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CITY OF VALLEJO ENTERS NEW PARTNERSHIP AS NIMITZ GROUP COMPLETES MARE ISLAND ACQUISITION

VALLEJO, CA – The City of Vallejo enters a new public-private partnership on Mare Island following The Nimitz Group’s acquisition of 500 acres of land from Lennar Mare Island, LLC (LMI), expanding the developer’s holdings to over 800 acres of prime commercial and residential land on the San Francisco Bay.

The Nimitz Group’s purchase of the former Mare Island Naval Shipyard from LMI includes 3.6 million square feet of leased commercial, light industrial, manufacturing and office space that is currently home to over 110 businesses and 3,000 jobs, with more available, entitled land and historical buildings cleared for adaptive re-use.

“This acquisition signals the next evolutionary phase in the revival of Mare Island,” said Mayor Bob Sampayan. “We are excited to expand our work with The Nimitz Group through an innovative partnership and continue to build the momentum that will establish Mare Island and Vallejo as the premier destination in the San Francisco Bay Area.”

The acquisition follows the City’s selection of The Nimitz Group in May 2018 for exclusive negotiations of 157 acres of land on North Mare Island. The City began a second phase of demolition of vacant buildings on North Mare Island this week to prepare the site for development. In June 2019, the Nimitz Group acquired the 170-acre golf course on Mare Island.

“Combining the north and south parts of the island under a single private developer, and the support demonstrated by our community and City Council, will accelerate the growth and expansion of commercial opportunities on Mare Island,” said City Manager Greg Nyhoff. “The Nimitz Group shares the City’s vision of anchoring sustainable, living-wage employers in Vallejo in an environment that provides access to the resources today’s businesses need – transportation options, a skilled workforce, quality housing, and a proactive City partner.”

In early 2019, Nimitz brought on the world-renowned planning and design firm [HOK](#) to lead the master planning process for the entirety of Mare Island. The transfer of LMI’s holdings, obligations and development rights to Nimitz was [approved by the City Council on July 31, 2019](#).

Sitting at the confluence of the Napa River and the San Francisco Bay, Mare Island Naval Shipyard was the U.S. Navy's largest and oldest base west of the Mississippi River, until decommissioning in 1996. Redevelopment on the southern part of the island began through a public-private partnership with Lennar in 1999. With entitled land and historical buildings still available, and a 50-minute high-speed commuter ferry directly to San Francisco, Mare Island has become the dynamic mixed-use destination in the San Francisco Bay Area.

For more information on the Nimitz Group, their planning process, and contact information, please [click here](#).

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THE NIMITZ GROUP

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NIMITZ GROUP COMPLETES ACQUISITION OF HISTORIC MARE ISLAND SITE

MARE ISLAND/VALLEJO, CA (November 15, 2019) –The Nimitz Group, LLC (Nimitz) today announced it has closed on the acquisition of 500 acres of land on Mare Island from Lennar Mare Island, LLC (LMI). Nimitz and LMI reached a purchase agreement in October 2018. The transfer of the property from LMI to Nimitz was unanimously approved by the Vallejo City Council on July 31, 2019.

Nimitz is developing a Master Plan for Mare Island that will include the land acquired from LMI, the 157-acre parcel on North Mare Island, which Nimitz is currently under exclusive negotiations for purchase with the City of Vallejo, and the 170-acre former Mare Island Golf Course property purchased by an affiliate of Nimitz in June of 2019.

“Mare Island is a place with a great history and a bright future. Through smart, thoughtful development, we have a long-term vision that will build on the tremendous progress to date and continue to revitalize this community and make it stronger both for our current neighbors who live and work here and for future generations that will call Mare Island home,” said The Nimitz Group, LLC co-founder Dave Phinney, who also owns and operates the Mare Island-based Savage & Cooke distillery. “We’re grateful to the City of Vallejo, LMI, and all of the local residents and businesses who have supported us over the last year. We are working with LMI to ensure a smooth transition, and we’re looking forward to sharing a more detailed vision for Mare Island soon.”

Located in Vallejo between the San Pablo Bay and Napa River, Mare Island is a peninsula that served as a waypoint for early settlers. It was selected as a Naval Yard in 1852 and became the first permanent U.S. naval installation on the west coast in 1854. For over a century, including World War II, the shipyard supported Naval fleets used in Pacific operations, and employed tens of thousands of workers. Since the closing of the shipyard in 1996, Vallejo officials have sought to develop a multi-use plan for Mare Island.

“As a business owner already embedded in the Mare Island community, we’re looking at this from multiple levels—not just growth and development but preserving the history; not simply attracting visitors but creating more jobs and housing,” continued Phinney. “Our goal is to build a community that current Mare Island residents, Vallejo and the broader Bay Area will have pride in.”

Mare Island currently is home to a diverse mix of residential and industry, ranging from retail to manufacturing and higher education, which Nimitz Group will expand upon through its Master Plan. While Nimitz Group will serve as Master Developer for the Mare Island property, LMI will retain its obligations under the Mare Island Remediation Agreement and continue to work with Nimitz to complete the environmental cleanup work.

About Nimitz Group

The Nimitz Group, LLC is a real estate investment and development firm with operations on Mare Island. For more information, visit www.nimitzgroup.com