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June 28, 2020

City Planning Commission
1947 Center St.
Berkeley, California 94704

Dear Members of the City Planning Commission,

I wrote to you all back in November of 2019. What a different time we find ourselves in now. And though we have no idea of what the future will really be like, planning still needs to happen to be sure. I would hope though, that the situation we find ourselves in at the moment, a Shelter-in-place mandate amidst a global pandemic and economic uncertainty, will color decisions made currently.

As a small business owner of a food service establishment in MR-1 zone I am eager to encourage you to consider applying, not only the referral to extend the same regulations for wine and beer service for commercial districts to the manufacturing districts. Wine and beer are add-ons to a dining experience much appreciated by customers, and add a greatly appreciated increase in profit percentage for the owner. A win-win for all.

2. Referral Response: Modifications to the Zoning Ordinance to Support Small Businesses (City Manager, 12/4/18) - As part of the Small Business Support Package that was adopted in December of 2018, City Council reduced level of discretion for restaurants in commercial districts serving beer and wine incidental to seated food service. This referral requests these same regulations be extended to beer and wine service at restaurants in the manufacturing districts.

Staff proposes to review existing regulations in each of the manufacturing districts in order to bring a set of amendments forward that provides flexibility to restaurants and meets the purposes of West Berkeley Plan.

I would also like to propose the following items below, 4. e and f, be considered for West Berkeley manufacturing districts. A UP is very time consuming and expensive, and very difficult to acquire by a tiny business. The very kind that adds a unique and valued aspect to a district and neighborhood.

4. Referral Response: Modifications to the Zoning Ordinance to Support Small Businesses (City Manager, 10/15/19) - Early in 2019, the Office of Economic Development (OED) conducted outreach to gain a better understanding of challenges and concerns facing small business. These conversations led the OED to recommend to City Council a second set of supports for small businesses. This referral presents OED's eight recommendations for consideration and discussion:

e. Review the limitation on "Hours of Operation" in commercial districts - In order for a business to extend Hours of Operation a UP(PH) is required.

Staff proposes to examine existing Hours of Operation for all commercial districts to identify opportunities for modifications.



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f. Review "Change of Use" requirements in commercial districts triggered by square footage - Currently in some commercial districts, a change of use above a certain square footage threshold requires an AUP or UP(PH).

Staff proposes to examine permit requirements for change of use in commercial districts, assess the need for these thresholds, and develop amendments for potential changes.

I did not see any mention of the zoning ordinance discussed in earlier materials about creating one "Food Service Establishment" category to characterize restaurant uses. I would very much like to see this added to the manufacturing districts as well. It would make opening new businesses, or growing an existing business doable. It is quite an onerous and expensive process now.

I have been a member of the business community in Berkeley for 6 years now. We are staying open by the "skin of our teeth". THANK YOU so much for the grant you all extended through the Office of Economic Development. It means a lot to me to be recognized by the city and it was very helpful to receive.

Standard Fare serves our direct, local community. I really love being part of the fabric of our zone. The number of regular customers that come every day is gratifying. I still get to say hello, and can even recognize regulars with a mask, sunglasses and a hat on!

I really hope to persevere through these hard times and keep Standard Fare open. AND, continue to offer reasonably priced, organic, intentionally prepared food with a keen eye to community, diversity, and inclusion. I try to pay my staff as well as I can. And I hope to only be able to pay them more as I find ways to expand our business offerings and thus, income

Many thanks,
Kelsie Kerr,
Chef/Owner Standard Fare
kelsie@standardfareberkeley.com
510-332-3592

Lapira, Katrina

WARNING: This email originated outside of City of Berkeley.

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Dear Community Stakeholder,

I hope that you are staying safe during these challenging times. As more counties throughout the Bay Area begin to relax their shelter in place orders and reopen more of their economies, AC Transit is sensitive to people's concerns during the current pandemic and wants to ensure that riders feel safe and comfortable as they begin to get back onto public transit. Below is a link to a survey that will help us assess the priorities of riders as they begin to get back on the service. While we are still not charging to ride, all riders who complete the survey can enter to win an AC Transit 31-day pass (great for when fare collection resumes).

