

On 4/30/13 12:14 PM, "lynn grano" <[lynngrano@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lynngrano@sbcglobal.net)> wrote:

Dear Ms. Michaels,

Please submit the herein comments to the public record at the May 2, 2013 Hearing regarding the proposed basketball - other use stadium / arena in San Francisco.

First, the structure's proposed height in excess of approximately thirteen stories is ridiculous at this location. It would be higher than all other structures at the San Francisco Bay's edge, excepting the Golden Gate and Bay Bridges. It would tower over the old Embarcadero Freeway, which twenty or so years after removal, most everyone agrees was an abomination. The proposed arena would be a stark and pathetic admission that we have learned / remembered absolutely nothing concerning the horrible visual, aesthetic and community impacts caused by the 1950's highway engineers giving us their idiocy of encircling San Francisco at the Bay's waters edge with elevated freeways. Like the structure we finally had the sense to tear down, the proposed sports facility will similarly block the public's view of, and access to, the Bay. Why wait until after it's built to have most people regret the proposed arena's construction at water's edge?

Second, the proposed arena's attempts to provide mandated public access<sup>1</sup> is woefully deficient as much of it will not be at ground level, but rather at significant elevations. How this might comply with ADA and other public access mandates no one can quite explain. Such altered public access violates both the spirit and the law that it should be near "ground level" elevations.

Third, the present design, at least as depicted in the press, is, in essence, a large cylindrical hat box turd of enormous proportions. If the exterior of this monstrosity is faced with (or has large components of) either reflective or opaque materials, it could have devastating effects on bird life. We are within the Pacific Flyway and there's fantastic bird life around the Bay. Has anyone bothered to include this potentially huge impact within whatever environmental review is taking place?

Fourth, all the parts of this proposed project along Herb Caen Way are to be retail. This seems an entirely inappropriate private / business usurpation of publically owned space on the Bay. Why not just start selling large neon signage or huge HD screen billboard advertising across the span of the Bay Bridge? Who wants to look at the beautiful Bay when we can instead see the lit up facades of the new in-arena Apple Store or Cheese Cake Factory?

Fifth, and finally, can anyone meaningfully answer the question as to why a better location for a huge sports arena would not be inland and not on the Bay or its edge? Since when are the greed and hubris of a developer, an affluent sports franchise, and their political minions sufficient to trump the clear public interest in not using public space (for private gain) to block access and view of the Bay? This stadium doesn't belong at the proposed location.

Sincerely,

Lynn Grano