February 5, 2022

To:

City of Alameda Council Meeting Commissions on Persons with Disabilities Recreation and Parks Commissions FEB 20 2022

CITY OF ALACIPACE

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

From:

The Residents
Waters Edge Lodge
801 Island Drive
Alameda, CA
94502

WE DEPEND ON THE ALAMEDA LOOP SHUTTLE FOR MUCH OF OUR INDEPENDENCE! If we do not have access to the shuttle, we lose the ability to go out alone to shop, buy groceries, go to the movies, try a new restaurant, seek recreation, and visit friends. Without the shuttle, we are dependent on making arrangements AHEAD OF TIME for our loved ones to drive us where we want to go. Or we have to arrange transportation with our residential driver in advance as well. Some of us are completely alone with no familial support. Without the shuttle, we lose the ability to do anything outside of our residence spontaneously. Imagine your life without that spontaneity. You can't go to the store to pick up a simple bottle of shampoo or aspirin. We've already lost numerous freedoms because of the aging process and its' affects on our health. Don't allow us to lose more by stopping the shuttle. We still pay taxes like everyone else.

There's an old adage, "every letter written in protest represents twenty other letters unwritten." Please take this into consideration.

American culture focuses on our children more than any other age group. We support this perspective; however, what age group is our priority after children and youth? The American media suggests anyone thirty-five or younger. In many other cultures, the elderly are included in as many traditions, events and customs as possible. Let's make that happen. Let's keep the shuttle.

Attached are our signatures. You can reach any of us at Waters Edge Lodge.

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ATTENTION

Proposed Discontinuation of the FREE ALAMEDA LOOP SHUTTLE

To provide daily accessible transportation through our *Free AC Transit Bus Pass Program* and the *Alameda Independent Mobility (AIM) Program* to more low-income Alameda residents, City staff is recommending to discontinue the Alameda Free Loop Shuttle as of June 30, 2022.

The details and discussion of this plan can be heard by attending one of the following virtual commission meetings or the City of Alameda Council Meeting via Zoom. See dates and times below, or for more information go to: <u>City of Alameda - Calendar (legistar.com)</u>.

 Commission on Persons with Disabilities February 10, 2022 at 6:30 pm

 Recreation and Parks Commission February 10, 2022 at 7:00 pm

City of Alameda City
 Council Meeting

March 1, 2022 at 7:00 pm

Would you like more information about:

- Free AC Transit Bus Pass Program?
- Alameda Independent Mobility (AIM) Program using Uber and Lyft (for those enrolled in East Bay Paratransit)
- Hop on the Bus with Us Program to navigate and ride the AC Transit bus system

Contact:

Katherine 'Kat' Kaldis
Paratransit Coordinator, City of Alameda

phone: 510.747.7513

email: CityParatransit@alamedaca.gov

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