



## CITY OF BRISBANE

50 Park Place  
Brisbane, California 94005-1310  
(415) 508-2100  
Fax (415) 467-4989

September 29, 2016

Dear Mr. John Diaz,

Recently an editorial appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle regarding the Brisbane Baylands development. Contrary to the impression left by this editorial, no land use decision has been made regarding the Baylands project. While the Planning Commission has made a recommendation, the City Council is just beginning its review. On September 29<sup>th</sup>, the Brisbane City Council will conduct its first hearing regarding the Baylands Development, a process that will consider the environmental impacts of potential site development and ultimately determine the future land uses for this area.

Planning for and developing the Baylands site is complicated. The area covered by the Baylands includes one of San Francisco's former dumps and Southern Pacific's former rail yard, both which are contaminated. In addition to the difficulty created in cleaning up the site, Brisbane will also need to take into consideration regional issues of traffic congestion on Highway 101, water availability, safety and building on unstable soils, and the costs of providing municipal services to this area once developed.

To help guide the planning process, Brisbane adopted a Sustainability Framework. The Framework, which incorporates Bioregional's "One Planet Living's 10 Principles", identifies important components of a sustainable development. If the Framework is fully implemented into the planning of the Baylands, it would create one of the most sustainable developments in the country. The core pillars of sustainability – environment, economics, and social equity – will be woven into every building, park and transportation mode, creating a balanced approach to development that will be safe, engaging, and within the means of the Earth's resources.

The City of Brisbane prides itself on being a leader in sustainability. We have been recognized by statewide organizations for our comprehensive approach to addressing climate change, reducing energy use, and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. Brisbane was the first city in the state of California to be awarded the Gold Beacon Award by the Institute for Local Government. This year Brisbane will be further honored with a Platinum Level Spotlight Award for Sustainability Best Practices - the only city in California to receive this award.

The Baylands will no doubt be a proud product of our vision and values. We hope the larger community of the Bay Area will share in our enthusiasm and commitment towards responsible planning and allow the process to determine the best possible outcome.

Thank you.

Cliff Lentz

Mayor of Brisbane

