

## PROPOSED GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Guiding Principles are intended to provide a framework for the Waterfront Plan Working Group subcommittee meeting discussions. Proposed revisions resulting from the September 15, 2016 Working Group meeting are reflected below, for public review at the October 5, 2016 Working Group meeting, with particular focus on the yellow highlighted text.

**1. The Waterfront Plan Update should guide the Port while long-range adaptation planning, engineering, and financing studies to respond to sea level rise and strengthen the Seawall are undertaken by the Port, along with the appropriate City, State, Regional and other authorities.**

- City and regional studies required for the Port to successfully adapt to long-term sea level rise (SLR) and repair the historic Seawall will extend beyond the timeframe for the Waterfront Plan Update process. Part 2 discussions should therefore focus on defining the public values, design criteria and/or other policy guidance that will underlie and support these longer term resiliency planning efforts, without prescribing specific solutions. The Waterfront Plan Update should include a new “Resilience” goal and related policies to guide the Port in these resilience planning processes. The Waterfront Plan Update should also address measures to deal with interim flood protection during the time that long range adaptation and improvements are being developed. Resilience goal and policy statements also should recognize the Port’s need to prioritize Seawall seismic improvements, including implementation of the first phase of these improvements within 10 years.

**2. The Waterfront Plan Update also should highlight the need for and make recommendations to guide a Plan of Finance to improve waterfront resilience.**

- Waterfront resilience needs and adaptation strategies have become and must remain a primary consideration in waterfront improvement and investment decisions. Clear Waterfront Plan policy guidance provided in an updated WLUP should assist the Port and the City in developing inter-governmental and regional collaborations required for resilience projects, to identify and secure financial assistance from federal, state and local public and private funding sources.

**3. The Waterfront Plan Update should enhance the Port’s ability to undertake projects that rehabilitate and thus preserve the Embarcadero Historic District’s iconic finger piers and bulkhead buildings.**

- The 1997 Waterfront Plan was founded on the principle that the unique historic profile and architecture of San Francisco’s Embarcadero waterfront should be protected and preserved. The Port’s historic resources also are valuable real estate assets that accommodate the broad range of uses promoted in the Waterfront Plan. The Waterfront Plan Update should continue to support maritime uses, parks and open space, and small and large industrial, retail, commercial and recreational parks and businesses. The Waterfront Plan Update should revisit and update land use policies, taking into consideration costs of historic resource repairs, environmental protection, and sea level rise adaptation. In addition, the process for public comment on interim leasing and

development projects should be updated, and include policies or measures to enforce compliance with Waterfront Plan policies.

- The Land Use Subcommittee should review the above issues and consider whether to recommend any changes to facilitate further rehabilitation of the Port's historic resources. The Part 2 discussions also should recognize State Land's, BCDC's, and the City's land use regulatory roles; any changes to criteria for pier rehabilitation will require intergovernmental agreement and coordination to ensure consistency with public trust requirements and City land use zoning controls.

**4. The Waterfront Plan Update should facilitate desired projects that comply with the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Historic Rehabilitation, bringing them to fruition with greater certainty, efficiency, and transparency.**

- Since adoption of the 1997 Waterfront Plan, several well-received Port historic rehabilitation projects have been completed (Ferry Building, Piers 1, 1 ½, 3 and 5) or approved (Pier 70). As described above in Item 3, the high costs of historic rehabilitation plus additional requirements to manage for sea level rise make future preservation projects less certain. The Land Use Subcommittee should consider whether there are ways to simplify the process, reduce time and associated costs, and increase the viability of historic rehabilitation projects and leases, while still providing all appropriate regulatory and procedural safeguards.

**5. The Waterfront Plan Update should continue to reflect the Port's maritime commitment and the different maritime-related needs. The Update also should include additional focus on maritime services and berthing, water-borne transportation, and water recreation along the entire Port waterfront.**

- The Port balances the demands for a variety of ship and vessel berthing needs with demand for public access along pier aprons. The Waterfront Plan Update should provide further direction on how to balance these uses in situations where maritime berthing operations preclude safe public access.
- The Update also should include new policies addressing the growth of water recreation activities, including the relationship of Port facilities to the Bay Area Water Trail. New policies also should address safe and appropriate Bay water access sites, associated landside support and amenities, and safety and environmental protocols for locations where water recreation and deep water maritime vessel and other harbor traffic may conflict (e.g. ship repair yard, ferry terminals, sensitive habitat).

