# Life Academy's Tumultuous Future

Presented to: The Life Academy Community & the Oakland School Board

From: The Life Academy Staff (excluding Administrators)

#### The Purpose of this Presentation:

- We urge you NOT to make rash decisions that will affect approximately 250 already under-served Oakland youth & their families.
- We urge you to consider other creative options that will allow Life Academy to stay in the community.

#### Our Reasoning:

- There is no need to make a rash, immediate decision.
  - The School Board is *still* liable for any issues that come up this year
  - There is *still* time to consider other options and be exhaustive in our consideration.

## Carter is not a viable option for Life Academy for 3 main reasons:

- 1. SPACE: Carter does not offer enough classrooms for our student population.
- INSTABILITY: Moving to Carter will offer more instability for our students and no long term resolutions.
- 3. LOCATION: The location of Carter will ensure that Life Academy students will no longer be a part of our school.

#### **SPACE**

- After removing three portables for the "Field of Dreams" project, Carter will have nine available classrooms and possibly 1-2 portables.
- Life Academy needs at least 14 classrooms
  - (this does not account for Admin. Offices, the College Center, counseling offices, special ed. centers, & other support staff space ie. afterschool coordinator office, & the two computer labs)

#### **INSTABILITY**

- Moving more than once causes instability
  - With this resolution, we will be moved, uprooted, & displaced at least 3 times:
    - Life to Carter
    - Carter to Unknown
    - Unknown to Life
- For each move, Life Academy will loose approximately 30% of its students (conservative estimate).

#### LOCATION

- Carter is not in the San Antonio District
  - 6.5 miles away by car
- It takes approx. 25 minutes by AC transit
- Students will move to other schools.
  - OUSD will lose students & ADA.
  - 25% surveyed will move (private, charter, another district)

#### Where will our students move?

- Possible new schools:
  - San Leandro High School
  - ASPIRE
  - Lionel Wilson
  - Lighthouse
  - Oakland Military Institute
  - Oakland School of the Arts
- ALL these schools are OUTSIDE the District!

## Why keep Life Academy in the San Antonio District?

- Life Academy is the ONLY high school in the Lower San Antonio District
- Elementary and middle school students are looking for a high school in their neighborhood.
- Life Academy has strong relationships w/ feeder schools:
  - ASCEND, Think College Now, Roosevelt, International Community School, UPA

#### The Misdirection of OUSD

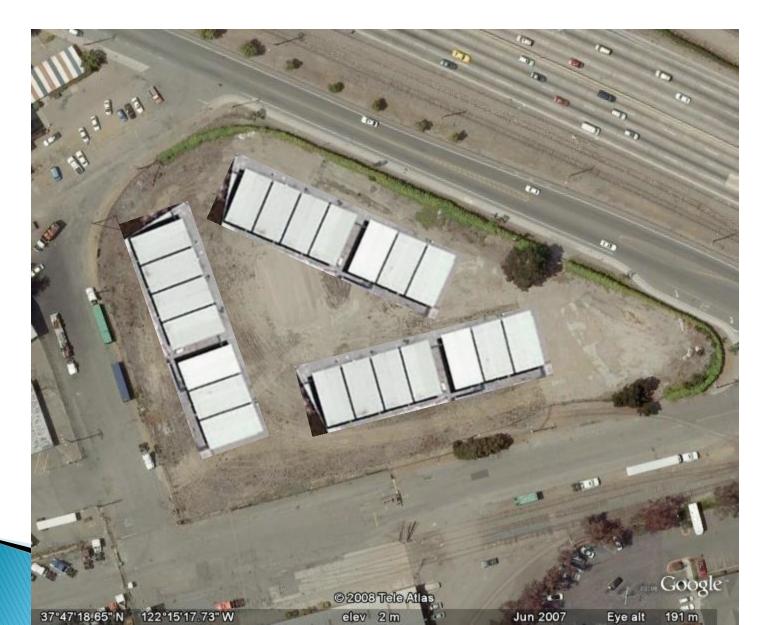
- District continues to manage this poorly
  - Lack of community involvement & input
  - Lack of exploration of other options
  - Poor communication
  - Lack of a clear process (no inspection, decision– making process)
  - Short amount of time to make this decision

