CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AND NORTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICES
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Th13

NORTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

For the

May Meeting of the California Coastal Commission

MEMORANDUM Date: May 9, 2013

TO: Commissioners and Interested Parties

FROM: Dan Carl, North Central Coast District Deputy Director

SUBJECT: ***Deputy Director's Report***

Following is a listing for the waivers, emergency permits, immaterial amendments and extensions issued by the North Central Coast District Office for the May 9, 2013 Coastal Commission hearing. Copies of the applicable items are attached for your review. Each item includes a listing of the applicants involved, a description of the proposed development, and a project location.

Pursuant to the Commission's direction and adopted procedures, appropriate notice materials were sent to all applicants for posting at the project site. Additionally, these items have been posted at the District office and are available for public review and comment.

This report may also contain additional correspondence and/or any additional staff memorandum concerning the items to be heard on today's agenda for the North Central Coast District.

IMMATERIAL AMENDMENTS

1. 2-06-017-A1 Daniel Altman; Avi Atid (Marshall, Marin County)

TOTAL OF 1 ITEM

DETAIL OF ATTACHED MATERIALS

REPORT OF IMMATERIAL AMENDMENTS

The Executive Director has determined that there are no changes in circumstances affecting the conformity of the subject development with the California Coastal Act of 1976. No objections to this determination have been received at this office. Therefore, the Executive Director grants the requested Immaterial Amendment, subject to the same conditions, if any, approved by the Commission.

Applicant	*Project Description*	*Project Location*
2-06-017-A1 Daniel Altman Avi Atid	To reconstruct the historic Marshall Tavern into an approximately 5,880 square-foot, 5-unit bed-and-breakfast (with an additional manager's unit) with a reconfigured 8-space gravel parking lot. The approved project also included the use of new and existing pier pilings and pier substructure for a public recreational pier, and a reconstructed retaining wall, as well as related site work	20105-20125 Highway 1 (along and over Tomales Bay in the unincorporated), Marshall (Marin County)

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT AMENDMENT

Date: April 25, 2013

To: All Interested Parties

From: Madeline Cavalieri, Central Coast District Manager
Laurel Kellner, Coastal Analyst

Subject: Proposed Amendment to Coastal Development Permit (CDP) 2-06-017
Applicants: Daniel Altman and Avi Atid

Original CDP Approval
CDP 2-06-017 was approved by the Coastal Commission on December 13, 2012 to reconstruct the historic Marshall Tavern into an approximately 5,880 square-foot, 5-unit bed-and-breakfast (with an additional manager's unit) with a reconfigured 8-space gravel parking lot. The approved project also included the use of new and existing pier pilings and pier substructure for a public recreational pier, and a reconstructed retaining wall, as well as related site work, at 20105 and 20125 Highway 1 along and over Tomales Bay in the unincorporated Marshall area of Marin County (APNs 106- 020-38 and 106-020-39).

Proposed CDP Amendment
CDP 2-06-017 would be amended to modify the special conditions so that the required on-site public recreational pier would be located north of the approved bed and breakfast instead of south of the approved bed and breakfast (as specifically described in the Commission's file). The Commission's reference number for this proposed amendment is **2-06-017-A1.**

Executive Director's Immateriality Determination
Pursuant to Title 14, Section 13166(b) of the California Code of Regulations, the Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission has determined that the proposed CDP amendment is immaterial for the following reasons:

The proposed amendment would adjust the location of the on-site public recreational pier, but will not in any way reduce the public access benefit of the pier. The proposed pier will provide additional square footage beyond what was required and will otherwise provide equivalent access, including pedestrian and boating access, and a public view area. All other conditions of the original permit will remain the same, including the lateral access requirement, as well as conditions related to visual issues, hazards, and water quality. In sum, the proposed amendment will enhance public recreational access opportunities and will not have any adverse impacts on coastal resources consistent with the Coastal Act.

Coastal Commission Review Procedure
The CDP will be amended as proposed if no written objections are received in the North Central Coast District office within ten working days of the date of this notice. If such an objection is received, the objection and the Executive Director's response to it will be reported to the Commission on May 9, 2013

in San Rafael. If three Commissioners object to the Executive Director's determination of immateriality at that time, then the application shall be processed as a material CDP amendment.

If you have any questions about the proposal or wish to register an objection, please contact Laurel Kellner in the North Central Coast District office.

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Memorandum May 7, 2013

To: Commissioners and Interested Parties

FROM: Dan Carl, North Central Coast District Deputy Director
North Central Coast District

Re: ***Additional Information for Commission Meeting Thursday, May 9, 2013***

Agenda Item	Applicant	Description	Page
Th15c	**San Francisco Recreation and Park Dept, San Francisco County**	**Correspondence**	**1-781**
Th15d	**Ailanto Properties, Inc., Half Moon Bay**	**Correspondence, Fran M. Layton**	**782-846**
		Email, Joey Haberman	**847**
		Correspondence, Richard J Jacobs	**848-849**

Edwin M. Lee, Mayor
Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager

May 2, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

A copy of this letter has been provided to California Coastal Commission Staff in accordance with the requirements of Public Resources Code, Sections 30319-30324 – sent by email

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Item Th15c, Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and Honorable Members of the Coastal Commission:

On behalf of the City and County of San Francisco, I am writing this letter in preparation for our upcoming appeal hearing regarding the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project. The staff recommendation for "Approval with Conditions" includes special conditions that would eliminate the project's core features – artificial turf and field lights – which is tantamount to a project DENIAL. As such, we are in disagreement with the staff recommendation and respectfully ask that you find **No Substantial Issue.** We strongly believe that the project, as approved and conditioned by the City, is fully consistent with the certified LCP (Western Shoreline Plan) and public access and recreation policies of the Coastal Act.

Below we have provided a detailed description of the project background and approval process to date. Our response to the staff report begins at the bottom of Page 4.

Project Background

On April 4, 2012, the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department applied to the Planning Department for a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) to renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields. The proposed project includes "replacing the existing grass turf with synthetic turf, installing field lighting, renovating the existing restroom building, installing player benches and seating, and completing other modifications for parking, circulation, and spectator amenities to improve the overall conditions of the facility and increase the amount of athletic play time." The proposed project is intended to carry out the goals of The Playfields Initiative, described below.

The Playfields Initiative

In 2006, the Recreation and Park Commission, in partnership with the non-profit organization City Fields Foundation, established The Playfields Initiative to address the chronic shortage of playfields in San Francisco and help the City equitably provide sports facilities for youth and adult athletic leagues, school teams, and P.E. classes, and informal neighborhood play.

The initiative has led to the renovation of 14 athletic fields in 7 parks in the City with synthetic turf and lights. Combined with other efforts, these field renovations have added more than 72,500 hours of additional playtime on RPD sports field. The rebuilt fields are extremely popular and are among the most requested sports fields in San Francisco.

1. Need to Renovate The Beach Chalet Soccer Fields

Golden Gate Park's Beach Chalet Soccer Fields is one of the City's three main ground sports athletic field facilities. Built more than 75 years ago, the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields were last renovated in 1998. The fields are currently unsafe and in poor condition due to heavy use, abundant gopher holes, and seasonal, wet conditions. The fields are also fenced and only open by reservation for athletic play.

For a park facility that is largely used by children, the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields lack basic youth and family friendly amenities and are in desperate need of repair and renovation. The bathrooms are in poor condition and are not compliant with the ADA. The soccer fields have no spectator seating, picnic tables, or play structures. Previous grass field renovations at the site have failed due to heavy use and resulted in further restrictions on public access. High-use grass sports facilities used for ground sports must be closed to the public regularly to preserve the condition of the grass, regardless of irrigation, drainage or maintenance. Indeed, due to severe wear from constant play and seasonal, wet conditions, the Beach Chalet Fields are closed to the public approximately 50 percent of the year to allow the grass to rest and regrow.

2. Proposed Project and Design

The proposed project would renovate the facility with synthetic turf, field lights, install a pathway to, from and around the fields, improve the parking lot safety and circulation, rehabilitate the restroom, add a spectator viewing plaza, and provide on-field spectator and player seating. The project would also include the addition of a maintenance shed to replace the cargo container, as well as a small play structure, BBQ picnic space and new landscape and tree plantings.

The project design is intended to balance the location of a high-use athletic field within the west end of Golden Gate Park. The field layout is intentionally subtle with no illuminated scoreboards or loud speakers, and the center, on-field seating will be designed using colored, concrete with wooden seats to emphasize natural materials where possible.

The fields will be high-quality synthetic turf lined for soccer and lacrosse featuring state-of-the-art drainage and on-field seating for players and spectators. As synthetic turf can be played on year-round, without needing to rest, the facility can be open more often and serve a greater number of park users. In fact, by renovating the fields with synthetic turf and lights, the amount of playtime available on these fields will triple from 4,738 hours per year to 14,320 hours per year – amounting to 9,582 hours of additional playtime annually or more than triple what is available today.

While the sports fields will be synthetic turf, they will be surrounded by new landscaping and grass. As discussed in more detail below, the renovation will continue and complement RPD's long-term, ongoing park reforestation program by planting over 100 new trees, as well as smaller bushes and vegetation.

A new perimeter walkway made of natural, earth toned material, similar to that used at Land's End in the Presidio (instead of regular concrete), will ensure disability access to, through, and around the field and vinyl-covered fencing will replace the standard galvanized metal chain link fence currently in place. The fencing will be reduced in height from the current eight feet down to less than four feet except behind the goals where the fence will be higher to prevent errant balls and protect spectators.

A new spectator plaza will also be created around the existing bathroom building. This area will contain multiple picnic tables, a water fountain, trash and recycling cans, seat walls and landscaping. The spectator area surrounds the bathroom includes two ramps leading down to the athletic fields' entrance (one for maintenance vehicles and one for pedestrians). A string of picnic tables and barbeque pits will run parallel to the fields, just east of the grass warm-up area. With this renovation, the soccer fields facility will finally meet all ADA access requirements. The project will also renovate and update the restrooms to make them safer, more comfortable and more inviting for park users and bring them up to ADA compliance.

To improve pedestrian safety and vehicle circulation, the parking lot will be expanded, restriped and reconfigured to accommodate 20 additional stalls. A loop design will improve traffic flow and prevent the regular, weekend car backups that can extend all the way to JFK Dr. New parking lot lighting will improve safety and allow people to locate their cars after dark, a new sidewalk will provide safe pedestrian access to JFK Dr. and racks with 81 bike parking spots will be installed.

On-field lights will be installed to allow for evening play. The project team, planning department staff and the EIR consultant team studied the lighting component of this project in great detail. The lighting design has been modified several times to minimize the impact of the poles and lights. Unlike the standard 70'-80' light poles at other athletic fields completed under The Playfields Initiative, this project will feature shorter 60' light poles which will be placed on the fields to minimize offsite views of the field lights from the surrounding neighborhoods and Ocean Beach. Given the fields' location in a natural topographical bowl hundreds of yards from the nearest neighbor, the low light pole height and the tall trees surrounding the fields, RPD's computer models indicate that the light poles will be screened from the adjacent southern and northern neighborhoods and will emit very little light beyond the field.

Local Approval Process

The Beach Chalet project has undergone extensive analysis and scrutiny at the local level, including numerous public hearings and approvals by four governing bodies:

- **May 24, 2012** - SF Planning Commission voted 4-1 to certify the Environmental Impact Report (EIR), approve the General Plan Referral and issue the Local Coastal Zone Development Permit
- **May 24, 2012** - Recreation and Park Commission voted 6-0 to approve the project conceptual plan, EIR mitigations and find consistency with the Golden Gate Park Master Plan
- **July 10, 2012** - Board of Supervisors voted 10-1 to deny an appeal of the EIR

- **August 1, 2012** – Board of Permit Appeals voted 4-0 to uphold the Planning Commission's decision to approve the Coastal Permit
- **September 12, 2012** – Board of Permit Appeals voted 3-0 to deny a rehearing request on the Coastal Permit Appeal

On May 24, 2012, the San Francisco Planning Commission issued a Coastal Development Permit (CDP) after certifying the project's Environmental Impact Report, with mitigation monitoring conditions, and General Plan referral. The Planning Commission's approval was appealed to the San Francisco Board of Appeals which, on August 1, 2012 and September 12, 2012, upheld the Planning Commission's approval.

Appeals to the Coastal Commission

On October 5, 2012, appeals were filed with the Coastal Commission claiming the project violates San Francisco's Local Coastal Program (LCP), the Western Shoreline Plan. Since that time, City of San Francisco staff worked diligently with California Coastal Commission (CCC) staff to provide information and answers to a variety of questions and we have repeatedly requested to meet in-person with staff to discuss the project. Despite our regular overtures and numerous meeting requests, staff granted the City just one telephone conference since the appeals were filed, and repeatedly indicated that they had no further questions, leading us to believe that they agreed that the project conformed to the Western Shoreline Plan and the public access and recreation policies of the Coastal Act.

On April 26, 2013, less than two weeks prior to the appeal hearing, we were both surprised and disappointed by the content of the CCC staff report that recommends dramatic revisions to the proposed athletic fields renovation's design and intent. Though the CCC staff report properly finds that three of the four policies cited by the appellants do not raise substantial LCP conformance issues, the report concludes that the use of artificial turf and other project elements alters the natural character and naturalistic landscape qualities of the athletic facility and therefore results in a substantial issue with the LCP.

Staff Report Response

The CCC staff report recommends Approval with Conditions that would eliminate the project's core features – artificial turf and field lights – which is tantamount to a project DENIAL. Equally troubling, the project conditions and "Approvable Project" recommended by CCC staff cannot achieve the project objectives, a fact the City could have documented for CCC staff if we'd been given the opportunity.

The purpose of this letter is to explain why four local bodies agreed that the Coastal Development Permit for the Beach Chalet Athletics Fields Renovation Project was issued in conformance with the LCP and to correct various inaccuracies in the staff report. Of particular concern to us are the following five areas:

1. **Design Subjectivity**: Staff's interpretation of LCP Objective 3, Policy 1 regarding "emphasizing the naturalistic landscape qualities of the western end of the park for visitor use" is entirely subjective and does not take into account the careful design and landscape plan that was developed and approved at the local level. The landscape plan emphasizes the naturalistic qualities by: 1) planting over 200 new individual trees around

perimeter of fields to replace 14 trees being removed; 2) planting more than 1,000 new plants to replace 44 bushes and shrubs being removed; and 3) using NaturePave surface material similar to walkways installed by National Park Service at Land's End in the Presidio. The project's conformance with the surrounding area was thoroughly analyzed at every stage of the City's process and found fully consistent with the certified LCP.

2. **Golden Gate Park Master Plan:** Staff's interpretation of LCP Objective 3, Policy 1 regarding "emphasizing the naturalistic landscape qualities of the western end of the park for visitor use" ignores the Golden Gate Park Master Plan's identification of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields as a "major recreation area" and the athletic facility's Special Area Plan, the West End Plan. Although not a part of the certified LCP, development of the Golden Gate Master Plan was a requirement of the LCP (Policy 3.3) and is used for guidance by the City. The staff report misrepresents how the fields are to be perceived as a park landscape and how that landscape is used by the public. The athletic fields are clearly designed for athletics, not "pastoral open space used for recreation," as stated in the staff report.

3. **Historic Resources:** Staff's articulation of the project's impact on the site as a historic resource fails to mention that the proposed project would not alter Golden Gate Park's eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Golden Gate Park enjoys 137 contributing factors to its listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Though the project's Environmental Impact Report found that the project's single significant, unavoidable impact would be to the site as a historic resource, it also noted that "the potential loss of one historic contributor would not constitute a significant impact to the District as a historic resource. The Golden Gate Park National Historic District would remain eligible for listing in the National Register after completion of the project." It is important to note that there is not a policy in the LCP that relates to historic resources and therefore cannot be used a standard of review for consideration of the current appeal.

4. **Project Alternatives:** The "Approvable Project" proposed by staff would not achieve the project objectives, as stated in the Environmental Impact Report, and would reduce disability access to a public recreation facility within the Coastal Zone. Replacing the existing grass fields with new drainage, irrigation and grass turf would not result in additional play time at the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields as the field maintenance and grass regrowth schedules would remain unchanged and the fields would still close during and after rain, like all grass athletic fields in San Francisco. Removing the asphalt apron around the restroom would render the site entirely inaccessible to the disabled (instead of just the field being inaccessible to the disabled, as is currently the situation). Removing the existing fencing around the fields would speed the degradation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, resulting in further restrictions to public access. Staff's proposed offsite alternative at West Sunset Playground would not result in as much additional play time as the proposed renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

5. **Baseline Development:** Lastly, staff's interpretation of LCP Objective 3, Policy 1 regarding "emphasizing the naturalistic landscape qualities of the western end of the park for visitor use" does not accurately depict the site as it exists or is used today. CCC staff states that the baseline for LCP conformance should be the project site as it existed 15 years ago, prior to the construction of a fence around the fields and removal of a

portion of the vegetation around the site's restroom facility for disability access, because those site improvements were completed without a Coastal Development Permit. There are two issues with this contention. First, even if you go back to the use of the area 15 years ago, it was clearly a designated athletic field. The fencing was only installed because of over use. Due to the growing interest in soccer starting about 20 years ago, it was impossible for the City to keep the field closed to rest or when it was wet due. Users would use the field even with "field closed" signs on it. Second, this contention that we should review the site as it was 15 years ago is inaccurate because the San Francisco Charter Section 330.3 (g) & (i) clearly states that vegetation removal that does not violate the Coastal Program does not require a CDP and that recreation facility improvements that do not require a building permit do not require a CDP. There was no need for a CDP to implement these park improvements and there is no justification for using the site's previous condition as the baseline for LCP conformance.

It is the position of the City and County of San Francisco that the CCC staff report does not accurately reflect the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields' design, site characteristics and current use and we regret not being given the opportunity to provide staff with critical information omitted from their analysis. The proposed athletic fields' renovation clearly conforms to the goals and objectives of the Western Shoreline Plan, San Francisco's Local Coastal Program, and is consistent with the public access and recreation policies of the Coastal Act. The project, as approved, will improve and enhance public access and recreation at the Beach Chalet site, while activating the west end of the park and creating important connectivity to the beach.

