

Nancy McPeak

From: Rochelle Wheeler
Sent: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 8:47 AM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: FW: Healing Garden/ Alfresco Dining Park on Webster Street

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

More for PB for 1435 Webster.

-Rochelle

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator
Planning, Building and Transportation Department, City of Alameda
510-747-7442 | RWheeler@alamedaCA.gov

From: Trish Spencer
Sent: Saturday, July 3, 2021 9:47 AM
To: Robert Clark <robert.clark@alamedaclc.org>
Cc: Rochelle Wheeler <rwheeler@alamedaca.gov>; waba@westalamedabusiness.com
Subject: Re: Healing Garden/ Alfresco Dining Park on Webster Street

Dear Mr. Clark,

Thank you for your email. This issue is on the Planning Board agenda for July 12, Item 7-B. You may want to speak at that time.

<https://alameda.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=869026&GUID=1EA2B1B1-4356-4CDF-8C40-CE50644EE234>

I'm also including City Staff in this email so that your email may be added to correspondence to the agenda item and West Alameda Business Association so that they're aware of your support.

Happy 4th!

Sincerely,

Trish Herrera Spencer
Councilmember, City of Alameda
510-552-0555

On Jun 7, 2021 9:00 AM, Robert Clark <robert.clark@alamedaclc.org> wrote:
Hello, city council members! I wanted to express my support for the Healing Garden/ Alfresco Dining Park on Webster Street and Taylor Avenue. As an educator at the Alameda Community Learning Center, many of my coworkers and I went here for fantastic live music after work last Friday and had a blast. Please consider keeping the parking lot set up this way as it is a great addition to the community. Thank you all for

your time and the hard work you do behind the scenes.

--

Robert Clark
Social Studies Facilitator
Alameda Community Learning Center

Nancy McPeak

From: Rochelle Wheeler
Sent: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 8:46 AM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Healing Garden Summer Series

More for PB for 1435 Webster.

-Rochelle

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator
Planning, Building and Transportation Department, City of Alameda
510-747-7442 | RWheeler@alamedaCA.gov

From: Trish Spencer
Sent: Saturday, July 3, 2021 9:43 AM
To: Nick Fritz-Codling <nicholas.fritzcoding@gmail.com>
Cc: Rochelle Wheeler <rwheeler@alamedaca.gov>; waba@westalamedabusiness.com
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Healing Garden Summer Series

Dear Mr. Fritz,

Thank you for your email. This issue is on the Planning Board agenda for July 12, Item 7-B. You may want to speak at that time.

<https://alameda.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=869026&GUID=1EA2B1B1-4356-4CDF-8C40-CE50644EE234>

I'm also including City Staff in this email so that your email may be added to correspondence to the agenda item and West Alameda Business Association so that they're aware of your support.

Happy 4th!

Sincerely,

Trish Herrera Spencer
Councilmember, City of Alameda
510-552-0555

On Jun 16, 2021 11:44 AM, Nick Fritz-Codling <nicholas.fritzcoding@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello, I would like to reach out and show my support for the concerts, artwork, and garden located on Webster Street. This has been a great opportunity to utilize an empty parking lot to help businesses and artists to be able to be supported.

I hope the City keeps finding value in this and a long term plan to keep it would be fantastic. I have been able to bring my 7 month old daughter to 3 concerts already with her little headphones on. She has had a fun time in a comfortable outdoor area. Take care and have a great day!

Best,
Nick

--

Nick Fritz-Codling

Nicholas.FritzCodling@gmail.com

(707)591-1850

Nancy McPeak

From: Rochelle Wheeler
Sent: Monday, July 5, 2021 5:35 PM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] My Support for The Healing Garden & Event Space on Webster & Taylor

Please send to PB, for 1435 Webster.

-Rochelle

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator
Planning, Building and Transportation Department, City of Alameda
510-747-7442 | RWheeler@alamedaCA.gov

From: Ardleygirls [mailto:ardleygirls@earthlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 3, 2021 11:33 AM
To: Eric Levitt <elevitt@alamedaca.gov>; Andrew Thomas <athomas@alamedaca.gov>; Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft <MEzzyAshcraft@alamedaca.gov>; Malia Vella <MVella@alamedaca.gov>; Tony Daysog <TDaysog@alamedaca.gov>; Trish Spencer <tspencer@alamedaca.gov>; John Knox White <JknoxWhite@alamedaca.gov>; City Clerk <CLERK@alamedaca.gov>; Rochelle Wheeler <rwheeler@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] My Support for The Healing Garden & Event Space on Webster & Taylor

July 3, 2021

Sent by email to:

City Manager, Eric Levitt

Director of Planning, Andrew Thomas

Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft

Vice Mayor Malia Vella

Councilmember Tony Daysog

Councilmember Trish Herrera Spencer

Councilmember John Knox White

City Clerk's Office

RWheeler

I am a resident of Taylor St., a few doors in from Webster St., and am writing in support of the Healing Garden and small concert space at the corner. I am glad to see the old empty parking lot

turned into something that contributes to our community. I have enjoyed hearing the music, whether from my back door or in person, and appreciate that the amplified music ends at a very reasonable and respectful 8 p.m.

Several local organizations and businesses have worked hard to ensure that the events are a mix of free and low cost, showcasing a wide range of local artists, performers, and musicians, and offering something each of us can participate in and enjoy.

These events bring neighbors and new visitors to the West End which is essential to helping our local businesses recover and thrive following the pandemic. I hope the City of Alameda will continue to support local business owners wanting to maintain their outdoor programs and keep the live music and arts happening at the Healing Garden at Webster and Taylor streets.

Thank you.

Greg Fullerton

635-A Taylor Street

Alameda

415-244-1691

Nancy McPeak

From: Rochelle Wheeler
Sent: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 8:50 AM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: FW: West End Healing Garden & Summer Series

More for PB for 1435 Webster.

-Rochelle

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator
Planning, Building and Transportation Department, City of Alameda
510-747-7442 | RWheeler@alamedaCA.gov

From: Trish Spencer
Sent: Saturday, July 3, 2021 10:18 AM
To: Jennye Garibaldi <jennyegee@gmail.com>
Cc: waba@westalamedabusiness.com; Rochelle Wheeler <rwheeler@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: Re: West End Healing Garden & Summer Series

Dear Ms. Garibaldi,

Thank you for your email. This issue is on the Planning Board agenda for July 12, Item 7-B. You may want to speak at that time.

