

From: Jack Appleyard <jackappleyard@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, May 9, 2025 6:07 PM
To: McNulty, Liza
Subject: Negative Impact of Ferry Project on Recreational Use

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Linda

The Ferry Project as proposed will have a serious negative impact on long established recreational uses.

As someone who has enjoyed swimming at the Berkeley Marina for several years, I want to highlight the importance of the cove by the former HS Lordships site and its adjacent parking. Oyster Cove is the only deep water access for swimming in Berkeley and much of the East Bay. When the tide is low in the South Basin, the water at the kayak dock is too shallow for swimming. Consequently this is the only access for swimming during much of the tidal cycle. When the wind is blowing, the cove is used extensively by wingfoilers who need deep water for their hydrofoils. These recreational uses have occurred for many years and this unique deep water access must be preserved. These swimmers and windfoilers have also improved and maintained this cove, in contrast to the general neglect of this area by the city.

In order to protect these uses, designated recreational parking must be available adjacent to the site. Wet, chilled swimmers need quick access to their vehicles for changing. Wingfoilers need adjacent parking in order to limit the carrying distance with heavy gear. By contrast, ferry commuters have few belongings and anticipate a walk in SF to reach their destination. Hence a stroll in the parking lot to the ferry pier is not out of the ordinary. Also, public transportation is impractical for swimmers and windfoilers, but it is reasonable for commuters. Ferry parking is a static use of a vehicle space for 8 or more hours by commuters who are spending their time and money elsewhere. Active recreational use in Berkeley deserves equal consideration with those who are leaving town for the day.

The appropriate solution to these competing needs for parking is to create a designated zone for recreational users, utilizing the spaces closest to the cove.

Jack Appleyard (Berkeley resident for more than 50 years)