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ZA Hearing

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AUG 11 2015

CITY OF SAUSALITO  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPT

**CHERIE ELISE SINCLAIR**

6 Alexander Avenue

Sausalito, CA 94965

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August 11, 2015

Re: Proposed Pier at 2 Alexander

Dear Sir or Madame,

I live at 6 Alexander Avenue with my family. My two sons and I are downstairs, right on the beach, with panoramic views of the bay, city, and Angel Island from our living room, bedroom, and kitchen. The water at high tide comes right under our windows. My 13 year old says that sleeping by the water is the best feeling in the world. We see harbor seals and great blue herons so often and so closely that we call them ours, in that we love them as our neighbors, our pets, our friends. We've seen otters, other water fowl, deer, and coyotes, too. We have beach access from our front deck and back patio. From this beach the boys have been surf skiing with their grandpa and rock collecting with their grandma. They play baseball and football on the beach, and I enjoy the beach for yoga and reflection.

In my work at a mediation firm, we handle many neighbor disputes, and for these we always hold a site visit before meeting in our offices. This is a critical and obvious step if the parties are to understand each other's point of view and if the mediator is to understand what is at stake. Likewise, I invite all decision makers in this matter to come and see this place before proceeding with anything else.

My sons think that Ed Fotch is a nice guy, but when I told my 7 year old that I was attending today's meeting because I didn't want a pier built over the rock that the birds rest on, he gasped and said, "Oh, no. Can't he build it away from the rock?" He added that he really hopes that the pier doesn't get built.

I am informed that Ed Fotch wants to know why he can't have a pier like his neighbors have. Well, he isn't requesting a pier like his neighbors have. His proposed pier is far bigger, with a hydraulic lift at the end. It blocks his neighbors' primary view. It compromises wildlife habitat and plant life. It alters his neighbors' experience and relationship with that wildlife. It bisects the beach that my children, and his, and the public, enjoy. It poses a hazard for boaters and paddle boarders.

His neighbors have piers because their piers don't do any of this. It seems to me that Mr. Fotch doesn't have the appropriate land for an acceptable pier as few of his neighbors do. Why should he have a special pier, one that costs others so much? Why should the city lease him land, alter the customary review process, obstruct community input, abandon transparency, compromise integrity, harm the environment, and destroy beauty to give one man a pier?

I believe that Mr. Fotch has made an unworthy proposal and I urge you to reject it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cherie Sinclair". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Cherie Sinclair