ALAMEDA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT Excellence & Equity For All Students

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Dear Alameda Families,

As you may know, the Alameda City Council recently voted to hold a special election on February 2nd for Alameda voters to decide on the proposed housing development on Alameda Point by the developer SunCal ("Measure B"). With early voting beginning January 4th, time is of the essence in providing information regarding potential impacts of Measure B on AUSD.

Preliminary analysis by AUSD indicates that the initial residential land use plan of 4,346 single-family and multifamily units would generate approximately 1,650 K-12 students. AUSD has had several meetings with SunCal representatives to discuss the impact of the project on the School District. To date, we have been unable to reach agreement.

As written, the initiative does not guarantee that any schools will be built as part of the development, nor does it address how potential school sites would be determined. Additionally, the District has questions regarding construction cost estimates and how any potential funding shortfalls would be addressed. The District also has concerns about the phasing of school construction and questions regarding which party would be required to bear the costs related to mitigating impacts on existing neighborhood schools.

AUSD is committed to providing a quality education for Alameda students. Entering into an agreement with SunCal that addresses impacts on the District is critical to ensure that Alameda students can continue to achieve excellence. AUSD is facing serious funding shortfalls due to state budget cuts, making the need to ensure that the District can meet any future financial obligations even greater.

Since February of 2009, SunCal has stated during our meetings that it intends to provide for schools and that it is willing to continue negotiations with AUSD. The School District has and will continue negotiating with SunCal. However, it appears unlikely that SunCal and the School District will be able to reach an agreement before the February election. AUSD will continue to keep the community updated on any progress made towards such an agreement.

Sincerely,

Kirsten Vital

Superintendent, Alameda Unified School District