

EAST BAY TIMES

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Plans will give marina back to residents to enjoy again

One of the reasons I moved to Alameda is for its bikeability, but there's nothing worse than living on an island and feeling cut off from the water.

Alameda's shoreline trails for walking and cycling are disjointed, and even getting paddle boats and kayaks into the estuary can be a struggle if you don't have easy access to launching points.

The new plans for Alameda Marina call for opening up the property and providing access to a shoreline that has been walled off for generations. After listening to resident feedback, the developers have agreed to stretch the Bay Trail along the shoreline and have added contiguous walking and bike paths and lots of open space.

There will be access points for paddle boats and other small craft, and the literal wall of buildings separating the marina from Clement Avenue will be cleared, giving full views of the estuary.

Island living should feel like island living, and any new development that comes along should enhance that feeling.

Alameda Marina is an important part of the island's history and deserves to be given back for residents to enjoy.

— *Casey Sparks, Alameda*