORE than pay for the City of Alameda to significantly improve and enforce these three public access points, create the 35 feet of deeded public shoreline access and install public benches, boat launch and a fishing pier that should exist at these access points along the channel. I also ask that the City enforce the codes that prohibit homeowners from collecting and storing derelict boats and marine debris along the waterfront.

Please don't sell out to the self serving interests of a few wealthy property owners adjacent to these valuable public right of way points who want this land for themselves, and instead take the necessary regulatory steps to protect the full public right of way of these public lands that were intended to provide public shoreline access. If you would like to discuss any of these issues with me, my e-mail is jeffmwasserman@yahoo.com and my phone is 415.559.8344.

Respectfully,



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MAR 30 2017

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MAYOR'S OFFICE

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