

**From:** [Warriors, PLN \(CPC\)](#)  
**To:** [Basketball](#)  
**Subject:** FW: T'eedUP: GSW Arena a disaster for environmental justice and transit equity; ignores BART/Oakland Airport Connector precedents  
**Date:** Monday, November 02, 2015 4:05:52 PM  
**Attachments:** [TeedUpTechnicalFoulsNov1.pdf](#)

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**From:** john@zenviba.com [mailto:john@zenviba.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 02, 2015 8:30 AM  
**To:** Warriors, PLN (CPC); Secretary, Commissions (CPC); Boomer, Roberta (MTA); mtaboard@sfmta.com; Jared Blumenfeld Jared; Derrin.jourdan@dot.gov; Amber.ontiveros@dot.gov; croberts@sfoxaminer.com; matierandross@sfxhronicle.com; sfburo@nytimes.com; Wayne Futak Bay City News Wayne Futak; John Templeton; Bohee, Tiffany (CII); jgarofoli@sfxhronicle.com; cmarinucci@sfxhronicle.com  
**Subject:** T'eedUP: GSW Arena a disaster for environmental justice and transit equity; ignores BART/Oakland Airport Connector precedents

Dear Public Servants,

Please accept my attached submission with regard to the Subsequent Environmental Impact Statement concerning GSW Arena LLC's proposal to build an 18,000 seat arena, two office buildings, retail and open space in the Mission Bay redevelopment area.

After seeing the despicable comments by Planning Commissioner Michael Antonini last week, I was compelled to examine through critical race theory why the statement fails to comply with state and federal law and advisory opinions to address the profound environmental justice issues from the cumulative effects of decades of pollution centered on southeast San Francisco. The precedent for compliance was established firmly in the case of BART's Oakland Airport Connector.

Antonini wrote, as reported:

\*Tech and Airbnb have saved San Francisco.

"Their effect has bought many new residents to San Francisco and helped to provide vitality to many of our neighborhoods that were heretofore economically depressed, unsafe, dirty areas of San Francisco to which few would travel to shop, dine and -much less-live... The population of the neighborhoods have changed dramatically."

\*Airbnb is better than... brothels?

"It's better to have short term renters sharing homes with owners, even in RH1 and RH2 neighborhoods, than to have multiple families living in a single family home or for such homes to be used for illegal criminal activities, often pretending to be message [sic] establishments."

For a decade, I engaged with the Excelsior and Bayview Hunters Point communities during the highly successful Branch Library Improvement Program as a board member of the Friends of the San Francisco Public Library, testifying before the Library Commission for the \$1 million to build the Bayview Linda Brooks Burton Branch Library instead of just a remodeling. I found those people in the forgotten parts of the City to be hard-working,

determined to raise their families and hopeful that they would share in the blessings that San Francisco has to offer. I also spent a lot of nights coming from evening meetings, particularly on Third Street, waiting for the T-Line in the cold, dark of night for as much as an hour.

Now that we have the Bayview Linda Brooks Burton Branch Library open for public programs as a magnet for the neighborhood, it troubles me that potential visitors would not be able to attend because their access would be blocked by the substantial and unmitigated impacts from placing such a gargantuan arena at the choke point of the \$2.2 billion investment of federal, state and local bond and property tax funds to build the T-Line, purportedly to finally link southeast to the rest of the City.

Unfortunately, Mr. Antonini's words are reflected in this EIR, because it assumes that the families of southeast San Francisco are much less valuable than the well-heeled luxury box purchasers who would enrich the owners of the Arena. Sports teams have morphed into a shell for real estate speculation. However, the desire to make windfall profits collides with the mandates of California's pioneering law in environmental justice, continually affirmed by the legislature since 1999 and most recently in advisory opinions by Atty. Gen. Kamala Harris.

It flies in the face of sustainable planning policy to move a large venue from a site which has access from an airport, Amtrak, BART, ACTransit and hundreds of acres of parking to rely on a single stop on the T-Line, which has failed to meet its promised service goals for the past eight years. The only conceivable reason is Antonini's assertion that certain types of people are more desirable. In the past year, two NBA franchises have changed hands because owners made similar admissions.

When the USF Dons had the opportunity in 1951 to play in the Cotton Bowl, only if they left their black players behind, the university and the players turned their back on the bowl, leading to their being labeled "the greatest college football team of all time." It is now time for our City officials to assert the primacy of justice over profit and reject this Arena.