

From: Rick Baum <rickbaum@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 25, 2020 1:34 PM
To: Commission <commission@sfwater.org>
Subject: Balboa Reservoir Housing Project

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Greetings:

Below is a letter I sent to San Francisco's Planning Commission that is relevant to the future use of your public property on the Balboa Reservoir. Please include it in your records.

Thank you.

To The SF Planning Commission:

The PUC section of the Balboa Reservoir property is public property that has been used to meet the needs of City College of San Francisco students for many decades.

There is an obvious housing crisis in the Bay Area. However, public property like the PUC section of the Balboa Reservoir should not be made available for the use of a private entity to enable it to make money in ways that do not serve the public interest.

The claim, and it is only a claim, that some units of affordable housing will be built on the Balboa site comes across as a public relations stunt that insults one's intelligence. Many of the proposed units being described as affordable are only affordable for those with six figure incomes of around \$120,000. Many people working in San Francisco are paid San Francisco's minimum wage of \$15.59 an hour which comes to less than \$33,000/year for one working full time for 52 weeks, an amount just slightly more than one-fourth of what is being characterized as an income level needed to be able to live in what is being called an affordable unit.

A key question you should answer is how would CCSF and Riordan High School students benefit from the proposed Avalon housing project? I doubt that the best pr firm around could come up with any reason that does not reach the heights of absurdity. In addition, I doubt that you can provide a convincing reason of how such a transfer of public property serves the interests of the overwhelming majority of residents in the surrounding neighborhood.

Those residents, and those seeking an education will have to endure the noise and dust during construction that is bound to interfere with one's education and the livability of the neighborhood. Additionally, during construction and thereafter, an area already suffering from traffic congestion will have to deal with even more congestion.

The only rational decision you could make with regard to the PUC Balboa Reservoir property is to turn it over to CCSF, a public and accessible educational facility, for its continued use, and bring an end to even thinking about this proposed private housing project.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Rick Baum