

Emails Received regarding agenda items

CITY OF ALBANY, CALIFORNIA



ALBANY CITY HALL
1000 SAN PABLO AVENUE
ALBANY, CALIFORNIA 94706

*Agenda Item Public Hearing:
9-1 - Zoning Classification
Establishment at Cleveland Avenue &
Washington Avenue - first reading*

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 1, 2019

City of Albany

MAY 01 2019

Community Development

VOTERS' CONCERNS
FOR
ALBANY CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED ZONING ESTABLISHMENT FOR PARCEL AT NORTHWEST CORNER
OF CLEVELAND & WASHINGTON AVENUES

According to the
ALBANY CITY 2035 MASTER PLAN

There is a need for 2.13 acres of PARK for 1000 residents.
Let's keep Pierce Street Park, for additional development, to satisfy requirements.

SOLUTION FOR MULTI FAMILY HOUSING R-3

Develop the 3 plotted lots along the edge of park parcel, at Washington Ave., with 3
high-rise apartments (1/3 of need)

Develop housing on Albany Hill (next to other high-rise apartments) (1/3 of need)

Develop smaller plots across Albany for (1/3 of need)

Due to environmental concerns of air pollution and noise from Interstate 80, we need to
minimize development on the Pierce Street Parcel.

May 6, 2019 Council Meeting

Re: Some concerns related to the proposed R-3 zoning of the southern portion of the Pierce Street parcel.

Residents near the Pierce Street Park support the zoning of the entire Pierce Street parcel as a Public Facilities District (PF).

- Pierce Street neighborhood residents were involved in obtaining the 4-1/2 acre parcel for a park since 1991 with the understanding that the entire parcel would eventually be developed into a park. From the time the City acquired the parcel to the present, the entire parcel has been a de facto Public Facilities (PF) District and it should be formally zoned as such. A chronology of events leading up to the purchase and completion of the Phase 1 of the park is presented in Attachment A.
- Approximately 2000 of the city's residents live on the west side of Albany Hill and the region is underserved since the completed Phase 1 of the Peggy Thomsen Pierce Street Park is the only improved public park facility in that part of the City. The City of Albany 2035 General Plan repeatedly makes references to a 4.1-4.4 acre Pierce Street Park and it states that full development of the 4.1 acre Pierce Street parcel as a park will maintain the current per capita acreage of 2.31 acres of park per 1000 people. The per capita acreage standards are supplemented by distance standard that all residents should be within a half mile of a developed park. See Attachment B for details.
- Attached is list of names (including 90+ Albany residents) opposing the zoning the entire Pierce Street parcel as anything other than a Public Facilities District (PF). Copies of the signed lists are in Attachment C.
- There are also concerns about environmental impacts of use of this parcel. Air quality, sound pollution and traffic congestion are some concerns.

Attachment A – Pierce Street Park Chronology &
Peggy Thomsen Letter

I realized after the last city council meeting that some council members are unaware of the city's history relating to Pierce Street Park. I have a chronology of the city's involvement since 1991 when other Albany residents and I attended the first city-sponsored meetings where CalTrans representatives came to make presentations about the I80 freeway widening.

ALBA
4.5
→ In exchange for closure of the Pierce Street off ramp, CalTrans offered neighbors, through the city, a 3/4 acre pocket park and \$353,000 to develop the park. Additionally, neighbors, by federal law, were offered a vote on whether to have a sound wall. The sound wall cut through the current 4.5 acre park diagonally from Pierce St. to Washington/Cleveland. The city conducted the vote and retained the postcard ballots.

When CalTrans told neighbors at

city-sponsored meetings in 2000 that it would transfer the larger 4.5 acre property to the city if they voted away the sound wall, neighbors voted to give up the wall in a second city-conducted vote; unfortunately Caltrans did not honor the commitment so the city began more negotiations with Caltrans and worked with our state legislators.

Some of the previous mayors who worked with neighbors on the park are Jon Ely, Allan Maris, Jewel Okawachi, and Robert Lieber. Some of the city employees are City Administrator Daren Fields, Asst. City Administrators Ann Ritzma & Judy Lieberman, Community Development Director Anne Charney, City Atty. Robert Zweben, and consulting City Engineer Randy Leptien. These are in addition to current city employees and council members.

