

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of keeping Corica Park and to share my experience attending the Alameda City Council meeting at Town Hall regarding this issue.

I attended the meeting because Corica Park is deeply important to me and to many members of our community. I came prepared to speak during public comment and share why spaces like Corica matter. Unfortunately, by the time I arrived, I was informed that the topic had already passed and that I would not be allowed to speak. I stayed for the remainder of the meeting, but at no point was additional space or opportunity offered for community members like myself who still wanted to be heard.

That experience was disappointing because decisions about community spaces should include the voices of the people who actively use and care about them. Corica Park is more than just a golf course or recreational space. It is a place where people from different backgrounds gather, build relationships, exercise, mentor youth, and create community. It provides accessible outdoor space, opportunities for young people to be introduced to the game, and a safe environment that promotes wellness, connection, and belonging.

As someone who works closely with youth and community development, I understand how important spaces like Corica are. They give young people exposure to new opportunities, positive environments, and meaningful connections with others. These kinds of community spaces are becoming harder to find, especially in the Bay Area, and losing them would impact far more than recreation alone.

I hope future discussions around Corica Park create more meaningful opportunities for community voices to be heard and included in the process. I strongly encourage the City Council to consider the long-term value that Corica Park brings to Alameda and the surrounding communities.

Best,
YeHtet

As someone familiar with Corica Park and the golf industry as a whole, I have strong feelings about the ongoing conflict between Greenway and the City of Alameda.

In the interest of full disclosure, I am currently employed at the course. I work five days a week, often play the North Course on my days off, and spend a significant amount of time interacting with our patrons. I've always welcomed feedback, as I believe anyone who takes the time to comment on their experience has something valuable to contribute. However, shortly after starting with Greenway, I noticed a pattern among a small group of patrons—stories alleging targeted, bad-faith practices by ownership. As a new employee, this concerned me. I was frankly nervous when I spotted the Patels, wondering if I would see evidence of these claims. Instead, my experience led me to a very different conclusion.

In the roughly eight months I've been here, I've seen a system that prioritizes access and availability for all golfers. Alameda residents enjoy the lowest costs I've encountered for a course of this quality. Depending on the time of year, multiple associations and groups, largely based in Alameda, play here weekly. What I'm most proud of, however, is Greenway's youth outreach program—it's the strongest effort I've ever seen by a course to get young players access to golf. In the Bay Area, only **Harding Park**, with the corporate backing of the TPC network (Tournament Players Club) and volunteers from the First Tee of San Francisco, comes close. Greenway, by contrast, provides these opportunities independently, providing free golf at their own expense, demonstrating a genuine commitment to the community. Junior golfers benefit from a multitude of opportunities I would have been beyond thankful for while I was growing up. The claim that Greenway and the Patels are unqualified outsiders intent on excluding the community simply doesn't align with the reality I've observed.

On a weekly basis, our staff receives more positive feedback than I've experienced at any other course. The notion that there is community-wide opposition to this facility is utterly fanciful. Staff members are well aware of the small group of consistent critics, many of whom return week after week to play.

In fact, the only aspect of my experience here that has been deeply frustrating is the city's apparent misallocation of time and public resources in pursuing what seem to be unsubstantiated claims against Greenway Golf. Like many of my coworkers, I live on this island, and it is difficult to reconcile the actions of the city with their responsibility to serve the community's best interests. Directing taxpayer dollars toward a prolonged

dispute of this nature raises serious questions about priorities and accountability. At a minimum, the public deserves a more transparent, evidence-based approach and a stronger commitment to acting with integrity.

- Anthony Schatz

From: [Tamara Sabella](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [CITYCOUNCIL-List](#); [Manager Manager](#); [Amy Wooldridge](#); [Justin Long](#); [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [Michele Pryor](#); [Greg Boller](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Tracy Jensen](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Written Comments for May 19, 2026 City of Alameda City Council Meeting
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2026 11:27:31 AM
Attachments: [Letters to Alameda City \(2\).pdf](#)
[May 19, 2026 - Letter to the City of Alameda \(3\).pdf](#)

Good morning,

Please include my letter (attached) to be posted for today's meeting. In addition, please include the letters others have written and sent to you (attached). Perhaps you are still posting some, but I did not see them posted yet. I appreciate you taking the time to read through these. I speak from my heart and I hope the city leaders take care.

In community,

Tamara Sabella
Director, Community Engagement
Greenway Golf/Corica Park
(she, her)

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Connect with Corica Park on social media:
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#)

City of Alameda
2263 Santa Clara Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501

To everyone it should concern,

My understanding is that it's not permissible to turn down public comment. I filled out the appropriate slip, submitted to the clerk on Tuesday May 5th, to be told that I could not make public comments regarding the golf course because I missed my opportunity. So the following are the comments I intended to make....

My name is Brandy Graham. My family and I have been residents of Alameda for the past 11 years, 9 of which I have owned and operated a business and put my kids through Alameda School District.

I've been asked and am here tonight speaking on behalf of important and emerging contributors to our community, including Corica Park Golf Course and Park Station Tap House, but more broadly in support of the businesses, organizations, and programs that actively create community in Alameda.

What I'm seeing across multiple situations is a consistent and concerning pattern: the city is increasingly responsive to a narrow set of complaints, while the broader community—the patrons, families, business owners, and visitors who actively invest in this city—is left without meaningful support.

