



May 18, 2020

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

Re: Student Letters of Appreciation

Dear Mayor Ashcraft & Members of the City Council:

As follow up to our correspondence of May 4th, CASA is delighted to present this **second** and final batch of letters from Alameda students. They have written to you to express what they've been grateful for in Alameda in celebration of this year's 50th Earth Day, and what we can all do to improve our local climate.

Over 100 students have written to share with you directly (in words, sketches and photos) their enthusiasm for the bike paths, parks and beaches, trees, gardens and public venues in Alameda. They have suggested how we all can further reduce greenhouse gas emissions by biking, walking and rolling, recycling and composting, reducing food waste, choosing reusables, eating less meat, picking up litter, driving EV's and more.

We hope you'll take time to review their great thinking, and positive ideas for our City!

Many students, families and teachers look forward to the City's response to these letters. If you would like to share a few words with them, we would be happy to include your note(s) at the top of our Kudo Board:

<https://www.kudoboard.com/boards/jv8QfMqj>

We appreciate your leadership. Thank you for continuing to make Alameda a model for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adapting to the impacts of climate change -- especially now, as we emerge from the challenging impacts of COVID-19. As always, CASA looks forward to being a partner with the City in achieving the goals of Alameda's Climate Action and Resiliency Plan.

Sincerely,

Debi Ryan
Community Action for a Sustainable Alameda

Dear Mayor Ashcraft, 4-22-20

I am grateful for

Bike paths in Alameda
on this 50th Earth Day.

I feel this way
because... I like exploring
evry wair we go.

One way I think we
can keep improving our
climate in Alameda is to
drive less cars and
ride more Bikes.

Sincerely, Cyrus Turner
1st grade Mc Sweeney

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and
Alameda City Council
members I am

Grateful For People

Picking trash up
in Alameda on this 50th.

Earth Day I feel

this way because it
makes me happy

one way I think we
can keep improving
our climate

Alameda

trash

Simply
Cari Jordan
grade 4
Teacher's. Alameda
Public School



April 2020

Dear Mayor Ascraft and Alameda Council

I am proud that everyone who lives here takes good care of each other and our city. I feel this way because I see cleaner sidewalks, streets and beaches. One thing I think we can do to improve our city is to play and get out more. The good thing is, let's keep it up.