We wish to thank you for taking the time to read and consider this letter. We respectfully request that the Commission find **No Substantial Issue** on the appeals challenging the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation project. We have attached our corrections and comments on the staff report to enable the Commission to base its decision on technically accurate information and are available to answer any specific questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager
San Francisco Recreation and Parks

cc: Mayor Edwin M. Lee
David Chou, President, Board of Supervisors
Rodney Fong, President, Planning Commission
John Rahaim, Director, Planning Department
Mark Buell, President, Recreation and Park Commission
Susan Hirsch, Executive Director, City Fields Foundation
Charles Lester, Executive Director, California Coastal Commission
Dan Carl, Deputy Director, California Coastal Commission
Kevin Kahn, Coastal Program Analyst, California Coastal Commission

Attachments

BEACH CHALET STAFF REPORT CORRECTIONS AND COMMENTS
APPEAL NO. A-2-SNF-12-020

I. Substantial Issue Determination

1. Nonconformance Findings: Naturalistic Landscape Qualities Character Impacts

> Page 17, CCC staff report states that:
> "The City-approved project will modify the existing Beach Chalet fields are in a way that will adversely alter its natural character, including through the introduction of project elements that appear incompatible with its protected special organization and setting (e.g., artificial turf, field lights, seating areas, concrete paths, etc.). The City's action raises a substantial LCP conformance issue on these points."

This determination is based on a misinterpretation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields' landscape design and intent as a structured recreation facility for the past 75 years. Design is a very subjective matter and the landscape plan for the proposed field renovation has been thoroughly analyzed and vetted through the local approval process.

> Page 15, CCC staff report states that:
> "The essential character of the Beach Chalet fields area derives from how it fits within the design of this part of the Park as a woodland predominantly surrounding an open space landscape" and "the fields area is a grassy area framed by trees and vegetation that is perceived as a pastoral open space used for recreational pursuits with a small restroom. It is this spatial organization and the natural landscape that most clearly reflects the site."

The City fundamentally disagrees with CCC staff's conclusion that this space is "perceived as a pastoral open space used for recreational pursuits." There is no basis in reality for that statement other than statements made by the Appellants. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are not pastoral open space; they are athletic fields designated as a "major recreation area" in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Since 1933, the fields have been maintained and programmed for athletics, and never as passive open space. In fact, the fields are closed when not reserved for athletics to try to preserve the condition of the grass fields for player safety. It's worth noting that under the proposed synthetic turf renovation, the fields would be open for play all day, every day and times would be established for "open play" not requiring a permit or reservation – accessibility simply not possible with grass fields in San Francisco due to the shortfall of sports fields throughout the city.

As stated above, LCP **Policy 3.3**, directed the City to "Develop and periodically revise a Master Plan for Golden Gate Park to include specific policies for the maintenance and improvement of recreational access in the western portion of the park." In 1998, the City adopted the Golden Gate Park Master Plan and has since used that document to guide development, recreation programming and maintenance in the park. Although not a part of the certified LCP, the Master Plan is a significant planning document that is used as guidance by the City.

The CCC staff report makes no mention of the Master Plan's treatment of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, recreation or athletic fields in general, nor the West End Plan. The LCP directed the City to create a Master Plan to help manage these issues, but CCC staff then failed to reference the document in their analysis and recommendations on the Beach Chalet Athletic

Fields renovation, the first project in Golden Gate Park's history to be challenged by a Coastal Development Permit appeal.

The Golden Gate Park Master Plan identifies areas of the park meant as pastoral open space, while other areas, including the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, are designated as "major recreation areas" and devotes entire sections to both recreation facilities and the West End of the park.

> POLICY C - MAJOR RECREATION AREAS
> The major recreation areas within Golden Gate Park have been established to meet specific recreational needs. The land within major recreation areas is programmed or designed for specific types of recreation or sports.
>
> 1. Major recreation areas are designed and maintained for specific, structured and programmed recreational uses, and include designated turf areas, courts, and water bodies, and are subject to permit reservations.
> 2. Major recreation areas, as identified on the Land Use Map, host activities such as archery, soccer, baseball, football, polo, ultimate frisbee, golf, fly casting (at the fly casting pools), track, lawn bowling, tennis, model boating (at Spreckels Lake), public assembly, and other events as defined in the Commission's Permit and Reservation Policy. Visitor centers, restrooms and other support services may be included in recreation areas.

On the corresponding Land Use Map, the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are identified as a "major recreation area" (Golden Gate Park Master Plan, Objectives and Policies, Figure 3-1, Land Use Zones, page 3-7).

Further, the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation clearly implements the direction provided by the Master Plan's Recreation Facilities section which states, "emphasis should be placed on improving and maintaining existing recreation facilities, rather than adding new ones" and features an entire section devoted to discussing the management of existing athletic fields, including Beach Chalet.

> Athletic Fields
> There are large athletic fields at Kezar Stadium, Big Rec, the Polo Field, and the Beach Chalet soccer fields. There are other facilities such as the softball diamonds at Sharon Meadow (Little Rec) and Speedway Meadow, the golf course, the archery field, and the bowling greens. There are problems with overuse of some fields at the Polo Field and the Beach Chalet soccer fields. The lack of drainage systems under some fields makes maintenance difficult after rains. The turf is often damaged when fields are wet. The demand for these fields is very high and fields are receiving heavy use. Regular maintenance is not always scheduled into field permit schedules.
>
> - Upgrade irrigation systems
> - Install drainage systems where needed
> - Scheduled maintenance periods should be added to field permit schedules
> - Where feasible, rotate and shift field locations
> - Enforce field closures after rains and when required to provide maintenance
> - One additional soccer field is recommended at the Richmond Sunset treatment plant site (implementation of an additional field should be contingent on sufficient staff to maintain it)

- Maintain an operations policy for the Polo Field to guide decisions concerning its use.

(Golden Gate Park Master Plan, Recreation, page 6-1)

As stated previously, this section of the Master Plan recommends developing an additional soccer field at the Richmond Sunset treatment plant, a largely decommissioned site adjacent to the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields. As proposed, the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation would create enough new play time through the installation of synthetic turf and field lights to eliminate the need for an additional soccer pitch, thus allowing that open space to be devoted to other purposes. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation will allow the city to provide more recreation opportunities to more people without developing additional open space outside the existing facility's footprint.

While the CCC staff recommendation considers the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields to be "pastoral open space used for recreation," the Golden Gate Park Master Plan recognizes the fields as a "major recreation area" and specifically directs the City to increase "legitimate activities" such as athletics to improve visitor safety and "transform this part of the park."

> Special Area Plans - West End Plan
> The western edge of Golden Gate Park has lacked activity centers to draw people to use it. With the exception of the Queen Wilhelmina Garden and the soccer fields, most of the west end is little visited and is not an inviting area. Undesirable uses such as camping and sexual activity have filled the void, aided by dense growing shrubs. The goal of this area plan is to increase legitimate activities and transform this part of the park
> (Golden Gate Park Master Plan, Special Area Plans – West End Plan, page 13-4).

The CCC staff report acknowledges that "issue identification" documents that helped form the LCP stated that "a level of common purpose exists between [the Coastal Act and Golden Gate Park policies] and that local land use policies and zoning are consistent with Coastal Act policies for Golden Gate Park [i.e., the LCP].

We agree that common purpose exists between the Coastal Act and Golden Gate Park policies, but disagree with staff's conclusion that "the legislative LCP intent for the LCP policies requiring that 'naturalistic landscape qualities be emphasized' is based on ensuring protection of the pastoral landscape character of the Park for visitors." This conclusion inappropriately prioritizes pastoral naturalistic landscapes over other naturalistic park landscapes without justification and, if implemented, would result in the Golden Gate Park's west end being devoid of activity centers. An archery range or a sports field can certainly emphasize naturalistic landscapes while still hosting structured recreation activities and one of the purposes of the Golden Gate Park Master Plan is to help the City balance pastoral and active recreation when implementing park maintenance and improvements.

Golden Gate Park is an entirely man-made creation and the pastoral naturalistic landscapes were developed simultaneously with many of the parks formal and recreation-focused landscapes. CCC staff's interpretation that the intent of the LCP was to prioritize pastoral naturalistic landscapes is a reflection of their own personal priorities but is not born out by the very clear language of the LCP. Furthermore, the Coastal Act encourages public recreation in the Coastal Zone whereas staff's conclusion about the legislative intent of the LCP would greatly reduce public recreation opportunities in the Coastal Zone.

The CCC staff report also references the project's potential impact on the site as a historic resource, but fails to mention that the proposed project would not alter Golden Gate Park's eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and the lack of an applicable LCP policy. Golden Gate Park enjoys 137 contributing factors to its listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Though the project's Environmental Impact Report found that the project's single significant, unavoidable impact would to the site as a historic resource, it also noted that "the potential loss of one historic contributor would not constitute a significant impact to the District as a historic resource. The Golden Gate Park National Historic District would remain eligible for listing in the National Register after completion of the project."

2. Nonconformance Findings: Naturalistic Landscape Qualities Artificial Turf

> Page 21, CCC staff report states:
> "The naturalistic illusion that one might have related to a green carpet of artificial turf (to replace the existing natural turf in the same general area) is thus impaired by the way in which the fields would be broken up, fenced and striped. Taken together, and particularly given the baseline of a grassy field area essentially surrounded by woodland, the artificial turf clashes with the naturalistic landscape qualities of the Beach Chalet fields. The City's action raises a substantial LCP conformance issue on this point."

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation design was drafted and refined over several years and numerous revisions were made to reduce or eliminate linear design elements wherever possible. Stairways and walking paths from the parking lot down to the field are now curvilinear and the seating at the ends of the fields will be curved and anchored into a small, existing hill at the north side of the field and a modest berm on the south side. The goal is to reduce the visibility of the seating and break up the linear design where possible.

In addition, all seating will be covered with wood to form benches with as naturalistic an appearance as possible, similar to spectator seating at other athletic facilities throughout Golden Gate Park. The center seating was designed as a low bench, approximately 30" tall, again covered with wood, allowing it to function as both a disability accessible walkway and spectator seating.

Staff took issue with how the center walkway would disrupt the "naturalistic illusion" of the artificial turf without recognizing that it also implements a LCP Objective 3 and Objective 3, Policy 1:

LCP Objective 3:	Enhance the recreational connection between Golden Gate Park and the Beach Frontage.
Objective 3, Policy 1:	Strengthen the visual and physical connection between the park and beach.

The proposed center walkway will lead visitors across the fields and toward the beach. Improvements are proposed along the Great Highway that will accommodate safe passage to Ocean Beach, including a signal and cross walk immediately west of the subject site.

Other design elements that staff believes will impair the "naturalistic illusion" are inherent to an athletic field facility and, in fact, already exist at the site. The CCC staff report states that "artificial turf can appear naturalistic inasmuch as it is generally green in color, like natural grass, and structured to appear as fresh as cut grass," but that the proposed sports lines on the athletic fields will reduce the "naturalistic illusion." This is confusing as the existing grass Beach

Chalet Athletic Fields are also lined for sports weekly so it is unclear how lining an artificial turf field will diminish the "naturalistic illusion."

The CCC staff report also cites the use of structured rectangles and linear seating areas as impairing the "naturalist illusion" but soccer fields are composed of structured rectangles and spectator seating is inherently linear because people watch the game from the aptly named sideline. To take issue with the fields' structured rectangles and linear seating is a concern more related to the site's historic use as a soccer field and not to the proposed project.

Throughout the CCC staff report, it is stated that vegetation was improperly removed from the area surrounding the restroom and that an asphalt apron was inappropriately installed. CCC staff state that a CDP was needed to remove this vegetation.

In fact, a CDP was not required to remove the vegetation. The San Francisco Charter Section 330.3 identifies project exempt from Coastal Zone Permit review and clearly states that:

No Coastal Zone Permit shall be required for the following projects:

(g) Recreation and park tree trimming, reforestation and support services, landscaping improvements, **vegetation removal** and seasonal planting, replacement planting, maintenance, and other park landscaping and planting improvements, provided that this activity does not involve a change contrary to any policy of the Coastal Program;

CCC staff does not cite any Coastal Program policy that was violated by removing some vegetation surrounding the soccer facility's restroom. As shown above, <u>this modest park improvement was specifically exempt from Coastal Development Permit review and the staff's recommended baseline for LCP conformance should not be applied as it relates to this vegetation removal.</u>

A portion of the vegetation around the restroom was removed and the asphalt apron was installed around the restroom as part of a series of restroom disability access improvements performed at restrooms throughout Golden Gate Park. City staff is researching whether a building permit was obtained for these Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements. Should a CDP be required, the City will be happy to work with CCC staff to ensure disability access to the restroom under all applicable laws.

II. Substantial Issue Determination

Although CCC Staff found that the following actions do not raise a substantial LCP conformance issue, we are providing additional background information which helps inform each topic.

1. <u>Conformance Findings</u>: Artificial Turf Impacts (Foraging Habitat)
   Page 21, CCC staff report states:
   "Given the more tenuous connection between bird impacts and the LCP's 'naturalistic' policy, the fact that there might be an impact to foraging birds is an issue, but it is not of itself in this context enough to raise a substantial LCP conformance issue. The City's action does not raise a substantial LCP conformance issue on this point."

The CCC staff report comments provided a narrow evaluation on the possible impacts to the foraging habitat for raptors, owls and other birds. It is worth noting that the proposed project in whole makes up 1% in land area of the overall 1,017 acres of Golden Gate Park. The turf area

makes up approximately 3% of the overall turf and meadow areas in the Park. Immediately to the east of the fields, you will find a nine hole golf course, a turf archery range and several other passive turf meadow spaces that provide foraging habitat. The proposed project also proposes to install 28,000 square feet of natural turf surround the field.

The foraging habitat evaluation also didn't consider the surrounding parks and landscape areas that run along the western edge of the City including several park, the Great Highway, Sunset Boulevard and GGNRA's property.

2. Conformance Findings: Artificial Turf Impacts (Introduction of Toxic Materials)
   Page 21, CCC staff report states:
   "The appellants claim that the replacement of the grass fields with artificial turf will introduce toxic materials in the environment."

This claim by the appellants is misleading and does not reflect the depth and breadth of the work that was executed under both the City's Task Force process and the EIR's Hazards and Hazardous Materials and Air Quality studies and conclusions.

As mentioned by the CCC staff, the City established a Task Force which made several recommendations to our field improvement program. One of the recommendations made by the Task Force was to continue to research turf products and improve on the existing turf purchasing specifications. One item that CCC failed to mention in their report was is that the City has implemented one of the most stringent synthetic turf procurement specification in the country. Our specification requires that synthetic turf manufactures test their products and materials for heavy metals, leachable metals, brominates, and SVOC's. The specifications also require that the purchased products contain post-consumer content material and that the turf companies have an approved turf recycling plan which can be implemented at the end of the field's useful life.

Another benefit that CCC staff did not capture in their report was that City staff will no longer need to mow and strip the fields on a regular basis. These maintenance activities occur at a frequency of approximately once a week.. It is estimated that mowing and striping the fields requires 105 gallons of diesel fuel and 50 gallons of petroleum annually. Removing these weekly maintenance activities should be recognized as a benefit to the environment when synthetic turf is being examined.

In addition, CCC staff mentioned that the use for fertilizers and herbicides will no longer be required. It is estimated that city staff applies approximately 2000 lbs of granular fertilizer annually to these fields as well as targeted applications of herbicides. (See Attachment B for Current and Planned Maintenance Practice chart)

Page 22, CCC final staff findings state:

"Thus, City testing has shown that the artificial turf fields installed at other City parks has not contributed to water quality impairments. Similar treatment and testing is required for the Beach Chalet Ahtletic Fields turf as well. Therefore, because of the City's stringent artificial turf material composition requirements, the positive water quality testing results performed at other similar fields, and the project's design to capture and treat all storm water runoff, the City's action does not raise a substantial LCP conformance issue in terms of the impacts of the artificial turf fields on water quality."

We concur with this point.

3. Conformance Findings: Night Lighting – Public View Impacts
Page 18, CCC staff report states:
"The City-approved lights would extend above the tops of the tallest trees surrounding the athletic field to a height of 60 feet."

This assertion is not correct. The field lights were reduced in height from the original design of 80' and were moved onto the field area with the sole intent of reducing their visual impact from around the perimeter of the park. The poles which are now set at 60' will not be visible from three sides of the field. The top fixtures on approximately half of the poles will only be seen from various vantage points along the beach promenade. This was illustrated in the visual simulation generated by the project team as well as the simulations generated by the EIR consultant team. The athletic field is situated in a "bowl-like" setting where the field is set down from the park landscape to the north, east and south. Trees in these areas are will be taller than the poles once installed. This topographic condition assists in screening the lights and field from these vantage points. The lights are only visible from the beach promenade because the vegetation along the western edge of the field is lower in height due to the type of vegetation found along the park's edge as well as the wind patterns which keep plant material low. The assertion is that they are at 60 feet above the height of the tallest trees. You make a lot of other points in this paragraph but you don't address their assertion.

Page 18, CCC staff report states:
"However, the City's lighting analysis did not take into consideration potential impacts from fog and inclement weather conditions."

This statement is not true. The EIR consultants considered the potential impact of the lights during foggy conditions and stated the following in the EIR IV.B-34:

> "While these assumptions may change during particularly foggy weather conditions, they would not be expected to change so much that lighting at the fields would substantially affect views of the project site from the surrounding public vantage points. Specifically, under foggy conditions, the lighting would be more diffused and would likely be more visible higher up in th e sky and from vantage points further away. Other existing light sources, such as street lighting and residential and commercial building lighting, also result in light diffusion and this project would contribute to the existing general "glow" that can occur during foggy conditions. The proposed project would not result in direct light and glare in people's homes and field lighting would be turned off by 10:00 p.m. Based on the discussion above, this impact would be less than significant"

The primary concern of light spill is that it would impact night time views of the sky. If the weather conditions are foggy, the visual impact to night sky is irrelevant since the sky cannot be viewed during those conditions.