Local business owners, community-minded organizations, and recreational spaces are not separate from the identity of a small town—they are the fabric of it. They create gathering points, support local economies, and offer spaces where people connect in meaningful, lasting ways.

At the Tap House, we have bands operating within established decibel limits, consistently monitored by staff during appropriate permitted hours, yet still facing pushback that threatens a new and already covered, vibrant gathering space.

At Corica Park, we NOW have a nationally recognized public golf course that has redefined what the connection of golf, community recreation and accessibility can look like—offering outreach, inclusivity, and economic vitality. It also hosts tournaments that bring people together in support of local nonprofits and charitable causes—events that often carry on into the evening, where participants gather and continue that sense of connection at places like Park Station. This is what a healthy local ecosystem looks like: recreation, philanthropy, and small business working in tandem.

And this extends beyond these businesses. At Little John Park, Alameda Little League (one of

Alameda's longest standing sports program) is facing growing difficulty simply hosting games. A public park that has served families for decades is becoming harder to use, as the concerns of a small group are outweighing access for a much larger community.

These are not isolated incidents. They point to a larger question:

Who is the city choosing to support?

Because right now, it feels as though the people and places doing the most to bring life, connection, and shared experience to Alameda are being asked to **shrink, quiet down, or step aside.**

A thriving city requires balance. It requires protecting quality of life, yes—but also actively supporting the spaces that make life here meaningful.

I urge the city to take a broader view. To recognize and stand behind the businesses, programs, and public spaces that are not just operating here—but building something here.

Thank you.

With sincerity and concern,

Brandy Graham

Dear City Council Members,

We are writing to express our strong support for Greenway Golf, which we feel is an Alameda gem that truly embodies what we aspire for in this city. My son discovered and developed his love of golf thanks to the community youth initiatives at Greenway, beginning with the Middle School Golf Program.

Most importantly, it was because of volunteering at Greenway programs that my son learned that he could give back to others through the sport that he loves. Over the past four years he has volunteered in multiple Veteran's Day tournaments and a tournament to benefit the victims of the LA fires. He and his friends were on the course for 10 hours playing over 70 holes of golf in order to raise money for other youth who had lost their golf equipment and facilities in the fires. He came home inspired to do more and I could not have been prouder of that group of young people.

My son also volunteers at Corica summer camps and during his days on the course encounters

many youngsters just starting out, frequently stopping to lend them a hand. He talks about wanting to coach as part of his future plans. This is the spirit of community, access, generosity and civic engagement that we want our public golf course to embrace and promote.

I understand that change is hard. That new leadership and an opening of access under a new philosophy and vision may have resulted in a different experience for those that became used to things a certain way. However, there is a bigger, bolder objective here and that is to spread the joy of golf; share its lessons about respect, discipline and patience; and bring a sense of community togetherness to multiple generations from diverse backgrounds. This is how we create vibrant recreational centers that encourage our youth to get outside and how we ensure a better, thriving city.

I have read up on the lease allegations and Greenway's response. Additionally, as a longtime public servant, I am very familiar with government requirements and processes. I know there is always a choice in how lease and contract disputes are handled if we place priority on ensuring the longevity of contractors who live up to the values we espouse as public servants. So, it seems it is time for the City of Alameda to demonstrate what it values. Do you value exclusivity, contention, litigiousness, antiquated ideas, and restricted access? Or do you value youth leadership, civic engagement, collaboration, openness, inclusivity, and forward-thinking?

As a resident of this city, I value the latter and would hope my elected officials do as well. Very pointedly, I will close by saying that it is my understanding the Alameda City Council allocated \$800,000 to enter into this needless litigation with Greenway Golf. As a tax payer I am adamantly opposed to this wasteful and unnecessary use of city funds, and I implore you to cease and desist this action.

Sincerely,
Theresa Zighera

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing regarding the events that took place during the Alameda City Council meeting on May 5, 2026. I attended the meeting as a resident of Alameda to listen to the topics being discussed that evening.

Shortly after entering the meeting room, I noticed that City Clerk Lara Weisiger informed not only me and my friend, who were sitting nearby and there to listen, but also two other individuals who wished to speak about Greenway that the time designated for public comment on that topic had already passed and that they would no longer be able to speak on it.

As additional Alameda residents, families, and youth entered the room wearing "Stand With Corica Park" shirts, I also observed the clerk informing them that the opportunity to speak had already ended. From what I witnessed, several individuals and families chose to leave after learning they would not have the opportunity to share their experiences or comments.

I personally attended the meeting primarily to hear the City's discussion on other community matters, including the noise disruption concerns near Park Station. However, it became noticeable that there was a significant number of community members present in support of Corica Park.

I am writing this letter simply to ensure that what occurred that evening is accurately documented and understood. My intention is not to criticize any individual, but rather to respectfully share that several Alameda residents and supporters believed they would have the opportunity to speak and later learned they could not because the public comment period for that item had already concluded.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Alma G.

Addressed to: City of Alameda Council Members and City Staff

As someone familiar with Corica Park and the golf industry as a whole, I have strong feelings about the ongoing conflict between Greenway and the City of Alameda. In the interest of full disclosure, I am currently employed at the course. I work five days a week, often play the North Course on my days off, and spend a significant amount of time interacting with our patrons. I've always welcomed feedback, as I believe anyone who takes the time to comment on their experience has something valuable to contribute. However, shortly after starting with Greenway, I noticed a pattern among a small group of patrons—stories alleging targeted, bad-faith practices by ownership. As a new employee, this concerned me. I was frankly nervous when I spotted the Patels, wondering if I would see evidence of these claims. Instead, my experience led me to a very different conclusion.

