

Briefing to the Waterfront Committee
General Plan Briefing
May 22, 2013

The Albany Waterfront Committee was briefed on the Albany General Plan at their meeting on May 22. A brief presentation to the Commission was made. The Commission accepted the report and made the following comments:

- Eastshore State Park Plan has been supplemented, need to check out Albany's policies for the bulb from a 1995 document. City's policies are in there. Consult this document.
- Add consideration of the El Cerrito and Berkeley General Plans to address land uses issues along the borders. Include in policy audit, to the extent Albany is affected.
- Will we include new streetscape guidelines and/or recommendations in the Plan?
- If there is not a Shoreline Element, need to cover the shoreline in more than just the Land Use Element
- One of the Committee members discussed work she had done on rising sea level and the impacts of a 16 inch sea level rise on Albany's shoreline. The impact would be extensive, and we should get a copy of this study.
- General Plan should address land owned by the City that might go into state park. This could be a way for the public to learn about that.
- How can we extract direction from the City Council about what the Waterfront Committee should do vis a vis the General Plan. How can they have the most meaningful input? Does the Waterfront Committee have the authority to suggest changes that would require a Measure C vote, or should we leave that to the Council? What is the mission of the Committee when it comes to long range planning?
- Note that the waterfront committee is involved in land management rather than land planning—one is operational and the other is planning.
- Need to address homeless issues in the GP. Senior housing, etc.

There was an opportunity for public comment but no public speakers were present. It was agreed that input from the Committee would be solicited at a later date in the process, after policies are developed.