As council moves forward on Pierce St. Park, my neighbors and I want you to understand some of the history of the city's involvement

3

with neighbors and CalTrans
to bring the park to fruition.

I ask you ~~to~~ please to read
the chronology I am providing
you tonight and to speak with
city employees, my neighbors,
and me about the park's history.

Attachment B – Excerpts from 2035 Master Plan

Policy PROS-2.3: Per Capita Service Standards

Strive for a service standard of at least 3 acres of active parkland per 1,000 Albany residents. This standard should provide the basis for parkland dedication and in-lieu fee requirements for new development.

In 2015, there were 2.34 acres of active parkland per 1,000 residents, including City, School District, BART, and University recreational facilities but excluding passive open space along the waterfront and on Albany Hill. The City hopes to raise the per capita total in the future through the development of new recreational facilities and open spaces such as Pierce Street park. Under the Quimby Act, the City may require parkland dedication or collect in lieu fees based on a standard of 3 acres per 1,000 residents.

Action PROS-2.B: Pierce Street Park

Develop a new park on the 4.5-acre former freeway right-of-way site bounded by Pierce Street, Cleveland and Washington Avenues and the I-80 freeway. Development of the site should be phased based on the availability of funds and community input.

PLANNED NEW OR IMPROVED OPEN SPACES		
Key Route Median	Linear	1.40
		Landscaped median. Not a park at this time, but could be improved through addition of trails, seating areas, etc.
Pierce Street Park	Neighborhood	4.10
		Former I-80 right-of-way, planned for improvement
Total Planned Open Space Areas		5.50
Year 2035 Total Active Open Space		48.10

Per Capita Service Standards

The adequacy of park systems is often measured using a per capita standard for the number of acres per 1,000 residents. On a national level, such standards are typically designed for growing suburban communities and are not always well-suited for densely populated cities with fixed boundaries. Nonetheless, the standards can provide benchmarks for estimating how much additional parkland may be needed to maintain current ratios, or to bring the city closer to national standards.

In 2015, Albany had 42.69 acres of active open space, including City parks and other public open spaces that were occasionally available for public use or programmed recreation (see Table 6-1). Based on a 2015 population of 18,500, this equates to 2.31 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents.

If passive open space is added to the standard, the per capita ratio rises to 7.24 acres per 1,000 residents. However, the active open space figure is a more useful per capita planning standard in a city such as Albany. A small built out city with fixed boundaries can create active open space more easily than it can create passive open space, and the need for active open space is more directly affected by increases in population.

The addition of 1,800 residents, as envisioned by the General Plan, would translate into a need for about 4.2 acres of additional active parkland if the existing ratio of 2.31 acres/1,000 residents is maintained. Most of this need will be met through the addition of a 4.1-acre neighborhood park on Pierce Street just north of Calhoun Street. The City's Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan also calls for improvements to the Key Route median, which would increase the per capita ratio to 2.37 acres/1,000 residents by 2035.

Per capita acreage standards are supplemented by distance standards (in other words, the distance a resident has to walk, bike, or drive to reach a park) and standards for specific types of facilities. The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has a guideline that all residents should be within 1/2 mile of a neighborhood (or community) park. Some parts of Albany do not meet this standard, including the high-density areas along Pierce Street and the east side of Albany Hill. Construction of the new Pierce Street Park should address this deficiency.

Vacant Land

Vacant land includes undeveloped parcels that are not in use for park or conservation purposes. Only 21 acres in Albany meet this criteria and half of this total is associated with a privately owned parcel on Albany Hill. There are also 24 vacant residentially zoned parcels (only nine of which are large enough to support a home), nine vacant commercially zoned parcels and two vacant industrially zoned parcels. There is also a 4.4 acre vacant City-owned parcel on Pierce Street, most of which is planned for a neighborhood park.

