

October 14, 2019

Dear Members of the City Council:

Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft  
Vice Mayor John Knox White  
Councilmember Tony Daysog  
Councilmember Jim Oddie  
Councilmember Malia Vella

RE: Support for Implementation Plan for De-Pave Park – Item 9-B on the October 15, 2019  
Regular Meeting of the City Council

On behalf of Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda (CASA) we are writing to express our support for: Establishing an Implementation Plan for Creating the Shoreline Ecological Park on the West Side of Seaplane Lagoon at Alameda Point, Commonly Known as De-Pave Park.

The City's Climate Action and Resiliency Plan calls for implement nature-based shoreline protection measures to mitigate the impacts of sea level rise and specifically references the Town Center and Waterfront Precise Plan which calls for creation of a waterfront park, referred to as De-Pave Park.

Development of De-Pave Park will help to address climate change adaptation, support wildlife, and create public open space to enhance the development at the Town Center. We support moving forward with the implementation plan for De-Pave Park.

Sincerely,



Ruth Abbe, Steering Committee  
Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda

## LARA WEISIGER

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**From:** cyndy johnsen <cyndyjohnsen@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 14, 2019 8:05 PM  
**To:** Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft; Jim Oddie; Tony Daysog; Malia Vella; John Knox White  
**Cc:** LARA WEISIGER; City Clerk  
**Subject:** Item 9-B, Alameda City Council Meeting 10/15/2019  
**Attachments:** BWA De-Pave 10-2019.pdf; ATT00001.htm

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RE: Item 9-B, Alameda City Council Meeting 10/15/2019

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Councilmembers,

Bike Walk Alameda supports Item 9-B (creating an implementation plan for De-Pave Park), and would like to thank Councilmen Oddie and Daysog for getting it on the agenda.

We recognize that Alameda's waterfront is what makes Alameda special, and also what threatens us as sea levels rise. By creating a public park where people can connect with nature, enjoy stunning views, and learn more about tidal ecology and global warming, all while restoring wetland habitat, we're making the best use of our treasured waterfront. As Alameda Point development moves ahead, it seems time to take the next step on this project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cyndy Johnsen

Board Member, Bike Walk Alameda

RE: Alameda City Council Meeting, October 15, 2019

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are writing in strong support of Item 9B – Consider Establishing an Implementation Plan for Creating the Shoreline Ecological Park on the West Side of Seaplane Lagoon at Alameda Point, commonly known as De-Pave Park.

We believe that it's time, in fact well past time, to move forward on De-Pave Park. As others have noted, the park concept was included in the 2014 Alameda Point Town Center and Waterfront Specific Plan and is highlighted as "A Case Study in Adaptive Land Use and Shoreline Management" in Alameda's 2019 Climate Action Plan (pages 124 and 125). But De-Pave Park ] can't give us any of these critical climate mitigation benefits while it's still only on paper.

Seaplane Lagoon and the surrounding area teams with wildlife, from rafts of wintering ducks and grebes to our summertime foraging pelicans and our endangered Least Terns. The Seaplane Lagoon also consistently hosts a nesting pair of Ospreys in summer and resident herons, oystercatchers and more enjoy this area daily throughout the year. As the city increases the commercial and transportation uses of the Lagoon, it's critical to consider the needs of the wildlife that are being compromised by that development.

We support the six aspects of the implementation plan outlined in the Council Referral, in particular the hiring of an engineering consultant, hiring an engineering consultant to prepare a preliminary design with cost estimates, including the opportunity for community input, assigning staff, or hiring a grant writer, to seek funding and budgeting Base Reuse funds for these actions. Community input for the plan will be critical, in particular in light of the many years elapsed since the preparation of the concept plans. In the process of scoping the project, we believe the city should re-consider the removal of Building 25 as well as 29, given the paving, access and activity impacts of retaining Building 25. Perhaps most importantly, there needs to be a deadline for the creation of the implementation plan and deadlines for the various activities in that plan.

While it is not part of the referral on the agenda, we also support the comments of former Councilperson Mattarese about the need for more urgency in completing the City's negotiations with East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD). Together "DePave Park" the proposed regional park and potential wetlands work by the VA could make a much more significant impact.

Every year that goes by without action contributes to climate change, poses more risks to wildlife and raises the price tag of doing what is needed. We urge the Council to make the referral, set a deadline for the staff to respond, and to rank the project as both Urgent and Important.

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Leora Feeney  
Co-Chair, Friends of the Alameda Wildlife Reserve

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Linda Carloni  
President, Board of Directors

## IRMA Glidden

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**From:** Frank Matarrese <[f.j.matarrese@gmail.com](mailto:f.j.matarrese@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 7, 2019 6:14 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Fwd: To City Council: For Council Referrals 9A and 9B

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----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Frank Matarrese <[f.j.matarrese@gmail.com](mailto:f.j.matarrese@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Mon, Oct 7, 2019 at 4:50 PM  
**Subject:** To City Council: For Council Referrals 9A and 9B  
**To:** [LWEISIGER@alamedaca.gov](mailto:LWEISIGER@alamedaca.gov) <[LWEISIGER@alamedaca.gov](mailto:LWEISIGER@alamedaca.gov)>

9A - Writing in support of returning the City Council to its role as Board of Directors of the AHA

9B - See Comments below.

Respectfully,

Frank Matarrese

The City Council must act on De-Pave and Northwest Territories Parks with sense of urgency. Acting on both follows policy set in the City's recently approved Climate Action Plan and the worsening climate crisis demand launching work on these parks now.

Unfortunately, the City's track record is not good as it's been more than a year since negotiations with East Bay Regional Parks District (EBRPD) started on turning the 147 acres in the north west corner of Alameda Point into a regional park. The same goes for "De-Pave Park".

Removing the concrete pads and naturalizing the western side of the Seaplane Lagoon has been talked about for years without progress on any actual work. It's a shame, because adding "De-Pave Park" to a Northwest Territories Regional Park could provide miles of natural buffer to inevitable sea level rise and acres of carbon-sequestering habitat, both urgently needed to help address climate change. These parks would provide spectacular open space to off-set planned development, too.

It's also clear that both projects meet City policies for addressing climate change as outlined in the recently approved Alameda Climate Action and Resiliency Plan.

It's all well and good to talk about the idea of these parks again, but time for this kind of talk is done. Council direction for "De-Pave Park" has to include deadlines for the plan to come back for a vote and must, if Alameda

is truly serious about addressing climate change, carrying a priority of "Urgent and Important". In parallel, the same sense of urgency with a Council established deadline is needed in directing the City Manager to come back with an agreement with EBRPD for the Northwest Territories ready for a vote.

Every year that goes by without action contributes to climate change and raises the price tag of doing what is needed. Delay also means missed opportunities gained by getting EBRPD signed on, with its power to plan, fund and operate regional parks.

Failure to act and start work on these parks relegates Council referrals and promises in Alameda Point plans to "feel good plans"; getting applause the night of the vote, being good for campaign literature, but contributing nothing to Alameda's future. For our future, the Council must give the direction to act now and start work on De-Pave and Northwest Territories Parks.