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MAR 10 2016  
Comm. Dev. Dept. Brisbane

March 10, 2015

Sent Via Email

Dear Brisbane Planning Commission,

The Bay Area Council is a 70 year old public policy organization comprised of the region's largest employers. The Council proactively advocates for a strong economy, a vital business environment, and a better quality of life for everyone who lives here.

The Brisbane Baylands Project would add many needed housing units to the Bay Area in a time where the region needs housing desperately.

The Bay Area is in a severe housing crisis which threatens the region's economy, equity, and environment. The council urges to develop as many units as possible to increase housing supply. The affordability crisis has reached such heights that middle and low income residents are being displaced and pushed further and further out, where they must commute longer distances. This is not consistent with state environmental policies to build-in and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and causes extreme hardship for our region's workforce. Employers are finding it increasingly difficult to attract and keep top talent in the Bay Area because the high cost of housing here.

As a mixed use project, the Brisbane Baylands Project will create both jobs and housing, promoting proximity of the two. The Bay Area Council supports housing near jobs as an approach to promote environmental, economic, and equity goals.

We are in desperate need of all types of housing at all levels of affordability, if we are to preserve the vitality of the Bay Area. This housing problem and the associated problems of sprawl, congestion, and environmental pollution are going to get much worse unless more projects like the Baylands project are approved and built. We urge the Planning Commission to approve this housing project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Matt Regan'.

Matt Regan  
Senior Vice President, Public Policy  
Bay Area Council