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benefit from a multitude of opportunities I would have been beyond thankful for while I was growing up. The claim that Greenway and the Patels are unqualified outsiders intent on excluding the community simply doesn't align with the reality I've observed.

On a weekly basis, our staff receives more positive feedback than I've experienced at any other course. The notion that there is community-wide opposition to this facility is utterly fanciful. Staff members are well aware of the small group of consistent critics, many of whom return week after week to play.

In fact, the only aspect of my experience here that has been deeply frustrating is the city's apparent misallocation of time and public resources in pursuing what I seem to be unsubstantiated claims against Greenway Golf. Like many of my coworkers, I live on this island, and it is difficult to reconcile the actions of the city with their responsibility to serve the community's best interests. Directing taxpayer dollars toward a prolonged dispute of this nature raises serious questions about priorities and accountability. At a minimum, the public deserves a more transparent, evidence-based approach and a stronger commitment to acting with integrity.

- Anthony Schatz

Mayor Ashcraft and the Alameda City Council

2263 Santa Clara Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501

Urgent: Correcting the Record and Sharing Community Testimony Ahead of the Corica Park Trial

To Mayor Ashcraft and the Members of the Alameda City Council,

I am writing to you one final time to formally address a deeply concerning narrative before the May 18th trial. It has been suggested that community members who have spoken at City Council meetings, including our youth leaders, are acting as "lobbyists."

This is entirely false. We are uncompensated volunteers and leaders of youth, veteran, and other community programs that rely on Corica Park. We have zero financial interest in this litigation. Our only interest is the survival of the programs we lead, such as 4Vets and DRIVE@Corica. To label passionate community members and high school students as "hired voices" is not only a deflection from the real issue but an insult to the civic engagement of Alameda's youth.

We are not an isolated group. Our grassroots campaign has ignited an outpouring of intense, detailed opposition from the people who actually use this facility. They are not lobbyists; they are parents, golfers, and heroes who see Corica Park as a sanctuary.

As leaders, we urge you to read their raw, unedited words from our public petition before you proceed with a trial that risks destroying what they have built:

- **Johnny Chen (Parent):** *"Greenway Golf's management of Corica Park is a gold standard... Their focus on building a central community hub—especially for our youth—has been transformative for my family. My two sons, including one who is navigating a disability, have gained a vital new hobby through their many inclusive Youth Programs... These programs provided an instrumental social and physical outlet during my son's post-surgical recovery, keeping him active and engaged with the community rather than isolated at home."*
- **Jose Cruz (Veteran):** *"As a PGA HOPE graduate, this is an important outreach program for Veterans like myself who find camaraderie and a beneficial support system in events hosted at Corica Park. Please reconsider the impact this will have on all of the different communities that thrive and cherish this course."*
- **Jack Nelson (Golf Professional & Enthusiast):** *"I've worked at elite private golf clubs and played public courses around the country and each of them would enthusiastically embrace the degree to which Corica Park has become indispensable to Alameda and beyond... Let's move past what looks and feels like a petty food fight that looks backwards and instead focus on the tremendous growth and opportunities."*
- **Michelle Miller (Community Member):** *"The interaction with the wonderful veterans that these youth have played with would warm anybody's heart... It is my hope that this will
continue as a tradition at this golf course under its current leadership who has built this program and guided it to be what it is today."*
- **Brian Chow (Parent):** *"I sign this petition because this is the best run public golf course I've ever seen. My kids love coming here because of the great conditions and standards the company maintains."*

These testimonials represent a clear, growing community consensus. They praise the improvements and renovations, the operational standards, and the life-changing impact on youth and veterans.

We urge the Council to stop dismissing these voices. Please honor the Covenant of Good Faith that your constituents expect. Look past the political optics and act in the best interest of the community.

Respectfully,
Mani Veluthakkal

Is Alameda Risking a "Bad Faith" Legal Disaster?

As the trial regarding Corica Park's management approaches, Alameda residents deserve a clear-eyed look at what this litigation is actually risking.

History warns us. In *City of Beverly v. Bass River Golf Management*, a city sued its private golf operator over alleged contract breaches and the jury found that the city itself had violated the covenant of good faith and fair dealing. This happened even though the operator was also found liable. The lesson isn't that cities always lose. It's that courts will hold a municipality accountable for how it wages its legal battles, and a pyrrhic victory that brands the city as a bad-faith actor helps no one.

Madison, Wisconsin offers an equally instructive example. When the city declined to renew contracts with four municipal golf professionals, citing declining revenues, those operators sued. The jury sided with the golf pros, and Madison ended up paying over \$1.2 million in damages, interest, and attorney's fees. One of its own aldermen testified that the city had been "very unfair." The taxpayers wrote the check.

These cases echo what is happening at Corica Park. Greenway has invested millions in private capital to transform a neglected asset into a nationally recognized facility. The South Course was named one of the top 15 municipal courses in the country by Golf Magazine. The North Course, which was at the heart of the City's original complaint about construction delays, fully reopened in March 2025 after an extensive renovation by Robert Trent Jones II architects. It is fair to ask what exactly remains worth litigating.