<https://alameda.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=869026&GUID=1EA2B1B1-4356-4CDF-8C40-CE50644EE234>

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Happy 4th!

Sincerely,

Trish Herrera Spencer
Councilmember, City of Alameda
510-552-0555

On Jun 14, 2021 2:52 PM, Jennye Garibaldi <jennyegee@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello City Councilmembers,

I just wanted to send a quick note to let you know how much my family and I have enjoyed the Healing Garden & Summer Series. As West End residents, this space has been such a bright spot in an otherwise difficult year. Being able to safely enjoy live music, support local artists, grab a happy hour beer, dine al fresco with my family, and reconnect with neighbors has been an absolute lifeline. We are grateful to Sandy Russell and her team for the incredible work they've put into this community, and this space. The Fireside was where I hosted

my husband's 40th birthday party 10 years ago, and this summer, we will ring in his 50th at the Healing Garden - which feels like such an appropriate full circle.

The Healing Garden truly lives up to its name - having this place in our community has been a balm for the soul.

Thank you,
Jennye Garibaldi

Nancy McPeak

From: Rochelle Wheeler
Sent: Thursday, July 1, 2021 3:44 PM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Taylor and Webster

Hi Nancy,

Since the packet already went out, can you add this email to any other public comments you get on the Taylor Lot item, for 07/12 PB?

Thanks!
-Rochelle

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator
Planning, Building and Transportation Department, City of Alameda
510-747-7442 | RWheeler@alamedaCA.gov

From: Dennise Graham [mailto:dennisegra@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 1, 2021 3:07 PM
To: Rochelle Wheeler <rwheeler@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Taylor and Webster

Hi Rochelle

Sorry it has taken me so long to respond to your last e-mail but I get so stressed and angry everytime I think about the abuse my neighborhood and the surrounding neighborhoods and businesses have indured.

Here are some suggestions I would like to recommend.

1. All vendors, staff and musician must park their vehicles in the Fireside parking lot.
2. The speakers for the music must be placed beside or in front of the stage. No other speakers should be allowed.
3. No music shall be played on Thursday what so ever!
4. The volume must be in relationship to the area being used which is approximately 36' wide by 70' long, not a large area.
5. The events can not exceed two days per week, either Friday and Saturday or Saturday and Sunday.
6. No more events after September. We are no longer under any restriction, so the Fireside can hold their annual holiday events at their own establishments. There is no longer any reason to intrude on the neighborhood and local businesses and further.
7. Do not allow an increase of 350 more people. We already have problems with the 220 people already allowed. NO MORE!!!!

I would like to remind you that we have all lived under a great amount of stress for the past year and half. What is happening at the corner of Taylor and Webster is certainly not helping. I feel the Fireside Lounge has not helped but has increased the amount of stress that

has been forced on all of us

This area was supposed to be a Healing Garden, well it is far from being anything but added stress and certainly not at all healing.

Again thanks for listening to my concerns.

Dennise Graham

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Nancy McPeak

From: Rochelle Wheeler
Sent: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 8:46 AM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: FW: Please keep the Healing Garden/ Alfresco Dining Park on Webster Street!

More for PB for 1435 Webster.

-Rochelle

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator
Planning, Building and Transportation Department, City of Alameda
510-747-7442 | RWheeler@alamedaCA.gov

From: Trish Spencer
Sent: Saturday, July 3, 2021 9:45 AM
To: Rebecca Heyman <rebecca.heyman@gmail.com>
Cc: Rochelle Wheeler <rwheeler@alamedaca.gov>; waba@westalamedabusiness.com
Subject: Re: Please keep the Healing Garden/ Alfresco Dining Park on Webster Street!

Dear Ms.. Heyman,

Thank you for your email. This issue is on the Planning Board agenda for July 12, Item 7-B. You may want to speak at that time.

<https://alameda.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=869026&GUID=1EA2B1B1-4356-4CDF-8C40-CE50644EE234>

I'm also including City Staff in this email so that your email may be added to correspondence to the agenda item and West Alameda Business Association so that they're aware of your support.

Happy 4th!

Sincerely,

Trish Herrera Spencer
Councilmember, City of Alameda
510-552-0555

On Jun 7, 2021 11:20 AM, Rebecca Heyman <rebecca.heyman@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and esteemed council members,

The "healing garden" on Webster at Taylor is a great new addition that reminds us all of the charm that Alameda is known for. The art and garden are SO much nicer than the abandoned parking lot that this space has been since the Farmers Market moved to Haight, and being able to walk to a safe, outdoor venue to see live music has been a revelation! I've lived on the west end for 20 years, and this is the best thing that's happened to our neighborhood in my memory - please please allow this to continue! Thank you for your consideration.

Best wishes,
Rebecca Heyman

Nancy McPeak

From: Rochelle Wheeler
Sent: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 8:50 AM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: FW: Healing Garden Summer Series

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

More for PB for 1435 Webster.

-Rochelle

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator
Planning, Building and Transportation Department, City of Alameda
510-747-7442 | RWheeler@alamedaCA.gov

From: Trish Spencer
Sent: Saturday, July 3, 2021 9:48 AM
To: Marisa Lenhardt <lenhardt@adobe.com>
Cc: Rochelle Wheeler <rwheeler@alamedaca.gov>; waba@westalamedabusiness.com
Subject: Re: Healing Garden Summer Series

Dear Ms. Lenhardt,

Thank you for your email. This issue is on the Planning Board agenda for July 12, Item 7-B. You may want to speak at that time.

<https://alameda.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=869026&GUID=1EA2B1B1-4356-4CDF-8C40-CE50644EE234>

I'm also including City Staff in this email so that your email may be added to correspondence to the agenda item and West Alameda Business Association so that they're aware of your support.

Happy 4th!

Sincerely,

Trish Herrera Spencer
Councilmember, City of Alameda
510-552-0555

On Jun 4, 2021 4:15 PM, Marisa Lenhardt <lenhardt@adobe.com> wrote:
Dear Mayor Ashcraft, Vice Mayor Vella, and councilmembers Daysog, Spencer, and White,

What a journey this has been, right? What a wild year and how strange to consider that we may be slowly moving our way out of it.