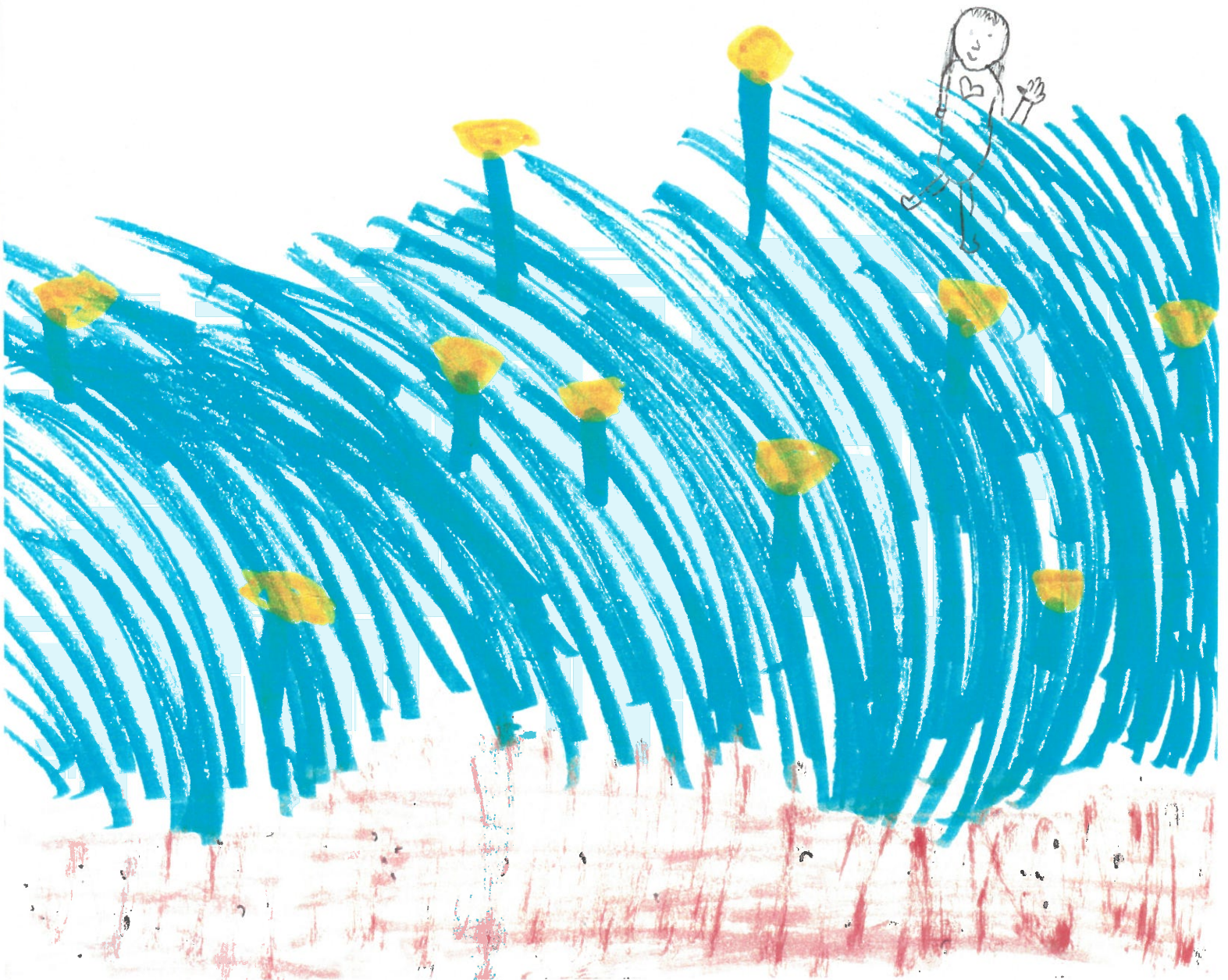
Elisa Posada
Elisa Posada
Elisa Posada
Elisa Posada

Here is a drawing of our Alameda



Dear Mayor Ashcraft, I love the world and love the way they make the hiking trails, because I think they are very beautiful. Every day should be Earth Day, because we should treat are planet with respect, by not wasting our food and water, not littering and not cutting down the forests.

Sincerely,
Sylvia Fowler
Franklin School



LESS

more



Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for the fact that we have compost on park street, because if you were walking and you finished an apple you wouldn't want to hold on to and this way you can find the right bin. I think we should make more public transport, because more people could get around on one thing.

From,
Eli Sidranstone
3rd grade
Mr. Aitkins
Edison Elementary



Me kayaking in the estuary

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for the no plastic straws law in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day. It would be wonderful if this law could be mandatory for the entire island.

One way that I think that we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to plant more trees and gardens. Trees take the dirty air and turns it into oxygen. Please plant more Milkweed in our gardens as well. Monarchs only lay their eggs on Milkweed plants. We've seen only a few Monarchs the past couple of years. We used to have hundreds every spring and fall in our garden. I sure miss them. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Leah

Leah Garfinkle
2nd Grade Ms. del Rosario
Edison School



Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for the bike lanes in Alameda because it makes it safer for people who like biking. I am also grateful for all the trees in Alameda because it provides fresh air for us. One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to not litter. Litter goes in storm drains or to a landfill. Trash that ends up in storm drains eventually ends up in the ocean because storm drains either lead to the ocean or to rivers that eventually lead to the ocean. Most animals can't tell the difference between trash and their actual food. Sometimes people litter on the beach and that is the worst because it can get into the ocean way easier at high tide. Trash that ends up in landfills gets buried. Also trash doesn't decompose, it just stays there. I think that it would be helpful to add more trash cans and put up signs to remind people to throw away their trash. Another thing you should do is put pictures on the signs such as of landfills and the trash in the ocean. I also think the city should organize more beach clean ups.