It is worth noting that although our project lighting analysis relies on research and feedback from lighting experts in the field of sports light design as well as the EIR consultants, City staff also completed analysis of existing athletic fields using identical lighting equipment proposed at the Beach Chalet project. It was determined that the analytical analysis of the proposed lights matched actual light conditions both on and off the fields at those existing sites. In addition, staff also consulted with the National Parks Services lighting expert from Colorado. They had

recommended that we reduce our light output from our initial levels to a lower level for recreation play. They also recommended that we consult with the City of Flagstaff, a City with one of the most stringent light pollutions mandates, to determine what types of athletic field lighting they use for their facilities. After consulting with both agencies, the project team reduced the light level output on for the proposed project. We also determined that the light system that we are proposing is the same system that the City of Flagstaff recommends and uses.

CCC final staff findings state:

> "In both cases, views would be impacted, but the impacts are tempered by the fact that the fields area is in the middle of the City environment with lighting around the park and along the Great Highway. In other words, the views in question already include a series of light sources, and the introduction of lights into them in the fields area would not significantly alter their value. The City's action does not raise a substantial LCP conformance issue on these points."

We concur with this point.

4. Conformance Findings: Bird Impacts
   Page 20, CCC staff report states:
   "The fact that there may be an impact to migrating birds in inclement/foggy weather is an issue, but it is not of itself in this context enough to raise a substantial LCP conformance issue. The City's action does not rise to substantial LCP conformance issue on these points."

Although CCC staff found that lighting impact to migrating birds does not rise to the level of substantial LCP issue, we believe it is important to share additional information that was concluded in the EIR section IV.F-28 which corroborates staff's conclusion.

The EIR states:

> "Given the typical altitude at which migrating birds fly, the fact that the proposed athletic field lights would be shielded, and studies that suggest night-flying birds are attracted to point-sources of light, rather than larger illuminated areas, it is unlikely that the lighting associated with the proposed project would interfere with a migratory corridor or provide a hazard for migratory birds through the phenomenon of light "entrapment."

5. Conformance findings: Reforestation Program Implementation
   The CCC staff report found that:
   "... the City-approved project includes some tree and shrub removal and some tree and shrub planting. Clearly, however the replanting component would result in significantly more trees and vegetation at the site after the project and before. The location of the trees and shrubs raise concerns related to the character of the site and the need for emphasizing naturalistic landscape qualities as required by the LCP, but the fact that it results in more forest than is currently the case supports the argument that it is part of implementation of a reforestation program, and the City's action does not raise a substantial LCP conformance issue on this point alone."

As CCC staff stated, the proposed project will include over 200 new trees and over 1,000 new plants. We believe that this increase in the number of trees and shrubs planting will not only benefit the project site but the park as a whole.

CCC Staff states that the proposed location of the trees and shrubs raises concerns related to the character of the site and the need for emphasizing naturalistic landscape qualities as required by the LCP. We strongly disagree with this assertion. The proposed planting plan actually strengthens the existing park design features. The plan proposes a tree planting program along the southern and eastern edge of the project site strengthening the forest/meadow relationship which is prevalent throughout the park. In fact, the proposed plan is a better planting program than the existing conditions since the new program will improve the "landscape room" which creates and defines the forest/meadow relationship. This planting design also matches recommendations outlined in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. The selection of the tree species was also done with the goal to improve the western windbreak design which is clearly outlined in the Golden Gate Park Forest Management Plan. Tree and plant species were specifically selection for both form and function so that the end design meets the goals of the Master Plan and the Forest Management Plan.

The proposed concept planting plan is in keeping with the landscape palette which has proven successful at the west end of the park. The concept planting plan has been reviewed and approved by Golden Gate Park's operation manager, the department's Forestry Supervisor and the Natural Areas Program Director.

In addition to the proposed planting program for this project, City staff has been working diligently over the last several years to implement the Department's reforestation efforts which have included the installation of hundreds of trees in and around the project site. City staff has also been replanting the landscape area west of the athletic fields improving the overall parks windbreak as well as implementing the landscape improvements outlined in the Golden Gate Park's Master Plan special area plan.

6. Conformance findings: Traffic Impacts
   Page 23, CCC staff report states:
   "... parking supply in Golden Gate Park within a five minute walk of the fields is adequate to serve the facility even on peak weekday and weekend events. Thus, the project is not expected to significantly impact traffic in the Richmond and Sunset neighborhoods, and the City's action does not raise a substantial LCP conformance issue on this point."

CCC staff's conclusion mirrors what was discovered and concluded from two separate and independent traffic studies which evaluated weekday and weekend traffic patterns as well as traffic patterns experienced during major events that occur in and around the park.

It is the goal of the project to actually improve traffic patterns leading to the field facility. The current parking lot, which is comprised of approximately 50 parking stalls, is poorly designed creating safety issues for pedestrians entering and leaving the field. The design is also inefficient in that it does not provide an adequate drop off/pick up zone, which often creates traffic back-ups and safety issues for pedestrians. The proposed parking lot design, which includes 20 additional stalls will help alleviate anticipated parking demand as well as provide for a safer entry point for pedestrians and visits that are dropping off and picking up on a daily basis. It is also worth noting that the proposed project will include the addition of 60 new bike parking spacing with the intent of encouraging park visitors to cycle to the facility.

III. Special Conditions & Approvable Project

1. Special Conditions – Revised Project Plans:
Though the CCC staff report recommends approval with conditions, in reality, they are recommending a project denial. The following are the approval conditions proposed in the staff report and the City's response to each CCC staff condition.

   A. Staff condition - Synthetic Turf Replaced with Natural Turf
   Details: Eliminate all synthetic turf and use natural grass turf instead, install an underlying turf foundation system including enhanced drainage.

   City response: Implementing this condition would not achieve the primary project objective, as articulated in the staff report – to increase playtime on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields. A spreadsheet documenting the soccer facility's current available playtime (i.e. annual play capacity) and anticipated playtime under the proposed project is included with this note as Attachment B.

   Installing synthetic turf on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields increases play capacity in three ways: allowing for use of all four Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, eliminating maintenance closures and eliminating rain closures.

   Currently, one of the three fields is always "resting" to allow the grass to regrow to preserve safe field conditions for players. Installing artificial turf eliminates the need to rest a field as artificial turf can be played upon constantly with little degradation to the playing surface. By bringing this additional field space into play simultaneously with the other athletic fields, the City can add 2,390 hours of annual play to the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields facility.

   Similarly, artificial turf fields do not need to be closed for maintenance – there's no grass to cut, no fertilizer to apply, no grass seeds to plant, and no time needed for grass seeds to grow (which requires 6 to 8 weeks of closure). Artificial turf fields require occasional sweeping and grooming, both of which are accomplished quickly at other San Francisco artificial turf sports fields without requiring facility closure. As a result, eliminating maintenance closures will add 1,855 hours of additional play annually to the athletic facility (618 hours annually per field for the three fields currently in use).

   Given the extremely heavy use of San Francisco athletic fields, the grass sports fields quickly degrade into unsafe mud wallows during even the slightest rain. As such, the City closes all grass athletic fields during a rain event and often for several days after a storm. Artificial turf fields do not have this challenge as they drain quickly and can be used during even the heaviest rain event. In San Francisco, the only athletic fields that remain open during rain or after a storm are the City's artificial turf fields. At Beach Chalet, eliminating rain closures would add 578 hours of additional annual playtime (193 hours annually per field for the three fields currently in use).

   When combined, installing artificial turf on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields will create 4,823 hours of additional annual playtimes at the soccer facility, effectively doubling the currently annual capacity at the site (4,731 hours of play annually).

At the same time, installing new grass and drainage on the athletic fields will not create any new playtime on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields. The field space for the fourth soccer field will still have to rest to allow the grass to regrow – no increase of playtime. Gardeners and mowing crews will still need to close the fields for a combined 1,855 hours per year to mow, fertilize, seed and allow the seeds to grow. Rain will continue to force field closures for 578 hours per year. This has been substantiated by the recent renovation of the grass Polo Fields where drainage and irrigation was recently redone. Despite these improvements, play time has had to remain the same. CCC staff direct the replacement of artificial turf with new grass turf, but do not and cannot articulate in the staff report how new grass turf will increase annual playtime because it is not possible.

As installing new grass turf will not achieve the project's primary objective – increase playtime on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields – the City will not implement the project under this condition, a fact that has been previously communicated to staff.

B. Staff condition – Field Lighting Modified
Details: Eliminate all field lighting, except modest perimeter lighting integrated with vegetation.

City response: Implementing this condition would not achieve the primary project objective, as articulated in the staff report – to increase playtime on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields. A spreadsheet documenting the soccer facility's current available playtime (i.e. annual play capacity) and anticipated playtime under the proposed project is included as part of the previously referenced Attachment A.

Adding field lights to the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields will create 4,760 hours of additional playtime per year (1,190 hours annually per field for all four fields; this assumes installation of artificial turf allowing for use of the fourth soccer field).

Equally important, the field lights will allow children to use the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields for afterschool practice during spring, fall and winter. Currently, San Francisco suffers from a deficit of athletic fields, resulting in limited practice times. Youth and school groups are given free field access immediately after school, roughly from 3:30p.m. to 6:30p.m. Monday through Friday, with each team given half or a third of a field for 90 minutes once a week.

The first group will practice from 3:30p.m. or 4:00p.m. until 5:00p.m. or 5:30p.m. At that time, a second group practices from 5:00p.m. or 5:30p.m. until 6:30p.m. or 7:00p.m. Unfortunately, in the beginning of November, the return of standard time results in sunset at 5:09p.m. (in 2013) resulting in the complete loss of practice time for the second youth team and a severe reduction in practice time for the first youth team. Adults do not get field access to the Beach Chlaet Athletic Fields for weekday practices during this time of year.

By installing fields light on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, youth teams will be able to access the sports fields for after school practice throughout the year and adults will also get the opportunity to utilize the space for evening play. Given the substantial increase in play capacity provided by the field lights and the youth population that would benefit, the City considers field lights to be an inherent

component of any plan to renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields and will not implement the project under the CCC staff's condition that the field lights be removed, a fact that has been previously communicated to staff.

C. Staff condition – Fencing Modified
Details: Eliminate all fencing, including the fencing that currently exists because it was installed without a CDP; replace 42" fence with 36" fence composed of natural materials, replace 16' fence behind soccer goals with vegetation to protect visitors from wayward balls.

City response: The athletic fields' perimeter fence was installed in 1998 to preserve the condition of the grass fields when they are not reserved for play. Installation of the fence allows the fields to be closed while the grass is regrowing or during and after a rain event. Without the fence, constant use of the fields degraded the playing surface to an unsafe condition.

While staff may be concerned with the fence's impact on the field design, there is no question that the fence serves as a critical public safety barrier. The fence effectively prevents wayward balls from travelling into the bushes surrounding the fields, which are reknown as a location for illicit public sex, illegal camping and rampant drug use.

As noted above, the Golden Gate Park Master Plan has a special area plan which discusses this longtime concern:

> Special Area Plans - West End Plan
> The western edge of Golden Gate Park has lacked activity centers to draw people to use it. With the exception of the Queen Wilhelmina Garden and the soccer fields, most of the west end is little visited and is not an inviting area. Undesirable uses such as camping and sexual activity have filled the void, aided by dense growing shrubs. The goal of this area plan is to increase legitimate activities and transform this part of the park
> (Golden Gate Park Master Plan, Special Area Plans – West End Plan, page 13-4)

In fact, when this topic was raised during the July 10, 2012 Environmental Impact Report appeal hearing at the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, San Francisco Police Chief Greg Suhr testified that, "I can tell you that the police soccer team practices there and we are afraid to go in the bushes."

Youth athletic coaches forbid their players from entering the woodlands surrounding the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields so the fence helps keep the illegal activities off the field and the soccer balls on the field. Removal of this fence will create a public safety issue.

The CCC staff report recommends using natural vegetation to prevent high-flying wayward balls from travelling off the field but this recommendation appears to conflict with their concern about long expanses of linear project features. Further, this staff recommendation marks a radical departure from the athletic fields' existing design and will create a public safety hazard.

A tree canopy dense enough to stop wayward balls would have to run the entire perimeter of the field, creating a new, dominant physical element circling the athletic fields – the exact condition they seek to eliminate in other sections of the staff report. It

would also insert a line of trees behind the south-east portion of the athletic fields between the fields and a grassy meadow. Unlike the black-vinyl chain-link fence proposed as part of the City's field renovation, the trees dense enough to catch wayward balls would not be see-through and would not blend into the park background.

Further, the San Francisco Police Department desires clear sight lines to all athletic facilities to prevent vandalism and discourage illegal activity. Planting a line of trees around the perimeter of the fields will eliminate the ability of the police to safely patrol the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields and will create a public safety hazard.

D. Staff condition – Pedestrian Pathways Modified
Details: Pedestrian pathways limited to periphery of field with connections to pathways to the north, south, west and the parking lot to the east. Paths will be made of decomposed granite and shall be curvilinear.

City response: The San Francisco Mayor's Office of Disability does not allow the installation of decomposed granite in City parks because it is not disability accessible. We raised this idea with the City's disability access coordinator during the project's design development and was encouraged to instead use NaturalPave, an environmentally sensitive pathway material used in by the National Park Service in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The proposed project anticipates using NaturalPave on all perimeter pathways.

Similar to installing trees to catch errant balls, installing curvilinear pathways around the athletic fields may not achieve the desired result. As planned, the perimeter pathways follow the soccer fields' long, straight edges and are situated immediately adjacent to the athletic fields. As the soccer field edges cannot be made curvilinear, any effort to add curves to the proposed pathways will result in pockets of separation between the athletic fields and the pathways and cut into the grassy areas that will remain open space outside the athletic fields. This would seem to increase the project's potential impact on the park landscape rather than reduce it.

E. Staff condition – Spectator Seating Modified
Details: Eliminate center spectator seating, modify north and south spectator seating into small, four-person benches along the field periphery and incorporated into the pedestrian pathway system.

City response: The project's proposed spectator seating was developed to provide the seating required to host high school athletic tournaments.

The seating at the north and south ends of the fields will be curved and anchored into a small, existing hill at the north side of the field and a modest earthen berm on the south side.

As stated above, the center seating is an 18' raised walkway meant to double as a disability accessible path to and across the field to pathways leading to Ocean Beach. The center seating is simply a bench cut into the raised walkway in order to provide the requisite seating as unobtrusively as possible.

Similar to athletic fields spectator seating throughout the park, the proposed spectator seating for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields will include wood benches to enhance the naturalistic elements of the landscape.

F. Staff condition – Lighting
   Details: Limit lighting to minimum needed for pedestrian and vehicle safety; use "low (i.e.; bollard-mounted) fixtures.

City response: The project's proposed pedestrian and vehicle lighting is similar to the lighting found throughout the City park system. Installation of new or non-standard lighting fixtures will result in maintenance and repair challenges and disrupt the park's standard lighting design.

G. Staff condition – Parking Lot
   Details: Plant new vegetation to screen the parking lot from view from the athletic fields.

City response: This CCC staff recommendation marks another radical departure from the existing design of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields and would create a public safety hazard.

As stated above, the San Francisco Police Department desires clear sight lines to all athletic facilities to prevent vandalism and discourage illegal activity. Planting new vegetation to intentionally screen the parking lot from the athletic fields eliminates the ability of the police to safely patrol the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields and will create a public safety hazard.

H. Staff condition – Restroom, Plaza and Surrounding Areas
   Details: Remove pavement around restroom, install a vegetation screen between the restroom and plaza and parking lot, reduce size and redesign the plaza to be curvilinear instead of a straight line or circular, use decomposed granite, wood or colored concrete as the plaza surface.

City response: Removing the pavement around the restroom would render the restrooms inaccessible to the disabled and violate the Americans with Disabilities Act. As stated above, the City is researching whether a building permit was required for the asphalt disability apron so as to determine whether a CDP was required for this park improvement. If a CDP was required, the City would welcome the opportunity to work with staff to make sure the restroom complies with all applicable laws.

Similar to the concerns with other new vegetation CCC staff is recommending, installing a vegetation screen between the restroom and the parking lot would eliminate the ability of San Francisco police to patrol the athletic facility and create a public safety hazard.

The project applicant worked with the San Francisco Planning Department's Historic Preservation staff to reduce the size and shape of the plaza area and the City believe the proposed plaza design blends well into the site's existing topography and scale. The proposed project anticipates using colored concrete as the plaza surface.

I. Staff condition – Play and Picnic Areas

Details: Reconfigure play and picnic areas to be curvilinear and naturalistic forms conforming to the site's topography. Surface the picnic and play areas with decomposed granite.

City response: The project applicant worked with the San Francisco Planning Department's Historic Preservation staff to reconfigure the size and shape of the play area to match the site topography. Under the direction of the Historic Preservation staff, the play structure was intentionally designed using modern materials that did not obstruct the views of the field from the parking lot. In addition, the playground material/design selection was made so that the green park backdrop would show through the equipment rather than obstruct views of the trees and shrubs.

As the city does not consider decomposed granite to be disability accessible, the proposed project anticipates using colored concrete as the surface beneath the tables and barbeques in the picnic area. Using decomposed granite in the play area would create a public safety hazard and violate playground standards meant to prevent injury from falls. The proposed project anticipates using safe, rubber playground matting similar to what is installed in playgrounds throughout San Francisco.

J. Staff condition – Landscaping

a. Proposed and Augmented

Details: Augment landscaping to create a curvilinear form and help provide a natural barrier to catch wayward balls. Install new vegetation along the eastern side of the fields, between the fields and the parking lot, to visually separate the fields from the restroom/plaza, play/picnic and parking lot.