A bit about me:

A born (yes, Alameda Hospital) and raised Alamedan, working in tech to pay the mortgage, and a trained opera singer who has been doing porch recitals as a gift to the community and to get through the pandemic

(<https://www.sfgate.com/sf-culture/article/Alameda-weekly-porch-concerts-singing-community-15187577.php#photo-19274045>), it has been a joy to watch this unique community of ours grow from a racist, slightly backwards, insular community with beautiful homes into a slightly less racist but still problematic AF, still quirky, odd mix of NIMBY and liberals, with beautiful homes.

We're on the right track. But we have a long way to go to creating a truly inclusive community. The work being done by the West End Arts District and the Summer Series is contributing so much to the necessary community building in our small and diverse town. The garden is delightful! The visual works are positive and thought-provoking, enabling artists to work in what's been an incredibly difficult time. The space is beautiful and provides a safe space for outdoor gathering for the community. And, it drives Alamedans to the best side of town, bringing customers to our awesome businesses.

I live 5 doors up from the intersection of Webster and Taylor. There are few people more qualified to offer genuine support of this series. It starts at a reasonable hour and ends well before bedtime. Crowds are respectful. I am in vehement support of the work being done by the folks putting on the Healing Garden Summer Series.

Thanks for listening,

Marisa

Nancy McPeak

From: marie milam <mariegmilam@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 7, 2021 12:34 PM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter to the Planning Board

I'm inviting all the members of the Planning Board to please come out and hear the level of amplified concert music in the small parking lot with houses all around.

Before you vote on Monday you should know that you've received letters from many unhappy neighbors on the 600 block of Taylor but many more are complaining but are not able to write emails. For some English is a second language. We haven't had time to communicate with 600 block of Santa Clara or 700 block of Taylor. It's all moving so fast. Please vote for a compromise!

Thank you
Marie Milam

Sent from my iPhone

Nancy McPeak

From: Rochelle Wheeler
Sent: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 8:51 AM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: SUPPORT FOR THE Healing Garden Concert Series

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

More for PB for 1435 Webster.

-Rochelle

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator
Planning, Building and Transportation Department, City of Alameda
510-747-7442 | RWheeler@alamedaCA.gov

From: Marie Riccobene [mailto:mariet.riccobene@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, July 5, 2021 9:24 PM
To: Rochelle Wheeler <rwheeler@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: SUPPORT FOR THE Healing Garden Concert Series

Please accept my apology for misspelling your email address, I look forward to your input/support Rochelle Wheeler!

- Marie

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

From: Marie Riccobene <mariet.riccobene@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Jul 5, 2021 at 9:18 PM
Subject: SUPPORT FOR THE Healing Garden Concert Series
To: ANDREW THOMAS <athomas@alamedaca.gov>, <RVWheeler@alamedaca.gov>, <elevitt@alamedaca.gov>, <mezzyashcraft@alamedaca.gov>, <mvella@alamedaca.gov>, <tdaysog@alamedaca.gov>, <tspencer@alamedaca.gov>, <jknoxwhite@alamedaca.gov>

Dear Honorable City of Alameda Leadership and Staff -

After a year of tireless challenges, many you have met with grace - I do kindly request you dismiss any motion of prohibiting the Healing Garden Concert Series due to a small minority of neighborhood complaints.

What makes Alameda so desired are the community activities that foster togetherness and uplift the spirit, ie: the Annual Mayor's Independence Day Parade (we look forward to in 2022), and the various events that mindfully activate our business districts with festivities for our residents and visitors' enjoyment.

The transformation of the vacant Taylor Lot on the Webster corridor planned with the least disturbance and most cautious public safety for everyone, especially nearby residents - draws a diverse commerce to/for Alameda's tax base. It also serves as a testament in creative ingenuity that must be supported wholeheartedly in a time when small businesses are folding en masse.

Any of our expected "squeaky wheels" need only be directed to our most useful: See, Click, Fix to efficiently determine their lack of substance. Respectfully, as many of you have said in chambers, official proceedings and I'm betting to your own families - you can't/won't please everyone.

Your thoughtful consideration of this issue and continued service to Alameda is warmly appreciated.

Best,
Marie T Riccobene
Park Webster
415-312-2453 mobile
510-227-5563 home office

Nancy McPeak

From: Rochelle Wheeler
Sent: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 10:03 AM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] 1435 Webster Conditional Use Permit -- Comment for Planning Board Agenda July 12 2021

Another one for the PB, 1435 Webster.

-Rochelle

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator
Planning, Building and Transportation Department, City of Alameda
510-747-7442 | RWheeler@alamedaCA.gov

From: Rob Siltanen [mailto:robsiltanen@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 9:49 AM
To: Andrew Thomas <athomas@alamedaca.gov>; Rochelle Wheeler <rwheeler@alamedaca.gov>; Brian McGuire <bmcguire@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 1435 Webster Conditional Use Permit -- Comment for Planning Board Agenda July 12 2021

President and Members of the Planning Board and City Staff (and staff, please forward this to the Planning Board),

I'm writing to request that at your meeting July 12 you require significantly different conditions than staff has proposed before approving a temporary conditional use permit ("CUP") for the parking lot at 1435 Webster at the corner of Taylor Street and Webster Street.

The outdoor concerts happening there now are very loud. It's a bit like there's a big outdoor frat party happening at Taylor and Webster multiple times a week.

The CUP should allow no more than one event per week with amplified music, and only permit that on a Friday or Saturday. The CUP should specify within it the permitted decibel levels for these events. The CUP should also include more certain and prompt consequences for any violations of its terms, since the proposed provision that staff will schedule a meeting to consider consequences provides no specific timeline for that meeting and would allow violations of the CUP to continue indefinitely.

For your consideration, here are some additional thoughts and perspectives from a music and art lover/West End business supporter and patron/nearby resident:

The inadequate outreach about these loud outdoor concerts before they began and as they have continued was not and is not neighborly.

The material change in how this "Healing Garden" and outdoor eating space has been used feels to some here like a dishonest "bait and switch."

Many more months of multiple loud events every week in this location now that business life is largely open again (including indoors) is not necessary for the survival or recovery of any local businesses.

If approved as staff is proposing, the CUP would mean the City is imposing a wide range of significant negative externalities on many people and businesses in this area in order to benefit one or two specific entities. It feels like a sweetheart deal for those specific entities.

