

Joint Meeting
BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL & PLANNING COMMISSION
Summary of Public Comment
Baylands EIR Scoping
June 2006

June 26, 2006:

1) Erin Perry

- Clean it up first then consider a number of recreational uses such as bike and walking trails, places to sit, picnic areas, a recreation center that would include art and music, and boating on the Lagoon
- Use native plants to help restore wildlife populations

2) Calvin Webster

- Utilize parking garages and not parking lots
- Restore the physical access to the Bay. To do this, consider working with Caltrans and construct (possibly integrated with a building) a rooftop park that would span over Highway 101

3) Michael Schumann

- He would like the Baylands to have a sense of place and especially that it should be unique. Feels that this is missing from the Specific Plan
- The space should not overwhelm Brisbane in scale or character of development
- Consider open spaces as an organizing and defining element to enclose groups of built areas (groups of places) in a village type fashion

4) Anja Miller

- She would like to know that we are considering the whole of the Baylands and the impacts to the surrounding communities in the EIR
- Consider redefining sustainability to be better than neutrality regarding energy production
- The development should preserve the character of Brisbane and it should be done so that it is a positive for Brisbane and for all of Visitacion Valley
- The Specific Plan addresses bringing jobs, but already there is an imbalance between jobs and housing, with not enough housing

5) Mary Gutenkanst

- She would like to see greater clarity in the objectives regarding remediation – to consider the objective of cleaning up the toxic parts of the Baylands, not just covering them, so the site is safe for future generations

6) Lori Liu

- Indicated that the objective of “Remediate the Baylands...” is too general and vague.
- She would like the objectives to include addressing the health and safety issues relative to development around the tank farm
- Incorporate a Green Building approach not only for energy and recycling issues but also to encourage public interaction and participation with the site
- Under social objectives, also include that the development incorporate uses that reflect the culture of the region
- Believes the owner is too fixated on the site specific uses, such as retail, and should be more general

7) Clara Johnson

- Raise the level of disaster preparedness for commercial buildings
- Would like the character of Brisbane reflected in the architecture and landscape architecture and supports being more specific in the objectives as to what we would like to accomplish
- Harmony will be needed between Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the development and areas around the development
- Remediation should be to correct damage already done
- Doesn't support access across the freeway via an overpass park

8) Tom Heinz

- Supports the idea of architecture as art at the human scale, through imagination, and appreciated the green building approach and suggested further enlisting the services of James Wines in this effort

9) Paul Bouscal

- Look into bringing “envirotech” businesses to Brisbane versus biotech
- Would like to preserve Ice House Hill and is concerned about the potential impacts of proposed collector street(s) being too close to Ice House Hill
- Consider increasing the proposed water storage capacity to double that indicated in the Specific Plan

10) John Burr

- He is concerned about the language used in reference to the toxics and that Brisbane needs to be careful and not to believe the terms such as “remediation”. Indicated that the only way to be safe is to dig it all up and dispose of the contamination in a Class I landfill. Anything short of removal is not clean-up.

11) Dana Dilworth

- She takes exception to the idea that the developer and the City have the same intent
- Need to look closer at the toxic issues and not just cover it up; concerned about the long term impacts of contamination, especially of leachate entering the water system and food chain
- In regards to sustainability – what do we truly need to sustain life? Water, clean air and food
- Would like to see stronger, more specific language in the objectives
- Under the category of social objectives, she wants to see a viable community that is a business incubator, with the flexibility to deal with changing markets, and that we should not just look simply at job creation.
- Doesn't want hodge-podge, but does like the idea of villages
- Suggested further consideration of a north – south development sequence versus east – west, as proposed

12) Amy Dondy

- We don't have to settle for cookie cutter as she feels the owner has proposed
- She is concerned about connectivity and would like new development to be more connected with the whole of Brisbane
- Concerned about the height of the proposed development and at what point will the height be measured since the final land surface is not yet determined
- Recent pile driving noise for bridge construction has been impacting central Brisbane and she is concerned about similar noise generated from the development
- Consider wind on the Baylands and how that will impact land uses
- The volume of traffic should be modeled and addressed under many scenarios, considering that people will come from all possible directions at different times.

13) Lee Panza

- Consider public safety and not just environmental safety
- Utilitarian aspects of the project should be sited and designed for humans and to minimize the negative impacts
- Would like stronger language in the objectives regarding public art and education. Rather than just providing opportunities for public art and education, as indicated in the draft objectives, he would like the objectives to include educational and cultural elements and facilities for the betterment of present and future generations, for our residents and for our neighbors.

14) Ron Colonna

- Consider using below ground parking garages rather than surface parking lots, which may help with the following: reduction of contamination by excavating and removing soil; it would allow shop space and green space to be maximized; with more shop space it would allow for more rooftops to be dedicated to solar power generation; it would reduce differential settlement since these garage structures would be supported; reduce heat island effects with more green areas; and closer walking distances.

Written Correspondence:

All correspondence submitted in June 2006 is available at City Hall or on the City's website at www.ci.brisbane.ca.us; see "Baylands Information" at the City's homepage.