

From: [AUREL ROMUALDO](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] sideshows and reckless driving
Date: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 1:46:34 PM

Dear Soir/Madam,

Thank you for bringing your attention to the illegal sideshows and reckless driving in Alameda Point. May I point out that these activities not only happens all around Alameda Point but the open De Pave Park is the main area where sideshows and exhibition of speed occur. De Pave Park was originally closed to motorized vehicles since it was known then that it was conducive to sideshows due to it's wide space and concrete layout, sadly, someone decided to open it up and that is when this whole abuse of speed and vehicles began. It would be a step towards the right direction if the area would be closed to motorized vehicles again.

Yours,

Concerned Person

From: [Sharon Hernandez](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Dangerous cars on Alameda Point
Date: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 1:02:19 PM

As a resident living, and small business owner operating, on Alameda Point, I am all too familiar with the dangers of the high speed car shenanigans going on out here on the former Alameda Naval Air Station.

I am writing to express my concern about the sideshows and sideshow practice, drag racing, unsafe driving, loud explosives, and overall safety on Alameda Point.

As a resident I hear the noise all of this produces daily. My kids have a hard time falling asleep at night due to the sudden booms and screeching tires.

As a business owner and operator, I am concerned with the effects of the drag racing, peeling out and burned rubber, and constant speeding in the Spirits Alley/DePave Park area. One must always watch to be sure before crossing Monarch that the cars in the distance are not traveling at speeds in excess of 60 mph. The smoke and screeching from the burned rubber and sideshow practice at the DePave Park site and the parking lot that was used for the Pop-up Drive In movies, is disruptive at best. If one of these cars were to lose control or misread what another car or pedestrian is doing something tragic will ensue.

As a citizen of Alameda, I am all for development of Alameda Point, and I welcome visitors using it for organic gatherings of car enthusiasts and other events.

A balance must be found to protect the residents and businesses while still allowing public use of the open space.

What is the city going to do to protect residents and businesses on this huge plot of land? What is the city going to do to serve residents who pay rent to the city itself? What is the city going to do to protect businesses and their patrons who bring tax dollars to the city budget?

We look forward to the City Council addressing these issues and creating a safer Alameda Point for everyone.

Respectfully,

Sharon Heranndez

From: [Dede Lewis](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Cc: [Doug Biggs](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Speeding cars and sideshows at Alameda Point
Date: Tuesday, June 1, 2021 9:14:49 AM

Hello,

I am writing to share my concerns on the public safety issue taking place almost daily on Alameda Point. Cars speed through the city owned and managed neighborhoods, typically by way of Orion and Barbers Point, at 50 miles an hour. Their destination is the open parking lots past Spirit's Alley where you can hear sideshow car stunts being on exhibition for hours.

In October of 2020, my 8 year old daughter and two 7 year old neighbors were nearly struck by one such speeding vehicle, while riding bikes in front of our house on Pearl Harbor. The only recourse I seem to have is to call the non emergency APD number, but that doesn't seem efficient and has not yielded any results.

Beyond the safety of my own children, I am very concerned about the safety of the hundreds of young people who reside at Alameda Point Collaborative. These young people don't have a lot of dedicated outdoor space in the way of yards, and are also often riding bikes, and playing basketball in the streets. Many families who live at APC may not engage you in this type of dialogue. Unfortunately, many have been conditioned to believe their voice won't be heard at best, and that their safety and well being doesn't matter. I am also here to dispel the narrative that it is a PC residence engaging in these side show displays. From what I have observed day in day out after 15 months of quarantining is these are folks from outside of the neighborhood coming to use the abandoned parking lots.

In October I requested Orion be declared a Slow Street, like we see in other more affluent parts of the island. I am yet to get concrete updates with a timeline on what is being done to improve public safety in the Alameda Point neighborhood. Making slow streets near entrances to Alameda Point will keep the neighborhoods safe for residents. I don't have solutions for the sideshow areas but frankly, care fare less when folks engage in reckless activities in abandoned parking lots vs in residential neighborhoods. Since Friday and Saturday nights tend to be the most consistent days, perhaps engage a speed trap as APD will often do on Otis or other streets prone to speeding.

Thank you for your consideration in keeping west end residents safe. I look forward to updates.

Dede Lewis

Sent from my iPhone



May 31, 2021

Alameda Mayor and Council Members

Greetings,

I am writing to provide the Council background information on car events that occur on Alameda Point and on the parking lots surrounding the USS Hornet Museum. In January, the Museum was approached by Hemmings Motor News to discuss the feasibility of an annual Auto Show that would be held every September on the Hornet. This show would be a three-day event and would mirror the Annual Moscone Center and Monterey shows which are very lucrative for those communities.