It is hard to believe that a CUP anything like this would be approved in or adjacent to a residential area anywhere in Alameda other than the West End.

I wonder about the disparity in SES status between those bearing the immediate cost and impact of the negative externalities here compared to the patrons of these concerts, e.g., people willing and able to pay \$30 for tickets for the shows scheduled for July 10 and 17.

As outlined above, I request the following:

- 1) The CUP should allow no more than one event per week with amplified music, and only permit that one event on a Friday or Saturday.
- 2) The CUP should specify within it the permitted decibel levels for outdoor events.
- 3) To ensure and incentivize strict compliance with the terms of the CUP, the CUP should provide that any violation of its terms shall result in its immediate termination, with an opportunity for a hearing to reverse that termination. If the Planning Board won't use that approach, there should be a tight timeline for a hearing such as within seven days of a violation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rob Siltanen
636 Santa Clara Ave

Nancy McPeak

From: Andrew Thomas
Sent: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 8:40 PM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood NIMBYs

Please forward to Planning Board. Thanks!!

From: Greg Tsukahara [mailto:gtsukahara@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 6, 2021 12:38 AM
To: Andrew Thomas <athomas@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Neighborhood NIMBYs

Hello Mr. Thomas,

Hope you are well - I noticed that a neighbor of mine has posted several of these signs along the block. I don't live on the 700 block of Taylor myself, but just around the corner on Page St so I see the signs while out and about (and am very familiar with the "complaints" they refer to).

I'm reaching out to add my perspective, that I strongly disagree with everything they've said. The outdoor music has been a wonderful addition to the area, whether I'm attending myself or just passing by seeing people having fun. It's always been at a reasonable volume, ends at a reasonable hour, and I do hope it continues even after outdoor events are no longer a necessity for health reasons. I'd even advocate for more of it, if there are other similar locations nearby to support such events (this is probably a long shot, but if we could occasionally swap the bands for house music DJs that would be even better...).

In terms of traffic and parking, I'm unsure exactly what this individual is referring to - I park on Taylor near-daily, and it has never taken more than 5 minutes to find a spot. I rarely drive down Webster directly but when I do the delays are minimal, and there are myriad ways of getting to the neighborhood otherwise. Regardless, I think if some additional traffic and parking challenges are the result of bringing more arts & culture to the West End, then I would fully support that trade-off.

In summation, I sincerely hope that the sentiment indicated on these signs - and potentially shared by our other neighbors - does not lead to the cessation of the many fun things Webster Street has to offer. They are part of why I love living here, and part of what causes friends and family to say "what a cool neighborhood you've got!" when they have the opportunity to visit.

Please feel free to reach out to me with questions any time.

Best,
Greg

ATTENTION RESIDENTS
700 BLOCK OF TAYLOR

If you have concerns about the events
happening at the corner of Taylor and
Webster (parking, loud music, increased
traffic, etc.) Please send an e-mail to
Andrew Thomas, Planning Director of
Alameda before July 12th 2021 at
athomas@alamedaca.gov

We all need to express our concerns

THANKS

Nancy McPeak

From: Rochelle Wheeler
Sent: Monday, July 5, 2021 5:38 PM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] We Love the Healing Garden & Summer Series!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi Nancy,
Councilmember Herrera Spencer cc'd me on 6-7 emails sent to her in early/mid June regarding 1435 Webster. As you can see below, she asked that these be sent on to the PB. Will that be okay? I'll forward them all to you, if so.

Best,
-Rochelle

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator
Planning, Building and Transportation Department, City of Alameda
510-747-7442 | RWheeler@alamedaCA.gov

From: Trish Spencer
Sent: Saturday, July 3, 2021 9:40 AM
To: Valerie Verner <v-verner@hotmail.com>
Cc: Rochelle Wheeler <rwheeler@alamedaca.gov>; waba@westalameda.com
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] We Love the Healing Garden & Summer Series!

Dear Ms. Verner and Mr. Ace,

Thank you for your email. This issue is on the Planning Board agenda for July 12, Item 7-B. You may want to speak at that time.

<https://alameda.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=869026&GUID=1EA2B1B1-4356-4CDF-8C40-CE50644EE234>

I'm also including City Staff in this email so that your email may be added to correspondence to the agenda item and West Alameda Business Association so that they're aware of your support.

Happy 4th!

Sincerely,

Trish Herrera Spencer
Councilmember, City of Alameda
510-552-0555

On Jun 15, 2021 4:06 PM, Valerie Verner <v-verner@hotmail.com> wrote:

Hi Trish,

I am a resident at Taylor and Webster St. and wanted to write you to let you know how much we enjoy the activities and beauty of the Healing Garden at the corner! We love to have more to do within walking distance and are glad to see the old empty parking lot turned into something beautiful and supportive of our community.

It is important to have something that we can all participate in and enjoy no matter our age, race or income. While, yes, some of the concerts are not free, just as many are. Plus, we enjoy the music in our backyard! We also like that local artists are being showcased for their talent and Alameda is showing our support of equality and racial justice. I've seen kids and elder adults alike gardening and getting together at the picnic tables. We often meet friends there to avoid going into our house to help prevent the spread of illness.

I'm sure you know that small businesses are struggling and many have gone out of business, and we do our best to regularly support them. Bringing people in from outside the very local area is essential to keeping Alameda businesses alive and encouraging growth within our community.

I live with my fiancé (and two cats), and we were recently approached by a neighbor trying to gain signatures for a petition to end the Healing Garden Arts concert series and are concerned that a very vocal few are trying to take away something we see as not only enjoyable, but beneficial to the local business in and around Webster St. We have heard worries from the local business owners about the ability to continue their outdoor programs. So, I want to make sure our voices are heard as well.

I do want to mention that this person was willing to write any name down on her list, and was quite persistent in getting my partners name, so I am wary that she could have been writing in people who do not want to be listed, or may not even exist.

Some concerns she raised were:

Noise - The music only runs for about 4 hours on Friday and Saturday and ends at 8pm when it is still light out. We all live close together and **noise** is to be expected. I think a larger problem are the racing cars that speed down local streets on quiet days. A few hours a couple days a week of professional music is welcomed and appreciated! When there are events on, we actually see fewer speeding cars and less disturbances from noisy individuals.