#### Possible Solutions

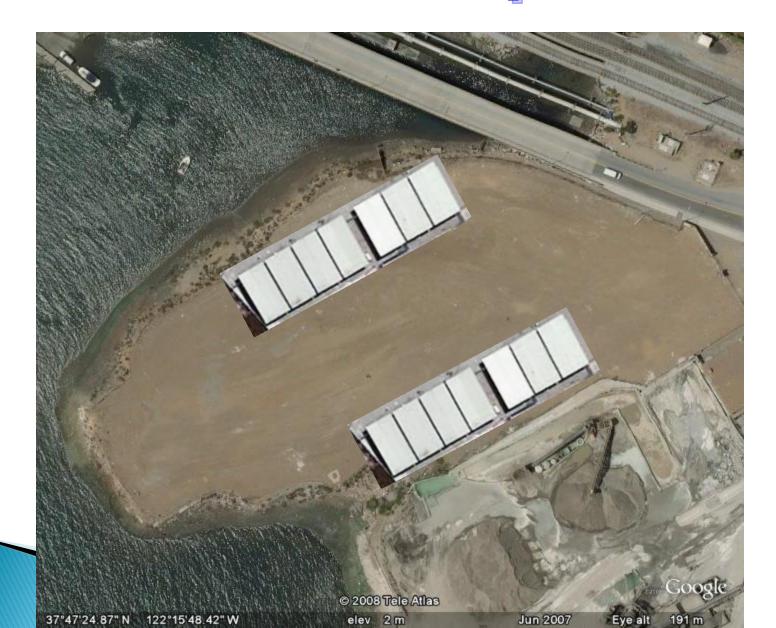
- 1. San Antonio Park
- 2. Jack London Center/Area
- 3. Near Garfield's Campus
- 4. Life Academy's Current Site
- 5. Near the Cesar Chavez complex



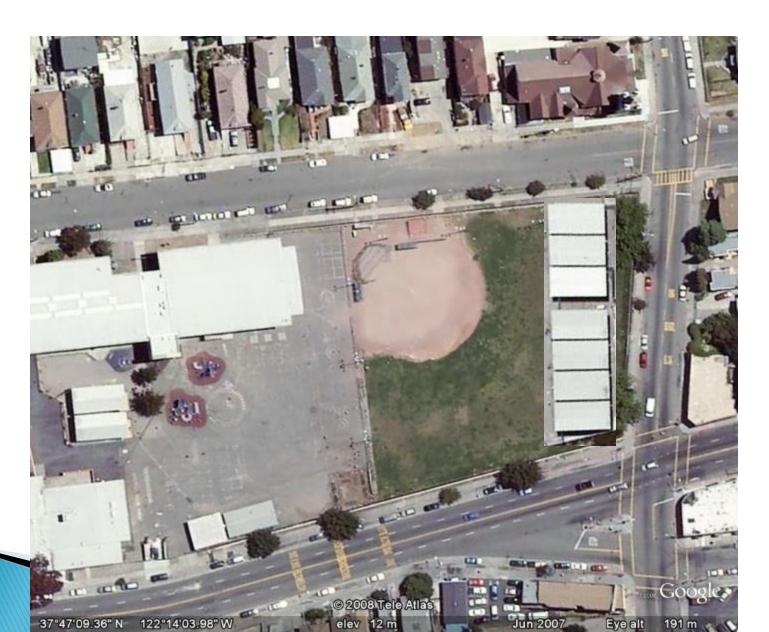
### Jack London Aquatic Center – 10<sup>th</sup> & Embarcadero