Greenway's cross-complaint alleges the City violated the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, made false accusations about the company's finances, and interfered with its contractual right to manage the complex. These mirror the exact theories that have burned other cities in court. Beyond the legal risk,

Corica Park's community programs, including thousands of hours of free golf and free instruction for youth and underserved residents, do not survive a hostile management transition intact.

The City of Beverly spent a decade cycling through operators and courtrooms. Madison spent

over a million dollars learning what good cause means. Alameda still has the chance to choose a different path. A legal victory that costs this community Corica Park's momentum, its programs, and its national reputation is not a victory at all. We urge the Mayor and City Council to resolve this dispute in the spirit of the partnership that built one of the Bay Area's greatest public assets.

Respectfully,

Mani Veluthakkal

May 19, 2026

To the Residents of Alameda, City Leadership, and Members of the City Council:

Five days ago, the City of Alameda released a public statement regarding the Chuck Corica Golf Complex claiming its ongoing litigation against Greenway Golf Associates is about “protecting” a public asset and preserving a space that is “welcoming to all members of the Alameda community.”

As someone who has worked with Greenway Golf for the last five years, I feel compelled to respond — not as a politician, not as an attorney, but as an educator, a mother, a woman, a member of this community who has dedicated years of my life to building exactly the kind of inclusive community space the City now claims to champion.

I was hired by Avani and Umesh Patel to activate their vision, which was simple but powerful:

That over 300 acres of public land should actually function as public land.

Not just for a small circle of golfers who historically controlled the culture and access to the space. Not just for those already comfortable in golf environments. But for everyone.

For golfers and non-golfers.

For youth.

For families.

For schools.

For nonprofits.

For communities historically excluded from golf and green space.

For people who had never once imagined a place like Corica Park could belong to them too.

That vision became action with Avani and Umesh’s leadership.

We launched free summer camps providing free programming, free meals, and free transportation for kids. We created no-cost “Weekends on the Green” community events. We built free middle school golf clinics and leagues. We partnered with organizations like All Good Living Foundation and Soccer Without Borders to create pathways for communities that previously had little or no access to golf, open space, or these kinds of opportunities.

We opened meeting rooms and public spaces to schools and nonprofit organizations. It is important to note that these rooms were once exclusively used by one longstanding club, who now still has access to this room and uses it for their meetings and celebrations contrary to what has been said. They in fact were never kicked out of the space; simply they have to share. Greenway offers these spaces at no cost because we believe public land should serve the public in meaningful ways.

And while this work is happening, Corica Park itself is thriving.

The City’s own statement acknowledges Greenway was selected in 2012 because of its vision and golf expertise. What the City fails to fully acknowledge is what that vision ultimately became.

In the last five years, under Greenway's stewardship, Corica Park evolved into a nationally recognized golf destination featuring world-class facilities, award-winning courses, and a redesign led by internationally respected architect Robert Trent Jones Jr. The North Course — which the City still references in its statement as though its delays define the story — was completed years ago and has since become one of the most celebrated municipal golf experiences in the country.

That matters.

Because the City's statement relies heavily on language frozen in 2022 while ignoring the reality standing in front of everyone in 2026.

The work got done.

And then some.

The golf facilities improved dramatically.
The public programming expanded dramatically.
The community impact expanded dramatically.

The publicly available Greenway Impact Report documents:

- More than 124,000 individual hours of shared community space use between 2021 and 2025.
- Hundreds of days of free public programming and activation.
- Partnerships with dozens of nonprofits and schools.
- Thousands of community participants annually.
- Youth golf participation that overwhelmingly included first-time golfers, girls, and young people from historically underrepresented communities.

This is not abstract rhetoric about inclusion.

This is measurable inclusion.

This is what "a place for all" actually looks like in practice.

And that is why the City's statement feels so deeply dishonest to many of us who have lived this work firsthand.

Because while the City publicly declares its commitment to diversity and belonging, many of us experienced resistance the moment Corica Park truly began opening itself to broader communities.

I remember being told dismissively by a former operator, "Some people are out here working," as if the community programming we were building somehow did not count as real work because it centered youth, access, and inclusion rather than preserving old traditions.

I remember proposing that youth introduced to golf through our programs could continue their development through existing local golf organizations, only to hear resistance that made little sense if the true goal was growing the game. One comment in particular made by a Golf Commissioner has stayed with me for years:

“It’s not like your kids will end up on the golf course.”

Your kids.

That statement revealed more truth than perhaps was intended.

Because beneath all the branding language about diversity and belonging, many of us encountered a culture that still viewed certain communities as outsiders within golf spaces.

That is why this moment matters so much.

The City now publicly maligns Umesh Patel while simultaneously presenting itself as a champion of inclusion. But I have watched firsthand a brown man invest enormous resources, energy, and vision into transforming Corica Park into a more accessible and community-centered public space than it had ever been before.

You may disagree with some of his decisions.
You may dislike aspects of his leadership style.
That is fair.

But to erase or distort the scale of what has been accomplished — both physically and socially — is wrong.

And it raises difficult questions.

Would this level of hostility have unfolded the same way if the operator looked more familiar to existing power structures?

Would the relentless scrutiny, shifting criticisms, and years-long attacks have escalated this far if the transformation of the space had been led by someone else?

These are uncomfortable questions. But they are legitimate ones.

Because from the outside, it increasingly appears that every time Greenway addressed one concern, another emerged. Every completed milestone simply produced a new target. The North Course was completed. The facilities improved. The programming expanded. National recognition followed. Community impact became measurable and undeniable.