Parking - It is to be expected on busy Saturdays that parking will be harder. Many people come to shop and eat or go to the beach. I have regularly seen empty spots on our street alone before, during and after music shows, so I do not believe the problem is so dire. If Webster St. was as full of open businesses as it could be, we would have even more parking taken up. Not to mention on Sundays when church is in session. But I'm sure you would not discourage new businesses from opening or people attending church. It seems that many of the people I have heard complaining about this 'issue' have multiple cars per person, using both their driveway and public spaces. So, who is to say the problem is from visitors?

Covid - I think we can all agree it is much safer to have a limited number of people seated outside to eat or enjoy music than bringing people indoors at full capacity at restaurants or church.

We love the Garden and would like to see more life, activity and business brought to the West End. Taylor Ave has several older, long-term residents that feel more comfortable voicing their opinions than some of the newer, younger and busier residents. Which is why I am taking the time to make sure you know that there are many people who enjoy the life, music, creativity and opportunity to connect with neighbors. We look forward to more businesses opening up on the West End and in Alameda.

I hope the city of Alameda will continue to promote the enjoyment of our local residents as a community, encourage new people to visit Alameda and support our local businesses by keeping the Healing Garden at Webster St and Taylor in business.

Thank you,

Valerie Verner and Andrew Ace
633 Taylor Ave.

Nancy McPeak

From: Rochelle Wheeler
Sent: Sunday, July 11, 2021 4:32 PM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] West End Healing Garden is Great for the Community

For 1435 Webster St.

-Rochelle

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator
Planning, Building and Transportation Department, City of Alameda
510-747-7442 | RWheeler@alamedaCA.gov

From: Kai [mailto:ynunez74@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 10, 2021 12:00 PM
To: Rochelle Wheeler <rwheeler@alamedaca.gov>; Andrew Thomas <athomas@alamedaca.gov>; Trish Spencer <tspencer@alamedaca.gov>; Malia Vella <MVella@alamedaca.gov>; John Knox White <JknoxWhite@alamedaca.gov>
Cc: waba@westalamedabusiness.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] West End Healing Garden is Great for the Community

Hello,

As a recent Alamedan what brought my husband, son, and I to the Island from New Orleans was its quirkiness, its sense of community, and it's proximity and access to music and art.

What I have always thought was missing was a shared space to celebrate the arts. Once the art and beer garden opened - I finally had a reason to convince others to move to the west end.

Why? Because art and music create community and culture. Because my mother is a working artist and she was unconvinced that Alameda had culture until she attended an Alameda Arts event. Because I've had friends that have literally just purchased a home on the West End because of the burgeoning arts community that they have seen with the Alameda Arts community space.

I live 1 block away from the venue and can honestly say that I have no problem with the noise or traffic (which is consistently worse on 8th and not Webster - but that's another email).

Please consider the positive impacts (more foot traffic, more business investment, less shuttered store fronts, more tax revenue, etc) that this arts community development can continue to bring to Alameda and let the arts continue to thrive.

Yakaira Nunez
749 Taylor Ave, Alameda
312.593.4624

Nancy McPeak

From: Andrew Thomas
Sent: Thursday, July 8, 2021 8:39 PM
To: Nancy McPeak; PlanningBoard-List
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Taylor Avenue Feedback

Nancy. Please add to correspondence for Pb meeting on Monday.

Andrew Thomas,
510-774-5361 (c)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Fur Kids On Board <furkidsonboard@gmail.com>
Date: July 8, 2021 at 2:30:14 PM PDT
To: Andrew Thomas <athomas@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Taylor Avenue Feedback

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I wanted to give my feedback on the concerts held on Taylor Avenue and Webster Street. I think the city has done a great job revitalizing Webster with its outdoor dining and concerts.

With regard to the concert, I don't see any problems (I live across the street from the concert location) resulting from it so far for the following reasons:

1. Performance ends early in the evening (please do not allow later performances)
2. The noise level both from the music and patrons is not loud enough to disturb neighbors (unless there are performances later in the evening)
3. Patrons are respectful as far as not littering or acting rowdy.

The only downside may be for businesses as parking is harder to find. Other than that, the concerts have been an asset to the west end community.

On a separate note, the lane changes on Taylor Avenue between Santa Clara and Lincoln has made it dangerous for drivers and pedestrian traffic. I know it was done to allow for outdoor dining, but the lanes were made too small, especially for buses.

Overall, the work done on the west side has really benefited the community and I hope you continue the good work.

Respectfully,
MB

On Jun 7, 2021 9:00 AM, Robert Clark <robert.clark@alamedaclc.org> wrote:
Hello, city council members! I wanted to express my support for the Healing Garden/ Alfresco Dining Park on Webster Street and Taylor Avenue. As an educator at the Alameda Community Learning Center, many of my coworkers and I went here for fantastic live music after work last Friday and had a blast. Please consider keeping the parking lot set up this way as it is a great addition to the community. Thank you all for your time and the hard work you do behind the scenes.

Robert Clark
Social Studies Facilitator
Alameda Community Learning Center

Dear Mayor Ashcraft, Vice Mayor Vella, and councilmembers Daysog, Spencer, and White,

What a journey this has been, right? What a wild year and how strange to consider that we may be slowly moving our way out of it.

A bit about me:

A born (yes, Alameda Hospital) and raised Alamedan, working in tech to pay the mortgage, and a trained opera singer who has been doing porch recitals as a gift to the community and to get through the pandemic ([*****sfgate.com/sf-culture/article/Alameda-weekly-porch-concerts-singing-community-15187577.php#photo-19274045](https://www.sfgate.com/sf-culture/article/Alameda-weekly-porch-concerts-singing-community-15187577.php#photo-19274045)), it has been a joy to watch this unique community of ours grow from a racist, slightly backwards, insular community with beautiful homes into a slightly less racist but still problematic AF, still quirky, odd mix of NIMBY and liberals, with beautiful homes.

We're on the right track. But we have a long way to go to creating a truly inclusive community. The work being done by the West End Arts District and the Summer Series is contributing so much to the necessary community building in our small and diverse town. The garden is delightful! The visual works are positive and thought-provoking, enabling artists to work in what's been an incredibly difficult time. The space is beautiful and provides a safe space for outdoor gathering for the community. And, it drives Alamedans to the best side of town, bringing customers to our awesome businesses.