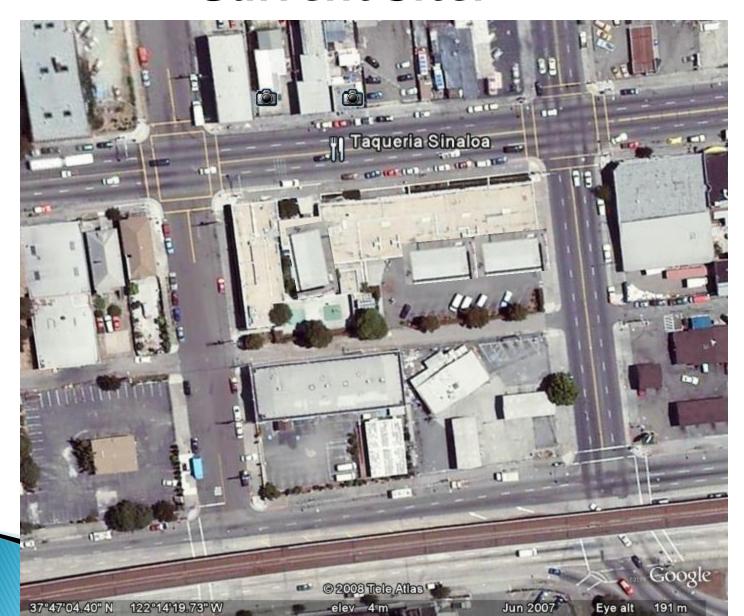
### Across Jack London Aquatic Center



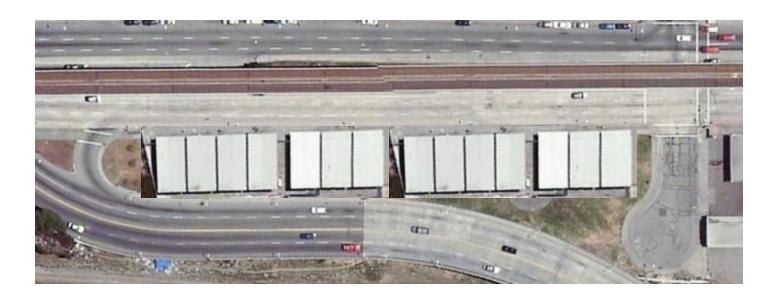
### Garfield Hementary



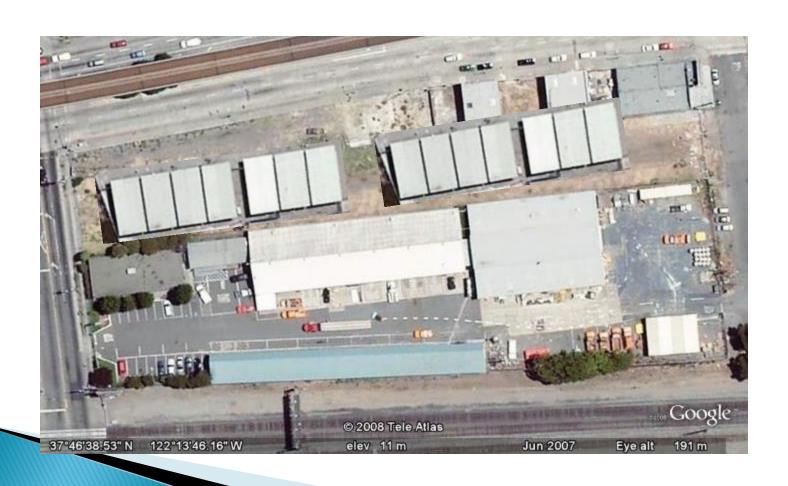
## Life Academy's Current Site:



### Across from LIFE Academy



### Across from Cesar Chavez Complex



## We would like to reiterate the following:

- 1. We urge the member of the OUSD Board NOT to make rash decisions that will affect approximately 250 already under-served Oakland youth & their families of the Lower San Antonio District.
- Instead, we urge you to consider other creative options that will allow Life Academy to stay in the community.
- 3. Thank you for your *consideration*.