Yet the attacks continued.

So people naturally ask:
What is this really about?

And recent events have only deepened those concerns.

Two weeks ago, many members of the public arrived at a City meeting intending to speak in support of Greenway during public forum. Multiple attendees left with the understanding that they would not be permitted to speak and felt effectively turned away from participating meaningfully in the discussion.

What followed publicly was equally troubling.

Community members who experienced that meeting firsthand later watched official

characterizations portray the gathering as disruptive protest behavior rather than what many believe it actually was: a visible response to feeling excluded from a public process they came to engage in respectfully.

People stood because they felt unheard.

They left because they believed they were being denied a voice.

That distinction matters.

Especially from a City that repeatedly invokes transparency, inclusion, civic participation, and belonging.

When residents consistently feel dismissed, reframed, or publicly minimized after attempting to participate in good faith, trust in public institutions erodes quickly.

If the City truly cares about transparency, inclusion, community partnership, and public benefit, then I invite every City official to come spend real time at Corica Park — not during litigation, not through press releases, not through political talking points, but in reality.

Come watch the youth clinics.

Come meet the families.

Come talk to the nonprofit partners.

Come see the students.

Come walk the grounds.

Come witness how public land is being shared with the public.

Read the impact report honestly and then ask yourselves:
Why are we attacking this?

Why are we undermining a movement that embodies the very values we publicly campaign on?

Especially when Alameda has publicly taken courageous stances against oppression, exclusion, authoritarianism, and injustice in other contexts.

Do not become hypocrites here.

Integrity is doing the right thing when nobody is watching.

But people are watching now.

One of my students once defined integrity as “doing the right thing when nobody is watching.” I have carried those words with me ever since.

History remembers people not for how aggressively they protected their power, but for their honesty, courage, fairness, and willingness to do what is right even when it is uncomfortable.

The City still has an opportunity to choose partnership over ego, truth over narrative, and community over control.

I hope it does.

In community,

Tamara Sabella - Director of Community Engagement

From: [Mani](#)
To: [Lara Weisiger](#); [CITYCOUNCIL-List](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Public Comment re. City of Alameda v. Greenway Golf Associates, Inc.
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2026 11:18:19 AM

Mayor Ashcraft and Members of the Alameda City Council,

Following the formal statement I submitted to you on Friday, the youth-led grassroots community petition has just surged past **300 verified signatures** ahead of tonight's City Council meeting.

As the trial progresses, this rapid wave of support from local parents, military veterans, and neighbors demonstrates that our defense of Corica Park's youth and veteran programs reflects a true community consensus, not the work of "lobbyists."

We urge the Council to review the deeply personal testimonials attached to this movement and prioritize the best interests of the constituents who actually use this sanctuary.

Respectfully,

Mani Veluthakkal

https://www.change.org/Protect_Corica-Stand_With_Greenway

On Mon, May 18, 2026 at 9:47 AM Lara Weisiger <lweisiger@alamedaca.gov> wrote:

Hi Mani,

Your correspondence will be included in the May 19, 2026 City Council meeting record for the Closed Session.

Respectfully,

Lara

Lara Weisiger, City Clerk

City of Alameda

From: Mani <mani6264@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, May 15, 2026 12:36 PM

To: Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft <MEzzyAshcraft@alamedaca.gov>; Michele Pryor <mpryor@alamedaca.gov>; Greg Boller <gboller@alamedaca.gov>; Tony Daysog <TDaysog@alamedaca.gov>; Tracy Jensen <tjensen@alamedaca.gov>

Cc: Manager Manager <MANAGER@alamedaca.gov>; City Attorney <cityattorney@alamedaca.gov>; CITYCOUNCIL-List <CITYCOUNCIL-List@alamedaca.gov>; City Clerk <CLERK@alamedaca.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Public Comment re. City of Alameda v. Greenway Golf Associates, Inc.

To Mayor Ashcraft and the Members of the Alameda City Council,

I am attaching a formal statement on behalf of concerned citizens regarding the upcoming Corica Park trial on May 18th.

This letter addresses and corrects the city's narrative, suggesting that community volunteers and youth leaders who have spoken at City Council meetings are acting as "lobbyists." The letter also features critical, raw testimony from parents, military veterans, and a golf professional, detailing exactly how current management has transformed the course into an inclusive community sanctuary.

As the trial date approaches, we urge you to review this attached statement and honor the covenant of good faith that your constituents expect.

Respectfully,

Mani Veluthakkal

On Wed, May 6, 2026 at 4:45 PM Mani <mani6264@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Councilmember Jensen,

Thank you for your response. I appreciate your commitment to keeping Corica Park a resource for Alameda's youth and families.

However, it is important to recognize that the culture of mentorship and the world-class standards we see at Corica today are not just "resources" that can be easily transferred. They are the direct result of Greenway's specific leadership and their vision for Corica Park.

During yesterday's meeting, Mayor Ashcraft noted that Alameda prides itself on running meetings with respect and without the hostility seen in other parts of the country. I am asking the Council to practice what it preaches. While the tone inside the chamber may be respectful, the city's legal actions against Greenway feel like the exact bullying tactics the Mayor spoke against.

Yesterday's speakers are a small representation of a broader community sentiment that finds it difficult to reconcile the city's claims of breach with the reality on the ground. To the community, it looks like the city is unnecessarily litigating against a partner that has already delivered more than what they were tasked with.

