



Mayor of Hayward and Hayward City Council
 777 B Street
 Hayward, CA 94541
 VIA EMAIL
List-Mayor-Council@hayward-ca.gov

September 17, 2021

Re: Comments on Amazon Last-Mile Delivery Warehouse Concept on Clawiter Road

Dear Mayor Halliday and Hayward City Councilmembers,

The Southern Alameda County (SAC) Group Executive Committee of the Sierra Club urges the city of Hayward and its associated department to conduct a full Environmental Impact Report as complies with the California Environmental Quality Act for the Amazon last-mile delivery warehouse concept on Clawiter Road.

The Council Economic Development Committee heard a preliminary concept review on May 27th, 2021 for this project on the former Berkeley Farms Site. Committee members raised several questions about the impacts of this project on the economics and environments of the local communities.

SAC represents Sierra Club members in Hayward and works in collaboration with labor and environmental justice partners who are concerned about an additional Amazon last-mile delivery warehouse being developed in Hayward. Due to the history of and on-going experiences of economic and environmental racism of BIPOC communities, we believe that an Amazon warehouse would add additional burdens to already overburdened communities, those burdens may include:

- Increased air pollution from fifty vans leaving every 30 minutes for 24 hours day;
- Damaged infrastructure from above van traffic;
- Increased air pollution from trucks bringing in commodities intended for delivery;
- Socioeconomic trends of suppressed wages associated with Amazon warehouse operations¹ and their targeted anti-union strategies²
- Amazon's tendency to not offer significant community benefits nor work with unions on project labor agreements;
- Impacts on the San Francisco Bay and its sensitive and important ecosystems;

¹ Janelle Jones and Ben Zipperer. "Unfulfilled promises: Amazon fulfillment centers do not generate broad-based employment growth." *Economic Policy Institute*, February 1, 2018, <https://www.epi.org/publication/unfulfilled-promises-amazon-warehouses-do-not-generate-broad-based-employment-growth/>.

² Roosevelt, Margot. "Teamsters vow to unionize Amazon, taking on an anti-union behemoth." *LA Times*, June 22, 2021, <https://www.latimes.com/business/story/2021-06-22/teamsters-mount-amazon-union-plan-warehouse-logistics>.



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- Impacts from and planning for sea level rise and resilience strategies, as referenced in the Hayward Area Shoreline Planning Agency's Shoreline Adaptation Master Plan.

We ask that these and *any other potential impacts* be explored through a complete EIR that is distinct and separate from any other EIRs that have conducted for any similar projects. We must remind the Mayor and the City Council the burdens of environmental injustices are cumulative. We urge you to undertake these processes and direct your departments to follow the essential and legal pathways for project development.

Sincerely,

Martha H Kreeger

Martha Kreeger
Chair, Southern Alameda County Group
Sierra Club, San Francisco Bay Chapter

Cc:
Virginia Reinhart
Chapter Director, Sierra Club, SF Bay Chapter

Labor leaders

EJ/Community groups