I live 5 doors up from the intersection of Webster and Taylor. There are few people more qualified to offer genuine support of this series. It starts at a reasonable hour and ends well before bedtime. Crowds are respectful. I am in vehement support of the work being done by the folks putting on the Healing Garden Summer Series.

Thanks for listening,

Marisa
From: **Marisa Lenhardt** <lenhardt@adobe.com>

Hello, I would like to reach out and show my support for the concerts, artwork, and garden located on Webster Street. This has been a great opportunity to utilize an empty parking lot to help businesses and artists to be able to be supported.

I hope the City keeps finding value in this and a long term plan to keep it would be fantastic. I have been able to bring my 7 month old daughter to 3 concerts already with her little headphones on. She has had a fun time in a comfortable outdoor area. Take care and have a great day!

Best,
Nick
Nick Fritz-Codling
Nicholas.FritzCodling@gmail.com
(707)591-1850

Dear Honorable City of Alameda Leadership and Staff -
After a year of tireless challenges, many you have met with grace - I do kindly request you dismiss any motion of prohibiting the Healing Garden Concert Series due to a small minority of neighborhood complaints.

What makes Alameda so desired are the community activities that foster togetherness and uplift the spirit, ie: the Annual Mayor's Independence Day Parade (we look forward to in 2022), and the various events that mindfully activate our business districts with festivities for our residents and visitors' enjoyment.

The transformation of the vacant Taylor Lot on the Webster corridor planned with the least disturbance and most cautious public safety for everyone, especially nearby residents - draws a diverse commerce to/for Alameda's tax base. It also serves as a testament in creative ingenuity that must be supported wholeheartedly in a time when small businesses are folding en masse.

Any of our expected "squeaky wheels" need only be directed to our most useful: See, Click, Fix to efficiently determine their lack of substance. Respectfully, as many of you have said in chambers, official proceedings and I'm betting to your own families - you can't/won't please everyone. Your thoughtful consideration of this issue and continued service to Alameda is warmly appreciated.

Best,
Marie T Riccobene
Park Webster
415-312-2453 mobile
510-227-5563 home office

on Jun 7, 2021 11:20 AM, Rebecca Heyman <rebecca.heyman@gmail.com> wrote:
Dear Mayor Ashcraft and esteemed council members,

The "healing garden" on Webster at Taylor is a great new addition that reminds us all of the charm that Alameda is known for. The art and garden are SO much nicer than the abandoned parking lot that this space has been since the Farmers Market moved to Haight, and being able to walk to a safe, outdoor venue to see live music has been a revelation! I've lived on the west end for 20 years, and this is the best thing that's happened to our neighborhood in my memory - please please allow this to continue! Thank you for your consideration.

Best wishes,
Rebecca Heyman

On Jun 14, 2021 2:52 PM, Jennye Garibaldi <jennyegee@gmail.com> wrote:
Hello City Councilmembers,

I just wanted to send a quick note to let you know how much my family and I have enjoyed the Healing Garden & Summer Series. As West End residents, this space has been such a bright spot in an otherwise difficult year. Being able to safely enjoy live music, support local artists, grab a happy hour beer, dine al fresco with my family, and reconnect with neighbors has been an absolute lifeline. We are grateful to Sandy Russell and her team for the incredible work they've put into this community, and this space. The Fireside was where I hosted my husband's 40th birthday party 10 years ago, and this summer, we will ring in his 50th at the Healing Garden - which feels like such an appropriate full circle.

The Healing Garden truly lives up to its name - having this place in our community has been a balm for the soul.

Thank you,
Jennye Garibaldi

I am a resident at Taylor and Webster St. and wanted to write you to let you know how much we enjoy the activities and beauty of the Healing Garden at the corner! We love to have more to do within walking distance and are glad to see the old empty parking lot turned into something beautiful and supportive of our community.

It is important to have something that we can all participate in and enjoy no matter our age, race or income. While, yes, some of the concerts are not free, just as many are. Plus, we enjoy the music in our backyard! We also like that local artists are being showcased for their talent and Alameda is showing our support of equality and racial justice. I've seen kids and elder adults alike gardening and getting together at the picnic tables. We often meet friends there to avoid going into our house to help prevent the spread of illness.

I'm sure you know that small businesses are struggling and many have gone out of business, and we do our best to regularly support them. Bringing people in from outside the very local area is essential to keeping Alameda businesses alive and encouraging growth within our community.

I live with my fiancé (and two cats), and we were recently approached by a neighbor trying to gain signatures for a petition to end the Healing Garden Arts concert series and are concerned that a very vocal few are trying to take away something we see as not only enjoyable, but beneficial to the local business in and around Webster St. We have heard worries from the local business owners about the ability to continue their outdoor programs. So, I want to make sure our voices are heard as well.

I do want to mention that this person was willing to write any name down on her list, and was quite persistent in getting my partners name, so I am wary that she could have been writing in people who do not want to be listed, or may not even exist.

Some concerns she raised were:

Noise - The music only runs for about 4 hours on Friday and Saturday and ends at 8pm when it is still light out. We all live close together and **noise** is to be expected. I think a larger problem are the racing cars that speed down local streets on quiet days. A few hours a couple days a week of professional music is welcomed and appreciated! When there are events on, we actually see fewer speeding cars and less disturbances from noisy individuals.

Parking - It is to be expected on busy Saturdays that parking will be harder. Many people come to shop and eat or go to the beach. I have regularly seen empty spots on our street alone before, during and after music shows, so I do not believe the problem is so dire. If Webster St. was as full of open businesses as it could be, we would have even more parking taken up. Not to mention on Sundays when church is in session. But I'm sure you would not discourage new businesses from opening or people attending church. It seems that many of the people I have heard complaining about this 'issue' have multiple cars per person, using both their driveway and public spaces. So, who is to say the problem is from visitors?

Covid - I think we can all agree it is much safer to have a limited number of people seated outside to eat or enjoy music than bringing people indoors at full capacity at restaurants or church.

We love the Garden and would like to see more life, activity and business brought to the West End. Taylor Ave has several older, long-term residents that feel more comfortable voicing their opinions than some of the newer, younger and busier residents. Which is why I am taking the time to make sure you know that there are many people who enjoy the life, music, creativity and opportunity to connect with neighbors. We look forward to more businesses opening up on the West End and in Alameda.