Should the city lose this case, the Council will be answerable to its constituents for the significant waste of public resources and the potential damage to a site that is currently thriving. I hope the Council takes this opportunity to look at the facts, visit the course, and talk to the community before further taxpayer money is spent on this unnecessary conflict.

Sincerely,

Mani

On Wed, May 6, 2026 at 3:39 PM Tracy Jensen <tjensen@alamedaca.gov> wrote:

Dear Mani,

Thank you for sharing your support for Greenway Golf.

Regardless of the outcome of the litigation, my goal is to ensure that Corica Park continues to be a resource for Alameda youth and families.



Tracy Jensen
[Alameda City Council](#)
voice/text: [510-912-5556](tel:510-912-5556)



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From: Mani <mani6264@gmail.com>
Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 10:56 AM
To: CITYCOUNCIL-List <CITYCOUNCIL-List@alamedaca.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment re. City of Alameda v. Greenway Golf Associates, Inc.

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Members of the City Council,

Please find the attached written public comment regarding the City's ongoing legal actions against Greenway Golf at Corica Park.

As a regular visitor to the facility, I am deeply concerned by the disconnect between the City's public narrative and the actual results Greenway has delivered on the ground. I am submitting this for the official record to urge the Council to re-evaluate its stance and prioritize preservation of this world-class community asset.

I request this comment to be distributed to all Council members and included in the public record for tonight's meeting.

Sincerely,

From: [Suri](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [CITYCOUNCIL-List](#); [Manager Manager](#); [Amy Wooldridge](#); [Justin Long](#); [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [Michele Pryor](#); [Greg Boller](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Tracy Jensen](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Greenway Golf at Corica Park!
Date: Tuesday, May 19, 2026 9:30:09 AM

Hi city council members,

My name is Suri Lau. I am a 9th grader at James Logan High School in Union City. I really wanted to come and speak at City Hall tonight with everyone else, but I have finals this week so I couldn't make it. I still wanted to send this email because this matters a lot to me.

I'm writing to show support for Tamara and Greenway Golf. Corica Park isn't just a regular golf course to us, it's a community. Tearing down years worth of love and hard work there doesn't make sense.

If I was standing in front of you all today, I would ask everyone a question. By a show of hands, how many people play golf? And how many of you have kids or grandkids? If you raised your hand, then we are on the same page and you know why a place like this is so important for kids.

The main reason I'm writing is to support Tamara. She is someone I look up to a lot. She shows leadership, inspiration, and compassion, and I have nothing but respect for her. If you've ever been around her, you know how hardworking and passionate she is.

I first met her 4 years ago when I did the On the Green Summer Camp at Corica. I loved how organized and fun it was. On top of that, they provided food and it was completely free to join.

Tamara works extremely hard to include the younger generation in this sport. Her mentoring and support is actually what helped me get a nomination for the Lucious Bateman club and put me on the path to play college golf in the future.

One of the biggest things Tamara taught me is what community means. It inspired me to start volunteering and helping out with future events, like the Sunday clinics for younger kids who want to learn golf. We both share that same focus on giving back.

Last time when we turned down not to speak, my grandmother came with us. Even at 91 years old, she has gone to show support because she loves the events Greenway Golf hosts and has seen the magic Tamara does. Every event motivates her to go to the next one. It just shows that your community will have your back no matter what if you put love and empathy into it.

Tamara managing Greenway Golf is the reason I come all the way out from Union City to Alameda. Her support for the program and the community never ends. I really hope to see her continue to manage this program.

Thank you so much for your time and for reading this.

Sincerely,

Suri Lau

From: [Shelby S](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] public comment 05/19/26: Closed Session Item 3-A 2026-5988--another one of the Mayor's vendettas
Date: Saturday, May 16, 2026 8:21:22 PM

Mayor Ashcraft and Members of the City Council,

I am writing to formally condemn the litigation against Corica Park Golf Course as an egregious waste of taxpayer money, a direct violation of the public trust, and a pursuit of a personal vendetta that has not been pursued in good faith.

I urge this council to immediately halt its predatory legal campaign and settle this case to put the public interest above personal retaliation by the Mayor.

Greenway successfully broke up legacy group favoritism to create a more diverse, regionally accessible footprint, and the city is punishing them for it. Selectively weaponizing auditing powers to attempt a full lease termination against a minority-owned operator—while handing favorable contract terms to the city's preferred corporate developers—stinks of a targeted crusade.

Ostensibly initially driven by an internal shareholder dispute that caused a temporary pause in work that has been fully resolved, the city still aggressively continues its litigation, using taxpayer money to litigate rather than settle.

In this case, by acting as a commercial landlord for a municipal golf asset, the city is engaged in a proprietary act, not a protected governmental function; therefore there is no sovereign immunity here for bad acts. This leaves our municipality entirely exposed to multi-million-dollar actual and compensatory damages for breaching the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

Furthermore, while the city entity itself is shielded from punitive damages, California Government Code Section 825 provides an explicit exception for individual public officials. Public employees and elected leaders such as Yibin Shen and Mayor Ashcraft can be held personally liable for punitive damages if a court determines they acted with malice, oppression, fraud or in retaliation. Its is obvious those conditions are satisfied here. As documented in the court record, the city's claim that this lawsuit is about a construction pause is a transparent pretext.