Please share with your members and networks so we can ensure that AC Transit is as welcoming as possible as people find themselves looking to get around their community again. Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Ryan Lau | External Affairs Representative



Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District

1600 Franklin Street | Oakland, CA 94612

Phone: 510-891-4843 | Cell: 510-504-1204 | Fax: 510-891-4874

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Bottom of Form

AC Transit seeks rider input on COVID-19

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General Information

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The novel coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, has caused a world-wide pandemic impacting every facet of life, from work to home. AC Transit has seen the impact first-hand through our employees and their families who've suffered tragic outcomes losing their loved ones to this virus, and our heartfelt sympathy to all who've experienced incalculable loss during this time. In response to the pandemic, AC Transit has implemented social distancing and safety measures for our riders and operators; suspension of fare collection; and making service adjustments to reflect the dramatic change in ridership during shelter-in-place requirements.

As Alameda and Contra Costa counties gradually reopen, many of our riders are returning to the workforce or resuming some part of their previous daily activities. AC Transit is interested in understanding your “new normal.”

Please take the time to fill out the survey through the below link (English, Spanish, and Chinese language versions are available) to help us understand how to better serve you. All riders who complete the survey can enter to win an AC Transit 31-day pass (great for when fare collection resumes).

Take the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2678Q6B>.

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Encuesta para clientes

El nuevo coronavirus, también conocido como COVID-19, ha causado una pandemia mundial que afecta a todas las facetas de la vida, desde el trabajo hasta el hogar. AC Transit ha visto el impacto de primera mano a través de nuestros empleados y sus familias que han sufrido trágicas consecuencias al perder a sus seres queridos por este virus, y le damos nuestro más sincero pésame a todos los que han experimentado una pérdida incalculable durante este tiempo. En respuesta a la pandemia, AC Transit ha puesto en práctica medidas de distanciamiento social y de seguridad para nuestros pasajeros y operadores, la suspensión del cobro de tarifas y la realización de ajustes en el servicio para reflejar el drástico cambio en el número de pasajeros durante los requisitos de refugio en el lugar.

A medida que los condados de Alameda y Contra Costa se reabren gradualmente, muchos de nuestros pasajeros están regresando a la fuerza laboral o reanudando alguna parte de sus actividades diarias anteriores. AC Transit está interesado en entender su “nueva normalidad.”

Por favor, tómese el tiempo de completar la encuesta a través del siguiente enlace (las versiones en inglés, español y chino están disponibles) para ayudarnos a entender cómo servirle mejor. Todos los pasajeros que completen la encuesta pueden participar para ganar un pase de 31 días de AC Transit (genial para cuando se reanude la recolección de tarifas).

Encuesta para Pasajeros: AC Transit y COVID-19: <https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/HW93HNX>

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客户调查

新冠病毒病（也称为 COVID-19）已引发全球大流行，影响从工作到家庭的生活的方方面面。从员工及其家庭的身上，AC Transit 亲眼目睹了这一影响，他们的亲人因这种病毒而去世，他们悲痛万分，我们对在此期间遭受无法估量损失的所有人表示由衷同情。为应对此疫情，AC Transit 已落实社交隔离和安全措施来保护乘客和驾驶员，暂停收费，调整服务，以反映居家避疫令期间客流量的巨大变化。

随着阿拉米达县和康特拉科斯塔县逐渐重新开放，我们的许多乘客正在重返工作岗位，或恢复以前的一些日常活动。AC Transit 有兴趣了解您的“新常态”。

请拨冗通过以下链接（提供英语、西班牙语和中文版本）填写调查，帮助我们更好地为您服务。完成调查的乘客都可以获得 AC Transit 的 31 天通行证（非常适合恢复收费时使用）。

乘客调查：AC Transit 和 COVID-19: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HS9H5HG>



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For service information, visit AC Transit's website, actransit.org.

For questions or feedback related to AC Transit, visit actransit.org/feedback, or call 510-891-4777.

