From: Sent: To: Subject: Poling, Jeanie (CPC) Monday, September 23, 2019 8:27 PM Balboa Reservoir Compliance (ECN) FW: Public Comment regarding Balboa Reservoir and City College SEIR

From: Debra Sue Wilensky <dwilensk@ccsf.edu>
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2019 1:11 PM
To: CPC.BalboaReservoir <CPC.BalboaReservoir@sfgov.org>
Subject: Public Comment regarding Balboa Reservoir and City College SEIR

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

## Dear Ms. Poling:

As a San Franciscan, I of course recognize the need for more housing, especially affordable housing. I am however very concerned about the housing project proposed for the Balboa Reservoir, especially its impact on City College and I am especially concerned that the Draft SEIR fails to recognize CCSF as the main feature of the vicinity's "existing or baseline conditions"

The Balboa Reservoir is currently used for student parking. This is clearly not the most efficient use of the space, but the need for parking is very real and is not going away any time soon. Students and faculty coming from work or other campuses cannot get to CCSF by public transportation in a timely fashion. Major improvements in public transportation need to occur before people can give up their cars. On public transit, it takes at least an hour to get to CCSF from my home, but only 20 minutes by car, and before I owned a car I avoided going to the Ocean Campus. Removing this parking without replacing it with a parking structure will severely limit student access to education.

Furthermore, In 2001 and again in 2005 San Francisco voters approved bond measures to build the Performing Arts Education Center (PAEC), which was already shovel ready in fall 2013, when it was put on hold. The college has already invested \$30 million toward its construction, including the basement (which the PAEC shares with the Multi-Use Building), which is already finished. When this long-awaited and much needed building is finally built, CCSF will need additional parking to replace the parking that will be lost and provide additional parking for any performances that will occur in this building.

If the proposed housing is built with only .5 parking spaces per unit, the community will have to absorb the additional cars per unit as well as the current student needs, the future student needs arising from the loss of parking at MUB when the PAEC is built, and the needs of visitors to performances at the PAEC. Many households in San Francisco consist of several adults, either because even so-called affordable housing is only affordable when shared by several adults or by adult children living at home, all of whom might have cars. Even if the residents of the housing units take public transit to work, they are likely to have cars that they will leave parked all day, tying up parking spaces. At the meeting about this project that I attended at John Adams Campus, I was told, more or less, "we have to build with the future in mind and in the future we won't need cars and so won't need parking!" I am sorry, but that future is not here now and won't be here anytime soon, especially if public transit is not improved first. And as we age we are even more dependent on our cars. The need for parking will not go away just because we wish it too.

And none of this addresses future needs that CCSF might have for this land. Ideally, the SFPUC should transfer the 'reservoir' land once and for all to the College. Public land should be preserved for the public and not sold to private developers.

Please remember the current and future needs of City College students and faculty and the needs of the current residents of the neighborhood in regard to this plan for housing. Don't allow crisis thinking regarding the obvious need for affordable housing to push ahead with this ill-conceived plan that will have harmful consequences long into the future.

Sincerely,

Debra Wilensky 1568 48th Avenue San Francisco, CA 94122

retired ESL Instructor (1979-2017), ESL Coordinator (Spring 2016-Spring 2017), now retired John Adams Campus City College of San Francisco