Worse yet, the lack of transparency surrounding these ongoing discussions raises red flags regarding potential Brown Act violations. Hiding behind the veil of closed sessions to advance a personal crusade is a shameful betrayal of the public trust. Be advised that this waste of taxpayer money leaves the City vulnerable to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 526a for a formal taxpayer lawsuit against individual officials to enjoin and restrain this illegal, useless expenditure of city resources.

Stop risking a catastrophic bad-faith judgment, respect the Brown Act and your fiduciary duties-- and settle this lawsuit immediately.

Sincerely,

Shelby Sheehan-

Shelby
510-435-9263

"The righteousness of the oppressed will not go unheard."

From: [Jack D. Nelson](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [CITYCOUNCIL-List](#); [Manager Manager](#); [Amy Wooldridge](#); [Justin Long](#); [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [Michele Pryor](#); [Greg Boller](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Tracy Jensen](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocacy for Greenway Golf at Corica Park
Date: Thursday, May 14, 2026 3:14:58 PM

Good Afternoon Everyone,

I understand there's imminent legal proceedings related to the management of Corica Park Golf Course, so I wanted to pass along my thoughts for your consideration.

Since moving to Northern California earlier this decade, I've spent countless hours over more than 150+ rounds of golf at Corica Park. In that time I've seen it go from a golf complex in transition to a fully engaged community asset for residents throughout the Bay Area. Any rough edges that existed in my early experience have since been smoothed out such that anyone that pays a passing glance at a given day's activities will see not only golfers young and old, new and experienced, but also community meetings, bird watching, and engagement from local businesses. I've made great friends, met interesting people from all walks of life, and experienced many high-level competitions in this time.

Despite my overwhelmingly positive experience, I've studied the complaints made against Greenway Golf with an open mind to understand whether I'm overlooking something about the course, community, and overall management of the property. After doing so, I asked myself a few simple questions:

- Are tee times available and affordable when compared to other options?
- Is the course condition maintained with periodic projects/capital improvements?
- Is Corica Park providing access and opportunities to the broader community?

Quite simply, Corica Park, under the management of Greenway Golf, has taken intentional and incremental steps over the last several years to make it into a premier golf destination and community asset in the Bay Area. I've worked at elite private golf clubs and played public courses around the country and each of them would enthusiastically embrace the degree to which Corica Park has become indispensable to Alameda and beyond. It is open to all, affordable in the marketplace, and provides valuable opportunities to our kids.

Let's move past what looks and feels like a petty food fight that looks backwards and instead focus on the tremendous growth and opportunities that have come about since I hit my first tee shot off the South Course years ago. I'm happy to answer any questions or make myself available to further elaborate on my experience, please just let me know and I'll be there.

Have a nice afternoon,
John (Jack) Nelson

--

JackDashNelson@gmail.com

From: [Mani](#)
To: [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [Michele Pryor](#); [Greg Boller](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Tracy Jensen](#)
Cc: [Manager Manager](#); [City Attorney](#); [CITYCOUNCIL-List](#); [City Clerk](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Public Comment re. City of Alameda v. Greenway Golf Associates, Inc.
Date: Friday, May 15, 2026 12:36:42 PM
Attachments: [Letter to Alameda City Council v2.pdf](#)

To Mayor Ashcraft and the Members of the Alameda City Council,

I am attaching a formal statement on behalf of concerned citizens regarding the upcoming Corica Park trial on May 18th.

This letter addresses and corrects the city's narrative, suggesting that community volunteers and youth leaders who have spoken at City Council meetings are acting as "lobbyists." The letter also features critical, raw testimony from parents, military veterans, and a golf professional, detailing exactly how current management has transformed the course into an inclusive community sanctuary.

As the trial date approaches, we urge you to review this attached statement and honor the covenant of good faith that your constituents expect.

Respectfully,

Mani Veluthakkal

On Wed, May 6, 2026 at 4:45 PM Mani <mani6264@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Councilmember Jensen,

Thank you for your response. I appreciate your commitment to keeping Corica Park a resource for Alameda's youth and families.

However, it is important to recognize that the culture of mentorship and the world-class standards we see at Corica today are not just "resources" that can be easily transferred. They are the direct result of Greenway's specific leadership and their vision for Corica Park.

During yesterday's meeting, Mayor Ashcraft noted that Alameda prides itself on running meetings with respect and without the hostility seen in other parts of the country. I am asking the Council to practice what it preaches. While the tone inside the chamber may be respectful, the city's legal actions against Greenway feel like the exact bullying tactics the Mayor spoke against.

Yesterday's speakers are a small representation of a broader community sentiment that finds it difficult to reconcile the city's claims of breach with the reality on the ground. To the community, it looks like the city is unnecessarily litigating against a partner that has already delivered more than what they were tasked with.

Should the city lose this case, the Council will be answerable to its constituents for the significant waste of public resources and the potential damage to a site that is currently thriving. I hope the Council takes this opportunity to look at the facts, visit the course, and talk to the community before further taxpayer money is spent on this unnecessary conflict.

Sincerely,

Mani

On Wed, May 6, 2026 at 3:39 PM Tracy Jensen <tjensen@alamedaca.gov> wrote:

Dear Mani,

Thank you for sharing your support for Greenway Golf.

Regardless of the outcome of the litigation, my goal is to ensure that Corica Park continues to be a resource for Alameda youth and families.



Tracy Jensen

[Alameda City Council](#)

voice/text: [510-912-5556](tel:510-912-5556)



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From: Mani <mani6264@gmail.com>

Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2026 at 10:56 AM

To: CITYCOUNCIL-List <CITYCOUNCIL-List@alamedaca.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment re. City of Alameda v. Greenway Golf Associates, Inc.