City response: These conditions have already been discussed above as impractical and would create a new public safety hazard.

b. Plan Requirements

Details: Plans shall include landscape and irrigation parameters that identify all plant materials, all irrigation systems and all proposed maintenance measures to for the site. Plant materials must be native and non-invasive.

City response: The City has already provided CCC staff with a list of maintenance requirements for the site (Attachment B) and would be happy to provide additional information.

Below is a complete plant list and count for the proposed project. Attached is the site planting plan which has also previously been offered to staff (Attachment C)

Trees

69 - Cupressus macrocarpa (Monterey Cypress)
42 – Lagunaria patersonia (Primrose Tree)
91 – Lyonothamnus floribundus (Catalina Ironwood)
28 – Melaleuca linarifolia (Flaxleaf Paperbark 'Snow in Summer'
44 – Metrosideros excelsa (Pohutukawa)
274 Total Trees

Shrubs*

2,216 - Zone A: Achillea millefolium (Yarrow)
Elymus glaucus (Blue Wildrye)
Lantana (NCN)
Sesleria autumnalis (Autumn Moor Grass)

625 - Zone B: Carex testacea (Orange Sedge)
Ceanothus thyrisflorus (Blue Blossom)
Felicia amelloides (Blue Marguerite)
Limonium perezii (Sea Lavender)

684 - Zone C: Artemisia pycnocephala (Sandhill Sage)
Lomandra longifolia 'Breeze' (Dwarf Mat Rush)
Phlomis fruticosa (Jersalem Sage)
Salvia clevelandii (Cleveland Sage)

278 - Zone D: Leucodendron salignum (Willow Cone Bush)
Muhlenbergia capillaris (Pink Muhlygrass)
Muhlenbergia rigens (Deer Grass)
Ribes sanguineum glutinosum (Pink-Flowering Currant)

55 - Zone E: Arbutus 'Marina' (Marina Strawberry Tree)
Callistemon 'Kings Park Special' (Bottlebrush)
Ceanothus 'Ray Hartman' (Mountain Lilac)
Myoporum laetum 'Clean N Green' (Thrips Resistant Coast Myoporum
Rhamnus californica (Coffeberry)

* Shrub counts based on average number of shrubs of all options listed within the amount of square footage for that specific zone being proposed within project.

Golden Gate Park gardening and maintenance staff reviewed the proposed planting plan above and requested that several native, non-invasive plants be removed from consideration due to poor site suitability. Having attempted to plant and maintain native, non-invasive plants at the site in the past, gardening staff stated that many of the native, non-invasive plants are not hardy enough to withstand the heavy public use associated with athletic fields and strongly encouraged the project applicant to instead use the more durable plant species listed above.

K. Staff condition – Signs
Details: Install signs to strengthen the visual and physical connection between the fields area and the beach.

City response: Appropriate directional, historical and informational signage is anticipated as part of the proposed athletic fields renovation.

L. Staff condition – Utilities
Details: All utilities and connections must be underground.

City response: The City would be happy to work with CCC staff and PG&E on the placement of utilities and connections.

2. Approvable Project:
CCC staff recommends special conditions that are tantamount to a project denial. As listed above, their proposed project conditions will result in a project that does not meet the project objectives of increasing playtime, will create public safety hazards, will reduce disability access and, in some cases, would result in a radical transformation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields from a barely functional athletic facility into "pastoral open space."

The City's concerns with core elements of the CCC staff's proposed "Approvable Project" are listed above. The CCC staff also includes one of the project alternatives analyzed in the project's Environmental Impact Report and suggests that the City implement the project with staff's proposed conditions (essentially replace the grass athletic fields; no artificial turf, no field lights) but also renovate the identified alternative, the West Sunset Playground athletic fields.

The West Sunset Playground alternative would not create comparable new annual playtime as renovating the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields with artificial turf and field lights.
Beach Chalet would provide 1,821 more hours of play overall than West Sunset and more importantly 2,306 more hours of play for youth.

The West Sunset Alternative would only provide more use for adults because they provide 485 more hours of play at nights. The focus of the City's multi-year athletic fields renovation program has always been to increase playtime for kids as the greatest shortfall of field availability is during the critical after school hours. There is generally an adequate supply of sports fields during the late evening adult playtimes so increasing adult play capacity has never been the city's objective.

While it may appear similar as a landscape, the West Sunset Alternative is not a comparable alternative to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project. Given the shortfall of athletic fields for all sports in San Francisco, the city has only selected projects that will increase hours of play without displacing other users.

The West Sunset Alternative creates minimal additional play without displacing longtime baseball use. Displacing baseball use is not possible and the Appellants' arguments do not recognize this. The West Sunset Lower Fields are the prime baseball fields used extensively by baseball teams in spring, summer and fall. It is one the city's few 90' high school-size baseball diamonds and is used by San Francisco Unified School District high schools in the spring and the middle schools in the fall for baseball (the public school district middle schools are forced to play baseball in the fall due to San Francisco's shortage of athletic fields).

Attached is a spreadsheet documenting the anticipated increase in play at the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation and the West Sunset Alternative (Attachment D)

The proposed Beach Chalet project generates more annual hours of play for several reasons. First, all grass athletic fields are rotated to reduce wear on the grass in areas of the field that receive heavy play, namely the goal box and center lines. Due to the facilities natural topography and rectangular shape, the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields can only be rotated by sliding the fields north/south, as shown in Attachment F. As a result, the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields also require longer rest periods than West Sunset; the Beach fields are closed every Monday and for five weeks per year to allow the grass to regrow.

By comparison, the West Sunset Soccer Fields are located in a square, rather than rectangle, facility allowing for a greater variety of field rotations, as shown in Attachment E. As a result,

the West Sunset Soccer Fields do not endure wear over as large of a field area and require less time to regrow.

In addition, renovating Beach Chalet allows for the addition of one full-sized soccer pitch (in the "resting" part of the field area) – a huge increase resulting in 3,580 hours of additional play annually.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are located near the ocean at sea level in a natural bowl and endure near constant wet, marine conditions. West Sunset is elevated on a hill and is one of the fastest fields to dry out after a storm. In fact, the West Sunset soccer fields are the first sports fields to reopen after rain, whereas Beach Chalet is always one of the last ground sports field to reopen after a rain.

The West Sunset Alternative wouldn't address the growing need for lacrosse fields. Lacrosse is the fastest growing sport in San Francisco and, like all youth ground sports in the city, is entirely constrained from growth by a lack of athletic fields. For lacrosse and soccer to share an athletic facility, there has to be safety zones between the fields. As the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields run parallel to each other, safety zones were designed between the fields to allow soccer and lacrosse play. At the West Sunset Soccer Fields, however, the back of the goals abut each other creating a situation where wayward shots-on-goal in a lacrosse game/practice would catapult onto the other field at speeds up to 80 miles per hour creating a substantial public safety hazard.

In conclusion, the CCC staff's suggested West Sunset Alternative does not increase athletic playtime by nearly as much as the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation, would install artificial turf on some of the city's best and most functional grass athletic fields, and would create a public safety hazard if the fields were used for lacrosse play, as anticipated at Beach Chalet.

3. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):
The CCC staff report mentions that the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation's Environmental Impact Report is being challenged in court. This is irrelevant and should not be taken into account when considering the appeals to the project's CDP. The project's Environmental Impact Report has been certified by San Francisco's Planning Commission and remains in effect.

Consistency with Certified Local Coastal Program

In conclusion, the project is fully consistent with the Western Shoreline Plan, which serves as the certified LCP. The following provides a detailed description of the San Francisco Planning Commission's action.

In Motion 18640 (see Attachment G), the Planning Commission made extensive findings regarding the Project's consistency with the LCP. Although the LCP contains multiple policies that the Planning Commission took into consideration, the appellants focus their current appeal on just four of those policies: **Policies 3.1, 3.2, 8.1 & 11.6**.

As explained below, the Planning Commission properly found the Project consistent with all four of these policies. More importantly, the Planning Commission found the proposed Project consistent with the Local Coastal Program, as embodied in the Western Shoreline Plan of the City's General Plan (See Motion No. 18640, page 3, Attachment G.)

Here, the Planning Commission found that the project was specifically consistent with both **Policies 3.1 Objective 3**, as well as consistent with all other policies of the Western Shoreline Plan, which comprises the City's LCP. Specifically, **Objective 3** reads: "Enhance the recreational connection between Golden Gate Park and the beach frontage." **Policy 3.1,** in turn, reads, "Strengthen the visual and physical connection between the park and beach. Emphasize the naturalistic landscape qualities of the western end of the park for visitor use. When possible eliminate the Richmond-Sunset sewer treatment facilities."

Here, the Project will maintain the visual and physical connection between Golden Gate Park and the beach. Most significantly, the Project is part of Golden Gate Park and rehabilitates the existing athletic fields. The Project does not propose a new use; rather, the Project contains improvements to existing facilities. The Project will maintain the visual and physical connection between the park and beach by retaining a landscape buffer to screen the athletic fields from the Great Highway and beach. The Project does not propose any new buildings, roads, walls, or other structures and thus does not reduce or affect visual or physical access and connection between the Park and the beach. As such, the naturalistic landscape qualities around the athletic fields and around the perimeter of the park would remain intact. Accordingly, the Local Coastal Permit for the Project is consistent with **Policy 3.1**.

Policy 3.2 reads, "Continue to implement a long-term reforestation program at the western portion of the park." Here, although the Project would remove 16 trees around the perimeter of the athletic fields, each tree would be replaced at a ratio of one-to-one or greater. This proposed tree replacement is consistent with emphasizing the natural landscape qualities of the Park and also the need for continued reforestation of the Park's aging tree population. Accordingly, the requested Local Coastal Permit for the Project is consistent with **Policy 3.2**.

Additionally, although the Planning Commission did not reference **Policies 3.3**, ("Develop and periodically revise a Master Plan for Golden Gate Park to include specific policies for the maintenance and improvement of recreational access in the western portion of the park.") and **3.4** ("Rehabilitate the Beach Chalet for increased visitor use.'), both policies provide further support for the Planning Commission's finding that the Project is consistent with the LCP. Specifically, the Project directly involves the "maintenance and improvement of recreational access in the western portion of the park" consistent with **Policy 3.3**. By rehabilitating the restrooms, improving accessibility of the pathways surrounding the athletic fields, and providing night-time lighting for the fields and parking lots, the Project improves recreational access, including playtime and safety. Likewise, by improving the existing facilities and adding lighting to the athletic fields, the Project would allow for increased visitor use consistent with **Policy 3.4**.

The Planning Commission also found the Project consistent with **Objective 11**, "Preserve the scale of residential and commercial development along the Coastal Zone area," and **Policy 11.6**, "Protect the neighborhood environment of the Richmond and Sunset residential areas from the traffic and visitor impacts from the public using adjacent recreation and open space areas." Appellants do not address this finding. Specifically, the Planning Commission found that the Project was consistent with **Policy 11.6** because impacts to traffic, public transit and pedestrian circulation would be less than significant, as described in the project's EIR. Additionally, although field lighting is proposed as part of the Project, the hours of operation for the recreation area will be the same as the existing park hours, which are 6 AM to 10 PM daily.

Finally, although the Planning Commission did not rely on this objective, the Project is consistent with the LCP because it is consistent with **Policies 2.5, 2.6, and 2.8 of Objective 2**

("Redesign the Great Highway to enhance its scenic qualities and recreational use.") Specifically, **Policy 2.5** reads: "Locate parking for users of Ocean Beach and other coastal recreational areas so that the Great Highway need not be crossed. Provide limited parking east of the highway for park use. Design parking to afford maximum protection to the dune ecosystem." **Policy 2.6** reads: "Provide permanent parking for normal use required by beach users in the Great Highway corridor (taking into account the increased accessibility by transit); provide multiple use areas which could be used for parking at peak times, but could be used for recreational uses when not needed for parking." **Policy 2.8** reads: "Enhance personal safety by lighting parking areas and pedestrian crossings." The Project is consistent with these policies because it would provide parking on the east side of the highway for park use while affording maximum projection to the dune ecosystem. Permanent parking will be provided that could be used for general recreational purposes. The Project will enhance personal safety by providing lighting in parking areas in addition to the athletic fields.

Subject to: (Select only if applicable)

☐ Affordable Housing (Sec. 415)
☐ Jobs Housing Linkage Program (Sec. 413)
☐ Downtown Park Fee (Sec. 412)
☐ First Source Hiring (Admin. Code)
☐ Child Care Requirement (Sec. 414)
☐ Other

Planning Commission Motion No. 18640

LOCAL COASTAL ZONE PERMIT

Hearing Date:	May 24, 2012
Case No.:	**2010.0016P**
Project Name:	**Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park**
Zoning:	P (Public) Zoning District OS (Open Space) Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot:	1700/001
Project Sponsor:	San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department c/o Dan Mauer 30 Van Ness Avenue, 5th floor San Francisco, CA 94102
Staff Contact:	Glenn Cabreros – (415) 558-6169 glenn.cabreros@sfgov.org

ADOPTING FINDINGS RELATING TO THE APPROVAL OF A COASTAL ZONE PERMIT APPLICATION PURSUANT TO PLANNING CODE SECTION 330 TO ALLOW RENOVATION OF THE BEACH CHALET ATHLETIC FIELDS FACILITY INCLUDING REPLACING THE EXISTING GRASS TURF FIELDS WITH SYNTHETIC TURF, INSTALLING FIELD LIGHTING, RENOVATING THE EXISTING RESTROOM BUILDING, INSTALLING PLAYER BENCHES AND SEATING, AND COMPLETING OTHER MODIFICATIONS FOR PARKING, CIRCULATION, AND SPECTATOR AMENITIES TO IMPROVE THE OVERALL CONDITIONS OF THE FACILITY AND INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF ATHLETIC PLAY TIME, WITHIN THE P (PUBLIC) ZONING DISTRICT AND THE OPEN SPACE HEIGHT AND BULK DISTRICT.

PREAMBLE

On April 4, 2012, Dan Mauer of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department (hereinafter "Project Sponsor") filed an application with the Planning Department (hereinafter "Department") for a Coastal Zone Permit under Planning Code Section 330 to allow renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields facility including replacing the existing grass turf fields with synthetic turf, installing field lighting, renovating the existing restroom building, installing player benches and seating, and completing other modifications for parking, circulation, and spectator amenities to improve the overall conditions of the facility and increase the amount of athletic play time ("Project").

On April 17, 2012, the Department mailed a letter to the California Coastal Commission (CCC) to inform the CCC that and application for a Local Coastal Zone Permit had been filed. The letter disclosed to the CCC that the Project site is not within the area appealable to the CCC.

On May 24, 2012, the Planning Commission (hereinafter "Commission") conducted a public hearing on the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Project. The Commission reviewed and considered the EIR and found the contents of said report and the procedures through which the EIR was prepared, publicized and reviewed complied with the California Quality Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code section 21000 *et seq.*) ("CEQA"), the CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Reg. section 15000 *et seq.*), and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code.

On May 24, 2012, the Commission certified the Final EIR by Motion No. 18637. Additionally, the Commission adopted approval findings, including findings rejecting alternatives, amending a mitigation measure, and making a statement of overriding considerations, and adopted a mitigation monitoring and reporting program ("MMRP") pursuant to CEQA by Motion No. 18638, which findings and MMRP are incorporated by this reference as though fully set forth herein.

On May 24, 2012, the Commission conducted a duly noticed public hearing at a regularly scheduled meeting to consider the Coastal Zone Permit, Case No. 2010.0016P. The Commission heard and considered public testimony presented at the hearing and has further considered written and oral testimony provided by Department staff and other interested parties.

On May 24, 2012, the Commission approved the Coastal Zone Permit requested in the application under Case No. 2010.0016P based to the findings below.

FINDINGS

Having reviewed the materials identified in the preamble above, and having heard all testimony and arguments, this Commission finds, concludes, and determines as follows:

1. The above recitals are accurate and constitute findings of this Commission.

2. **Site Description and Present Use.** The project site is located at the west end of Golden Gate Park, Assessor's Block 1700, Lot 001 within the P (Public) Zoning District and the Open Space Height and Bulk District. The area of the project site is bound by Great Highway to the west, John F. Kennedy Drive to the north and east and by Martin Luther King Drive to the south. The site contains existing athletic playing fields of natural turf and various park amenities associated with the fields' use, including parking, restrooms, fencing and pedestrian paths.

3. **Surrounding Properties and Neighborhood.** The neighborhoods closest to the project site are primarily residential in character and include the Outer Richmond neighborhood directly north and across Fulton Street from Golden Gate Park and the Outer Sunset neighborhood directly south and across Lincoln Way from Golden Gate Park. Directly west of the project site and across Great Highway are the Ocean Beach parking lot and Ocean Beach. The site is located southeast of the Beach Chalet, City Landmark No. 179, which includes a visitors center and restaurant

facilities. As the project site is located within Golden Gate Park, the athletic fields are not visible from the adjacent residential neighborhoods due to dense vegetation and tree canopy.

4. **Project Description.** The applicant proposes to renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields facility including replacement of the existing grass turf fields with synthetic turf, installation of field lighting, renovation of the existing restroom building, installation of benches and seating, and other modifications related to parking, circulation, and spectator amenities to improve the overall conditions of the facility and increase the amount of athletic play time.

5. **Coastal Zone.** Pursuant to Planning Code Section 330, review of a Coastal Zone Permit Application is required as the project site is within the Local Coastal Zone Boundary per City Zoning Map Sheet CZ05. The Local Coastal Zone boundary within Golden Gate Park starts at Fulton Street and 40th Avenue, curves eastwardly from the Chain of Lakes Drive and ends at Lincoln Way and 41st Avenue. The boundary for the Coastal Zone area that is appealable to the CCC is an area 300 feet wide as measured from the inland extent of Ocean Beach. The project site is not located within the Coastal Zone area that is appealable to the CCC.

6. **Public Comment**. The Department has received no comments to date regarding the Coastal Zone Permit application.