Here is a picture of what we don't want our beaches to look like:



Here is a picture of what we do want our beaches to look like:



Sincerely,
Milla Gleason
4th grade Mrs. Carpenter
Edison Elementary

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for the no straws law for businesses on Park street in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day. I feel this way because straws hurt wildlife.

One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to make plastic to-go containers (as well as eat in containers like they use at Habit Burger) and straws illegal for the entire city of Alameda. Plastic is a substance that the Earth cannot digest.

Sincerely,

Dylan

Dylan Garfinkle
4th Grade Ms. Carpenter
Edison School

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for all the trees and plants in Alameda. I feel this way because trees help make the air cleaner.

One way I think we can keep improving the climate in Alameda is to recycle and reuse because if we recycle and reuse things there will be less trash. Trash can be harmful if animals eat it or if it gets into the bay where animals can get stuck in it, or eat it.

My favorite place in Alameda (besides my house) is our school garden because it is a place where me and my friends learn new things, have fun, and most of all, enjoy the Earth and the things on Earth, like plants and animals.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth

3rd grade Ms. Mills class

Maya Lin school

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for the beach in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day. I feel this way because without the beach we couldn't have fun on the sand and we couldn't go sailing.

One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to plant **more trees, plants and gardens.**

My favorite place in Alameda is **Jean Sweany park** because there is a bike path.

Sincerely,

Brighty

Maya Lin
Ms. Mills
3rd Grade

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for the beautiful skies in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day. I feel this way because I can just look up at the sky and see the sun and blue.

One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to walk, roll, and carpool or ride-share because then we aren't wasting as much gas and fossil fuels which makes the climate hotter.

My favorite place in Alameda is the beach because I love hearing the waves splash on the sand

Sincerely,
Zephyr Martin

Maya Lin
Ms. Mills
3rd Grade

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for everybody's help for picking up trash in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day. I feel this way because we should all be taking care of the earth and not littering.

One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to keep our sewer pipes clean. **Bring our reusable bags, mugs, and take-out containers** because if we don't, earth will be full of junk

My favorite place in Alameda is crab cove because everybody tries their best to keep it clean.

Sincerely,

Amaar

Maya Lin
Ms. Mills
3rd Grade

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for the pools in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day. I feel this way because I like swimming.

One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to take bikes more than cars, buses or any thing that runs on gas, because it creates pollution which is bad for the earth!

My favorite place in Alameda is the beach because you can build really cool (and tall) sandcastles!

Sincerely,

Penny Hoch

3rd grade, Maya Lin

Ms. Milla

Dear Major Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for the new sidewalk and bike path in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day.

I feel this way because there are lots of cars on the road and about 900 people get killed each year in Alameda county. So I hope less people will get killed this year and stay safe! Plus air quality will be better.

One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to start to use more bikes than cars. So air pollution can stop! Walking and biking helps the planet a lot. But cars are a problem, the oil helps power a car. Oil can drip out and it hurts the earth.

My favorite place in Alameda is the beach because it is a great place to be outside. Also you can have lots of fun there. I love swimming in the water with goggles on.

Sincerely, Ainsley. R. Bennett

Maya Lin
Ms. Mills
3rd Grade

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for staying in the in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day. I feel this way because we can.

One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to plant more.

(pick one or dream up your own)

waste less food because...

plant more trees, plants and gardens because...

bring our reusable bags, mugs, and take-out containers because...

walk, roll, and carpool or ride-share because...

refuse, reuse, repair, recycle, and rot because...

use less water because...

eat less meat because...

choose renewable energy because...

plan for climate change because...

My favorite place in Alameda is the park because clean up.

