

Letters

FROM PAGE A12

I've come to meetings numerous times during the past few months to observe how the City Council deals with this crisis. I've noticed a shift in the reception of how people are treated at council.

I particularly see a change in the overall energy that I had not previously observed when attending council meetings several years ago, when there were issues involving structural racism regarding affordable housing.

I believe that the council's manner of listening, affording dignity and respect by sincerely listening to and looking directly at people of color has greatly improved from previous councils.

I believe you as the Alameda City Council have the opportunity to profoundly affect the way renters are treated in Alameda. Through these ordinances, the council also has an opportunity to affect the way many people of color are treated.

And yet, I'm also sure that there are people in Alameda who are happy about the mass evictions. As I stated at the last council meeting, you've probably heard some Alamedans say, "I'm glad those people are gone."

Who are "those people" to whom they refer? Are they talking about renters, poor people, or people of color, primarily African-Americans? Many of us know that "those people" is code that covers up the racism that abounds, consciously and unconsciously in our society and in

Alameda. It can easily hide because our institutions that carry the structural discrimination that protects interests of some people and not others.

Who is going to protect the interests of the renters and people of color in Alameda?

For many people of color and for people who understand the structural racism at work in the history of this city, the Harbor Island evictions are a painful reminder of the mass evacuation of African-Americans when Estuary Projects in Alameda were closed and moved to Oakland during the 1960s.

You were not here as councilmembers to stop the herding out of African-Americans and the racism at work during the Estuary Projects closure. But, you can be a tipping point for how our diverse community of renters living in our West End are treated today and tomorrow.

We need these ordinances. Has Measure A protected people who have lived and built community in Harbor Island Apartments for the past 30 years?

Through these ordinances, you would be calling upon our city governance to make rental companies accountable to treat people with common courtesy and dignity that should be their legal responsibilities as owners of property.

I ask you to continue to make this a tipping point that also begins to dismantle some of the structural manifestations of racism. Having just celebrated Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, these ordinances seem quite timely and fitting.

Wendy C. Horikoshi

Please recycle this newspaper

Free Appraisal Clinic

Wednesday, February 16th

10am-1pm (limit 5 items)



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NOTICE OF PROPOSED PLAN AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Proposal of No Further Action at Former Skeet Range
Alameda Point, California

The U.S. Navy, in coordination with state and environmental regulatory agencies, encourages the public to comment on its Proposed Plan for no further action at the former skeet range, identified as Installation Restoration (IR) Site 29 at the former Alameda Naval Air Station, now referred to as Alameda Point, in Alameda, California.

The former skeet range is located on the northwestern corner of Alameda Point. The site was used by the Navy as a skeet range and areas of offshore sediment contain lead shot, clay fragments, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). The Proposed Plan provides a summary of investigations performed at the site including a remedial investigation and human health and ecological risk assessments. Based on data collected and analyzed for these investigations, the proposed determination is that no further environmental work is necessary because the potential for humans and/or animals to be exposed to offshore sediment was insignificant. This finding supports the eventual transfer and redevelopment of the offshore property to the Alameda Reuse and Redevelopment Authority.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The Navy invites interested members of the public to review and comment on the Proposed Plan during the 30-day public comment period which is from February 15th to March 18th, 2005. Public comments must be submitted in writing and postmarked or e-mailed no later than March 18, 2005, or attend the public meeting on March 7, 2005. Please send all comments to: Mr. Thomas Macchiarella, BRAC Environmental Coordinator, Program management Office West, 1230 Columbia Street, Suite 1100, San Diego, California. 92101, Thomas.macchiarella@navy.mil, (619) 532-0907, fax (619) 532-0940.

PUBLIC MEETING

The Navy will host a public meeting to discuss the Proposed Plan, answer questions and accept public comments.
Date: Monday, March 7, 2005
Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Location: 950 West Mall Square, Building 1, Room 201, Alameda Point, CA

FOR MORE INFORMATION

A copy of the Proposed Plan, Remedial Investigation, Ecological and Human Health Risk Assessment and other site documents are available for review at:

Alameda Point 950 West Mall Square Building 1 Alameda Point, California	Alameda Public Library 2200 A Central Avenue Alameda, California
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If you have any questions or wish to discuss the skeet range project, please contact Mr. Thomas Macchiarella, BRAC Environmental Coordinator, at (619) 532-0907, fax (619) 532-0940.

The Humane Society of Alameda Needs your support!

\$20 Individual Membership Name _____

\$25 Supporting Member Address _____

\$100 Life Member _____

\$_____ A Donation Amount City _____ Zip _____

send to: H.S.O.A. P.O. Box 1571 Alameda, CA 94501

H.S.A. offers FREE animal adoption for Alameda Senior Citizens living on low incomes, through the Patricia Ide Adoption Fund.

The Humane Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to animal protection, control & humanity.

We provide financial assistance to the animal shelter along with a spay & neuter fund. Checks payable to the Humane Society are tax-deductible.

JERRY'S 523-4423
2501 Santa Clara Ave.
Alameda

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