7. **Planning Code Compliance:** The Commission finds that the Project is consistent with the relevant provisions of the Planning Code in the following manner:

   A. **Coastal Zone Permit Findings.** Planning Code Section 330.5.2 states that the Planning Commission in reviewing a Coastal Zone Permit application shall adopt factual findings that the project is consistent or not consistent with the Local Coastal Program and that a Coastal Zone Permit shall be approved only upon findings of fact establishing that the Project conforms to the requirements and objectives of the San Francisco Local Coastal Program.

   The requirements and objectives of the San Francisco Local Coastal Program are established in the Western Shoreline Plan of the General Plan with specific objectives and policies related to Golden Gate Park and the Richmond and Sunset Residential Neighborhoods. See "General Plan Compliance" findings below.

8. **General Plan Compliance.** The Project is, on balance, consistent with the following Objectives and Policies of the General Plan and specifically as identified in the Western Shoreline Area Plan:

WESTERN SHORELINE AREA PLAN – GOLDEN GATE PARK

Objectives and Policies

OBJECTIVE 3:
ENHANCE THE RECREATIONAL CONNECTION BETWEEN GOLDEN GATE PARK AND THE BEACH FRONTAGE

Policy 3.1:
Strengthen the visual and physical connection between the park and beach. Emphasize the naturalistic landscape qualities of the western end of the park for visitor use. When possible eliminate the Richmond-Sunset sewer treatment facilities.

Policy 3.2:
Continue to implement a long-term reforestation program at the western portion of the park.

The rehabilitation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields does not introduce a new use into Golden Gate Park; rather the project is a renovation of the existing facilities to allow continuation of existing park amenities and uses. As such, the naturalistic landscape qualities around the athletic fields and around the perimeter of the Park would remain intact. The project does propose removal of 16 trees; however each tree removed would be replaced at a ratio of one-to-one or greater. The proposed tree replacement is consistent with emphasizing the natural landscape qualities of the Park and also the need for continued reforestation of the Park's aging tree population.

WESTERN SHORELINE AREA PLAN – RICHMOND & SUNSET RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS

Objectives and Policies

OBJECTIVE 11:
PRESERVE THE SCALE OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT ALONG THE COASTAL ZONE AREA.

Policy 11.6
Protect the neighborhood environment of the Richmond and Sunset residential areas from the traffic and visitor impacts from the public using adjacent recreation and open space areas.

The "Transportation and Circulation" section of the EIR analyzed for the project found that impacts to traffic, public transit and pedestrian circulation would be less than significant. Although field lighting is proposed as part of the project, the hours of operation for the recreation area will be the same as the existing park hours which are 6 AM to 10 PM daily.

9. **Planning Code Section 101.1(b)** establishes eight priority-planning policies and requires review of permits for consistency with said policies. On balance, the project does comply with said policies in that:

   A. That existing neighborhood-serving retail uses be preserved and enhanced and future opportunities for resident employment in and ownership of such businesses be enhanced.

      The proposal does not affect neighborhood-serving retail uses as the project is a public recreational facility within Golden Gate Park.

B. That existing housing and neighborhood character be conserved and protected in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods.

The existing neighborhood character surrounding Golden Gate Park would be conserved and protected as the project would continue to be screened from the outlying residential areas by dense vegetation.

C. That the City's supply of affordable housing be preserved and enhanced,

No housing is removed by this project.

D. That commuter traffic not impede MUNI transit service or overburden our streets or neighborhood parking.

The project proposes improvements to the existing 50-space parking lot. The new parking lot would contain 20 additional parking spaces. The amount of parking spaces is not considered excessive for the use, and the EIR for the project found the parking, vehicular and public transit impacts associated with the project to be less than significant.

E. That a diverse economic base be maintained by protecting our industrial and service sectors from displacement due to commercial office development, and that future opportunities for resident employment and ownership in these sectors be enhanced.

The project will not displace any service or industrial establishment.

F. That the City achieve the greatest possible preparedness to protect against injury and loss of life in an earthquake.

The project, particularly the building structures will be designed and constructed to conform to the structural and seismic safety requirements of the City Building Code.

G. That landmarks and historic buildings be preserved.

As identified in the project EIR, the project would cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of Golden Gate Park, an historical resource. While the project would have a significant unavoidable impact from the perspective of historic preservation, the project is a rehabilitation of an existing park amenity.

H. That our parks and open space and their access to sunlight and vistas be protected from development.

The project will have no negative impact on existing parks and open spaces and their access to sunlight and vistas. Per Section 295 of the Planning Code, pertaining to shadow studies, no building structures are proposed over 40 feet in height and therefore a shadow study is not required for the project.

10. The Project is consistent with and would promote the general and specific purposes of the Code provided under Section 101.1(b) in that, as designed, the Project would contribute to the character and stability of the neighborhood and would constitute a beneficial development.

11. The Commission hereby finds that approval of the Coastal Zone Permit would promote the health, safety and welfare of the City.

DECISION

That based upon the Record, the submissions by the Applicant, the staff of the Department and other interested parties, the oral testimony presented to this Commission at the public hearings, and all other written materials submitted by all parties, the Commission hereby **ADOPTS** the CEQA approval findings set forth in Planning Commission Motion No. 18638 including the statement of overriding considerations, **ADOPTS** the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, attached to Motion No. 18638 as Exhibit A, and **APPROVES Coastal Zone Permit Application No. 2010.0016P** in general conformance with plans on file, dated April 4, 2012, and stamped "EXHIBIT B", which is incorporated herein by reference as though fully set forth**.**

APPEAL: Pursuant to Planning Code Sections 308.2 and 330.9, any aggrieved person may appeal this Coastal Zone Permit to the Board of Appeals within fifteen (15) days after the date of this motion. For further information, please contact the Board of Appeals in person at 1650 Mission Street, 3rd Floor (Room 304) or call 575-6880.

I hereby certify that the Planning Commission ADOPTED the foregoing Motion on May 24, 2012.

Linda D. Avery
Commission Secretary

AYES: Commissioners Fong, Wu, Antonini and Borden

NAYS: Commissioner Moore

ABSENT: Commissioners Miguel and Sugaya

ADOPTED: May 24, 2012

West Sunset Soccer Fields: Sample Field Rotations

Beach Chalet Athletic Fields: Sample Field Rotations

Increase in Hours of Play Due to Field Renovation- The Critical Question

	Beach Chalet				West Sunset Upper				West Sunset Lower			
	Youth only	Adult only	Either	Total	Youth only	Adult only	Either	Total	Youth only	Adult only	Either	Total
Winter	2055	234	488	2777	1229	234	156	1619	644	293	312	1248
Fall and Spring	2090	2003	835	4928	425	1519	81	2025	0	502	122	623
Summer	1013	720	144	1877	1115	644	237	1995	0	252	0	252
Total Hours	5158	2957	1467	9582	2768	2396	474	5639	644	1046	434	2123
	54%	31%	15%		49%	42%	8%		30%	49%	20%	

	Beach Chalet				West Sunset Combined				West Sunset Instead of Beach			
	Youth only	Adult only	Either	Total	Youth only	Adult only	Either	Total	Youth only	Adult only	Either	Total
Winter	2055	234	488	2777	1872	527	468	2867	(183)	293	(20)	89
Fall and Spring	2090	2003	835	4928	425	2021	203	2648	(1665)	17	(633)	(2280)
Summer	1013	720	144	1877	1115	896	237	2247	102	176	93	370
Total Hours	5158	2957	1467	9582	3412	3443	908	7762	(1746)	485	(560)	(1821)
	59%	21%	20%		57%	26%	17%					

Summary: Impact on Changes in Hours if West Sunset Combined is done in Place of Beach. West Sunset benefits adults over kids

Total Increase in Hours:	1821 Fewer Hours Per Year Overall from West Sunset vs Beach
Hours Available For Youth:	1746 Fewer of Youth Only Hours of Play (a 31% decrease or put differently Beach gets a 45% increase over WS)
	2306 Fewer Hours of Play Available for Youth (a 30% decrease)
Hours Available For Adults:	485 More Hours for Adult resulting from West Sunset

PLANTING NOTES

1. PLANT COUNTS SHOWN ARE FOR BIDDING REFERENCE ONLY. CONTRACTOR SHALL SUPPLY ALL PLANTS REQUIRED TO FULFILL DESIGN INTENT AS SHOWN.
2. CONTRACTOR SHALL PROTECT AND MAINTAIN ALL PLANT MATERIAL FROM TIME OF DELIVERY TO TIME OF FINAL ACCEPTANCE. OWNER SHALL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOSSES DUE TO VANDALISM, THEFT OR SEVERE WEATHER.
3. CONTRACTOR SHALL PLACE PLANT MATERIALS SO THEY DO NOT INTERFERE WITH IRRIGATION SYSTEM OR INHIBIT REQUIRED COVERAGE. PLANT LOCATIONS MAY BE ADJUSTED AS LONG AS DESIGN INTENT IS NOT COMPROMISED. CONTRACTOR SHALL SET OUT PLANT MATERIAL AS PER PLAN AND RECEIVE ACCEPTANCE FROM OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE WITH RESPECT TO PLANT HEALTH AND LOCATION PRIOR TO INSTALLATION. CONTRACTOR SHALL GIVE MINIMUM 2 WORKING DAYS NOTICE FOR OBSERVATION AND SHALL HAVE ALL PLANT MATERIAL IN SPECIFIED LOCATIONS FOR REVIEW AT ONE TIME. CONTRACTOR SHALL REPLACE ANY MATERIAL AS REQUESTED BY OWNER'S REPRESENTATIVE.
4. ALL NON-TURF PLANTING AREAS SHALL RECEIVE A 3" LAYER OF BARK MULCH TOP DRESS (UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE). REFER TO SPECIFICATIONS.
5. WHEN WORK HAS TO OCCUR UNDER THE DRIPLINE OF EXISTING TREES NOT SCHEDULED FOR REMOVAL THE CONTRACTOR SHALL USE ALL POSSIBLE CARE TO AVOID INJURY TO THE TREES AND TREE ROOTS. GRADE IN LINES RADIAL TO THE EXISTING TREES RATHER THAN TANGENTIAL. ALL PARTIAL CUTS OR TEARS THROUGH ROOTS TWO INCHES IN DIAMETER AND LARGER SHALL BE CUT CLEAN. TRENCHES ADJACENT TO TREES SHALL BE FILLED WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER EXCAVATION, BUT WHERE THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, THE SIDE OF THE TRENCH ADJACENT TO THE TREE, AND ANY EXPOSED ROOTS SHALL BE KEPT SHADED AND MOIST WITH DAMPENED BURLAP OR CANVAS.
6. ALL SHRUB AND TREE AREA SHALL RECEIVE A WEED FABRIC LAYER. INSTALL WITH STAPLES, 3" OVERLAP AND COVER WITH MULCH.
7. ALL TURF, MULCH AND PLANTERS TO RECEIVE SOIL AMENDMENTS AND SOIL PREPARATION PER SPECIFICATIONS UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
8. CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE JUTE NETTING IN THE ENTIRE PLANTING AREAS. STAKE JUTE NETTING 36" ON CENTER.
9. TREES ARE LOCATED AND SPACED BASED ON AN ASSUMED ATTRITION RATE THAT WILL REQUIRE MONITORING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS PROVIDED FROM THE CITY ARBORIST AS TO WHICH TREES ARE TO BE PRUNED, RELOCATED, AND REMOVED AT INTERVALS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE CITY.

PLANTING LEGEND

SYM	QTY	SIZE	BOTANICAL/COMMON NAME	SPACING	WATER USE
TREES					
CM	69	-	CUPRESSUS MACROCARPA MONTEREY CYPRESS	20'-25' O.C.	-
LP	42	-	LAGUNARIA PATERSONIA PRIMROSE TREE	15' O.C.	-
LF	91	-	LYONOTHAMNUS FLORIBUNDUS CATALINA IRONWOOD	10'-12' O.C.	-
ML	28	-	MELALEUCA LINARIFOLIA FLAXLEAF PAPERBARK 'SNOW IN SUMMER'	15' O.C.	-
ME	44	-	METROSIDEROS EXCELSA POHUTUKAWA	15' O.C.	-
SHRUBS/GROUNDCOVER					
ZONE - A					
-	-	-	ACHILLEA MILLEFOLIUM YARROW	-	-
-	-	-	ELYMUS GLAUCUS BLUE WILDRYE	-	-
-	-	-	LANTANA NCN	-	-
-	-	-	SESLERIA AUTUMNALIS AUTUMN MOOR GRASS	-	-
ZONE - B					
-	-	-	CAREX TESTACEA ORANGE SEDGE	-	-
-	-	-	CEANOTHUS THYRSIFLORUS BLUE BLOSSOM	-	-
-	-	-	FELICIA AMELLOIDES BLUE MARGUERITE	-	-
-	-	-	LIMONIUM PEREZII SEA LAVENDER	-	-
ZONE - C					
-	-	-	ARTEMISIA PYCNOCEPHALA SANDHILL SAGE	-	-
-	-	-	LOMANDRA LONGIFOLIA 'BREEZE' DWARF MAT RUSH	-	-
-	-	-	PHLOMIS FRUTICOSA JERUSALEM SAGE	-	-
-	-	-	SALVIA CLEVELANDII CLEVELAND SAGE	-	-
ZONE - D					
-	-	-	LEUCODENDRON SALIGNUM WILLOW CONE BUSH	-	-
-	-	-	MUHLENBERGIA CAPILLARIS PINK MUHLYGRASS	-	-
-	-	-	MUHLENBERGIA RIGENS DEER GRASS	-	-
-	-	-	RIBES SANGUINEUM GLUTINOSUM PINK-FLOWERING CURRANT	-	-
LARGE SHRUBS					
ZONE - E					
-	-	-	ARBUTUS 'MARINA' MARINA STRAWBERRY TREE	-	-
-	-	-	CALLISTEMON 'KINGS PARK SPECIAL' BOTTLEBRUSH	-	-
-	-	-	CEANOTHUS RAY HARTMAN MOUNTAIN LILAC	-	-
-	-	-	MYOPORUM LAETUM 'CLEAN N' GREEN' THRIPS RESISTANT COAST MYOPORUM	-	-
-	-	-	RHAMNUS CALIFORNICA COFFEEBERRY	-	-
TURF					
			SODDED LANDSCAPE TURF, TYP.		
			SODDED ATHLETIC TURF, TYP.		

HYDROSEED WITH NATIVE GRASS MIX

STEP ONE
- 800 LBS./ACRE - 100% WOOD FIBER - CONWED OR EQUAL
- 600 LBS./ACRE - HYDROSTRAW + GUAR
- 400 LBS./ACRE - HUMATE - 60
- 1,200 LBS./ACRE - 7-3-1 BIOSOL
- 40 LBS./ACRE - NATIVE GRASS MIX
  - 10 LBS./ACRE - BROMUS CARINATUS / NATIVE CALIFORNIA BROME
  - 8 LBS./ACRE - ELYMUS GLAUCUS / BLUE WILDRYE
  - 8 LBS./ACRE - HORDEUM CALIFORNICUM / CALIFORNIA BARLEY
  - 5 LBS./ACRE - FESTUCA IDAHOENSIS / IDAHO FESCUE
  - 5 LBS./ACRE - HASSELLA PULCHRA / PURPLE NEEDLEGRASS
  - 4 LBS./ACRE - POA SECUNDA / NATIVE PINE BLUEGRASS
- 60 LBS./ACRE - AM 120 MYCORRHIZAL INOCULANT

STEP TWO
- 1,600 LBS./ACRE - 100% WOOD FIBER - CONWED OR EQUAL
- 800 LBS./ACRE - HYDROSTRAW + GUAR

NORTH

0 25' 50' 100' 150'

VERDE DESIGN
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
CIVIL ENGINEERING
SPORT PLANNING & DESIGN
2455 The Alameda
Santa Clara, CA 95050
tel: 408.985.7200
fax: 408.985.7260
www.VerdeDesigninc.com

STAMP

REGISTERED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT
MIREK BERKE
No. 4148
Signature
EXPIRATION DATE: DEC. 2013
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CONSULTANT