Sincerely,

(p.s. I'm a 12 year old)

(p.s. again, don't mind my handwriting)

Dear Mayor Arcoff and Alameda City Council
members,

I am for our beaches in Alameda on this
50th Earth Day. I feel this way
because most of the bay do not have
beaches.

One way I think we can keep
improving our beaches in Alameda
is to keep picking up trash.

My favorite place in Alameda
is the beach because it is so
peaceful

Sincerely,
Daxton

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for the weather in Alameda on this 50th Earth day. I feel this way because the weather is one part of Alameda that I like. One way I think we can keep improving our climate is to buy in bulk. If we buy all those small bags and then throw them away, that means more trash in the landfills. Also, if we fill up ALL the landfills, there won't be any more space to put that trash! My favorite place in Alameda is the beach because it's one of my happy places.

Sincerely,
Anastasia M.H.

Maya Lin
Ms. Mills
3rd Grade

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for our community in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day. I feel this way because people are helping others and picking up our trash.

One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to use less oil.

plant more trees, plants, and gardens because our earth will be healthy with fresh air.

My favorite place in Alameda is the beach

Because there is no trash in the water, and how relaxing it is .

Sincerely, Rob Felicisimo

Maya Lin

Ma. Milla

3rd Grade

Dear Mayor

I am grateful for wild flowers in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day. I feel this way because they smell good. One way we can ~~improve~~ ~~are~~ climate in Alameda is to plant more trees. Improv

from Hannah

grade: 3

Teacher Jen Howell

School

edison



From Alayna Gilroy
to Mayor Ashcraft
and Alameda
City Council
Members.

I LOVE Alameda



Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda
City Council Members I am
gratefull for Beaches in Alameda
On this 50th Earth Day
Beacause it's Realy
Hot Right now. one way
I think we can keep
improving our climate
in Alameda is to stop
liding Alameda
Beaches.

Sincerely

Student Name

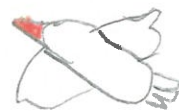
Alayna Gilroy

Grade 1st grade

Teacher Miss Angelo

School Paden

Elementary



*Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,
I am grateful for the parks in Alameda on this
50th Earth Day. I feel this way because they are
fun .
One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to
not litter.*

*Sincerely,
Roman Antonini
Ms. Goin 1st grade
Earhart*

We also love all the places to walk especially during shelter in place. Thank you for truly looking out for us and keeping us safe.

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for the parks in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day. I feel this way because Alameda is the third oldest park system in the State of California with 21 parks serving our city yearly. Throughout the city, there are multiple parks. Wherever you live in Alameda, there is bound to be a park nearby. Alameda is made up of houses and buildings, with a few trees and lawns smuggled in. But at every park in Alameda, there is always grass and trees, reassuring the city that there are places helping the environment.

One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to bring our reusable bags, mugs, and take-out containers because we need to reduce plastic waste. Whenever I went to the shoreline with my class for school, we always saw a lot of trash. One summer, I even did community service by picking up the trash on the shoreline with other teenagers. Every year, the average American disposes of about 185 pounds of plastic. In America, only 6.8% of the total plastic is recycled. We are producing over 300 million tons of plastic annually, half of which is for single-use purposes, and more than 8 million tons of plastic is dumped into our oceans every year. About 100 million marine animals are murdered by plastic every year. Polypropylene bags are good to reuse and recycle, despite not being completely biodegradable. When going to your favorite restaurants to buy a drink, you should bring a glass or metal container that they can pour it in, if they allow reusable containers. Foods stay fresh in glass and harmful chemicals won't find their way into the food you store. Recycled glass uses 40% less energy than producing new glass, and up to 80% of all recycled glass can be recovered. Metals can be recycled often without changing their properties and according to the American Iron and Steel Institute, the most recycled material on Earth is steel. Other tremendously recycled metals comprise of aluminum, copper, silver, brass, and gold. When it comes to take out containers, foam is the most hard to recycle, aluminum is the most convenient for recycling plants to recycle.

