



September 12, 2017

Mayor Libby Schaaf
Oakland City Council
1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mayor Schaaf and City Council Members,

As you know, the Oakland Athletics have been hard at work over the last year to identify a site for a new ballpark in Oakland that can be privately financed. During this process, we launched our *Rooted in Oakland* campaign, reaffirming our long-term commitment to Oakland. After intensive analysis, we are pleased to announce that our preferred location for a new ballpark and related mixed-use development is the Peralta Community College District Offices site (the "Peralta Site"). Enclosed is a letter to Peralta District Chancellor Laguerre that conveys this choice and outlines our proposed process going forward.

This project represents a historic opportunity for the City of Oakland. In addition to building a state-of-the-art baseball venue, we plan to explore mixed-use development that will create important public benefits including a stronger Peralta and Laney, new housing opportunities (including affordable housing), workforce training programs, living wage jobs, and quality public open space. Over the next nine to twelve months, we want to pursue a deep collaboration with public officials, stakeholders of the four Peralta colleges and the surrounding neighborhoods – especially Chinatown and Eastlake/San Antonio – to establish shared project goals and specific development plans for the Peralta Site and other adjacent sites.

In announcing our new ballpark location, we recognize the urgent need to protect existing residents, small businesses, and cultural institutions against growing displacement pressures. We have already offered proposals for interim land use controls and other protective measures, and we encourage City Council's action on these issues. Through our planning process, we will focus on developing an inclusive set of community benefits that protect Chinatown and the Eastlake/San Antonio neighborhoods so that residents and small businesses will stay rooted in their communities and share in the benefits that a new ballpark will bring.

The A's will be privately financing the new ballpark. In order to provide essential improvements to utility, transportation and other public-serving infrastructure, we would like to work with the City of Oakland and the County of Alameda on infrastructure financing strategies that could include the creation of an Enhanced Infrastructure Finance District (EIFD) or other "public-private partnership" approaches.

While the A's are excited about the prospect of a new downtown Oakland ballpark, we are also committed to the long-term future of the Coliseum neighborhood. We believe the Coliseum site can be redeveloped with a more dynamic and economically sustainable mix of uses that includes community sports facilities, mixed-income housing, and commercial activity. We hope to enter into a partnership with Oakland Alameda County Coliseum Authority to begin planning for the Coliseum's future now.

We are grateful for your support to help keep the A's in Oakland. We look forward to working with you to make the new ballpark project a win for the A's, the City of Oakland, and all of the East Bay.

Play ball,

David Kaval
President
Oakland Athletics

OAKLAND ATHLETICS

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