**6. The Waterfront Plan Update should continue to include aspirational goals but also recognize that the choices and trade-offs must be considered to determine priority improvements and investments given the many competing needs for limited Port resources. The Working Group should discuss best alternatives for resilience, transportation, and land use, even if they might not seem acceptable within the existing regulatory framework or with current financial resources. The Working Group also should consider the merits of accessing other public and private financing and funding sources, given that the Port waterfront serves as an important City, regional, State and national**

**resource.**

- The Port's current financial resources do not allow for the level of investment required to bring all deteriorating assets back to productive use, and support maritime, historic resource stewardship and public access demands. The Port's capital backlog grows every year and does not include costs of Seawall seismic improvements and long-term sea level rise adaptation.
- The Waterfront Plan Update should, to the maximum extent possible, propose new and additional public and private revenue sources, to implement the Port's 10 year Capital Plan on an accelerated basis so that the Port can continue to optimize the revenues from its currently leased and leasable properties, and restore to states of good repair those assets currently not producing either revenues or public access. In addition, and in recognition that developing new revenue sources is a long-term process, the Waterfront Plan Update should ensure that the 10 year Capital Plan makes optimum use of those capital funds now available to the Port through its own internal sources.
- As a practical matter, the Port and City have become inseparable, notwithstanding the Port's responsibilities under the Burton Act. Port developments, parks and recreational attractions are connected into the larger City fabric, providing a variety of public benefits for residents as well as regional, state and international visitors. These wide-reaching benefits have been recognized by San Francisco voters, who approved City General Obligation bond funding for waterfront parks in 2008 and 2012. In light of this growing interdependence, the Working Group should discuss whether some of the associated costs of operations also should be shared by the City, not borne only by the Port or its tenants. For example, economies of scale are likely if the City carries more operational responsibilities (e.g. street and sewer repairs, open space/park maintenance and programming), saving Port resources for maritime, pier repair and other capital projects.
- The Land Use Subcommittee should consider whether the remaining seawall lots should be prioritized for land use improvements that complement the surrounding neighborhoods and maximize revenue generation for Port improvements. Current Waterfront Plan policies support trust and non-trust revenue generating uses for seawall lots. Given the Port's limited financial resources, seawall lot developments should generate revenue and public financing benefits (e.g. IFD) that support waterfront maintenance improvement projects.

**7. Waterfront Plan transportation policies should be updated to align with City transportation goals and priorities, including the City-adopted Transit First and Vision Zero policies among others, to elevate the priority for transportation investments by local and regional transportation agencies to improve access to and along the waterfront.**

- The Embarcadero waterfront is currently a major City arterial that supports regional transportation connections to the City network and serves all modes of transportation. Given the magnitude of housing and economic development targeted for South of Market and along the Southern Bayfront (from Mission Bay to Hunters Point Shipyard/Candlestick Point), there is a need to prioritize transportation investments to serve new growth and communities along and near the waterfront.

- The Port plays a lead role in supporting and promoting expansion of facilities to meet the growing demand for water-borne transportation. Updated policies should address the operational and functional needs of ferry, excursion and water taxi operations, and opportunities for both public and private operators.
- City sea level rise planning and Port efforts to strengthen the Seawall have important transportation implications that should be addressed in Working Group recommendations; these improvements will be needed to protect transportation access and utilities along The Embarcadero, and subway tunnel access to Muni and BART.
- Port maritime and industrial uses continue to require truck and freight rail access, particularly south of China Basin Channel. Working Group recommendations should provide direction on how industrial transportation operational needs should be balanced with waterfront revitalization.
- Part 2 discussions should address how the Port can best position itself to optimize opportunities to secure city, state, federal and other non-Port funds for waterfront transportation improvements.