Attachment C – Signed Petitions

Petition Opposing the City's Zoning Plans for the Pierce Street Parcel

The Pierce Street parcel was purchased in 2012 from Caltrans with the implied understanding that it would be a de facto Public Facilities (PF) zone with inclusion of the Pierce Street Park, a bicycle path, and a maintenance center. However, the zoning and planning commission, at their April 10, 2019 meeting, passed a resolution to zone the 1+ acre southern portion of the Pierce Street parcel (adjacent to Washington and Cleveland Avenues) as R-3 to permit high density residential development. We the undersigned oppose the zoning of the Pierce Street parcel into anything other than a Public Facilities (PF) zone.

Name	Address	Signature
Robert Uhrhammer	745 Pierce	Robert Uhrhammer
Joan L. Uhrhammer	745 Pierce St.	Joan L. Uhrhammer
Heuser Barnes	745 Pierce St.	Heuser Barnes
Lourdes López de Gómez	755 Pierce street	Lourdes López de Gómez
JACQUE ^L ARMSTRONG ST	759 Pierce St.	Jacqueline Armstrong
Greg Armstrong	759 Pierce St.	Greg Armstrong
Ryan Pemberton	757 Pierce St.	Ryan Pemberton
Roy Armstrong	759 Pierce St.	Roy Armstrong
Jack Moody	917 Pierce	Jack Moody
Robert Pierce	161 Pierce	Robert Pierce
CALVIN TRAN	729 PIERCE STREET	Calvin Tran
EMILY GREY	750 Gateview	Emily Grey
JAMES W. G. BARNES	1235 LA PLAYA CT MERCED, CA	James W. G. Barnes

MAY 6, City Council Meeting 1:50 PM

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Name	Address	Signature
MARGARET CARR	1350 So Lano Ave ^{#2} REBAY	Margaret Carr
Michael McIntyre	814 Carmel Ave	Michael McIntyre
Tricia Clark	1350 Solano Ave ^{#24}	Tricia Clark
Elaine J Gekas	1234 Solano ^{#704} Ave	Elaine J Gekas
Eric S. Chu	718 Camar Station Ct.	Eric S. Chu
Winston Lee	133 BONAIRE AVE	Winston Lee
Yvonne Gallegos	725 Calhoun St.	Yvonne Gallegos
EVERETT THOMPSON	725 Calhoun St	Everett Thompson
Robert Ooghe	700 Calhoun St.	Robert Ooghe
Esmeralda Hdez	700 Calhoun St	Esmeralda Hdez
Jianmei Huang	700 Calhoun St.	Jianmei Huang
Hera Huang	700 Calhoun St	Hera Huang
JOSEPH TEJERO	725 WASHINGTON ST	Joseph Tejero
Hope Chevalier	764 Pierce St.	Hope Chevalier
A. Tolou SHAMS	555 PIERCE ST	A. Tolou Shams
RAY CAYTON	1500 Eucalyptus El Cerrito, CA 94530	Ray Cayton

Petition Opposing the City's Zoning Plans for the Pierce Street Parcel

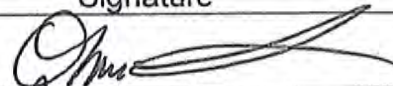
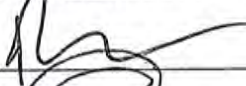

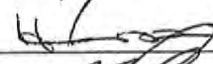

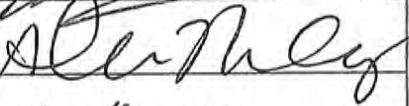
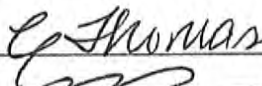
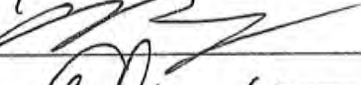
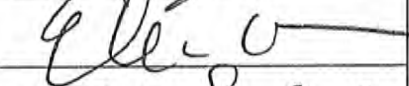
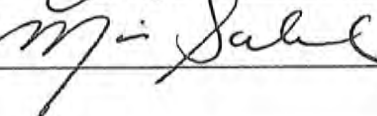
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Name	Address	Signature
Rosa Jaramillo	713 Washington Ave	Rosa Jaramillo
Ray Fariwee	713 Washington Ave	Ray Fariwee
Rosebelle Manuel	707 Washington Ave	Rosebelle Manuel
Raul B. Martinez	721 Washington Ave	Raul B. Martinez
Kevin Jones	809 Washington Ave	Kevin Jones
Robert Arzvedo	814 Washington Ave	Robert Arzvedo
MARIANNE SPRINGER Marianne Springer	830 Washington Ave	Marianne Springer
Eleanor Westbrooke	830 Washington Ave. Albany	Eleanor Westbrooke
SARITA MATHIASSEN	836 Washington Alley	Sarita Mathiasen
Daniel Kim	842 Washington Ave Albany	Daniel Kim
HANK RAS	846 Washington Ave	Hank Ras
Laura Wachis	846 Washington Ave	Laura Wachis
Don Mackean	851 Washington Ave	Don Mackean
Roger Simon	843 Washington Ave	Roger Simon
KATHY CHEN	835 Washington Ave	Kathy Chen
Cyrus Monahan	912 Washington Ave	Cyrus Monahan

