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DEPUTY CITY CLERK

March 7, 2006

CERTIFIED MAIL

Honorable Mayor, City Council
and Planning Commission
City of Brisbane
50 Park Place
Brisbane CA 94005

Dear People:

The flyer announcing your Baylands EIR Scoping Session on March 2, 2006, promised opportunity for citizen questions and input. In the same spirit, your agenda had appropriate time scheduled for that purpose. In reality you allowed others, without any challenge, to use up almost all the time reserved for the public and then abruptly adjourned the joint meeting. Because no action by you was anticipated, the hearing could well have been continued for a reasonable time and conducted by even one Council member or Planning Commissioner. At the minimum, you should have given people a minute to submit written input for the record.

On March 2 I had come to your meeting prepared both to give a short prepared statement, including a graphic illustration, and to enter into your record a written copy of same. On March 21, your scheduled date to continue the hearing, I'll be unable to participate. However, because I feel it is important that this EIR process include early submittal of alternatives for staff/consultant research and study, I hereby submit the attached Renewable Energy Concept for inclusion in your record on this subject.

I hope this Council never again treats citizens the way you did on March 2. Any Council member who has a compelling personal reason to stop hearing the public should simply excuse him/herself and agree to watch the videotaped record of the meeting later.

Sincerely,



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Enc.

ALTERNATIVE FOR BAYLANDS EIR: **Renewable Energy Concept**

Principle:

Instead of **negative** environmental impacts that need to be **mitigated**, emphasis in this day and age should be placed on **positive** environmental effects. To maximize readily available sustainable resources, this concept emphasizes land uses that will serve the City, the region, and the nation in the long term and provide solutions to environmental problems.

Open space/area:

In addition to the already planned River Park and Lagoon access, the area south of the creek should be devoted to a **golf course** or other commercial recreation. The water needs of that land use should be met by a reclamation system covering the entire Baylands area.

This land use is consistent with the City's General Plan Policy No. 353.

Renewable energy generation:

- 1) To fully utilize the prevailing wind tunnel in the Geneva Gap and the immediate proximity to PG&E's Martin Substation, a **windmill farm** extending across the northern Baylands, west to east, should be included. Current windmill technology is both noiseless, harmless to birds, and cost-effective.
- 2) Because the entire Baylands is open to the sun, maximum use of **photovoltaic cells** for electricity and **solar thermal** equipment for heat and hot water should be planned. Any construction should be required to include solar generation not only sufficient for the building but to serve city and regional energy demands.
- 3) At the lagoon outfall, **tidal turbines** should be installed to power the immediate needs for street lights and lagoon-related power.

Related industrial production:

In keeping with the Governor's call for "a million solar roofs" and recognizing the solar equipment industry as the currently fastest-growing business segment in California, sufficient land area should be designated for **manufacturing** solar panels, windmills, bicycles, and all other equipment serving renewable energy purposes. Because technology in this area is advancing rapidly, allowance should be made for **research** facilities for future needs.

Retail:

In the transit-oriented corner of the Baylands, a retail area should be designated for **renewable energy equipment** showrooms, **bicycle shops**, **organic farm** product markets as well as other businesses and organizations promoting renewables.

Historic site:

An extended area around the **roundhouse ruins** should be developed for a historic and educational exhibit on the Baylands, past and future. Ideally, Sunset Scavengers (NorCal) would sponsor a **recycling** demonstration facility.

Existing land uses:

This alternative does not propose relocating the existing lumber yards. They should, however, be supplemented by businesses specializing in **recyclable building materials** and encouraged to expand their own product mix to include same.



Baylands Renewable Energy Concept

Developed by Anja Miller and Philip Batchelder