



Locally Owned, Community Oriented

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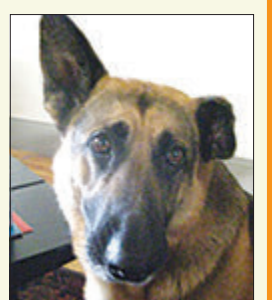
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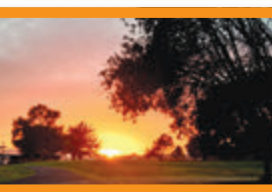
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**Alameda Sun
Almanac**

Date	Rise	Set
Today	06:44	19:38
April 10	06:42	19:39
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Courtesy photo

A view of the tidal canal and the High Street Bridge from the air.

Council to Consider Taking Over Estuary

Sun Staff Reports

The City Council listened to a presentation on whether to accept a land transfer along the Oakland Estuary from the Army Corps of Engineers at last Tuesday's council meeting.

The Army Corps of Engineers wishes to split the Oakland Inner Harbor Tidal Canal and transfer half of the ownership to the city of Oakland and the other half to Alameda. The corps' staff met the council on Sept. 2, 2014 and again on Feb. 3, in closed session to discuss whether the city would be interested in negotiating the transfer and if so, under what price and terms.

The transfer would be at no cost to the city. According to Cali-

fornia Constitution Article 16, a public agency cannot authorize gift of money or value to private individual. Public funds used for a public benefit is not prohibited even if an incidental benefit to individuals. The Council gave a no-action recommendation at its Feb. 3 meeting.

Council directed the presentation to be brought to open session at Tuesday's meeting to allow the councilmembers to hear comments from the public and interested stakeholders.

The presentation provided a brief overview of the history of the Tidal Canal and some of the problems associated with it in its current condition; discussed the fiscal and environmental issues associated with a potential trans-

fer and those associated with "no action;" and discussed recommended next steps.

The transfer would include three parcels; the open water, commercial and residential parcels. The city will be responsible for the survey, mapping and maintenance of the commercial parcel. These costs cannot be determined at this time but may be offset by revenue generated by the sale or lease of one or more of the individual parcels to adjacent commercial users.

The Tidal Canal is a 1.8-mile long, 400 feet wide portion of the waterway between Oakland and Alameda that was dredged in 1882 by the Army Corps to create a tidal effect throughout the Oakland Estuary. The canal covers 85 acres.

Suspect Sentenced in Local Murder Case

Ekene Ikeme

A Hercules man was sentenced to 25 years to life in prison for his role in the murder of an Oakland marijuana grower in Alameda in April 2011.

Charles Kimbrough, of Hercules, was sentenced on Friday, April 3, in Alameda County Superior Court. Kimbrough, 33, was convicted of first-degree murder for the killing of Oakland native William Adrian Sapp at the Summer House apartment complex at 1826 Poggi St on April 20, 2011.

Kimbrough's sentence came nearly eight months after his conviction on Aug. 27, 2014. The sentencing was delayed because his lawyers tried and failed to get his conviction reduced from first-degree to second-degree murder. He was scheduled to be sentenced on Oct. 31, 2014, on the day of his conviction.

In the 2011 shooting, Kimbrough

and an associate, Richard Ezell, were hired by Alameda resident Christopher Donaldson to rob Sapp at the apartment complex. Donaldson, 26, answered a marijuana for sale ad Sapp posted on Craigslist. Sapp grew marijuana legally.

The plan was for Ezell, of Laytonville, to pose as a fake buyer and for Kimbrough, 32, to rob Sapp, according to prosecutor Patrick Moriarty. However, Sapp tried to fight off Kimbrough. Ezell shot and killed Sapp during the tussle with a gun Sapp had produced when the fight broke out.

Donaldson was given 32 years to life, the toughest punishment for the crime, for what Judge Jon Rolefson called "masterminding and orchestrating" the plan to rob Sapp. He was convicted of first-degree murder in June 2014 and sentenced two months later. Ezell

took a plea deal, in which he plead to second-degree murder and testified against Donaldson, and was sentenced to 15 years to life in September 2014.

Kimbrough initially agreed to the same plea deal, but when he refused to testify against Donaldson, his deal was thrown out and he was charged with first-degree murder. His lawyers argued that Kimbrough should be found not guilty of murder because nothing was ever taken, the robbery never came to fruition and it was Sapp who produced the weapon. The jurors did not see it that way as he was still found guilty of murder.

Police said Sapp had \$1,550 worth of marijuana on him when he was killed. Sapp was 32 years old at the time of his death.

Contact Ekene Ikeme at eikeme@alamedasun.com.

Council Moves Forward with Transportation Plan

**Michele Ellison
The Alamedan**

City Council members took on the politically charged topic of traffic at its Wednesday, April 1, meeting. They voted 4-1 to initiate an effort to draft a citywide transportation plan.

The approval brings a pitch to prospective consultants to draft a plan, a process that could cost up to \$400,000 and take 18 months to complete.

Councilman Tony Daysog, who originally pitched the transportation plan, said the plan would coordinate existing transportation plans and resources in order to create a framework for reducing solo driving trips. The request for proposals to be drafted by city staff should specifically spell out how a new plan will do that.

"We have all these pieces out there. We need to coordinate them," Daysog said. "I think that's what the residents are asking for: Transit solutions that have a see it, feel it, touch it aspect to them."

Daysog said concerns over traffic, specifically, the traffic new housing developments might bring, may have been a factor in former Mayor Marie Gilmore's and former Councilman Stewart Chen's losses at the polls this past November.