Francis
Tish.
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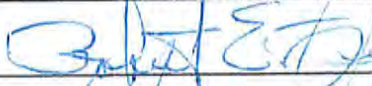
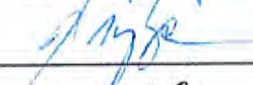
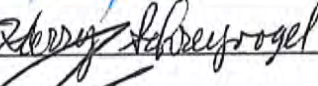


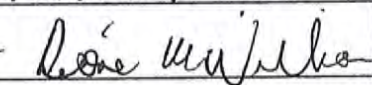
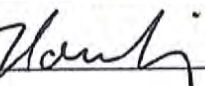
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Name	Address	Signature
Omar Sabeh	700 Washington Ave	
Rebecca Bowers	800 Pierce St.	
Jose Jaramillo	718 Washington Ave	
Haroon Sheikh	715 Washington Ave	
Jazzy Tiber	706 Washington Ave	
Adam Melendrez	810 Washington Ave	
Catalin Thomas	808 Washington Ave	
Sid McClary	811 Washington Ave	
Gibba de la Rosa	844 Washington Ave	
Maria Sabeh	700 Washington Ave	

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Name	Address	Signature
Robert Nichols	713 Key Route Blvd	
Kevin M. Pope	1227 Washington Ave	
Harry Schreyvogel	713 SAN CARLOS AVE	
JUSTIN BARNES	630 MARIPOSA AVE	
KYLEA BORGES	630 MARIPOSA AVE	
BRUCE BAKER	707 PIERCE ST.	Bruce Baker
Diane Williams	709 Pierce St	
Norman Ludwig	709 Pierce St	

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Name	Address	Signature
Sandra MGEY	1424 MLK Way Bay	Sandra MGEY
Peter LOUBAL	6502 Monrovia Ave El Cerrito	Peter Loubal
Lauren Roy	587 Todd Rd	Lauren Roy
PETER BABCOCK	587 TODD RD.	Peter Babcock
JOHN GRAY	555 Pierce St	John Gray
Elise Miller	555 Pierce St	Elise Miller
CHRISTINE HENRI	1064 ORDAWAY ST	Christine Henri
John Boyce	898 Contra Costa Berkeley	John Boyce
Cardinalo Day	225 Stanford Ave El Cerrito	Cardinalo Day
Barbara Campbell	527 Ashbury El Cerrito	Barbara Campbell
Pamela Coville	6201 Tehama Ave Richmond	Pamela Coville
Renata Valencia	400 Clayton Ave El Cerrito	Renata Valencia
Judith Peterson	162 Bolduc Ave El Sobrante CA	Judith Peterson
Jean Hewett	1028 Talbot St, Albany	Jean Hewett
H. M. MILIKAF	535 Pierce ST #5409 Albany	H. M. Milikaf
Young Carlin	535 Pierce St #1209, Albany	Young Carlin

