17. PRESENTATION ON WATERFRONT PROPERTIES, CITY OF VALLEJO

During consideration of Calendar Item 17, Mr. Ted MacDonnell, City Manager, City of Vallejo, appeared. He stated that in developing the plans for the redevelopment and revitalization of Vallejo’s Central District and Waterfront area, the City met with a problem. He explained they have a considerable amount of subsistence housing surrounding the Central District and were looking for an area which could attract higher income housing. The area which was chosen was adjacent to the municipal marina, but it was discovered that the land was encumbered with the tideland trusts of commerce, navigation and fisheries. The City Council suggested that legislation could be introduced to remove the trust restrictions from this area. Mr. MacDonnell pointed out that the area is 350 feet from the water and in their opinion is probably no longer usable for trust purposes. However, the staff of the Commission advised the City that their only remedy would be through an exchange; an area was therefore chosen at Dillon Point adjacent to Benicia. Mr. MacDonnell asked the Commission to authorize its staff to proceed with this exchange.

Chairman Kenneth Cory advised that the Commission was not in a position to approve such an exchange, but they could refer it to the staff and the Office of the Attorney General for consideration. He further advised that it was his understanding the only possible resolution to the problem would be via an exchange and not by legislation. Assistant Attorney General Jan Stevens confirmed Mr. Cory’s statement.

The matter was therefore referred to staff.

Attachment:
Calendar Item 17
INFORMATIVE
CALENDAR ITEM

17.

PRESENTATION ON WATERFRONT
PROPERTIES, CITY OF VALLEJO

Since 1913, the Legislature has made several grants of State tide and submerged lands to the City of Vallejo in trust for commerce, navigation and fisheries and has prescribed what uses and purposes and other conditions apply to these lands. Chapter 310, Statutes of 1913, granted the state interests to tidelands and lands lying under inland navigable waters within the then existing city boundaries and situated in Napa Creek, Mare Island straits and the Carquinez Straits, lying between the line of mean high tide and the clerhead line. The grant was for harbor purposes. Other statutes affecting granted lands on these waterways were Chapter 417, Statutes of 1925; Chapter 11, Statutes of 1962; Chapter 63, Statutes of 1962; and Chapter 24, Statutes of 1963. The latest act describes the efforts of the City Redevelopment Agency to enable the City to engage in various projects beneficial to the City and to the public trust for commerce, navigation and fisheries.

The City of Vallejo recently acquired the private rights to a portion of the State lands originally included in the 1913 grant and wishes to make a presentation about proposed uses of the reacquired parcel in connection with other properties on the City waterfront.

Details of the presentation were not available to the staff in advance of the meeting, therefore staff has no recommendation on this item.