"Residents were affected by seeing a lot of development, and not seeing a transit solution," said Daysog, who voted with Gilmore and Chen to move forward with plans for Alameda Point but against a plan to build new homes at the Del Monte warehouse over traffic management concerns. "Now is the time for all of us to step up not because it's politically expedient, but because it's the right thing to do."

Mayor Trish Spencer voted against moving forward with the plan, saying she would rather task a city employee with the job, rather than a consultant. She also said that she wanted to move forward with solutions instead of a new study.

"We will never be able to get people out of their cars with the limited public transportation that we have," Spencer said.

She said she wants more transit to get people around the Island — and less development.

"We cannot continue to build," Spencer said. "We cannot continue to have so many cars going over

our bridges in the morning. We cannot continue to have so many cars going through the tubes."

Council members voted to move toward hiring a consultant to draft a plan following a two-hour presentation from Jennifer Ott, the city's Alameda Point development chief. Ott detailed the city's transportation planning efforts and the work done to date to put those plans into action.

For example, the city has worked to extend its network of bicycle paths, most recently by constructing a protected bicycle track along Shore Line Drive. The city is also working to construct a Cross Alameda Trail for pedestrians.

AC Transit planner Linda Morris said the bus agency is working on plans that would expand service in Alameda. It's considering a new route along Encinal Avenue to the Main Street ferry terminal and another on Buena Vista Avenue that would take passengers to and from the 12th Street BART station in Oakland.

The city, Marina Village and Alameda Landing all operate free, public shuttles that take Island commuters to and from BART stops in Oakland, though Council members wondered whether the shuttles could be better coordinated to avoid overlap — and better marketed to potential riders.

Alameda's business associations are also pressing the Council for new shuttle service that could carry passengers in and out of the Island's business districts similar to Emeryville's Emery Go-Round system.

Spencer said she was in favor of moving forward with such a service quickly, though other council members — who wanted to use the study to examine the viability of such a service — noted that the \$3-million-a-year service is facing a financial crisis.

Darcy Morrison said the city should let the public direct the planning process, and that the plan should offer assurances detailing how the city's traffic reduction goals will be met. She suggested the city survey residents to find out what would get them out of their cars — a suggestion the council seemed inclined to take.

"Let's move away from top-down planning," Morrison said.

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News in Brief

Sun Staff Reports

'Alameda on Camera'

The *Alameda on Camera* Exhibition is on display at the Frank Bette Center for the Arts, 1601 Paru St. The show will run through May 30. The opening reception will be held at the Frank Bette Center from 7 to 9 p.m., this Friday, April 10. Forty-eight photographers submitted images with details and overviews, light and night, plants and people, buildings and parks in town. Each photographer was assigned a different locale in town.

The gallery is open from Thursday to Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 523-6957.

Central Avenue Plans on the Table

The Public Works Department will present the Central Avenue Complete-Street Concept, a proposal that encompasses Central Avenue from where it intersects with Pacific Avenue on the West End to its intersection with Sherman Street and Encinal Avenue. Potential improvements along this 1.7-mile stretch may include traffic calming, installing a bikeway and enhancing pedestrian access.

There are several ways residents can participate to bring the concept to reality. They include:

- Attending community workshops: The first workshop will start at 6:30 p.m., next Tuesday, April 14, in the Encinal High School cafeteria, 210 Central Ave. Additional workshops are scheduled for Thursday, June 4, and

Thursday, Sept. 17, both at 6:30 p.m.

- Participating in an online open forum at <http://alamedaca.gov/public-works/open-forum> Read what others are saying and post your own ideas or comments. Staff will incorporate these comments into the decision process.

- Attending the Transportation Commission meeting at 7 p.m., Wednesday, May 27, in the City Council Chambers, 2263 Santa Clara Ave.

- Adding your email to the commission's email list, by emailing Gail Payne at gpayne@alamedaca.gov. Future correspondence about the proposal is expected to be primarily by email.

- Following the project on its web page <http://alamedaca.gov/public-works/central-avenue-complete-street>

Still Time to Weigh in on Alameda Point development

Alamedans unable to attend last Saturday's Alameda Point Site A walking tour can weigh in about the proposed development at the Tuesday, April 21, City Council meeting, when the Council will discuss the draft development plan for the project as well as the draft transportation plan.

On Monday, April 27, the Planning Board will discuss the draft development agreement and on Monday, May 11, it will take up the final development plan and agreement, as well as the final transportation plan.

The city also invites residents to email comments about these plans to alamedapoint@alamedaca.gov.



Alameda Fire Department

AFD Community Paramedics (left to right) Stephen Lucero, Michael DeWindt, David Wills, Armando Baldizan and Patrick Corder

Fire Department Introduces New Community Paramedics Program

Sun Staff Reports

The Alameda Fire Department (AFD) recently implemented its Community Paramedic Program; a two-year state- and county-funded pilot project aimed at addressing gaps that currently exist in the healthcare system. Alameda was selected as one of 13 agencies within the state to study the effectiveness of community paramedicine, a new and evolving model of community-based healthcare in which paramedics

function outside their customary emergency response and transport roles.

The program focuses on providing follow-up care for individuals with chronic illnesses who have recently been discharged from hospitals. Additionally, community paramedics will also connect at-risk patients to appropriate resources.

The program staff is comprised of five experienced AFD firefighter-paramedics. Alam-

eda is the only full-service, fire department-based, emergency medical services transport agency participating in the project.

Alameda Fire Chief Doug Long said, "I am proud of our members for stepping up to participate in the new Community Paramedic Pilot Program, said AFD Interim Chief Doug Long. "The additional training they have received will provide an increased level of service to the residents of Alameda."