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Name	Address	Signature
ANONA ANAUAH	914 RICHMOND ST	ANONA ANAUAH
KEN BARNES	128 HIGHLAND BLVD	KH Barnes
Don Saucitz	1776 Tulare Ave.	Don Saucitz
Buddy AKARIC	10860 SAN PABLO AV EL CERRITO	Buddy Akaric
Rich MORRIS	312 WILLAMETTE AVE	Rich Morris
PHILIS CIRIO	1343 THOUSAND OAKS ALBANY	Phyllis Cirio
KAREN HOLZMEISER	110 ANY 820 ST EL CERRITO	Karen Holzmeiser
Claudine Hughes	3739 Carol St, Pind	Claudine Hughes
* LARRY HUGHES	3739 CAROL ST. PIND	Larry Hughes
Billy Carter	8612 JONAH ST EL CERRITO	Billy Carter
Rhonda Kekki	1132 Key Route Blvd. ALBANY, CA 94706	Rhonda Kekki
Florence Krull	1132 Key Route Blvd. ALBANY CA 94706	Florence Krull
Lilian chow	415 Cornell Ave #304 Albany KENSINGTON	Lilian chow
ajzed a. winder	587 SANTA BARBARA	ajzed a. winder
Zelda R. Holland	5924 Fern St. EL CERRITO CA	Zelda R. Holland

* An employee of A.U.S.D. for 40 years!

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Name	Address	Signature
Nancy Cayton	7105 B Street El Cerrito CA 94530	
ROBERTA CAYTON	1328 Everett St. El Cerrito CA 94530	
Rowena Prelock	733 Elm St. El Cerrito CA 94530	Rowena Prelock
John Prelock	7105 B ST EL CERRITO CA 94530	
Jane Binder	33 Forest Lane Berkeley CA 94708	Jane Binder
Judith Cohen	1133 Cornell Ave Albany Ca, 94706	Judith Cohen
DONNA VERNER	115 WASHINGTON JACK ST OAKS VALLEY CA 95945	Donna Verner
Kenneth Glines	1300 Glendale Ave Berkeley	Kenneth Glines
Deby Richner	1007 Woodlawn Ave NAPA	Deby Richner
Alessandra	1640 SAN PABLO SAN PABLO	Alessandra
LOLA RIEP	700 CRESTON BERKELEY	LOLA RIEP
DIANE DIANI	RICHMOND 94801 101 SANTA FE AVE EL CERRITO	Diane Diani
SHALEY MARKS	1332 NORVILL ST EL CERRITO	Shaley Marks
Doug Marks	1332 Norvell St. EL CERRITO	
Ron Jensen	1176 University Ave Berkeley CA	

LOLA
ALESSANDRA

Ron Jensen

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Name	Address	Signature
Joanna Elliott	1031 Curtis ^{Albany}	
CEDRIC HANCOCK	8508 Adams Street ^{Albany}	
JOHN HANCOCK	955 ADAMS #4 ^{Albany}	
Roseanne	1350 Washington ^{Albany}	
Isay Takagi	1588 Henry, Berkeley	
MONIKA SMITH	2643 EMMA PINOLE	
Phyllis Tucker	2478-20 th ST SAN PABLO	
Joan Akagi	813 Lexington ^{El Ferris}	
Christine Yamashiro	961 Ordeway ^{Albany}	
Kathleen Callahan	616 Santa Rosa Ave ^{Albany}	
Tom Windsor	1750 Hatford Ave #203	
Shelby Heda	1260 Hopkins St ^{#5}	
Barbara Rogers	P.O. Box 6004, Albany	