Sincerely,

Ayla Madrid

11th

Alameda High

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful that we still have a pretty good environment in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day. I feel this way because we have been destroying our own environment with all the trash we use, but I'm glad there are still some beautiful parts left.

*One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to **bring our reusable bags, mugs, and take-out containers** because that way we won't using anywhere near as much trash as we are now, and there will be a lot more happy animals in yours and our lives.*

This is my favorite place in Alameda (it's the beach)



Sincerely,

Gigi L.

4th Grade/ Duran

Franklin Elementary

No.

Date

Dear mayor Ashcraft and
Alameda City Council
members,

I am grateful for the
people who help keep the
beach clean. I enjoy visiting
the beach I like that
there is no trash.

One way I think we
can keep improving our
Climate in Alameda is to
lower the car speed so
the animals can cross the
street.

No.

Date

Street without being hurt.

Sometimes I see a dead animal on the street.

I hope you can make some changes to protect animals.

Sincerely

Zoey Wegeter

2nd grade Ms. Gordon

bay farm school.

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for the way we take global warming seriously here in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day. I feel this way because I believe that if we didn't we would be a polluted city like SF.

One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to walk, roll, and carpool or ride-share because if we didn't it would eventually kill the Earth, causing our extinction.

Here is a photo of my favorite place in Alameda.



*Sincerely,
Jake Dewindt
4th Grade/ Duran
Franklin Elementary*

Note,

Ms.Duran, could you send this?

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I am grateful for all of our parks and beautiful natural sites in Alameda on this 50th Earth Day. I feel this way because I am a kid and I love the park and beach and I like to ride my bike in all of these wonderful areas.

One way I think we can keep improving our climate in Alameda is to provide free safety classes to teach people how to ride a bike, skateboard etc... Also we could make a community garden with trees, plants and flowers etc. So then we can help with global warming and do our part.

Here is a photo of my favorite place in Alameda.