I hope the city of Alameda will continue to promote the enjoyment of our local residents as a community, encourage new people to visit Alameda and support our local businesses by keeping the Healing Garden at Webster St and Taylor in business.

Thank you,

Valerie Verner and Andrew Ace
633 Taylor Ave.

I am a resident of Taylor St., a few doors in from Webster St., and am writing in support of the Healing Garden and small concert space at the corner. I am glad to see the old empty parking lot turned into something that contributes to our community. I have enjoyed hearing the music, whether from my back door or in person, and appreciate that the amplified music ends at a very reasonable and respectful 8 p.m.

Several local organizations and businesses have worked hard to ensure that the events are a mix of free and low cost, showcasing a wide range of local artists, performers, and musicians, and offering something each of us can participate in and enjoy.

These events bring neighbors and new visitors to the West End which is essential to helping our local businesses recover and thrive following the pandemic. I hope the City of Alameda will continue to support local business owners wanting to maintain their outdoor programs and keep the live music and arts happening at the Healing Garden at Webster and Taylor streets.

Thank you.

Greg Fullerton

635-A Taylor Street. Alameda

415-244-1691

On Jun 7, 2021 11:20 AM, Rebecca Heyman <rebecca.heyman@gmail.com> wrote:
Dear Mayor Ashcraft and esteemed council members,

The "healing garden" on Webster at Taylor is a great new addition that reminds us all of the charm that Alameda is known for. The art and garden are SO much nicer than the abandoned parking lot that this space has been since the Farmers Market moved to Haight, and being able to walk to a safe, outdoor venue to see live music has been a revelation! I've lived on the west end for 20 years, and this is the best thing that's happened to our neighborhood in my memory - please please allow this to continue! Thank you for your consideration.

Best wishes,
Rebecca Heyman

July 7, 2021 Dear City Council and City Planning,

In this letter, I am writing to share my support of community spaces, like the Healing Garden. As a long time resident of the West End of Alameda (20 years), I frequent the shops and businesses in and around Webster Street frequently, including Fireside, the Farmer's Market, Main Street Supply, and others. One of the best things to emerge during COVID-19 was the Healing Garden. Spontaneously in the wake of George Floyd's murder and Black Lives Matter movement, artists began creating works of art in the parking lot next to Calafia taqueria. It was a beautiful expression, and from that the idea to create a larger space, and now filled with even more art and live music celebrations. What a beautiful addition to our community. I have been at this space almost weekly. I have gone to free events as well as one paid event. My child was chosen as an artist to participate in the Healing Garden and their art is there for all to see, experience and meditate upon, as is the beautiful art of others. It allowed her to smash ceilings and create art on a larger scale than ever before! I personally have witnessed community in action in this space. I went to a show where four women performed for I would say 200 people? It was for Pride and the band had a following. Everyone was kind and we danced and swung to the music. Then something magical happened. A young disabled boy who was there with two adult caretakers expressed his desire to dance! They hesitated at first, but with support from those around him, gave him space in the front to move. He got up and danced his heart out in a safe and loving space, We clapped for the boy and he beamed. This is a space where everybody belonged and healing was present. I once lived in rural California and I had never thought I could achieve that small town community feeling in a town the size of Alameda, but that dusky evening, we did. Please support outdoor public spaces with live music and events, like the businesses and non profits that came together for the Healing Garden. From what I understand, there may be some neighbors who are making complaints about the noise. Although it is important to take into consideration individual points of view and perspective, it is also important to weigh that in comparison to the collective good for the whole. We should make available a community based response, if necessary, such as mediation, to hear the concerns and try to mitigate. However, it is also important to understand with gentrification and growing density in the city, we can expect the same levels of privacy we may in other regions. It is important not to elevate and protect the interests of

others, especially when they only reflect their personal interest or preferences. As a community that reflects a variety of cultures and expressions, live music, celebration, noise, gatherings, are a part of communal gatherings and allow us to express ourselves and come together in public spaces. It reminds me of the situation in West Oakland, when a new resident made a complaint to the police that the gospel singing at the church next door was “too loud” on Sunday mornings. Once I rented an apartment above a bar. It would be unreasonable to expect there to be no noise until after bar time. It should be the same for residential areas that are adjacent to businesses. With this in mind, please remember it is not unreasonable for a business to stay open and make noise (even with residential properties/rentals adjacent). We cannot continue to protect the interests of the few and abandon the greater good of the collective whole and community.

Sincerely, Debra Mendoza

Nancy McPeak

From: Michael Rettie <pescador@mountaintams.org>
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 8:18 AM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments on Taylor/Webster Interim Use Permit

I am writing to express my opposition to granting the Interim Permit for the expanded use of the Taylor and Webster lot.

The initial Special Event Permit was granted without any notification or consultation with the neighborhood and has resulted in a minor uprising by the neighbors of the lot due to the intolerable level of sound and the dramatically increased traffic during the live concerts. The comments submitted to the Planning Department for the Interim Permit should give you a good idea of the depth of the unhappiness and I hope you take the opportunity to read them.

The City Code mandates that use permits "will not cause any damage, hazard, nuisance or other detriment to persons or property in the vicinity," and the use must be "operationally harmonious with the community".

Clearly, the concert events on the lot do not meet this criteria as evidenced by neighbor's comments.

To the best of our knowledge, no one from the Planning Department or Planning Board has been present or contacted the neighbors during the events to experience the disturbance.

To be clear, the neighborhood has supported the Healing Garden's creation and improvement with the contribution of labor, money, and plantings. We were never advised that there would be regular loud musical events there until they were well underway. The organizers have made some unfortunately feeble attempts to dampen the sound but the results have not really achieved much.

The large influx of traffic into the neighborhood has also proven to create a parking problems where we already suffer. Many houses have no driveways and folks can be forced to park blocks from home at the end of a working day. This is not to mention the decreased security in parking so far from home when the catalytic converter pirates seem to roam freely.

The Interim Permit also allows a large increase in event attendance which will only serve to exacerbate all the problems listed above.

My understanding of the rationale for the Special Permit was that it would mitigate the effects of the pandemic on the local businesses. From what I can see, the benefits of the concerts accrue solely to the Fireside Lounge and Calafia. My contacts with other merchants indicate that they, in fact, suffer from the disappearance of parking for several hours during prime weekend opportunity.

