REMARKS BY MAYOR RAY MILLER
After His Installation
December 17, 2012

I am honored to have the opportunity to again serve the citizens of Brisbane as Mayor. This is my fourth time. My last Mayoral term was in 1994-95. As the History sub-committee Clarke Conway and I have been reliving those years as we read the drafts of the History of the second twenty-five years of Brisbane, 1986-2011. The publication of the History Book is planned for this Spring so that you all will be able to experience our rather lively recent history. During that period the litigation over the Northeast Ridge development was resolved, and the last recall election was held. Many people who attended the glorious opening of our new playground in the Community Park last Saturday were not aware that the 1989 recall election paved the way for the Community Park. The Park property was acquired by the City through the Redevelopment Agency. It was occupied by the infamous Cozy Cove Motel and Trailer Park. The majority of the Council wanted to build a Civic Center there that was designed by the post-modernist architect Michael Graves. A Committee headed by former Mayor Ed Schwenderlauf objected to the plan and believed that the only way to stop it was a recall. What followed was a very divisive campaign that ended up being successful by only a few votes. Out of that tumultuous negative experience came two positive results. One was the Community Park itself - a truly remarkable community asset, and two, the realization that any effort by the Council to

move ahead without the full verifiable support of the Community was a disastrous mistake.

The current Council remembers that lesson and that is why it will use all feasible means to get full community input before moving ahead on the development plans for the Baylands. On the agenda later this evening we will be talking about the process of getting as many people as possible involved in reading and commenting on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (the DEIR). In addition, before the Council starts working on an actual plan for the Baylands, it will conduct a community-wide survey. Furthermore, no plan will be approved by the Council until it goes before the voters of Brisbane.

The formulation of the Brisbane plan for the Baylands will not formally start until the Planning Commission and the Council have access to the document known as the Final Environmental Impact Report. The Final Report includes the original draft, the comments, and responses to the comments. The Final Report will probably not be available until near the end of 2013.

One of the components that I personally would like to see in the Baylands Plan is a strong commitment to sustainability. That will not be easily realized as conventional economics does not incorporate long-term environmental values. However, over the last few decades an extensive professional field of sustainability

economics and metrics has been developed. Many projects have already incorporated them so that we do not have to invent a new science.

My final comment on the Baylands is to remind everyone that developments of this magnitude take a long time to unfold. The development on Sierra Point was approved by the City in the late 1970s. It is still only about 50% built-out.

Naturally, the Council will be addressing many other issues in the upcoming year. I hope we make some progress on the Street Safety issues. I am personally pleased that we are on the path of a realistic capital maintenance program. We need to take care of the investments that we have already made. That includes the pool, the marina, the fire station, the water and sewer system, the parks, and our open space on San Bruno Mountain.

I look forward to working with the Community and the Council on the above issues as well as others that come our way.

Thanks and Happy New Year!