

From: Tony Verreos

Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2016 5:35 PM

To: Padilla, Ingrid

Subject: SEP 29, 2016 RE: Baylands BCC written comments > PR smears and shaming aimed at Brisbane resident and City Council in San Francisco press

Importance: High

Hi Ingrid,

Please also forward this article I just composed and posted to Residents of Brisbane. Our City Council likely already understands these politics, but

here is the ammunition they can use to defend whatever position they should choose to take.

Tony Verreos

122 Warbler, Brisbane



Posted to FaceBook > Residents of Brisbane, CA 94005

SEP 29, 2016

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Just now

Picture San Francisco where many of us were born and raised. Founded on June 29, 1776. Yep - that's 240 years ago! It's seen a lot of changes, and done a lot of good, but it's never learned to keep its nose out of other people's business!

You want to deal with the housing shortage that literally created the explosive growth all over both northern and southern CA? Then look in the mirror S.F. The high density apartment buildings that are common in downtown S.F. weren't built as luxury for the wealthy of past eras. They were built for the working classes, and they still serve that purpose. But when you look west or south from there where all the land is, you find the landscape dominated not by four to ten story apartment buildings, but by two and three story single family homes. There's your problem!

The NIMBYs of wealthy S.F. created the whole regional mess by their tremendous LACK of leadership. What's changed lately? Old Seal Stadium was worn, but rather than fix it, S.F. wanted a new major league baseball team, so here's what we're going to do: we'll chop off as much of that Candlestick Hill as it takes to fill the San Francisco Bay (something many cities were doing at the time), and we'll build a new stadium over on that landfill to welcome the N.Y Giants baseball team we're going to steal from them. We know how that

worked out. Meanwhile, since they want more housing so badly, why not build apartments in the Presidio? Oh - no the wealthy folks next door really wouldn't appreciate that (insert names here). Well, how about where AT&T Park is now? Oh - well, we'd really rather have a downtown venue for the Giants, because Candlestick is a bit old and shabby, and it get so cold out there (that most people can't even afford to attend), so we'll have to build our housing somewhere else. What about where the Exploratorium is? Oh - no, that's going to block some more wealthy people's' bay views - can't do that. OK, how about where the Warriors want to build their new monster stadium? Oh - that's' just not the right mix you know. Well then, what about working with these greedy developers to include far more small and low cost units in all of the monster towers we see going up? Oh - that? Well, you see we've already worked out deals with them on that, but they say they just can't afford more than 10%-15%, or maybe something more as a trade off in a separate location. You know the luxury owners really don't want to breathe the same air as the poor who clean their toilets etc. Well then, what in the heck are we supposed to do about the poor and working classes? I can tell you when former Supervisor and now retired Judge Quentin Kopp had a radio program many years ago, he provided a very painful, yet honest, answer to that question: He said, I'm afraid you'll have to move. Judge Kopp is not a mean man, though it hurt to hear him say that then. He just understood human nature, and political reality, that San Franciscan's were no different than most other people, like those in Brisbane today. They have what they have, like it fine just the way it is, and have NO reason to sacrifice their quality of life they've worked so hard to gain, just because someone else feels they ought to allow changes they don't want.

Did San Francisco exercise leadership when it created SFO? No. Did San Francisco exercise leadership when it created it's un-engineered, uncontrolled landfill in Brisbane? No. Did San Francisco exercise leadership when it allowed all of its toxic and foul smelling industries to be located in the poor residential neighborhoods in its SE now Dist-10? No. Did San Francisco exercise leadership in cleaning up the many messes it has either created or contributed too: the Farallones dumping, Treasure Island nuclear radiation, Hunters Point Naval Shipyard nuclear radiation, un-treated sewage into the bay from storm drains - NO! Now that federal action has placed Treasure Island and Hunters Point back into San Francisco's control, what have they done? Planned some 20,000+ new housing units, most of which will not be affordable to the average non-high tech, non-high union wage, non-well paid politician. And what will come with all of those new homes?



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Relief of crowding? No. Relief of traffic congestion and jams? No. Better air quality? No. A lessening in demand for still thousands and thousands more San Francisco homes of any type in any zip code? No. As a San Francisco son, who still, and always will love the City, it pains me to watch the damage done in the name of good. And it disgusts me to see that lack of imagination and creativity exemplified by the pioneers who built San Francisco, and who's great vision has proven so wise as to provide for the great sustainable growth that brought us to the present days extreme GREED. San Francisco once was called, or coined the phrase itself (?) "The City That Knows How." That was a long time ago. Now it represents a cancer which many us in smaller cities do not want to invade us.

Just my opinion.