After initial discussions, I contacted the Alameda City planners to discuss the impact on the community of such an event. I am certainly aware of the traffic concerns of the citizens of Alameda and the Museum is committed to cooperate with all the stakeholders in the planning and execution of this event. Currently, the auto show is on hold pending further discussions.

I would like to address the current issues of reckless driving and car gatherings in Alameda Point and in the vicinity of the Museum. The Hornet has fully cooperated with the Alameda County Health Department and the City of Alameda to provide a safe environment for our guests. Two car gatherings that were tentatively scheduled for April and May were cancelled after collaboration with the City Manager and the Health Department. The parking lots surrounding the Museum have been the location for numerous "side shows" and were not approved by the Museum. When these gatherings occur, Hornet Security Staff contacts the Alameda Police and Fire Departments and coordinates the response to prevent an escalation. These events negatively impact our guests and there is the perception that these are "Hornet Events", which is simply not true.

Reckless driving at Alameda Point is a community issue and the Museum will continue to cooperate in eradicating this dangerous situation. It impacts our museum, our guests, and our Alameda community. The Hornet has a long history of serving our community and we want to ensure that we are a valuable resource for the City of Alameda and its citizens. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need more information.

Sincerely,


Capt Mark Epperson

CEO

USN (ret)

RE: Agenda Item 9-A – Council referral on auto-related disturbances at Alameda Point

I would like to expand upon the call to establish enforcement and mitigation measures related to car events at Alameda Point that generate sideshow and drag racing types of activities.

I have personally witnessed first-hand, and by hearing from a distance, dozens of sideshow types of driving behavior that is unrelated to any event. It is not uncommon for a lone motorist with a high-powered vehicle to arrive at a large paved area, such as the large lot east of the USS Hornet, the lot next to the old Air Traffic Control Tower, and the vast paved area on the west side of the Seaplane Lagoon (DePave Park), and proceed to spin doughnuts to show off to their passenger. Within minutes of having their bit of fun, they speed away with little chance of being stopped by Alameda Police or the security patrol.

In some cases I've watched as an APD vehicle or the security patrol makes it rounds, and no sooner do they leave the area and it's as if the "all clear" signal goes out and within minutes it's pedal-to-the-floor for another episode of "Hometown Doughnuts."

I have a couple suggestions. One way to curtail this activity is for APD to be more selective in where its patrol officers post their vehicles. Even an unoccupied police vehicle would be a deterrent. Another way is to install traffic lane barriers in sufficient amount, a sort of maze if you will, to make car spinning impossible while still allowing for navigating the area in a car or on a bicycle. A small version of this barrier type of deterrent was installed on the west side of the Seaplane Lagoon a few years ago, and it worked for that small area.

For illustration purposes, I've attached a photo that I took of a sideshow quickie that occurred in the big lot east of the USS Hornet.

Sincerely yours,
Richard Bangert



From: [Roger Smart](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re sideshows at Alameda Point
Date: Monday, May 31, 2021 3:38:45 PM

Hi Folks,

As a resident at Alameda Point I would like to add my voice to the others requesting that the City of Alameda curb the sideshow activity that happens regularly at Alameda Point. Anything you can do to crack down on sideshows at Alameda Point would be greatly appreciated.

Roger Smart

From: [Doug Biggs](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Cc: [Eric Levitt](#); [Gail Payne](#); [Rochelle Wheeler](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] vehicle issues at Alameda Point
Date: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 1:56:32 PM

Dear Mayor, Members of the City Council,

At the request of our residents, I am writing to once again express their concerns about traffic problems at Alameda Point and ask that action be taken as soon as possible.

The first issue they have asked me to raise is the long standing request for designation of Orion as a slow street. Our residents are struggling with understanding why even after being approved by the Council, it is taking so many months to set up suitable barricades, from the perspective of our residents, they would rather see faster action than prettier action, so even if temporary barricades, such as has been done on most other slow streets, were erected that would help.

Our residents also want to call out the increasing use of their neighborhood streets for sideshow, drag racing and other unsafe activities. Most of these correlate to times when there are major car shows being held out at Alameda Point, usually at the USS Hornet Parking lots. There seems to be a natural affinity for car show attendees to head into other parts of Alameda Point to "show off" with donuts in the middle of the intersections, drag races down streets like Midway and Stardust. I understand that the City is looking into the appropriateness and permitting of the car shows. We would hope that the City would consider charging sufficient fees to provide adequate traffic control to prevent illegal activities from spilling over into nearby neighborhoods from the car shows.

On behalf of our residents, thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Doug Biggs
Executive Director
Alameda Point Collaborative
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www.apcollaborative.org