



May 8, 2016

(By electronic transmission)
Alameda City of Planning Board
City of Alameda
2263 Santa Clara Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501

Subject: Proposed Alameda Point Main Street Neighborhood Specific Plan (Item 7-B on Planning Board's 5-9-16 agenda)

Dear Boardmembers:

The Alameda Architectural Preservation Society (AAPS) is very encouraged by the direction of this planning effort as set forth in the staff report and exhibits. We are especially pleased with the proposed 30 foot height limit within the NAS Historic District. Exhibit 2 does a very good job summarizing the input previously supplied by AAPS.

As stated in Exhibit 2, our central concern is that new development is visually subordinate to contributing structures within the Historic District and existing historic visual character and that:

1. We oppose infill around the Big Whites, whose low density and landscape design are key to historic visual character; and
2. We support retaining the Big Whites as they are in their existing park-like setting.

Although the proposed height limits are consistent with these objectives, other regulations such as maximum lot coverage, setbacks and minimum lot size are also relevant. We therefore look forward to reviewing the remaining development regulations that will be proposed for the Main Street Neighborhood. Will there be a subdivision map?

In addition to the NAS Historic District, we are also concerned about the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Service) Barracks (Building 78). Have any potential uses for this structure been identified?

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please contact me at (510)523-0411 or cbuckleyAICP@att.net if you would like to discuss these comments.

Sincerely,

Christopher Buckley, President
Alameda Architectural Preservation Society

cc: Mayor and City Councilmembers (by electronic transmission)
Andrew Thomas, Debbie Potter, and Jennifer Ott (by electronic transmission)
Historic Advisory Board (by electronic transmission)
AAPS Board and Preservation Action Committee (by electronic transmission)