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March 10, 2016

Ms. Tuong Van Do, Chair
Planning Commission
City of Brisbane
50 Park Place
Brisbane, CA 94005

Re: March 10, 2016 Planning Commission Meeting, Item G.1 Baylands Planning Applications and Staff Report for Brisbane Baylands Deliberations Meeting #3 - Appropriate Mix of Uses within the Baylands, Continued

Dear Chair Do and Members of the Commission,

The San Mateo County Economic Development Association (SAMCEDA) represents a contingent of leading Bay Area businesses, institutions, organizations and entrepreneurs. We are recognized for our experienced, impact-driven approach as a business advocacy organization. I am writing again to comment on the Brisbane Baylands project that has been under review. It is my understanding that on Thursday, March 10, you will be deliberating on residential uses on the Baylands site. My prior letter, dated February 24, 2016, focused on looking at development of the Baylands through an economic lens. As you deliberate on March 10, I encourage you to consider the needs of the region as well as those of the City of Brisbane. Your decisions will impact your current residents and those in the future who hope to live and work in Brisbane. As you consider open space, renewable energy, and commercial uses that will benefit the region, we respectfully ask you to consider housing that will benefit your community and the greater Peninsula region today and in the future.

As companies seek to grow and expand in San Mateo County, there are two primary factors for choosing the right location on the Peninsula: if housing is nearby or adjacent and if public transportation is readily accessible. While there is a significant amount of housing under development in San Francisco near the Baylands, including Schlage Lock, Candlestick and Hunters Point, it is not sufficient to meet the housing needs of the Peninsula or the needs of growing companies looking for growth opportunity sites on the Peninsula. With Caltrain already on site, and a site large enough to accommodate a wide range of uses, simply put, if housing can be built on the Baylands, it needs to be part of the equation. World class office space alone will not be nearly as attractive to future users as office space with adjacent housing. This is the reality of our new economy and an essential ingredient in our region's sustainability model and it cannot be overstated.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or want to learn more about the San Mateo County Economic Development Association.

Sincerely,


Rosanne Foust
President & CEO