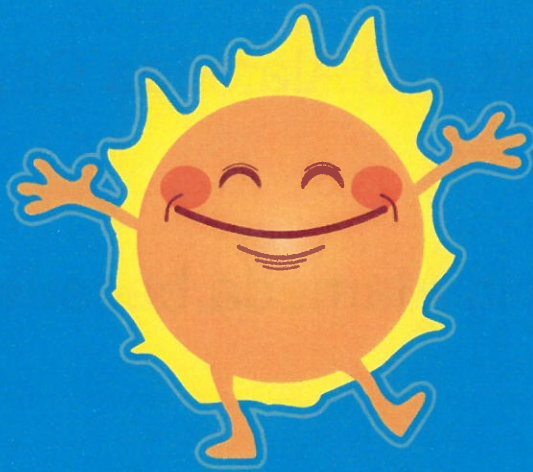


Sincerely,

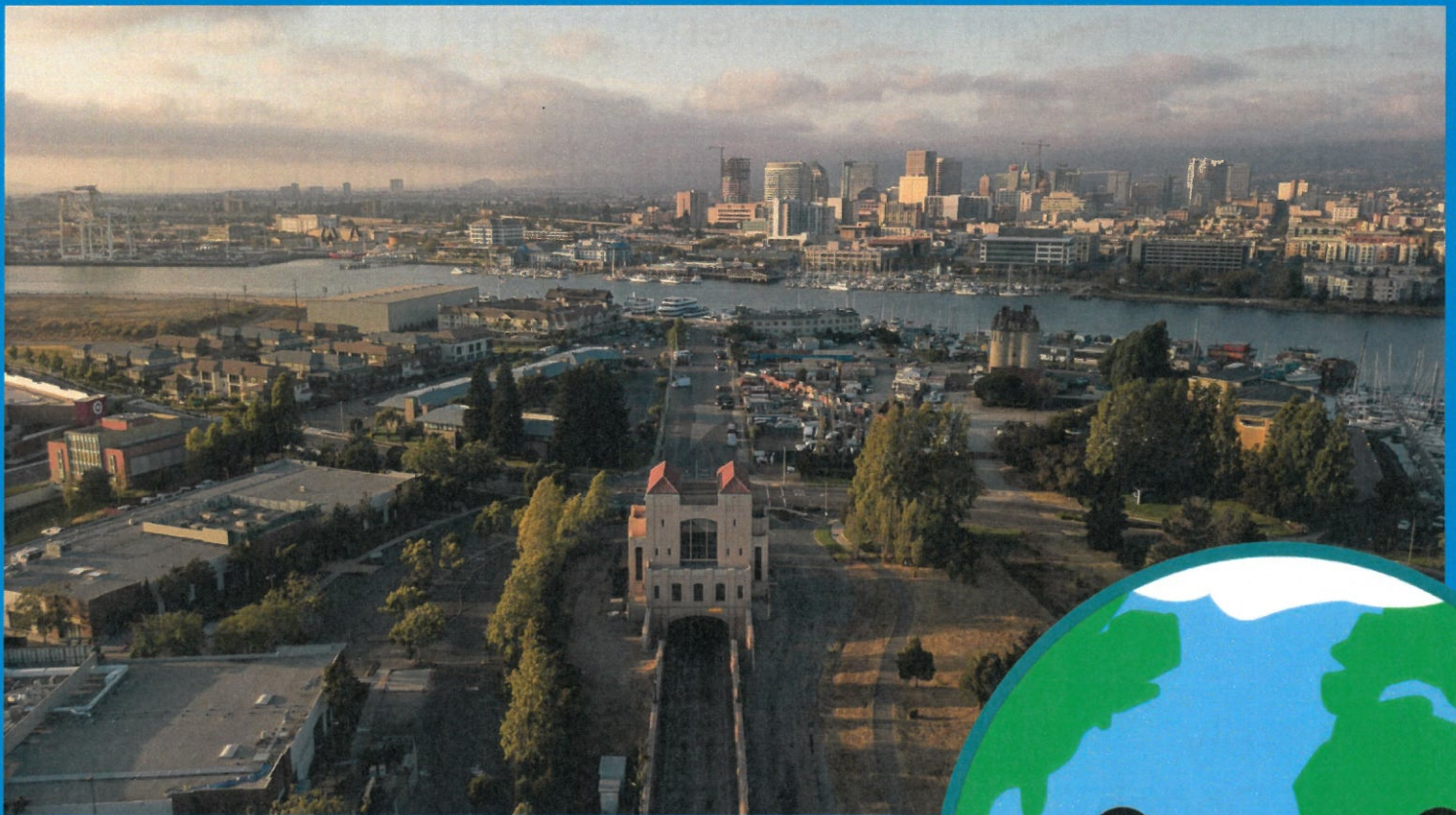
Jamel Flores

4th Grade/ Duran

Franklin Elementary



To: Mayor Ashcraft &
Alameda City Council



Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council
Members,

I love my home in Alameda because it's a nice
neighborhood.

My favorite thing to see in nature is humming bird
because they are blue and blue is my favorite color.

I know that our earth needs our help, which is why I
turn off every light to save energy and i recycle my
bottles. I also to use reusable straws to save the
turtles. For christmas i got reusable lunch bags for
my school lunch.

I think we can keep improving our Alameda
community by trying to plant more trees so we can
breath better.

Sincerely,
Cody Dortch
3rd, Miss Ong
Earhart

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I love my home in Alameda because it has parks & schools.

My favorite thing to see in nature is trees & flowers because they are pretty.

I know that our earth needs our help, which is why I

I think that we should stop using plastic straws.

I think we can keep improving our Alameda community is plant more trees, plants and gardens because we make a lot of carbon dioxide. Here is a photo of my favorite place in Alameda.

Sincerely,
Abel Hobbs
3rd, Miss Ong
Earhart



Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I love my home in Alameda because it is safe and it is beautiful.

My favorite thing to see in nature is animals because they are cute, interesting, and kind.