KEY MAP

L9.1 L9.2 L9.3 L9.4 L9.4 L9.5

SHEET TITLE

PLANTING PLAN

PROJECT NAME

BEACH CHALET IMPROVEMENTS

PROJECT ADDRESS

1500 JOHN F KENNEDY DR
SAN FRANCISCO, CA

SUBMITTAL	DATE

NO.	REVISIONS	DATE

DRAWN BY WA/MD	CHECKED BY MB
DATE ISSUED 12/12/12	SCALE AS SHOWN
PROJ. NO. 0902700-1341	36
SHEET NO. L9.0	OF SHEETS

PLANTING PLAN

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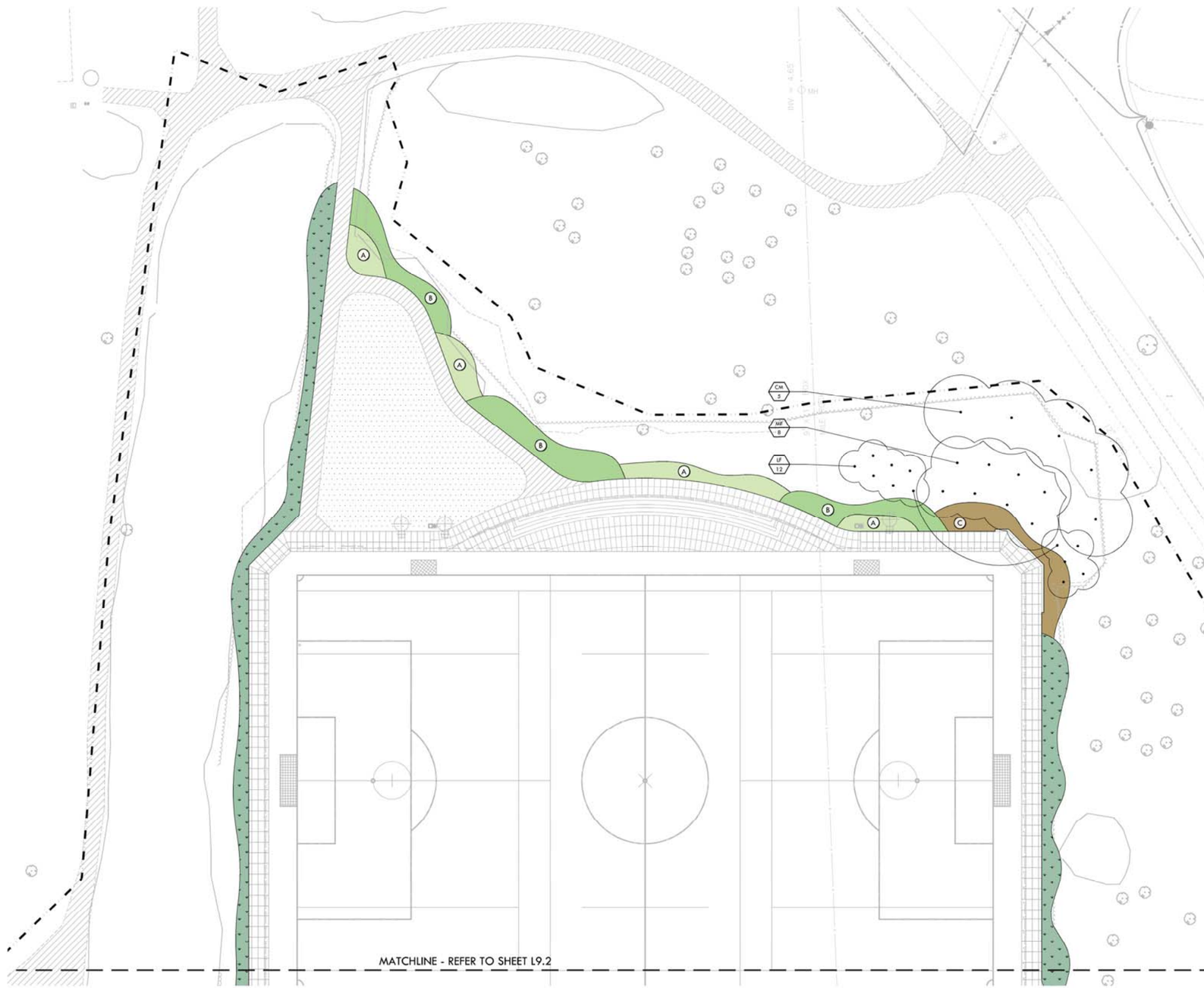
DRAWING NAME: Z:\Projects\2009\0902700-1341 - Beach Chalet\Cad\DD-Phase_PLT.dwg
PLOT DATE: 02-12-13 PLOTTED BY: stadland



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LF	91	-	LYONOTHAMNUS FLORIBUNDUS CATALINA IRONWOOD	10'-12' O.C.	-
ML	28	-	MELALEUCA LINARIFOLIA FLAXLEAF PAPERBARK 'SNOW IN SUMMER'	15' O.C.	-
ME	44	-	METROSIDEROS EXCELSA POHUTUKAWA	15' O.C.	-
SHRUBS/GROUNDCOVER					
ZONE - A					
-	-	-	ACHILLEA MILLEFOLIUM YARROW	-	-
-	-	-	ELYMUS GLAUCUS BLUE WILDRYE	-	-
-	-	-	LANTANA NCN	-	-
-	-	-	SESLERIA AUTUMNALIS AUTUMN MOOR GRASS	-	-
ZONE - B					
-	-	-	CAREX TESTACEA ORANGE SEDGE	-	-
-	-	-	CEANOTHUS THYRSIFLORUS BLUE BLOSSOM	-	-
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ZONE - C					
-	-	-	ARTEMISIA PYCNOCEPHALA SANDHILL SAGE	-	-
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ZONE - D					
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-	-	-	MUHLENBERGIA RIGENS DEER GRASS	-	-
-	-	-	RIBES SANGUINEUM GLUTINOSUM PINK-FLOWERING CURRANT	-	-
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ZONE - E					
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TURF

SODDED LANDSCAPE TURF, TYP.

SODDED ATHLETIC TURF, TYP.

HYDROSEED WITH NATIVE GRASS MIX

STEP ONE
- 800 LBS./ACRE - 100% WOOD FIBER - CONWED OR EQUAL
- 400 LBS./ACRE - HYDROSTRAW + GUAR
- 400 LBS./ACRE - HUMATE - 40
- 1,200 LBS./ACRE - 7-2-1 BIOSOL
- 40 LBS./ACRE - NATIVE GRASS MIX
  - 10 LBS./ACRE - BROMUS CARINATUS / NATIVE CALIFORNIA BROME
  - 8 LBS./ACRE - ELYMUS GLAUCUS / BLUE WILDRYE
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NORTH

0 10' 20' 40' 60'

VERDE DESIGN
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
CIVIL ENGINEERING
SPORT PLANNING & DESIGN
2455 The Alameda
Santa Clara, CA 95050
tel: 408.985.7200
fax: 408.985.7260
www.VerdeDesigninc.com

STAMP

REGISTERED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT
MIREK MIREK
No. 4148
Signature
EXPIRATION DATE: DEC. 2013
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CONSULTANT

KEY MAP

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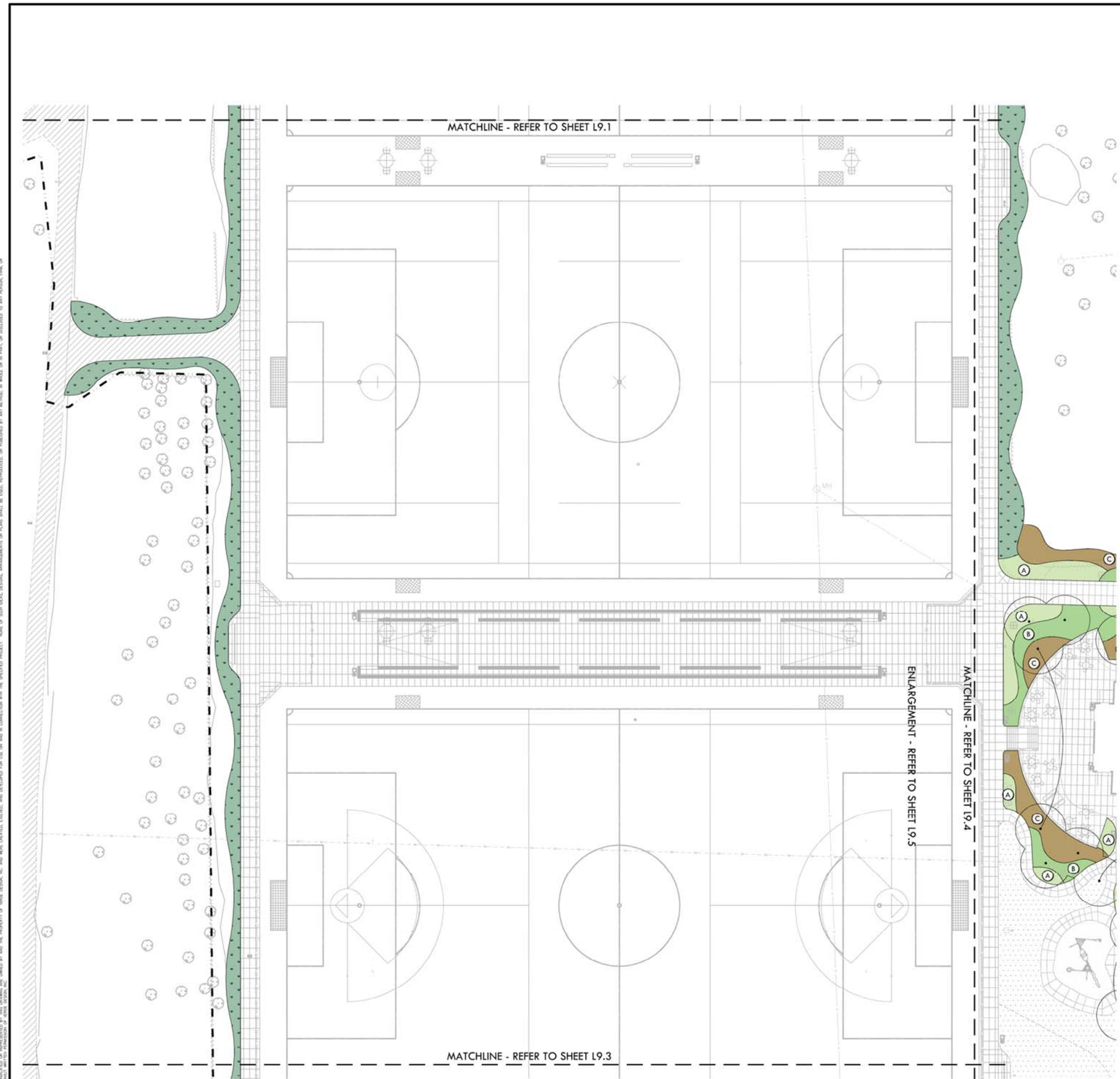

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MARK WEIER
No. 4148
Signature
EXPIRATION DATE: DEC. 2013
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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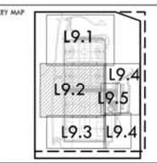
KEY MAP



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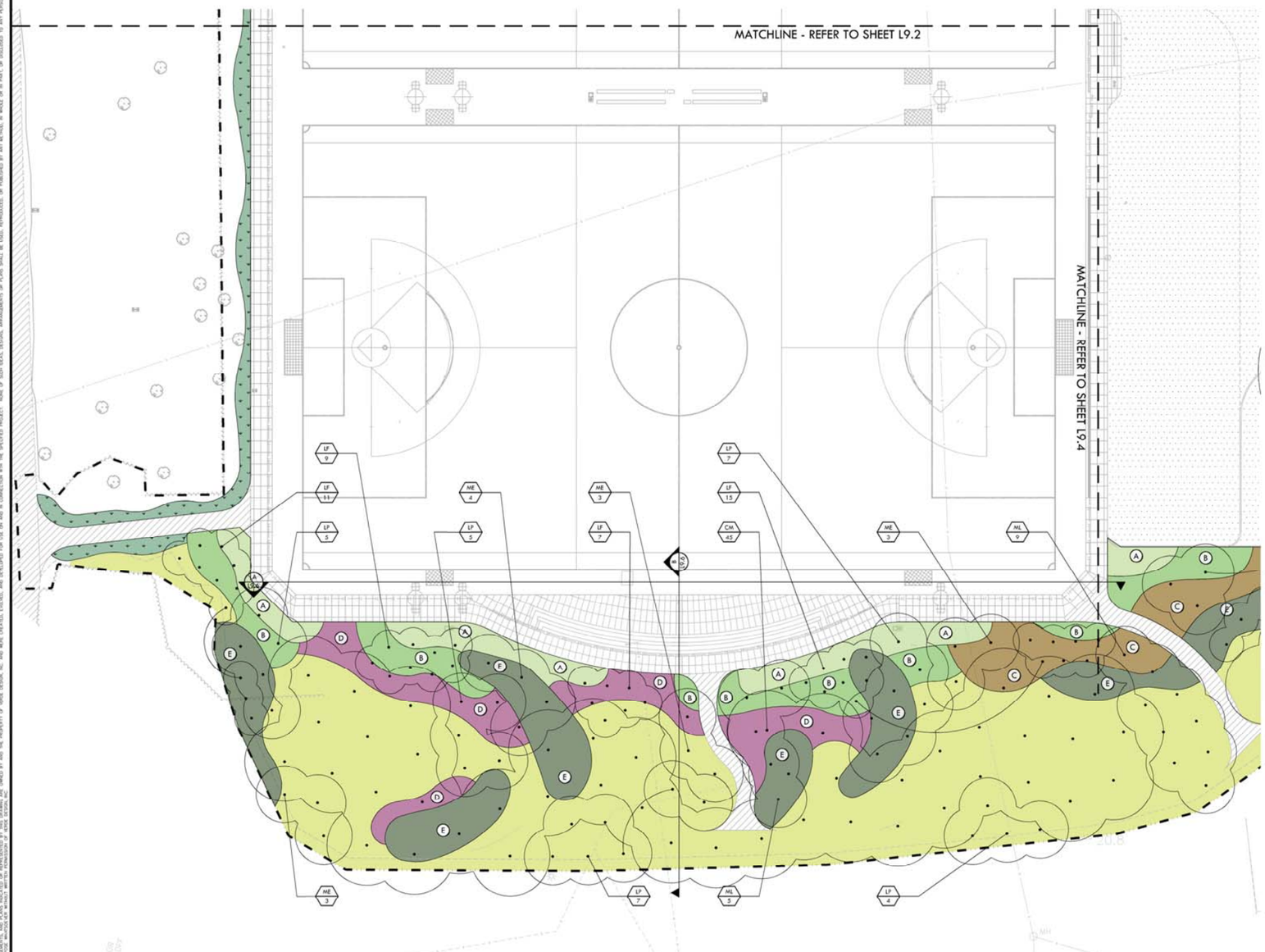

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PROJECT NAME

BEACH CHALET IMPROVEMENTS

PROJECT ADDRESS

1500 JOHN F KENNEDY DR
SAN FRANCISCO, CA

SUBMITTAL	DATE

NO.	REVISIONS	DATE

DRAWN BY WA/MD	CHECKED BY MB
DATE ISSUED 12/12/12	SCALE AS SHOWN
PROJ. NO. 0902700-1341	39
SHEET NO. L9.3	OF SHEETS

PLANTING PLAN

ALL IDEAS, DESIGNS, ARRANGEMENTS, AND PLANS INDICATED OR REPRESENTED BY THIS DRAWING ARE OWNED BY AND THE PROPERTY OF VERDE DESIGN, INC. AND WERE CREATED, EVOLVED, AND DEVELOPED FOR USE ON AND IN CONNECTION WITH THE SPECIFIED PROJECT. NONE OF SUCH IDEAS, DESIGNS, ARRANGEMENTS OR PLANS SHALL BE USED, REPRODUCED, OR PUBLISHED BY ANY PERSON, FIRM, OR CORPORATION FOR ANY PURPOSE WHATSOEVER WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION OF VERDE DESIGN, INC.

DRAWING NAME: F:\Projects\2009\0902700-1341 - Beach Chalet\Cad\20-Phase_PL1.dwg
PLOT DATE: 02-12-13 PLOTTED BY: stationd

PLANTING NOTES

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PLANTING LEGEND

SYM	QTY	SIZE	BOTANICAL/COMMON NAME	SPACING	WATER USE
TREES					
CM	69	-	CUPRESSUS MACROCARPA MONTEREY CYPRESS	20'-25' O.C.	-
LP	42	-	LAGUNARIA PATERSONIA PRIMROSE TREE	15' O.C.	-
LF	91	-	LYONOTHAMNUS FLORIBUNDUS CATALINA IRONWOOD	10'-12' O.C.	-
ML	28	-	MELALEUCA LINARIFOLIA FLAXLEAF PAPERBARK 'SNOW IN SUMMER'	15' O.C.	-
ME	44	-	METROSIDEROS EXCELSA POHUTUKAWA	15' O.C.	-
SHRUBS/GROUNDCOVER					
ZONE - A					
-	-	-	ACHILLEA MILLEFOLIUM YARROW	-	-
-	-	-	ELYMUS GLAUCUS BLUE WILDRYE	-	-
-	-	-	LANTANA NCN	-	-
-	-	-	SESLERIA AUTUMNALIS AUTUMN MOOR GRASS	-	-
ZONE - B					
-	-	-	CAREX TESTACEA ORANGE SEDGE	-	-
-	-	-	CEANOTHUS THYRSIFLORUS BLUE BLOSSOM	-	-
-	-	-	FELICIA AMELLOIDES BLUE MARGUERITE	-	-
-	-	-	LIMONIUM PEREZII SEA LAVENDER	-	-
ZONE - C					
-	-	-	ARTEMISIA PYCNOCEPHALA SANDHILL SAGE	-	-
-	-	-	LOMANDRA LONGIFOLIA 'BREEZE' DWARF MAT RUSH	-	-
-	-	-	PHLOMIS FRUTICOSA JERUSALEM SAGE	-	-
-	-	-	SALVIA CLEVELANDII CLEVELAND SAGE	-	-
ZONE - D					
-	-	-	LEUCODENDRON SALIGNUM WILLOW CONE BUSH	-	-
-	-	-	MUHLENBERGIA CAPILLARIS PINK MUHLYGRASS	-	-
-	-	-	MUHLENBERGIA RIGENS DEER GRASS	-	-
-	-	-	RIBES SANGUINEUM GLUTINOSUM PINK-FLOWERING CURRANT	-	-
LARGE SHRUBS					
ZONE - E					
-	-	-	ARBUTUS 'MARINA' MARINA STRAWBERRY TREE	-	-
-	-	-	CALLISTEMON 'KINGS PARK SPECIAL' BOTTLEBRUSH	-	-
-	-	-	CEANOTHUS RAY HARTMAN MOUNTAIN LILAC	-	-
-	-	-	MYOPORUM LAETUM 'CLEAN N' GREEN' THRIPS RESISTANT COAST MYOPORUM	-	-
-	-	-	RHAMNUS CALIFORNICA COFFEEBERRY	-	-
TURF					
			SODDED LANDSCAPE TURF, TYP.		
			SODDED ATHLETIC TURF, TYP.		