Dear Mayor Ashcraft and Members of the City Council,

Please find the attached written public comment regarding the City's ongoing legal actions against Greenway Golf at Corica Park.

As a regular visitor to the facility, I am deeply concerned by the disconnect between the City's public narrative and the actual results Greenway has delivered on the ground. I am submitting this for the official record to urge the Council to re-evaluate its stance and prioritize preservation of this world-class community asset.

I request this comment to be distributed to all Council members and included in the public record for tonight's meeting.

Sincerely,

Mani Veluthakkal

From: [Mijini Kim](#)
To: [City Clerk](#); [CITYCOUNCIL-List](#); [Manager Manager](#); [Amy Wooldridge](#); [Justin Long](#); [Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft](#); [Michele Pryor](#); [Greg Boller](#); [Tony Daysog](#); [Tracy Jensen](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Dear City of Alameda Council Members and City Staff,
Date: Friday, May 15, 2026 10:46:45 AM

Hi Alameda Council Members,

I am writing again as a local parent to follow up on my previous letter of support for Greenway Golf.

I have heard narratives suggesting that those speaking out for the course are paid lobbyists.

I want to state clearly that I am simply a parent whose daughter has benefited immensely from the programs at Corica Park.

My support is entirely personal and based on the inclusive Tamara Sabella and her team have built for our youth.

Sincerely,

Mijini Kim

On Mon, May 4, 2026 at 11:27 PM Mijini Kim <mijinikimsuri@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Members of the Alameda City Council, and City Staff,

I am writing on behalf of ParBear, a golf brand built around expanding access to the game for women, Asian Americans, juniors, and other communities historically underrepresented in golf. Corica Park is one of our most beloved retail and community partners, and we are submitting these comments in support of Greenway Golf Associates as the Council weighs the path forward in *City of Alameda v. Greenway Golf Associates, Inc.* (Case No. 22CV011964), with trial set for May 18, 2026.

We partnered with Corica Park because of what Greenway has built for the community. Our brand exists to make golf feel welcoming to people who have not historically seen themselves in the sport, and Corica is one of the few municipal facilities in the country actively delivering on that same mission at scale. Free youth clinics, no-cost summer camps that feed kids breakfast and lunch, free meeting and event space for 80+ nonprofits and schools, partnerships with Soccer Without Borders, Sistas on the Links, Youth on Course, PGA HOPE, the NorCal Adaptive Golf Club, Positive Coaching Alliance, AUSD (Alameda Unified School District), and dozens of others. This is what a public asset is supposed to do. The letters already in front of the Council from PE teachers, parents, veterans, college coaches, adaptive golfers, and youth participants describe what we also see firsthand: a place that has become a third space for kids who would not otherwise have one, a launchpad for first-generation college golfers, a refuge for seniors and people with disabilities, and a genuine community living room.

We have also reviewed the public record. The original premise of the City's complaint - that Greenway failed to deliver the North Course - has been overtaken by reality; the Robert Trent Jones Jr. designed course is complete and nationally recognized. The Court has twice rejected the City's attempts to dispose of Greenway's counterclaims, on anti-SLAPP grounds in 2022 and on summary judgment in 2024. Enforcement escalated only after the Patels — a minority-owned ownership group with written City Attorney consent on file from April 30, 2020 — became majority owners, raised greens fees to market rates, and reduced preferential tee times for legacy clubs in order to open access to a wider public. Greenway has twice offered an independent third-party audit; the City has twice declined. And the deposition record reportedly includes admissions by former Recreation and Parks Director Amy Wooldridge that staff pursued violations they knew to be untrue, by Golf Commission Chair Ed Downing acknowledging the reputational harm of publicly questioning Greenway's solvency, and by Council members that they voted to litigate without meaningfully investigating the facts.

The cost is real. The city of Alameda has spent enormous sums of taxpayer dollars in legal fees on this matter. In return, the City is litigating against a tenant that pays rent to the general fund, employs local Alamedans, serves 100,000+ golfers per year, 80,000+ hours of free public programming, partners with 80+ nonprofits and schools, and has built one of the highest-impact municipal golf operations in the country. The math does not work for the residents the Council represents.

What is hardest to quantify, and what concerns us most as a partner, is what gets lost if this operator is pushed out. The kids in the no-cost summer camp do not have a fallback. The Lucious Bateman Practice Club members chasing college scholarships do not have another local door open to them. The adaptive golfers who rely on Corica's standup-and-play cart (one of only two in the area) do not have another course to go to. The 80+ nonprofits that meet there for free do not have a comparable space. None of that infrastructure rebuilds quickly under a new operator, and most of it would not rebuild at all. That is the actual asset at risk in this litigation, and it is not on any City balance sheet.

We also recognize the Council faces a real choice. Settling now requires acknowledging that the original case has not aged well. But continuing to trial risks a discrimination or bad-faith finding against the City, substantial damages, and a public record that follows Alameda for years. We hope the council finds the honest path forward by directing staff toward good-faith settlement, accept an independent audit if transparency is still the stated concern, and preserve the operating partnership that has transformed a city asset into a regional landmark.

As ParBear, we have made commercial commitments because we believe in what Greenway has built and in who they have built it for. We respectfully ask the Council to protect that work and the community it serves.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Lauren Kong
Founder, ParBear