



January 24, 2017

Mayor Lori Liu  
Brisbane City Hall  
50 Park Place  
Brisbane CA 94005

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Dear Mayor Liu,

The Bay Area Council and our almost 300 member companies urge swift approval of the Brisbane Baylands project as presented by the project sponsor, Universal Paragon Corporation.

California's housing shortage has reached crisis levels. When housing costs are factored in, California has the nation's leading poverty rates. We live in a time of great wealth and in a region blessed with great wealth, but to our great shame many thousands people are struggling to make rent every month. Our housing shortage is the biggest driver of generational poverty in California and it is the responsibility of every community in this state to play their part in solving this most critical of problems.

The lack of housing, particularly in more affluent coastal California and in our job centers, is causing environmental harm also. 40% of all greenhouse gasses in California come from cars and light trucks stuck in ever lengthening commutes. Today, almost 170,000 commuters, our teachers, retail workers and restaurant servers, get in their cars every morning in communities across California's central valley and make long polluting commutes to their jobs in the Bay Area. Despite our very best efforts we are not reducing vehicle miles travelled in the Bay Area. This is not sustainable. We must do better.

As you deliberate the issues before you this evening, the traffic impacts on intersections in and around the project site and other environmental concerns, it is our hope that as elected leaders you also consider the larger considerations at stake. This project is unique in many ways, not least of which is the opportunity it offers to address our housing shortage and out housing/jobs imbalance and the traffic and pollution that brings.

We urge you to think big and think long and approve this project as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

Matt Regan

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Regan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending to the right.

SVP Public Policy,  
Bay Area Council