

DEMAND CEQA EVALUATION

A large-scale ballpark venue at the Peralta site will generate loud noise, intense light, volumes of trash and harmful contaminants in the newly restored Oakland Estuary and could be disastrous for the abundant birds, fish, and other animals that rely on the nearby Lake Merritt Channel, a narrow and vital waterway connecting Lake Merritt to the estuary and the San Francisco Bay. We therefore oppose this site selection for the following reasons.

- Seismic Concerns- the area is bayfill mud that will require pile driving to bedrock- where is it? How long will it take (same question for the multi-level parking structure), a gravel pad on mud will be needed; how deep and high? What is the weight of structure on bayfill and how will it respond to liquefaction post earthquake.
- Sea level rise- on a minimal one meter rise over the next 50 years, the area will be wet, see <http://geology.com/sea-level-rise/san-francisco.shtml>
- Site is a choke point, with Highway 880, Bart underground, the railway and yards, loss of side streets, off ramps, etc. Loss of open space, green space, traffic calming.
- Peralta District land is the smallest of the three proposed sites and is the densest. It is ill suited for the huge footprint of a stadium and parking, plus planned housing and commercial development.
- Lake Merritt, the nation's oldest wildlife refuge and a public asset, is home to over 140 species of birds, including ducks, shorebirds, perching birds, woodpeckers and raptors. It also provides habitat to many species of fish, invertebrates and mammals.
- Siting a ballpark at Peralta could negate major improvements made to Lake Merritt funded by \$198 million Measure DD bond funding, including environmental cleanup, restoration and water quality, and enhanced bird and fish habitat. Will this development require channelization, culverting channel, loss of living shoreline?
- Development of the Lake Merritt Channel has helped connect Lake Merritt--and nature--to the surrounding communities and public institutions, such as the Oakland Museum, Oakland Main Library and Laney College.
- Tens of thousands of people would pour over the Lake Merritt Channel bridge at every home game to get to the stadium from the Lake Merritt BART station, dropping trash that is both unsightly and dangerous to wildlife, including plastic. Two million people per year is anticipated to pass through Laney campus! <http://www.mercurynews.com/2017/06/20/huge-economic-benefit-projected-for-oakland-from-new-as-stadium/>
- Loud noise from loudspeakers and crowds could cause wildlife to flee into roadways, killing them and resulting in vehicular accidents. Nesting birds may abandon their nests, unable to return. Fireworks have been shown to cause panic and disorientation that causes birds to fly into windows and buildings, leading to their death.
- Bright lights, including scoreboard, parking area lighting, and security lights take the largest toll on birds, disorienting them as they fly through, causing collisions and fatalities. LED's projection: <http://www.ledsuniverse.com/en/news/articles-by-topic/stadium-lights/>
- The proposed new 880 ramps, plus parking for over 500 cars guarantee that harmful heavy metals emissions of lead, zinc and copper, etc. will enter the recently restored estuary. These pollutants pose serious health risks to humans and wildlife. Paved space = runoff and pollution.



Map and some content courtesy of the Golden Gate Audubon Society, submitted by Mark Rauzon, Laney College Geography Dept.