

From: Raymond Hodges
Date: July 5, 2017 at 10:26:05 AM PDT
To: "Liu, Lori" <loriliu@ci.brisbane.ca.us>
Subject: Please support the proposed Baylands plan

Dear Mayor Lori S. Liu,

I support the proposed plan to develop Brisbane's Baylands site with a well-designed plan that includes both residential and commercial uses.

This is a unique opportunity to build a sustainable community of offices, laboratories, eateries, and retailers, while providing natural habitats, biking trails and extensive open space. It will benefit the local community with a new grocery store and pharmacy, dedicate land for a local school and provide 300 acres of restored and enhanced habitats. It will help the surrounding community as well by providing 4,400 units of much-needed housing, as we face a crippling housing shortage. These new units will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions by providing housing close to job centers.

I think it's also worth mentioning, in California, one thing we pride ourselves on is limiting development to locations that will not destruct natural landscapes, forests, wetlands and other areas that have never been developed. We have plenty of fallow land in our towns and cities that can and should be developed instead. A very, very, very small number of those available urban sites have good transit access. The Baylands, surrounding a very lightly used Caltrain stop, adjacent to the end of the SF Muni light rail and adjacent to SamTrans lines, has shockingly good access to public transit. I wish I could live there! Instead my attorney girlfriend and I share a 400sf apartment in SF from which I bike 2 miles to Caltrain to commute down the peninsula every day. Why? Because with student loans and the cost of living here, it was the only place we could afford anywhere near the transit I need to get to work. Given this development would destroy no natural lands, restore others, create housing next to transit, create great jobs next to transit, and support the small businesses already located in Brisbane, Daly City and SF adjacent to the site, Brisbane should be developing 10-30 story commercial and residential towers here, but the 4,000 units the site's owner proposes will have to do.

On behalf of myself, hundreds of Brisbane residents, and thousands of Bay Area residents and advocates, I encourage you to do the right thing for Brisbane and the Bay Area. Please support the proposed plan.

Regards,
Raymond Hodges