PIERCE STREET PARK
CHRONOLOGY OF FACTS

- 1991 "Environmental Re-evaluation" for Operational Improvement to Route 180
- 1992 CalTrans presents sound-wall and mini-park options at Albany City Hall workshop
- 1993 The sound-wall/mini-park is approved by the results of a neighborhood survey
- 1999+ CalTrans approaches Albany with request to review alternatives to sound-wall. Discussions were held with residents, City of Albany, & CalTrans. Mini-park and Maxi-park plans were-discussed.
- 5/2000 Residents surveyed. Alternative #3 selected - a maxi park and with no sound-wall.
CalTrans agrees to allocate mini-park funding to grading the parcel.
- 2000-02 Albany and CalTrans develop a "Cooperative Agreement" for transfer of parcel to City. Agreement includes "approved appraisal value, as agreed to by both parties".
- 6/2002 "Cooperative Agreement #4-1842-C" approved by all parties. (Expired 6/30/03). Grading occurs.
- 4/2003 City of Albany hires Alameda County Appraiser for \$351,000.00. CalTrans objects.
- 6/2003 City of Albany attempts to obtain parcel via legislative (AB929) action. Legislature requires City to get a certified MAI appraiser.
- 2003-04 CalTrans and City agree to appraisal process and select an appraiser.
- 6/2004 Smith & Associates appraisal of \$580,000 given.
City of Albany sets funds aside from Measure F.
- 12/2004 CalTrans objects over 4 issues, including 1907 subdivision rights believing parcel is worth millions. Albany legal staff & Shute Mihaly disagree.
- 8/2006 City meets with Pierce Street Neighbors to discuss status.
- 12/2007 Meeting with CalTrans Director, Will Kempton, Rep. Loni Hancock, Albany Mayor, staffs of City of Albany and CalTrans. Albany is directed to re-do appraisal with agreed upon instructions.
- 2008 City re-appraisal - parties are deadlocked on 1907 subdivision and entitlement issue
- 10/2008 CalTrans transmits a financing/developing option of \$2.5 million.
- 2009 Neighbors persuaded Albany Park&Rec. Commission to spend Measure WW funds on acquisition and development of Pierce Street Park.
- 4/2009 Neighbors met with CalTrans, Robert McPherson
- 2/2009 Neighbors met with City staff
- 5/2009 Neighbors met with City staff
- 9/2009 Neighbors met with City staff
- 2011 City of Albany obtains the parcel from CalTrans for \$2.5 million using reserve funds before they were claimed by the State of California.
- 2011 A sign is hung on the fence at a celebration of securing the parcel for a park, bike trail, and maintenance center.
- 2012 Bids and construction plans were presented and chosen.
- 2013 Core of Engineers declared the parcel a potential wetland, halting development.
- 2014 Albany submits environmental study of parcel to Core.
- 2016 State leaders contacted to resolve the issue.
Core of Engineers finally agreed - parcel is not a wetland.
City approved a new park construction contract
- 2016-17 PG&E uses park for staging of equipment and debris for 6 months.
- 5/2017 Grading for Park begins. Fence and trees are removed.
- 6/2017 ADA crossings and sidewalks on Pierce Street, installed.

From: elsbee50@aol.com
To: [citycouncil](#)
Subject: Cleveland st. project
Date: Sunday, May 5, 2019 4:05:04 PM

After three years of visiting homeless encampments to deliver sandwiches, helping at the Albany Aquatic Center with showers for homeless people, volunteering at the Stair Navigation Center, and talking to low income seniors and disabled people, I know how critical the SAHA project is to Albany. This project, if approved by the City Council, could prevent some Albany citizens from being forced to move out of our community. Recreation facilities are important, but affordable housing is far more important and will strengthen our community.

Peace Beth Beller

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail
Get the new AOL app: mail.mobile.aol.com

Eileen Harrington

From: Evelyne St-Louis <evelyne.stl@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2019 3:31 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: Comments on Item 9-1 - Zoning Classification Establishment at Cleveland Avenue & Washington Avenue

Dear City Council members,

I will not be able to attend tonight's Council meeting, but I would like to pass on my comments. I have been part of the Diverse Housing Working Group of Albany for several years, and am a member of Solano Community Church here in Albany.

I would like to express my strong support for the zoning classification establishment, which is the first step in allowing SAHA's proposed affordable housing project to move forward.

First, the ability to use city-owned land for affordable housing development is absolutely a game changer -- not only as a way to significantly reduce total development costs, but also in order to leverage other precious county and state funding sources. This is a huge opportunity. Developing affordable housing on a non-city-owned parcel would present much higher costs, and the city would have to find other ways to provide a local match. This does not seem to be a viable alternative for a small city like Albany.

Second, the General Plan already designates this site as R-3. The City's General Plan has long been approved. This establishes a very strong argument for the zoning classification establishment.

Finally, Albany has not built any affordable housing projects in years, and is behind on its RHNA. This proposed affordable housing project is way overdue. We should do everything we can to make sure it moves forward!

