

Berkeley Council of Neighborhood Associations

Newsletter No 79

JANUARY 1983

To Let the Neighborhoods Know What's Coming Down Before it Lands on Them

PLANNING BERKELEY'S WATERFRONT

Imagine this: You're strolling along a Berkeley shoreline pathway with a family member, say 25 or 50 years from now, surrendering yourself to the enchantment of the Bay and marveling at the harmonic balance between the water and the lands surrounding you. And you feel happy, actually happy, and proud of yourself, too, when your companion says, "You folks sure did make some farsighted decisions back then. How did you ever manage it?"

Floating that image to the back of your mind for a moment, let's consider our present situation and then the task ahead of us.

To date, the City Council has taken only one official position regarding the development of the waterfront. That position was conveyed in a letter to the State Dept. of Parks & Rec. in May 1982: (1) The City Council supports the concept of an East Bay Shoreline Park; (2) The Council supports spending State funds for acquisition; (3) Berkeley will cooperate with other jurisdictions in this planning effort: (4) For the area with the Berkeley City limits, the Council wishes to retain the opportunity for some commercial development compatible with that open space.

Some information about recent city government activity will help clarify some issues raised in last month's CNA NEWSLETTER: specifically, those regarding (1) the City's relationship to the Santa Fe Land Improvement Company (the owner of approximately 130 acres of land along the Berkeley waterfront; (2) the City's attitude toward the creation of an East Bay Shoreline Park; (3) the on-going dialogue between City, Coastal Conservancy, and State Parks representative; and (4) recent City Council action regarding the waterfront.

Public discussion of the appropriate land uses, density, and ownership of Berkeley's publicly and privately-owned waterfront has increased over the last year in response to related planning and investigative efforts of several public state agencies including: State Lands Commission, Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), California Dept. of

· CNA MEETING NOTICE ·

MONDAY

10 JANUARY 1983

8:00 P.M.

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 2727 College Ave. at Garber (parking underneath)

AGENDA

8:00 Officers' Reports

8:05 Neighborhood Announcements

Milvia-Grove Alliance: 8:15 the proposed Golden Bear Project

- Barry Wofsy

8:20 Lawn Bowling Concerns

- Dan Horodysky, SUDS Neighborhood

CNA 1983 Election of Officers 8:35

Workshop on Downtown Development 8:40 (put over from Dec. meeting)

- Terry Ware, Planner

City Dept. of Planning & Community Dev.

10:00 Adjournment

Parks & Rec., State Coastal Conservancy, and California Dept. of Transportation (CALTRANS). Most local interest has focused on the proposed establishment of an East Bay Shoreline Park by the State Dept. of Parks & Rec.

At the same time, Santa Fe Land Improvement Co. (owner of all the private lands located along the Berkeley waterfront) initiated its own planning efforts by hiring two land-use planning firms - Keyser/Marston Assoc., Inc. and Hall/Goodhue/Haisley/and Barker - both of San Francisco.

In early 1982 Douglas Hall, Pres. of Santa Fe Land Improvement Co., expressed to the City Manager his interest in working cooperatively with the City of Berkeley in amicably resolving outstanding legal differences and planning for the use of Santa Fe's waterfront holdings. Several meetings were held between City staff and the Santa Fe consultants to discuss the alternative processes by which a development plan could be formulated, a plan which would be acceptable to the City Council, Santa Fe, and all other major local organizations and public agencies who have been involved in shoreline planning for the last several years.