



December 18, 2013

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City of Oakland
Oakland, CA 94612

sent via e-mail 2:25 pm

Case File: ER030004, PUD13170, DA13171

Jack London Square Development Project: Sites D and F2

Estuary Policy Plan:

“The basic premise of the plan and its preceding efforts is that the Estuary is a resource of citywide and regional significance. This area cannot be viewed as a single-purpose district isolated from the city, but rather as a diverse and multifaceted place that connects the city and the bay.” Estuary Policy Plan, page v, 1999.

The original plan (Jack London Square Partners) was passed in 2004. There was public anticipation as to the final waterfront open to the public with activities, restaurants, entertainment and some office space. We were told that the Estuary Policy Plan (EPP) would serve as the “bible” for the project.

It is now almost 10 years later, and the developers want an extension on the Development Agreement that would be up in 2019 to their requested 2027. They are now requesting an amendment to allow housing and more office space. This is not the public place that was promised to Oakland. They have received permission to include many more office spaces than the original plan provided.

Housing privatizes the waterfront, as demonstrated by the apartments near the Amtrak station. While pathways were required for access to the shoreline and installed, there were also gates, so that the public was discouraged to go through the area. When structures block views, they create a barrier. Housing does not belong on our public areas.

It is time for the developers to complete the original approved plan by 2019. This does not include housing or more office space. Waterfront Action cannot support any extension of the Development Agreement for Ellis Partners.

Sincerely,
Sandra Threlfall
Sandra Threlfall, Executive Director

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