

To the Chair and Members of the Planning Committee:

Autonomous vehicles are rapidly developing and are likely to be available for purchase by the end of this decade. In fact, GM and Lyft have recently announced they will be testing autonomous taxis on American roads with real paying passengers within a year.

While the exact timing is uncertain, what is certain is that these vehicles will have a far-reaching impact on society, including reducing the need for centralized parking structures. In the future, vehicles will be able to park off-site at locations where land is cheaper. Given that we are planning a community for the next 100 years at Pier 7 + 8, it is imperative that we plan for the inevitable impacts of autonomous vehicles. I propose:

- It be required that the parking structure on Block G be designed for in such a way that allows retrofitting to other purposes in the future, and
- The height (and therefore the capacity requirements) of the parking structure be significantly reduced, with structural provisions to allow additional levels at a future date if necessary.

It is much less costly to account for this today than to demolish and rebuild this parking structure when it has become redundant at a later date.

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