



**SPUR**

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Dennis Bartels  
Executive Director  
Exploratorium  
3601 Lyon Street  
San Francisco, CA 94123

Dear Mr. Bartels

I am writing on behalf of SPUR, the San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association. SPUR has been actively involved in the planning of the city's northern waterfront for many years and support the Exploratorium's proposed move to piers 15 and 17.

We have had the opportunity to review the proposed project and are quite excited about the proposal. Please find our Project Review Letter, attached.

We have seen the successful adaptive reuse of the Ferry Building and piers 1 through 5, and the plans for piers 15 and 17 will follow in that same mode of restoring the bulkhead structure and adding elements that complement it.

One feature that we like is the opening up of the space between the two piers by removing the existing connector building and replacing it with a smaller and very transparent structure, and also opening up much of the bay itself between the piers.

The added structures are clearly designed to contrast with the historic elements but relate well in scale and materials. We also like the very generous public access that the new plans provide. While it may not be an historic issue, we also liked the use of the bay in the proposed exhibits, something the Exploratorium cannot do at their present location.

We believe that the proposed project clearly falls within the State's historic guidelines and it should therefore be allowed to move forward.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Metcalf  
Executive Director