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Best regards,
Evelyne St-Louis

Eileen Harrington

From: The Rev. Julie Wakelee-Lynch <rector@st-albans-albany.org>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2019 3:46 PM
To: citycouncil; Peggy McQuaid; Rochelle Nason; Peter Maass; Nick Pilch; Michael Barnes
Subject: Support for affordable housing items on tonight's agenda
Attachments: Letter in support of SAHA project.pdf

Dear Mayor Nason, Vice Mayor McQuaid, Councilmembers Barnes, Maas, and Pilch,

I regret that I will not be able to attend tonight's meeting to express my support for moving forward with SAHA and the creation of affordable housing units at Cleveland and Washington. Please see attached for my letter of support.

Sincerely,
Julie Wakelee-Lynch

--

The Rev. Julie Wakelee-Lynch
Rector, St. Alban's Episcopal Church
1501 Washington Avenue (at the corner of Curtis)
Albany, CA 94706
tel. 510-525-1716
web: www.stalbansalbany.org
email: rector@st-albans-albany.org

"St. Alban's Serves" the whole community!
Join us in our community campaign: <https://stalbansalbany.org/capital-campaign/>

Eileen Harrington

From: Janet Chisholm <jgchisholm@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2019 5:41 PM
To: citycouncil; Michael Barnes; Peter Maass; Peggy McQuaid; Rochelle Nason; Nick Pilch
Subject: Albany Affordable Housing - SAHA

May 6, 2019

Albany City Council
1000 San Pablo Avenue
Albany, CA 94706

Dear Mayor Nason and members of the Council,

I write to you in support of plans to create affordable housing in Albany in partnership with Satellite Affordable Housing (SAHA). I understand that this requires a change in zoning for the proposed site at Cleveland and Washington, and I support this action.

Albany is sorely in need of affordable housing units (in each of the U.S. Census-designated "low income" categories), and indeed is required under California law to meet its housing obligation.

I am also aware that a group of residents has worked for many years to advocate for park/place space on Albany hill, and hope that development plans going forward take this into consideration.

Again, I fully support this project. As a member of All Souls Episcopal Church, Berkeley, I and our congregation support increasing affordable housing. We are working with SAHA to build affordable senior housing on church's land. Our congregation, which includes many Albany residents, stands with you in this important work.

Sincerely,

Janet G. Chisholm
934 Cornell Avenue
Albany, CA 94706
jgchisholm@aol.com
845-641-3648



St. Alban's Episcopal Church

1501 Washington Avenue, Albany, CA 94706
510-525-1716 ♦ www.st-albans-albany.org

May 6, 2019

Albany City Council
1000 San Pablo Avenue
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I am also aware that a group of residents has worked for many years to advocate for park/place space on Albany hill, and hope that development plans going forward take this into consideration.

Again, I fully support this project, and our congregation stands with you in this important work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "jnlch".

(The Rev. Julie Wakelee-Lynch
Rector

Eileen Harrington

From: Jim Beller <jimbeller311@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2019 7:05 PM
To: citycouncil
Subject: My Friend Melanie

In our volunteering at the Pathways STAIR navigation center in Berkeley we met a young woman, Melanie Rogers, and her black and tan terrier Giggles. We had an arrangement with our friend Patricia "Mama Bear" Moore to watch her Lab Ebony if she went into the hospital, and Melanie asked if we could do the same for Giggles. We had him most of February and we got to know Melanie a little better through a few crises, combinations of asthma and depression. Her most recent place to stay was Casa Maria in Oakland but felt she was driven out by her roommate.

We took Bella and Giggles for a walk on Thursday. She told me she was staying at the park at 3rd and Peralta in her tent and keeping her things during the day at an underground radio station at 7th. We texted Saturday night. Sunday afternoon I got a phone call from an Oakland fireman asking if I knew Giggles. They found Melinda dead in her tent and miraculously Giggles still had a tag I had made with my phone number so I was able to go get him and talk to the fireman. He said there wasn't any sign of trauma and there wasn't any heroin or paraphernalia.

I appreciate that our city government is increasing its commitment to provide services for very low income community members, and I'm happy that Albany has an entirely low and very low income housing project to consider. I was surprised by the size and passion of the opposition that was so easily marshalled. One woman reportedly said she would "fight to the death" for a basketball court at Solano and Cleveland.

Please appreciate the fact that some people are fighting to the death for housing.

Sincerely,
Jim Beller
720 Pomona Ave