HYDROSEED WITH NATIVE GRASS MIX

STEP ONE
- 800 LBS./ACRE - 100% WOOD FIBER - CONWED OR EQUAL
- 400 LBS./ACRE - HYDROSTRAW + GUAR
- 400 LBS./ACRE - HUMATE - 40
- 1,500 LBS. ACRE - 7-2-1 BIOSOL
- 40 LBS./ACRE - NATIVE GRASS MIX
  - 10 LBS./ACRE - BROMUS CARINATUS / NATIVE CALIFORNIA BROME
  - 8 LBS./ACRE - ELYMUS GLAUCUS / BLUE WILDRYE
  - 8 LBS./ACRE - HORDEUM CALIFORNICUM / CALIFORNIA BARLEY
  - 5 LBS./ACRE - FESTUCA IDAHOENSIS / IDAHO FESCUE
  - 5 LBS./ACRE - HASSELLA PULCHRA / PURPLE NEEDLEGRASS
  - 4 LBS./ACRE - POA SECUNDA / NATIVE PINE BLUEGRASS
- 60 LBS./ACRE - AM 120 MYCORRHIZAL INOCULANT

STEP TWO
- 1,600 LBS./ACRE - 100% WOOD FIBER - CONWED OR EQUAL
- 800 LBS./ACRE - HYDROSTRAW + GUAR

NORTH

0 10' 20' 40' 60'

VERDE DESIGN
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
CIVIL ENGINEERING
SPORT PLANNING & DESIGN
2455 The Alameda
Santa Clara, CA 95050
tel: 408.985.7200
fax: 408.985.7260
www.VerdeDesigninc.com

STAMP

REGISTERED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT
MIREK MORES
No. 4148
Signature
EXPIRATION DATE: DEC. 2013
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CONSULTANT

KEY MAP

L9.1
L9.2
L9.3
L9.4
L9.4
L9.5

SHEET TITLE

PLANTING PLAN

PROJECT NAME

BEACH CHALET IMPROVEMENTS

PROJECT ADDRESS

1500 JOHN F KENNEDY DR
SAN FRANCISCO, CA

SUBMITTAL	DATE

NO.	REVISIONS	DATE

DRAWN BY: WA/MD
CHECKED BY: MB
DATE ISSUED: 12/12/12
SCALE: AS SHOWN
PROJ. NO.: 0902700-1341
SHEET NO.: L9.4 OF 40 SHEETS

PLANTING PLAN

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DRAWING NAME: R:\Projects\2009\0902700-1341 - Beach Chalet\Cad\DD-Phase1_PLT.dwg
PLOT DATE: 02-12-13 PLOTTED BY: stallard

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STAMP

REGISTERED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT
MARK BURKE
No. 4148
Signature
EXPIRATION DATE: DEC. 2013
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CONSULTANT

KEY MAP

L9.1
L9.2
L9.3
L9.4
L9.4
L9.5

SHEET TITLE

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PLOT DATE: 02-12-13 PLOTTED BY: stadland

San Francisco Recreation and Parks
Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Maintenance:
Current/Grass vs. Planned/Synthetic Turf

	Current – Grass Sports Fields	Planned – Synthetic Turf Sports Fields
Hours and Staffing		
Facility Hours	Open for reserved play only, locked if not reserved Winter: 9am – 5pm Fall/Spring: 8am – 7pm Summer: 9am – 8pm	Open all the time, no locks on gates Year-round: 8am – 10pm
Athletic Play	4,738 hours of play annually	14,320 hours of play annually
Open Play Community Hours	0	2,248 hours annually
Days of Operation	Tuesday – Sunday Closed on Monday & 4 months a year	7 days a week, 365 days a year No weekly closures
Field & Landscape Maintenance	1/2 Full Time Employee	1/2 Full Time Employee
Integrated Pest Management		
Gopher Trapping/Removal	Trap daily 60 gophers & 8 moles trapped in FY 2012-2013	Zero
Herbicide Spraying	2 x annually around fence line As needed on athletic fields 16 oz of Aquamaster Herbicide annually 1 application of Sapphire English Daisy Control in the past 5 years	Zero
Turf Maintenance		
Water Use	3-4 x weekly from April - October Est. 5,737,285 gallons per year	Zero
Fuel consumption for maintenance/gardening vehicles	105 gallons of diesel annually 50 gallons of petroleum annually	Zero
Mowing with gas powered mower	1 x 1-2 weeks Approx. 38 cuts annually	Zero
Fertilize from gas powered Toro Workman	1 x 6-8 weeks 2000 lbs granular fertilizer annually	Zero
Aeration and field rolling from diesel powered tractor	2 x annually	Zero
Seeding from gas powered Toro Workman	2 x annually 2000 lbs of perennial rye grass seed annually	Zero
Athletic Fields Striping	Weekly	Zero (synthetic turf includes permanent field striping)
Sweeping with electric Cushman	Zero	1 x 2 weeks (anticipated)
Grooming with electric Cushman	Zero	1 x 5-8 weeks (anticipated)
Repair goals, field holes and turf	As possible by staff availability	As possible by staff availability
Spot Cleaning	Zero	As needed with soap and water, no detergent

2/15/13

Beach Capacity Analysis - 3 Existing Fields and One New

Summary	EXISTING FIELDS IMPACT PER FIELD						Existing Fields Total Impact										DDITIONAL FIELD		TOTAL INCREASE	
	Hours	Hours	Increase Due To				Fields Impacted		Total Hours Added		Hours Due to No Closure		ours Due to No Ra		Hours Due to Lights		Total Hours Added		Hours	
	Current	With Turf	No Closure	No Rain	Lights	Total	Ground	Ball	Ground	Ball	Ground	Ball	Ground	Ball	Ground	Ball	Ground	Ball	Ground	Ball
Winter	184	832	109	85	455	648	3 Full	0	1945	0	327	0	254	0	1365	0	832.00	0	2,777.20	0
Fall and Spring	661	1,728	392	108	567	1,067			3200	0	1175	0	324	0	1701	0	1,728.00	0	4,928.40	0
Summer	734	1,020	118	0	168	286			857	0	353	0	0	0	504	0	1,020.00	0	1,876.80	0
Total Hours	1,579	3,580	618	193	1,190	2,001			6002	0	1855	0	578	0	3570	0	3,580.00	0	**9,582.40**	**0**

Factors & Assumptions:
1. Beach is closed 12 weeks per year from October through December and Every Monday for Maintenance
2. During school hours, field is only utilized 10% in winter and 20% in spring and fall.
3. During summer 9 to 3, fields Is utilized 80% for camps
4. Field is closed 25% in winter and 10% in fall and spring due to rain.

Detail - Current Capacity in Hours PER FIELD

		Weekends					Weekday					TOTAL
	# of weeks	Hours Open	Total Hours/Day	% available	Day Per Week	Estimated Hrs/	Hours Open	Total Hours/Day	% available	Days Per Week	Estimated Hrs/ Week	HOURS PER YEAR
Winter	9	9am to 5pm	8	75%	2	12	9 am to 3 pm	6	10%	4	2.4	
Winter							3 pm to 5 pm	2	75%	4	6	183.60
Fall and Spring	19	9am to 7pm	10	90%	2	18	9 am to 3 pm	3	20%	4	2.4	
Fall and Spring							3 pm to 7 pm	4	90%	4	14.4	661.20
Summer	12	9am to 8pm	11	100%	2	22	9 am to 3 pm	6	80%	4	19.2	
Summer							3 pm to 8 pm	5	100%	4	20	734.40
Weeks Closed	12											
TOTAL	52										TOTAL	1,579.20

Detail - Post Field Turf Capacity in Hours PER FIELD Note: Assumptions Changed Are Highlighted

	# of	Weekends					Weekday					TOTAL
	weeks	Hours Open	Total Hours/Day	% available	Day Per Week	Estimated Hrs/ Week	Hours Open	Total Hours/Day	% available	Days Per Week	Estimated Hrs/ Week	HOURS PER YEAR
Winter	13	9am to 10pm	13	100%	2	26	9 am to 3 pm	6	10%	5	3	
Winter							3 pm to 10 pm	7	100%	5	35	832.00
Fall and Spring	27	9am to 10pm	13	100%	2	26	9 am to 3 pm	3	20%	5	3	
Fall and Spring							3 pm to 10 pm	7	100%	5	35	1,728.00
Summer	12	9am to 10pm	13	100%	2	26	9 am to 3 pm	6	80%	5	24	
Summer							3 pm to 10 pm	7	100%	5	35	1,020.00
Weeks Closed	0											
TOTAL	52										TOTAL	3,580.00

FORM FOR DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

Name or description of project, LPC, etc.: **Golden Gate Park Soccer Fields Th 15c**

Date and time of receipt of communication: May 6, 2013 9:00 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.

Location of communication: Santa Barbara

Type of communication (letter, facsimile, etc.): teleconference

Person(s) initiating communication: Mark Masara for Appellant Oceans Edge

Masara stated:

The underlying proceedings were deficient, so they got experts to get balanced information. The City's approach is centered on politics and the City's version of the project. The first 4 years the City did not acknowledge that this was in the appeals zone of the coastal zone. They did not consider LCP issues. At the combined hearing of P/C and Parks and Recs Commission, the commissioners were denying that this was in the coastal zone. Masara told the B of S this was in the appeals zone. They continued to object, CCC staff then confirmed this was in the appeals zone. The EIR did not look at the coastal zone impacts. Now everyone is arguing the merits.

Appellants hired Travis Longcore, Professor at UCLA and USC, his report is attached to their briefer. Expert on consequences of night lighting. His work was instrumental in altering the lighting on the Long Beach bridge, and most recently the Malibu high school. San Francisco is proposing 10 banks of 60 ft high lights, wattage double Malibu, proposing 365 days a year. Two hundred days a year of fog, fields are in the Pacific flyway, Longcore concludes there will be devastating impacts on flyway birds and snowy plover 400 feet away. Also have a letter from ornithologist who works in the park, recognizes dozens of raptors, can't believe the city did not see any birds. They have a picture of a raptor eating a gopher on top of the soccer goal.

SF has one of the oldest, most antiquated LCPs in California, it's basically 15 pages. Staff correctly zeroes in on the physical connections between the park and the beach to emphasize the naturalistic qualities of the park. The term "naturalistic" goes all the way back to the 1860's in the history of the park. A term of art to acknowledge that before the park was built it was sand dunes, it is not a pristine environment. In the 1984 LCP Policy 3.3 says do a Master Plan. The Golden Gate Master Plan is the document that says "the integrity of the pastoral and sylvan landscape must be maintained and remain unaltered" . The Master Plan was approved in 1998, but never certified by the Commission. These have been recreational ball fields for 70 years. The City has allowed the fields to become degraded as a part of a campaign to develop toxic astro turf. They are going to create a plastic bathtub and send the chemicals to the sewage treatment plant. The sewage treatment plant is not going to remediate the heavy metals, it is going to pass them through and dump them in the ocean. Right now the fields percolate the water and it goes into the aquifer.

The entire park is 1000 acres. The City will say the fields are only 1%, why not just approve this project. The pastoral qualities become more important as you go west. Museums and bandstands are on the east

side, on the west side, its open. Three main meadows: polo fields, (various kinds of active recreation, concerts) a public golf course, and the soccer fields. All in the west 'half', the polo fields sort in the middle. Only the Beach Chalet is in the coastal zone.

Regarding the parking, the city has offered 70 spaces for 1000 spectators and hundreds of kids playing on the fields. The parking is hundreds of spaces short. Photos showing west end show hundreds of parking along the shore which is the Golden Gate National Recreation area. On sunny days and weekends every one of the beach parking lots is filled. Less than 400 ft away from the soccer fields. Everyone denies that the soccer players are going to take the beach parking. City claims that there is plenty of parking within the interior of the park. There is a subtle displacement of people wanting to visit the park for the natural amenities with catering to a narrow subset of park users. It is important to remove the chain link fence which is kept locked, the non soccer playing public cannot use that area at all.

Pointed out letter from Donaldson, former head of historic resources commission. He concludes this project will have significant irreparable impacts to the historic resources.

City says in their briefer with respect to project benefits, that this astroturf will save 5.7 million dollars annually in water. After a follow up PRA request, got e mails from Ana Alvarez, Superintendent of Parks is telling project manager that they are using the wrong information, and that it is only 1.3 million gallons of water a year. The City has not corrected its materials.

There are fields right in the neighborhood where the City is proposing natural grass restoration with no lights (the West Sunset fields) 10 acres of fields. This is being funded by the same donor family which previously had proposed a museum in the Presidio in a building which was not within the historic character of the Presidio. The park service turned them down. Here again, this would turn the character of the park on its head.

FORM FOR DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

Name or description of project, LPC, etc.: **Golden Gate Park Soccer Fields Th 15c**

Date and time of receipt of communication: May 6, 2013 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
Location of communication: Santa Barbara

Type of communication (letter, facsimile, etc.): teleconference

Person(s) initiating communication: Susan McCabe, Phil Ginsberg Director of Rec and Parks, Sara Ballard, Rec and Parks, Anne Blemker, Patrick Hannon, City Fields Foundation, funders 50/50 public private partnership

Phil: a program designed to make sure they have adequate field space for kids to play. They are about 50 fields short, have been working with City Fields to increase fields. A particular growth in girls sports, 200 new sports teams. Because of density in SF, there is no additional land. Through synthetic turf, the fields don't need to rest, are able to withstand the intensity of play. Trying to upgrade an existing soccer field that has been a soccer field, in tough condition.

If the project moves forward can add 10,000 hours of play for that field. Kids use it after school. First slot goes to 5:30, second practice slot goes to 6:30 or 7. In the fall, darkness will fall at 5:09. For a portion of the year, the second time slot that kids use is eliminated by darkness. The lights will allow kids to play the entire second slot for the entire winter season. They have about 17% of all children in SF playing soccer. Is there a way to estimate what percentage of the 10,000 added hours is for children? They said their plan is to have the lights on until 10:00 every night.

Concerns for kids in underserved communities. The core is to make sure that every kid has a chance to play. This has been thoughtfully considered. Golden Gate is 1000 acres of 4000 in City. There is something in the park system for everyone.

Patrick Hannon: their partnership started in 2006, it's a 48 million dollar project. This project is $13-14 million. They have done 14 fields in 7 different parks. They have all included astro turf or lights. One had only lights added. West Sunset is a park in their jurisdiction. That park does not yield an appropriate number of hours of play. As a part of a parks bond passed in November, some improvements will happen there. But they do not want to displace other sports there like baseball, there is also a shortage of baseball fields, to do anything at Sunset, and it does not meet the priorities they established in 2006. It is not going to yield sufficient hours to be worth the investment.

Issues raised by opponents like toxicity of astro turf : they apparently do not see a problem with it in other areas. They have a problem with this.

These fields serve 1550 kids and 600 adults every week. The fields are only open and available by reservation. There is an extremely high demand, City is 65 fields short of meeting demand. Grass fields get closed for maintenance, to re seed, mow, get fertilizer, and after a rain event. Uses 2000 pounds of fertilizer.

Closed every Monday and about 5 months closed in rotation to allow grass to grow. They are able to add one full field. The location in a bowl in a wet and soggy climate, they take the longest time to dry out.

Existing fields don't have seating, not ADA, no gathering place. Parents huddle on the sidelines. They want amenities so they linger, enjoy a day in the park, in the coastal zone. Viewing plaza, childrens restroom, disability walkways will do this. Goal of not being a commuter facility, opportunity to hang out for a while or a day.

The project will enhance the recreational connection between Golden Gate Park and the beach frontage. The project will allow for disability access around the fields, they can use these pathways to get across to the woodland, and there is a pathway in the woodland to the jogging track. Making a connection to the beach chalet restaurant. Instead of making folks get on the road to get to the beach, they are going through the park/woodland. This will encourage people from various neighborhoods to go to the beach. Kids from these other communities have never seen the beach. The Great Highway has never had pedestrian crosswalks to the beach, public works department is working on that. It is not part of the project.

Regarding the CCC staff disagreement on interpretation policy 3.1. Phil: the western end was designed to be more pastoral than east. However, the western end has always had amenities: golf course, two restaurants, senior center, equestrian center, two windmills, and historically a water treatment plant right next to the soccer fields. Adjacent to the soccer field, in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan there is discussion of taking that area, now used for illegal dumping and debris and instead of adding soccer fields called for, to do a restoration project. Its 4 acres and in the parks bond there is money set aside targeted as a habitat restoration project.

McCabe: the Master Plan was done per policy 3.3, that plan calls for enhancing recreational opportunities on the existing field. CCC staff says that this was not certified as part of the LCP. The western end is more sylvan, but this has been an active recreational area since 1933.

McCabe: Question of how the language in the uncertified Golden Gate Master Plan relates to the interpretation of the LCP. They provided the resolution of the Parks and Recs Commission. While staff found SI on Policy 3.1 , they have neglected to discuss Policy 3.3.

Phil: this site is considered a major recreation area in the Master Plan. Their position is that the Master Plan fulfills policy LCP 3.1 and 3.3. This is on appeal because it is a public works project. This is one of the first times the City has dealt with the Coastal Commission, only a sliver of the City is in the Coastal Zone.

McCabe concluded by disclosing conversation with the Chair regarding the public hearing process if there is a hearing on the Substantial Issue question.

STATE CAPITOL
ROOM 5100
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 651-4011
FAX (916) 445-4722

DISTRICT OFFICES
455 GOLDEN GATE AVE.
SUITE 14800
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102
TEL (415) 557-1300
FAX (415) 557-1252

SENATOR.LENO@SEN.CA.GOV
WWW.SENATE.CA.GOV/LENO

California State Senate

SENATOR
MARK LENO
ELEVENTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:
BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW
CHAIR
JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET
CHAIR
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
JUDICIARY
LABOR & INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

May 6, 2013

Ms. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger,

As a Senator representing the Westside of San Francisco including the area under consideration in this permit appeal, I'm writing to express my support for the proposed renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in San Francisco, and encourage you to make a "no substantial issue" determination when you consider an appeal of the project's Coastal Permit this week.

The project includes a large natural landscaping plan specifically designed to continue a long-term reforestation program around the soccer fields in the west end of the Park. More than 200 trees and 1,000 new plants will replace 14 trees and 44 bushes slated for removal. The surrounding woodlands will remain woodlands.

Additionally, most of the project site is not a natural meadow or woodland but a man-made, fenced, seeded and mowed turf grass field maintained with public dollars and open to the public for just a few hours each day. Only a portion of the turf grass is being replaced with synthetic turf to allow for more recreation on these fields at a reduced cost to tax payers. Increasing recreation on these fields will allow more kids and athletes to play, bring more visitors to the west end of the Park, and increase public safety in the area surrounding the fields.