I know that our earth needs our help, which is why we should help stop pollution, and help pick up trash on the ground.

I think we can keep improving our Alameda community by refuse, reuse, repair, recycle, and rot.

Here is a photo of my favorite place in Alameda.

Sincerely,
Levianna Huang
3rd, Miss Ong
Earhart



Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I love my home in Alameda because there is a park near my home. And I like the house because it is quiet where I live. Alameda is a small city. There are not that much people and not that much cars driving through the street. It is very convenience because there are a lot grocery stores restrants.

My favorite thing to see in nature is bird chirping in front of my house because it is so lovely and great to hear the bird to chripe.

I know that our Earth needs our help, which is why we need to clean up the ocean to make our shoreline to be clean, no more trash, and no more animals dying and help stop the coronavirus.

I think we can keep improving our Alameda community is by not using that much plastic bags, bottles, or more. We should encourage the people ride bicycles, rather than drive the cars because our city is a small place. It is not too hard to ride bicycles.

I suggest that we should plant our own fruits or vegetables in the yard. I think all we do can help for climate change.

I hope we have a good beach what looks like the picture in Alameda.

Sincerely,
(Candace Le)
3rd, Miss Ong
Earhart



Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I love my home in Alameda because it's so peaceful.

My favorite thing to see in nature is us together with nature because it's peaceful.

I know that our earth needs our help, which is why i'm typing to you.

I think we can keep improving our Alameda community wast less food because the poor don't even have any food.

plant more trees, plants and gardens because they make the air cleaner.

bring our reusable bags, mugs, and take-out containers because you won't use as much trash.

walk, roll, and carpool or ride-share because the air won't be polluted as much.

use less water because you can conserve more for other things.

eat less meat because it takes lots of water to raise livestock.

Sincerely,

Candace Liu

3rd, Miss Ong

Earhart

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I love my home in Alameda because it is sooo pretty and I know that if we keep working hard we can keep it like this mabe even better !!

My favorite thing to see in nature is animals because they come in all shapes and sizes, some small and fluffy others big and strong.

I know that our earth needs our help, which is why I help my parents recylce and compost

I think we can keep improving our Alameda community together by walking, rolling, and carpooling so we can stop heating our earth.

Here is a photo of my favorite place in Alameda

Sincerely,
3rd, *Elizabeth*
Earhart



Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council
Members,

I love my home in Alameda because of the view.

I think we can keep improving our Alameda
community is to use less plastic because it
sometimes gets in the ocean and animals choke.

Here is a photo of my favorite place in Alameda.

Sincerely,
Julianna Marquis

3rd, Miss Ong
Earhart



The movies.

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I love my home in Alameda because without it I mabey would have to go to oakland or somewhere else and I wouldn't get to go to the amazing schools. My favorite thing to see in nature is the plants because their so butiful in there natturall habbitat and we hummens on messing with it. I know that our earth needs our help, which is why I think we should refuse, reuse, repair, recycle and, rot. I think we can keep improving our Alameda community by walking or rolling. This will help because if we use cars people would make more pollution and pollution is bad.

Here is a photo of my favorite place in Alameda, the whole city.

Sincerely,
Adalese Moyer
3rd, Miss Ong
Earhart



Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council
Members,

I love my home in Alameda because the sunset
are beautiful.

My favorite thing to see in nature is the trees
because they grow big.

I know that our earth needs our help, which is why I
am trying to be a vegetarian.

I think we can keep improving our Alameda
community by using less plastic and reuse or
recycle.

My favorite place in Alameda is the lagoons.

Sincerely,
Sadie
3rd, Miss Ong
Earhart

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Alameda City Council Members,

I love my home in Alameda because there are great parks and trails.

My favorite thing to see in nature is animals because they could help earth.

I know that our earth needs our help, because of global warming.

I think we can keep improving our Alameda community by planting trees.

Here is a photo of my favorite place in Alameda.

Sincerely,
Noah Yuen
3rd, Miss Ong
Earhart



MY HOME