

From: Sarah FitzGerald  
Sent: Monday, October 03, 2016 1:19 PM  
To: Padilla, Ingrid  
Subject:

City Clerk

It is easy to cry NIMBY. It is easy to look at this swath of open space by the bay halfway to the airport from San Francisco and dream of bay front houses, and parks with children playing in them. Brisbane residents would like that. We have allowed significant housing on the ridge, with a very effective community center.

The problem is that the area in question is a toxic dump, and being beside the bay makes it even more difficult to deal with. At Sierra Point Marina the dump contents are still rising to the surface and gophers are piercing the caps and allowing bay water to flood the open land, bringing whatever toxins are there to the surface. Baylands will also be impossible to keep safe for families to play and grow vegetables. The ground is too polluted.

How about San Mateo's Seal Point, another notable dump that has been capped, and vented and left to wild land? Should not they be stigmatized for having not allowed much needed housing there.

In a previous life I was an architect working on Thamesmead to the South East of London. This new town was built in the 1970s on the ancient naval arsenal. It was where chromium and cadmium plating were developed. After building started, it was discovered that the vats of heavy metal had been taken into the marshes and upended at random. Just look at the result. Where high levels of heavy metals were found, the soil was removed- causing a problem somewhere else. Where toxic levels were lower, concrete was spread with great abandon, creating a "concrete jungle". Search it on google images. I do not want to be responsible for building another Love Canal or Gowanus. I don't want to risk children growing up on poisoned land. If you want to be quoted in the future as a man who pushed for another disaster like that then be my guest. Take Baylands into San Francisco. Then it can become another problem like the toxic areas of Hunter's Point and Bayside.

Brisbane is discussing housing within its infrastructure in scale with our tiny community, with services that we can afford. The industrial use proposal is not about tax base. It is about the public good. This land has to be sealed and children should not be asked to grow up there.

Sarah FitzGerald