
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 2, 2021 3:42 PM
To: PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE
Subject: prop 68 timing, \$300,000 discretionary funds

Warning: This email originated from outside the City of Albany. Think before you click!

Dear Parks, Recreation and Open Space Commission,

Thanks for all your work on the parks masterplan.

I have two questions.

First, the consultants have explained that part of the purpose of the plan is to provide input in pursuing Prop 68 park funding from the state. It would be helpful if the process and timeline could be clarified. The [Prop 68 website](#) seems to say that the deadline was in March 2021 for Round 4 funding. The applications due in Nov. 2021 are for regional parks. Which Prop 68 grant program is Albany aiming for?

Second, the City has \$300,000 set aside for a City Council discretionary fund for the Bulb that has not been used for several years. Will these funds be considered in the parks masterplan, and will discussion of their use be agendized before the master plan process is concluded?

Best,
Susan Moffat
Albany resident

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 7, 2021 3:05 PM
To: PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE
Subject: comment for Master Plan workshop

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July 7, 2021

Dear Parks, Recreation and Open Space Commission:

Regarding the discussion of the Master Plan:

We have been long-time residents of Albany. The Albany Bulb is our go-to place for recreation, discovery, and culture. Long ago as a young family our go-to place was Memorial Park, but now as seniors the Bulb provides exercise, a gorgeous place to clear one's head, and thought-provoking art and cultural events. During the pandemic, many folks found the Bulb a convenient resource for mental and physical health.

I have become more involved with life at the Bulb through incredible workshops there, ranging from making books with found materials, foraging natural materials to make ink, the Art Bulbfest walks, the historical/cultural 'Monuments to Extraction' by UC Berkeley students. Whenever we have out-of-town guests, I am so proud to show them the art, ephemeral and longer-lasting artifacts: the Willow House, bird sculptures made of rebar, mosaics, mobiles of pots/pans, the towering Beseeching Woman and driftwood animals, labyrinths, and the secret cabinet. I love the wildness of the place; this unique place provides an alternative to other Albany parks.

And now I am a regular in taking care of the Library Garden of native plants. I have fallen in love with the land and the diverse opportunities provided with this open-ended, place of possibilities for us Albanians and beyond.

Some suggestions on maintaining and improving life at the Bulb:

1. Water hauling to the Library Garden with the city truck. It is very heavy for me to cart water to help water in the new native plants that are growing there. Only 10 gallons+ of water every week in old milk containers would certainly sustain the growth there.
2. A shed of some sort to store garden tools.
3. Small botanical signs to indicate the names of the native plants at the Library Garden. The Garden is a great place to see how we can address dwindling water supply and loss of local pollinators; we can learn to apply that knowledge in our own Albany gardens.
4. A classroom that could help Albany Unified School District children and teens use the Bulb for nature study and history. A collaboration between the AUSD and the Bulb could be an invaluable resource. A similar example would be Shorebird Park at the Berkeley Marina. Also the Albany Senior Center could collaborate in some way in this project.
5. More trash cans at the base of the Bulb, often overflowing over busy weekends.
6. A bigger bulletin board to communicate usage of the Bulb and ways for people to get involved in stewarding the land. A place where the history of the Bulb could be posted so citizens/users could know about the land on which they walk.

7. Something to help people enjoy the art at the Bulb. Maybe an inviting sign to encourage people to enjoy the art as well as the spectacular views.

Sincerely,

Marion & John Cowee

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