



Photos by Joshua Linville
Left: Alameda High School junior Jadyn Banaria attempts to dribble past Encinal High School (EHS) junior Tatiana Rebanal; Right: EHS sophomore Diego Cerna converts fourth quarter layup.



Hornets Swarm Jets in Season Finales

Joshua Linville

Alameda High School (AHS) basketball swept the Island Bowl on Saturday, June 5. The men's team defeated the Encinal High School (EHS), 49-34, while the Lady Hornets defeated the Lady Jets, 62-48. Both games were

played on the Jets' home court. For the men, the win was the Hornets' fifth in a row, which also included a win against the Jets on June 2.

"We needed to bring more energy and be more aggressive," said EHS junior Isaiah Coss. "In the beginning we did not play with confidence."

The Lady Jets came into the game riding a seven-game winning streak. However, they looked nothing like the team that beat AHS on May 22.

"I think we (underestimated them)," said senior Iwalani Cruz. "We didn't have the energy we

should've had."

"We just have a ton of bad plays which led to turnovers," added senior Grace Wise.

With no basketball playoffs in the North Coast Section, seniors played the final games of their high school careers.

"It feels amazing," said AHS senior Raquel Williams. "A way to end one chapter and transition to the next one with college ball."

Williams will play for the University of Rochester next season.

City Seeks Community Input for 2040 Draft EIR

Dennis Evanosky

The city has made its draft General Plan 2040 and the plan's 2040 Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) available for review on its website. These plans are also available for review at the Main Library at 1551 Oak St.

The city is accepting comments on the DEIR until Friday, June 25. The public can provide comments either in writing or by email to: Andrew Thomas, Planning Building and Transportation Department, 2263 Santa Clara Ave., Room 190, Alameda, California 94501 or to athomas@alamedaca.gov. Comments may also be provided verbally at the June 14 Planning Board meeting.

When the 45-day comment period closes on June 25, the city will prepare a final EIR for the Planning Board to consider.

The final EIR will include any

required revisions made to the draft EIR as the result of suggestions made by reviewers of the document. This will also include written responses to all comments received during the 45-day review period.

When it is completed, the city will make the final EIR available for public review for a minimum of 10 days. After this review period, the Planning Board will hold public hearings to make its recommendation on the final EIR and the final Draft General Plan to the City Council.

The General Plan 2040 is a draft update to the Alameda General Plan, which was last comprehensively updated in 1991. The update does not include an update to the Housing Element, which will be updated next year.

Contact Dennis Evanosky at devanosky@alamedasun.com.

Celebrate Independence Day the Alameda Way

Sun Staff Reports

The City of Alameda will be shining bright this Fourth of July with family-friendly, good-old-fashioned fun events for everyone to enjoy.

These include:

■ **Porch of July: Celebrate Home Contest.** This city-wide decorating and live performance contest is open to all throughout Alameda community on the weekend of July 3 and 4.

Check the Alameda Recreation and Park Department's (ARPD) website for more details and to register. Get those creative juices flowing!

■ **All-American Movie & Live Music** will be featured for free on July 4. The outdoor movie will be held at the multipurpose field at Alameda Point.

Gates will open at 6 p.m. and the live music preview will begin at 6:45 p.m. and run to 7:45 p.m. with a performance by Barefoot Quales, a local Bluegrass band.

The movie, *Onward*, will start around 8:15 to 8:30 p.m.

Preregistration is required to secure your designated spot on the field. Check out ARPD website to register for this event.

■ **Bike, Walk, Roll and Get Outside** this Fourth of July. The City of Alameda invites you to roll or stroll to our beach, beautiful parks, trails or our slow streets <http://bikewalkalameda.org/resources-2/bicycle-and-walking-map/> or <https://www.sfgate.com/travel/article/Bay-Area-fairy-door-map-Alameda-16089694.php>.

Whether on a bike, your feet, your skates, or any other method show your patriotic spirit by wearing red, white and blue when you are out and about on Fourth of July weekend.

Share in our community unity by visiting the many decorated store fronts on Park and Webster streets and South Shore Center.

Show your support by frequenting local businesses for breakfast, lunch and dinner, or indulge in a special treat like pastries, ice cream, and beverages like coffee and smoothies.