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You may also be interested in

1. [Marin County COVID-19 status update: June 28, 2020](#)
[Jun 28, 2020, 7:27 PM - County of Marin](#)
2. [Practical insights for Small Businesses on Responding to COVID19](#)
[Jun 28, 2020, 9:45 AM - Small Business Administration \(SBA\)](#)
3. [Register Now: Free COVID-19 Resource Webinars June 29 - July 3](#)

[Jun 28, 2020, 2:10 PM - Small Business Administration \(SBA\)](#)

4. [**OSHA COVID-19 Tip of the Day for June 28, 2020**](#)

[Jun 28, 2020, 7:00 AM - United States Department of Labor](#)

5. [**King County COVID-19 updates for June 27, 2020**](#)

[Jun 27, 2020, 8:15 PM - King County, WA](#)

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Lapira, Katrina

From: Pearson, Alene
Sent: Monday, June 29, 2020 8:43 PM
To: Lapira, Katrina
Subject: FW: People's Park

June 29, 2020

FROM: Harvey Smith
People's Park Historic District Advocacy Group

TO: Mayor Jesse Arreguin JArreguin@cityofberkeley.info

City Council Members bbartlett@cityofberkeley.info, cdavila@cityofberkeley.info,
LDroste@cityofberkeley.info, shahn@cityofberkeley.info, kharrison@cityofberkeley.info,
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Landmarks Preservation Commission FCrane@CityofBerkeley.info

Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Department parks@cityofberkeley.info

City Attorney attorney@cityofberkeley.info

City Auditor jwong@cityofberkeley.info

Former Mayors Gus Newport, Loni Hancock, Shirley Dean, Tom Bates

I write to you on behalf of the People's Park Historic District Advocacy Group which represents Berkeley citizens concerned about the preservation of Peoples' Park as a cultural and open space resource. The park was designated a City Landmark in 1984 and is also surrounded by other renowned landmarks of local, state and national significance. This de facto historic district is endangered by proposed construction. The information below should make clear what we'd like to be determined.

Two quotes from the mayor and council members clearly state their current position on high-rise, for-profit construction in People's Park instead of support for low-cost housing at alternative locations. This position seems to be in clear contradiction with the language of Measure L, the Berkeley Public Parks and Open Space Preservation Ordinance. We've also included information from the city's website which also indicates a conflict with Berkeley Municipal Code and preservation and landmark ordinances (although the code or those ordinances are not quoted directly).

Our assumption is that the mayor and council should comply with what is mandated in city code and ordinances. We would much appreciate getting an opinion on this from the auditor's office or from any other appropriate department.

Thanks for your attention to this critical matter.

“Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin said, ‘I strongly support the university's vision for the future of People's Park. We can honor its rich history while re-imagining it as a place where all people can come together and where we can shelter our homeless and provide needed housing for our students.’”

Bay City News, Published May 4, 2018

“We hope you will join us in advocating for a new People's Park, one with permanent supportive housing, student housing, and open space that honors its heritage.”

“It's time for a new People's Park,” Op-Ed, S.F. Chronicle. By Rigel Robinson, Lori Droste and Jesse Arreguin, Feb. 3, 2020

Berkeley Public Parks and Open Space Preservation Ordinance, "Measure L" (1986), ORDINANCE NO. 5785-N.S.:

REQUIRES THE BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL TO PRESERVE AND MAINTAIN THE PUBLIC PARKS AND OPEN SPACE WHICH EXIST IN BERKELEY, AS WELL AS TO ACQUIRE AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC PARKS AND OPEN SPACE IN THE CENSUS TRACTS AND NEIGHBORHOODS OF BERKELEY HAVING LESS THAN THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF OPEN SPACE RELATIVE TO POPULATION (2 ACRES PER 1,000) IDENTIFIED IN THE BERKELEY MASTER PLAN OF 1977; AND TO REQUIRE THE CITY TO SUBMIT TO A POPULAR VOTE ALL PROPOSALS TO WITHDRAW FROM RECREATIONAL USE PUBLIC PARKS OR PUBLIC OPEN SPACE.

From the City of Berkeley web page for Planning and Development:

The Landmarks Preservation Ordinance establishes criteria that the LPC must use when considering proposed landmark and historic district designations. They are as follows:

1. Architectural merit...
2. Cultural value...
3. Educational value...
4. Historic value...
5. National Register listed property...