I hope the Board will take the time to contact neighbors and merchants in the area before voting on this issue. I think you will find that the concert events do not meet the City Code criteria for an enhanced Use Permit. I would also urge a much more stringent enforcement of noise standards to ease the unhappiness of our community.

As one of our City Council members remarked, "Do you think this would be allowed in Fernside or Franklin Park?"

Thank you for this opportunity to comment,

Michael Rettie

610 Taylor Ave

stonefly@thehighsierra.org

Nancy McPeak

From: Rochelle Wheeler
Sent: Wednesday, July 7, 2021 5:04 PM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: More for 1435 Webster (Taylor Lot) on 7/12 PB
Attachments: Untitled document.pdf

Attached.

-Rochelle

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator
Planning, Building and Transportation Department, City of Alameda
510-747-7442 | RWheeler@alamedaCA.gov

From: Sandy Russell [mailto:sandy@thefiresidelounge.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 7, 2021 4:16 PM
To: Linda Asbury <linda@westalamedabusiness.com>; Tara Pilbrow <tarapilbrow@gmail.com>; connstance garcia <connxtance@gmail.com>; Rochelle Wheeler <rwheeler@alamedaca.gov>; Andrew Thomas <athomas@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Untitled document.pdf

Mimecast Attachment Protection has deemed this file to be safe, but always exercise caution when opening files.

Sent from my iPhone



July 9, 2021

Planning Board Members Cisneros, Curtis, Hom, Rotherberg, Ruiz, Saheba and Teague:

On behalf of the West Alameda Business Association Board of Directors, please consider our request for approval of the Use Permit for the Taylor/Webster lot, 1435 Webster Street. Some background information:

Working with the property owner, WABA has used this lot for various purposes over the last several years to make Webster Street an inviting destination to shop, eat and just enjoy. He continues to be a solid partner approving of our efforts.

Working with the West End Arts District, WABA has incorporated into our Strategic Plan and Vision to become an Arts District for the same reason we have created events on said lot.

The Healing Garden was created in late May after the George Floyd incident that created concern that Webster Street would be a target for vandalism. We advised our merchants to "Board Up" their windows. They did, and some created beautiful artwork. After the scare of vandalism passed, we asked our merchants for their plywood, with or without artwork, to be re-purposed in a positive way. The Healing Garden became a place to reflect and find peace. We continue to update the local artwork and healing events.

The entertain piece was created to capture commerce for our merchants. Volunteer and financial resources were used to make this happen. Neighbors were contacted and over 45 signed our application. We were approved for the current Use Permit from the City of Alameda. On "Good Faith" we have contracted and are obligated to honor these contracts to entertainers per the approved application. This has become a great source of employment, over 25 people have paying jobs!

This was created with very positive reasons, no intent on harming our neighborhood. We submitted a joint (WABA/WEAD) statement of mitigation efforts that is in your package. One neighbor commented that through our efforts of creating this space, dumping and unlawful acts no longer are a problem. Merchants that have benefited from the events are hesitant to make comment as they fear losing business from the some folks in the neighborhood.

I'm choosing not to detail the level of slander and harassment that has been inflicted on staff and volunteers. It's been painful to be a target on this negative campaign.

Thank you for taking your time to absorb my comments. It's always a pleasure to represent and advocate for Webster Street, a neighborhood I personally call home.

I can be reached at: linda@westalamedabusiness.com or 510.523.5955.

Regards,

Linda

Linda Asbury
Executive Director
West Alameda Business Association
linda@westalamedabusinessassociation.com



Nancy McPeak

From: Brian McGuire
Sent: Monday, July 12, 2021 8:38 AM
To: Nancy McPeak
Cc: Andrew Thomas; Rochelle Wheeler
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] Hearing regarding 1509 Webster Webster-Taylor Parking Lot

From: David Winsemius <dwinsemius@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, July 10, 2021 9:11 PM
To: Brian McGuire
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Hearing regarding 1509 Webster Webster-Taylor Parking Lot

Dear Mr McGuire;

I'm writing as a resident of Alameda who lives quite close to the parking lot at the corner of Webster and Taylor. Musical events have been occurring for the last few weeks. I support the Temporary Conditional Use Permit. I'm 72 years-old but I rather enjoy hearing the music that has been playing so far. I happened by when a band was playing an excellent cover of the Rolling Stones' "Paint It Black". The \$22 cover charge seems a bit steep, but I can listen from the sidewalk so all is well. There have been no incidents of poor behavior that I have observed. I've never seen a police response.

Parenthetically, I was very happy to see the Island Paradise Club go out of business. They were playing loud music until all hours of the night at volumes that penetrated into our bedroom. I think it is quite different to have a venue where the music stops at a reasonable hour. I would oppose any reissuance of a Use Permit for a nightclub venue in this neighborhood.

Sincerely;

David Winsemius, MD, MPH

712 Taylor Ave, Alameda, CA 94501

Nancy McPeak

From: Rochelle Wheeler
Sent: Sunday, July 11, 2021 4:31 PM
To: Nancy McPeak
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] West End Healing Garden is Great for the Community

For 1435 Webster

-Rochelle

Rochelle Wheeler, Senior Transportation Coordinator
Planning, Building and Transportation Department, City of Alameda
510-747-7442 | RWheeler@alamedaCA.gov

From: Aaron Golub [mailto:agolub@earthlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 10, 2021 10:07 AM
To: Rochelle Wheeler <rwheeler@alamedaca.gov>; Andrew Thomas <athomas@alamedaca.gov>; Trish Spencer <tspencer@alamedaca.gov>; Malia Vella <MVella@alamedaca.gov>; John Knox White <JknoxWhite@alamedaca.gov>
Cc: waba@westalamedabusiness.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] West End Healing Garden is Great for the Community

Hello,

I wanted to send a note to let you know how much my family and I have enjoyed the Healing Garden and Summer Concert Series. As West End residents (Taylor Ave.), this space has been a bright spot in what has clearly been a very difficult year and a half. To be able to safely enjoy live music again has done wonders for my entire family and the community at large. To be able to support local artists, have a beer after work, dine al fresco with my family, and reconnect with neighbors has been a lifeline. Sandy Russell and her team have done incredible work in bringing this space to life.

I cannot overstate how important the Healing Garden has been for our entire community...truly a bright spot...a shelter from the storm.

Aaron

--

Aaron Golub
agolub@earthlink.net
415-260-7857