Mayor Discusses Assembly Bill

Ekene Ikeme

Alameda Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft does not expect City Council will use the proposed assembly bill that allows city officials to circumvent local measures to reach state housing mandates.

California Assembly Bill (AB) 1322 would give local governments the ability to "not defend or enforce" any local measure that "conflicts with any of the specified state laws regarding housing." If the bill is approved, City Councils can set up a special meeting where they will vote to determine whether the local measure conflicts with state housing laws. If voted yes, it would create a path for the council to bypass the measure.

"I understand the motivation for the bill," said Ashcraft. "We do have a housing crisis. We have not built the housing needed in large part because of measures like Article 26."

However, Ashcraft believes the city can create a Housing Element that complies with the state-mandated Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) without using AB 1322.

"AB 1322 is a tool in the toolkit," said Ashcraft. "Is it one we would grab first; no, I don't think so."

Instead, Ashcraft wants the city staff to identify specific areas where housing units can be developed under the current housing rules. She emphasized

"If it became apparent that we cannot meet our RHNA numbers we may use this, but right now we would rather let the process play out,"

— Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft

building smaller housing units in the city's downtown corridors along Park and Webster streets as one possibility for housing growth.

City officials are in the process of updating the Housing Element in the General Plan but have a limited time. The city's Housing Element must be submitted by January 31, 2023.

The Housing Element must include a plan that shows how the city will satisfy its proposed RHNA of 5,406 new units of housing. Some of those units will have to be high-density, multi-family housing. Also, the city must identify specific sites where affordable housing can be developed or if certain sites need to be rezoned.

The penalties for not complying with state Housing Element law could be severe. A new law gave the California Department Housing and Community Development (HCD) the author-

ity to hold local governments accountable for not adhering to state Housing Element law. Not meeting these requirements makes the city susceptible to penalties from the state ranging from a lawsuit, inability to receive grant funds and more. However, Ashcraft believes if the city continues to make good faith efforts to meet housing mandates the city should avoid drastic penalties.

Article 26 makes it difficult for the city to create a compliant Housing Element, but the city has created ways to bypass Article 26 and comply with state housing mandates in the past. In 2012, the city used multi-family overlay zoning designations to certify the last Housing Element.

Ashcraft said the only way the city would use AB 1322 is if there was no other way to comply with state housing law.

"If it became apparent that we cannot meet our RHNA numbers we may use this, but right now we would rather let the process play out," said Ashcraft.

The use of AB 1322 would be up to the City Council, not the state or a judge. The Association of Bay Area Governments will calculate the final RHNA number for Alameda. California Assemblymembers approved AB 1322 on May 10. The bill is now being read by the California Senate.

Ekene Ikeme can be reached at eikeme@alamedasun.com.

County Creates COVID-19 Update Site

Sun Staff Reports

The Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD) has launched a new program that will inform Californians about reopening the state procedures after COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.

The program is called Beyond the Blueprint. It will provide the community and business owners with information and updates on local ordinance changes in Alameda County.

On June 15th, the state of California plans to fully reopen the economy. The county will hold two public update events to learn

about what will change in Alameda County as California lifts restrictions.

The first update is scheduled for June 15, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. This update will focus on community-based updates. The second event, on June 21 at the same time, will focus employer-based updates. Both events will take place over Zoom. To register for either or both meetings, visit covid-19.acgov.org/beyond-the-blueprint.

On the website, it details several of the restrictions that will be lifted on June 15. According to the coun-

ty website, restrictions on capacity limitations and physical distancing will be lifted. A COVID-19 Vaccine Verification or negative testing result is required for indoor mega events, but just recommended for outdoor mega events. Example of an indoor events include conventions and sporting events, while an outdoor events includes marathons and parades.

COVID-19 restrictions in California began 15 months ago in March 2020.

For questions about these upcoming events, please email COVIDrecovery@acgov.org.

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Date	Rise	Set
Today	5:47	20:30
June 11	5:47	20:31
June 12	5:47	20:31
June 13	5:47	20:32
June 14	5:47	20:32
June 15	5:47	20:32
June 16	5:47	20:33

Sign Placed at Chochenyo Park



Jimmy Olson

City workers place the sign that denotes the name that honors Native American presence here in Alameda. The City Council voted in September 2020 to change the name from Jackson Park.

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