Thank you for considering my request that you vote to make a "no substantial issue" determination when you consider the Coastal Permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation.

Sincerely,

Mark Leno

Senator, 3rd District

cc: Commissioners and Staff

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Amy Merickel <amymerickel@mac.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 8:19 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Letter of Support for Beach Chalet Field Renovation

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

The Beach Chalet Project will be a significant public good, increasing the fields' playability and safety, while more than tripling the number of hours currently available there for recreation. At a time when healthy recreation for both kids and families is lacking in San Francisco, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City's documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth.

Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow."

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
Amy Merickel, mother of 2 young soccer players
1556 Shrader Street
San Francisco, CA 94117

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Angie Jolie <ajolie@morillojolie.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 10:46 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet project - Please vote "No Substantial Issue"

May 7, 2013

Dear Commissioner,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

The Beach Chalet Project will be a significant public good, increasing the fields' access and safety, while more than tripling the number of hours currently available there for recreation. The Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City's documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth. As a parent of young children hoping to stay in the city, I see this project as an improvement in the quality of our family's life here.

Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow."

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults and families. It will be a benefit to the families of San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.
Sincerely,
Angela Jolie
464 30th Street
San Francisco, CA 94131

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Sheila Brown <SBrown@gnhllp.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 7:47 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Soccer Fields for San Francisco

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow."

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
Sheila Brown
1346 5th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Barak Jolish <bjolish@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 8:01 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: support for proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

The Beach Chalet Project will be a significant public good, increasing the fields' playability and safety, while more than tripling the number of hours currently available there for recreation. At a time when healthy recreation for both kids and families is lacking in San Francisco, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City's documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth.

Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow."

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Barak Jolish
2432 Castro St.
San Francisco, CA 94131

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Dunnigan, Brendan <bdunnigan@hksinc.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 9:36 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; Jen Kwart
Subject: Support Beach Chalet Renovation

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow."

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,

Brendan Dunnigan
132 10th Avenue
San Francisco, CA, 94118

GAVIN NEWSOM
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

April 30, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am writing to encourage a "no substantial issue" finding for the proposed renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in San Francisco.

As a staunch advocate of coastal preservation, I believe development within the Coastal Zone must be thoroughly reviewed and clearly meet the letter and intent of the governing Local Coastal Program, as is the case for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation.

San Francisco's Western Shoreline Plan has been an effective guide for coastal development and preservation in The City for the past 25 years. Combined with the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, the Western Shoreline Plan provides city officials with clear direction for how Ocean Beach, the Great Highway, and Golden Gate Park should interact for the purposes of environmental conservation, public access and recreation.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation clearly adheres to the goals and objectives of the Western Shoreline Plan. As such, the appeals of the Coastal Permit do not rise to the level of "substantial issue". I hope you will agree so this project can move forward.

Thank you for your consideration on this issue.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom
Lieutenant Governor

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 1114, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814 • PHONE (916) 445-8994

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Sullivan, Mike <michael.sullivan@pillsburylaw.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 12:49 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Please support the Beach Chalet Project

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger:

I strongly urge you to support the renovation of the Beach Chalet athletic fields in Golden Gate Park. These fields are desperately needed by families in the City, and are consistent with environmental protection of the western end of the park.

Regards,

Mike Sullivan and Paul Loeffler
59 Woodland Avenue
San Francisco

In compliance with IRS and other applicable tax practice standards, any advice in this message (including attachments) is not intended or written to be used, and it cannot be used, for the purpose of avoiding tax penalties or for the purpose of promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any tax-related matters.

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==========

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: John LeTourneau <letourneau_john@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 12:32 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

This project needs to be completed!!!... The staff report is full of inaccurate statements....if it is returned to a grass Soccer/rugby/lacrosse field it will revert to its decades old gopher invested unsafe field by the end of the year

Sent from my iPad

SAN FRANCISCO
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

11 April 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and Members of the Coastal Commission,

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, representing over 1,500 local businesses, has consistently supported the proposed renovation of Beach Chalet athletic fields, and urges you to vote "No Substantial Issue" when the project comes before the Commission.

Public space that meets the needs of the surrounding community creates a higher quality of life that attracts businesses, employees and residents. Too often, San Franciscans are forced to leave the city they love because of a lack of family-friendly public spaces and facilities. Local businesses, in turn, lose employees to firms in the East Bay, Peninsula and elsewhere. Renovating Beach Chalet fields is one measure that can be taken to help keep families in San Francisco—and to retain talent that bolsters the city's workforce and economy.

Renovating Beach Chalet fields makes sense for a number of other reasons too. By making the fields safer and more accessible to the public, the proposed renovations may attract new businesses, reduce crime and positively impact home values in the neighborhood. In addition, the renovated fields will be better equipped to host major tournaments, which will draw spectators who inject tourism dollars into the economy. All of these potential outcomes will boost the economic vitality of the Richmond district, and of the city of San Francisco more broadly.

San Francisco residents and businesses deserve to take full advantage of this vital public space. When such spaces are not used optimally, as is the case with the existing Beach Chalet fields, everyone—taxpayers, families and employers—loses. It is our sincere hope that, after reviewing all of the data, the Commission will come to the same conclusion as the San Francisco Recreation & Park Commission, Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors, and cast a vote of "No Substantial Issue."

Sincerely,

Jim Lazarus
Senior Vice President for Public Policy
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce

ASSEMBLYMEMBER PHIL TING
19TH AD
Capitol Office, Room 3173
Sacramento, CA 95814
Office: 916.319.2019 Fax: 916.319.2119

Fax

To: Mary Shallenberger

Fax: (415) 904-5400

Phone:

Re: Beach Chalet Renovation

From: Office of Assemblymember Ting

Pages(including cover): 2

Date: 5/3

CC:

☐ Urgent ☐ For Review ☐ Please Comment

☐ Please Reply ☐ Please Recycle

● Comments:

Please see attached.

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0019
(916) 319-2019
FAX (916) 319-2119

Assembly
California Legislature

PHILIP Y. TING
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, NINETEENTH DISTRICT

April 30, 2013

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger,

I'm writing to express my support for the proposed renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in San Francisco, and encourage you to make a "no substantial issue" determination when you consider an appeal of the project's Coastal Permit in May.

The project includes a large natural landscaping plan specifically designed to continue a long-term reforestation program around the soccer fields in the west end of the Park. More than 200 trees and 1,000 new plants will replace 14 trees and 44 bushes slated for removal. The surrounding woodlands will remain woodlands.

Additionally, most of the project site is not a natural meadow or woodland but a man-made, fenced, seeded and mowed turf grass field maintained with public dollars and open to the public for just a few hours each day. Only a portion of the turf grass is being replaced with synthetic turf to allow for more recreation on these fields at a reduced cost to tax payers.

Increasing recreation on these fields will allow more children and athletes to play, bring more visitors to the west end of the Park, create a safer public space by discouraging the illegal activities that have long occurred near the fields, and reduce cost to San Francisco tax payers.

I ask that you support our community and this important and beneficial project by voting for a "no substantial issue" determination when you consider the Coastal Permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation.

Thank you,

Philip Y. Ting
Assemblymember, 19th District

Printed on Recycled Paper

John Pickering
121 Lake Street
San Francisco, CA 94118

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

May 2, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to you with the hope that the commission will support the conversion of the Beach Chalet fields to turf. Both of my sons play soccer and the problems of finding space to practice and play games has plagued their teams for years. It has also been a problem for my older son's high school, with the team required to drive all the way across town to find available practice fields.

There is an enormous need for a turf field that can be used year-round. If you want to witness this yourself, go to Crocker Amazon any weekday afternoon and see how each of its many soccer fields are divided into 4 parts, so that 4 teams can practice on one field. Even with this overcrowding, there still aren't enough fields.

As a 4th generation San Franciscan, I'm sure my grandfather who was involved in the making of Golden Gate Park, would approve of this reasonable change. The park was designed to be used, not just to be admired.

Sincerely yours,

John Pickering

California Coastal Commission
725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

Re: Permit A-2-SNL-12-020

"The mission of the Coastal Commission is to:

Protect, conserve, restore, and enhance environmental and human-based resources of the California coast and ocean for environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations."

The Chalet Soccer Fields were placed by John McLaren, with approval of the Parks Commission, in 1928. In 1938 the "Chalet Field Training Quarters and Convenience Station" were added--the current restrooms. These fields are the oldest continuously active PUBLIC soccer fields in the western states. They were never a passive pastoral meadow. As with the golf course, archery range, fly casting ponds, polo fields, dressage paddocks, disc golf course, and bocce ball courts, the Chalet Fields were placed in the western end of Golden Gate Park as this is where we placed our active recreation.

Active ground sports is the historic use of this location. But with the growth of San Francisco's population and the increasing need for active recreation, the pressure on the facility resulted in dangerous conditions in the 1990's. With the level of use organic lawn was difficult and often impossible to maintain, resulting in increased leg and ankle injuries. As a youth soccer coach and later Chair of the Grounds Sports Advisory committee, I often carried a rack and shovel the Chalet Fields to try to diminish blatant hazards. I was commended by then Mayor Jordon for my efforts. But safe conditions, much less a proper surface, were not possible without limiting use significantly. No one likes a fenced facility, but fencing was the only way to prevent damage of fragile restoration efforts. This results in the fields being closed roughly 1/3 of the time.

To provide "*environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations*" the only current alternative is a synthetic surface as used on roughly half of California and San Francisco's pitches. The synthetic surface will allow the facility to remain open with no need for restoration shutdown, actually creating a pedestrian pass through for access to Ocean Beach.

"California's coastal management program is carried out through a partnership between state and local governments."

IF the Coastal Commission is to partner with local government, how can it justify reversing the decisions of every San Francisco body that have overwhelmingly approved the Chalet Fields project?

As the Chalet Fields are the established use for this location, what place does the Coastal Commission have in determining the proper maintenance for these active recreational fields? These fields are essential to the health and well being of the citizens of San Francisco. For the Commission to diminish their ability to serve our population runs contrary to your very Mission.

Respectfully,

4-30-13

Chris Duderstadt
Past Chair Ground Sports Advisory Committee
San Francisco Recreation and Parks

Past Open Space Chair
San Francisco Tomorrow

The History of the Chalet Fields

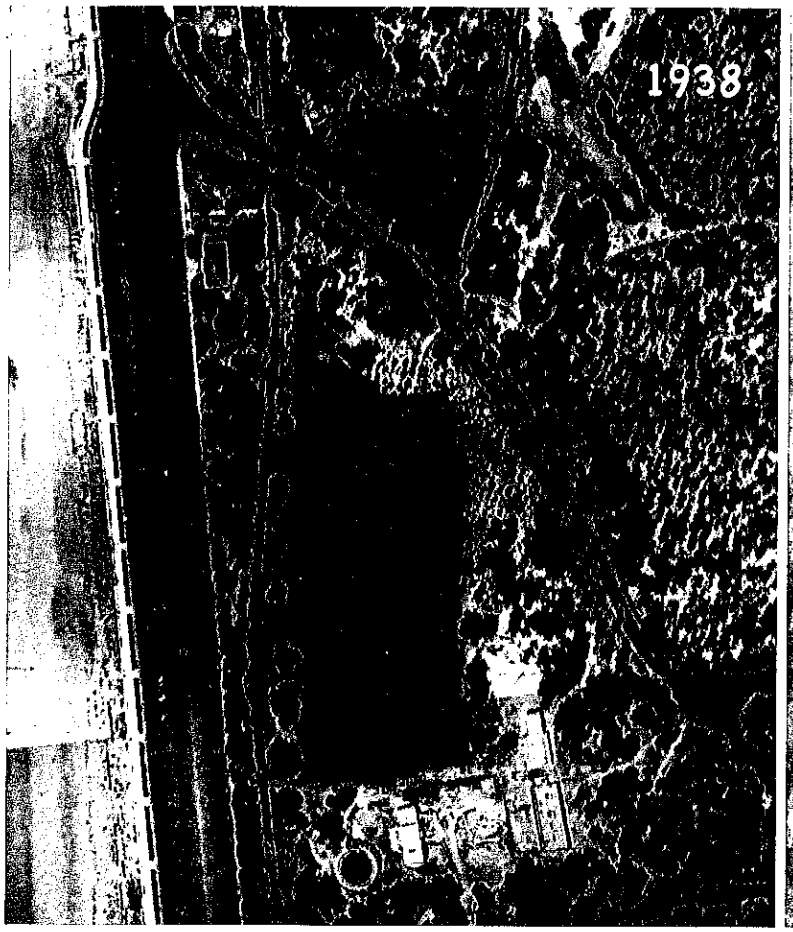
In this earliest image, taken sometime between 1910 and 1925, the area developed into the Chalet Fields was originally stabilized dunes. In keeping with the active recreational development of the western end of the Park*, the Chalet Fields were established in 1928.

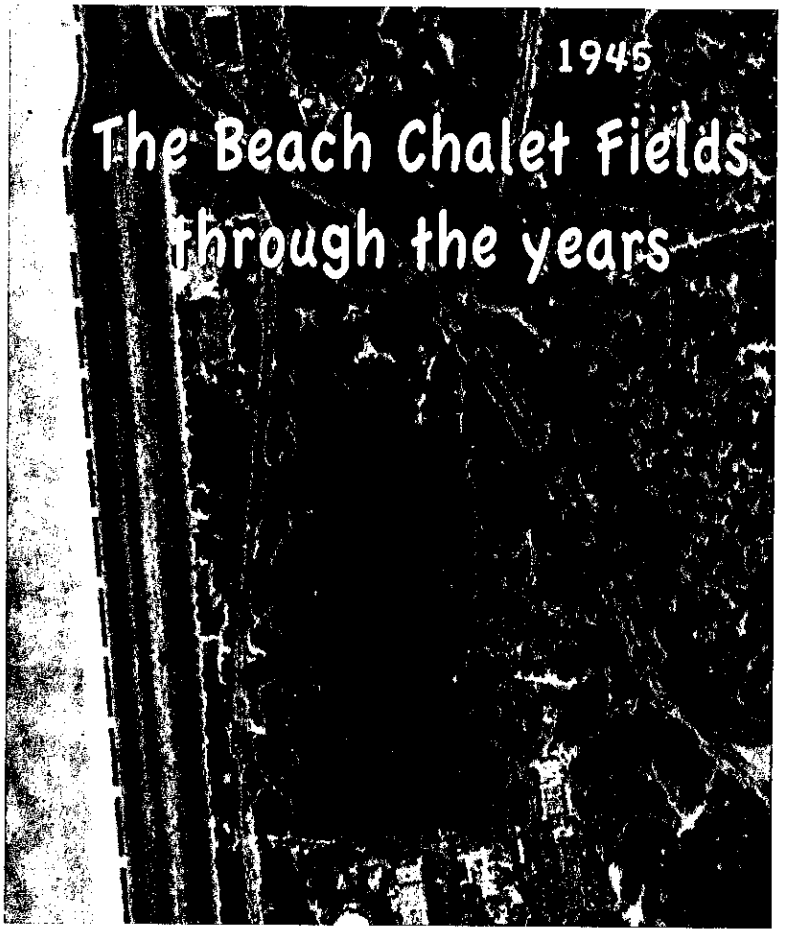
*golf course 1949, archery range 1938, fly casting ponds 1936, polo fields 1907, dressage paddocks 1939, 1980, disc golf course 2009, and bocce ball courts .

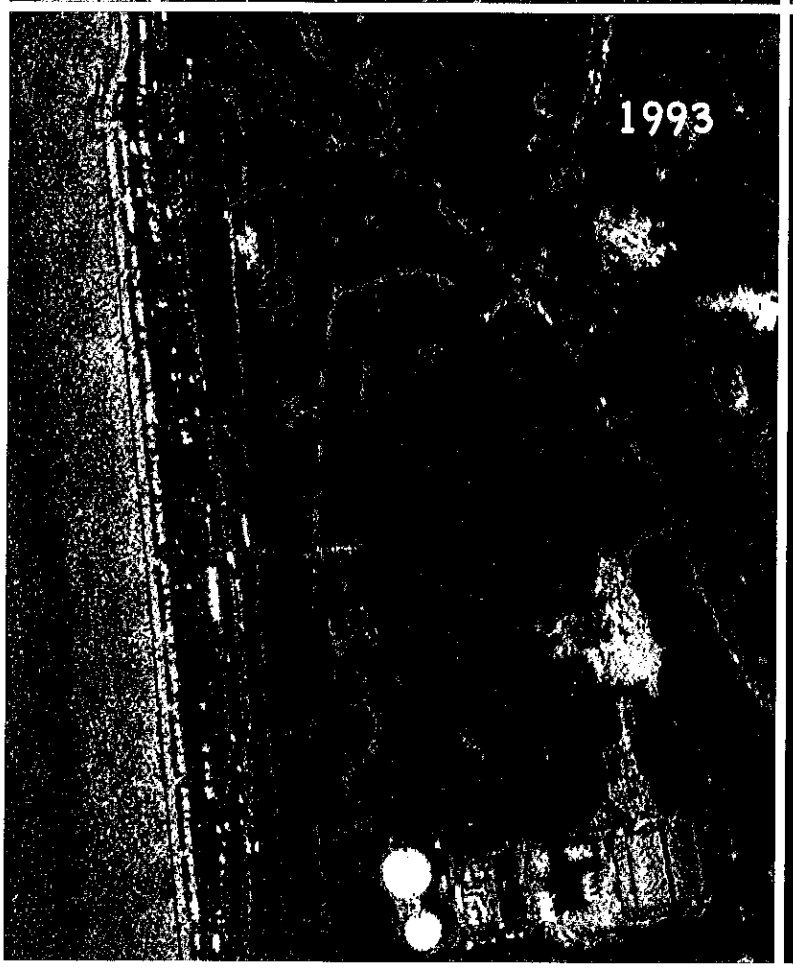
In the series of aerial images on the ***following page***, note that dating back to the 1938 image, the fields are laid out with calk lines and exhibit ware patterns consistent with active field sports.

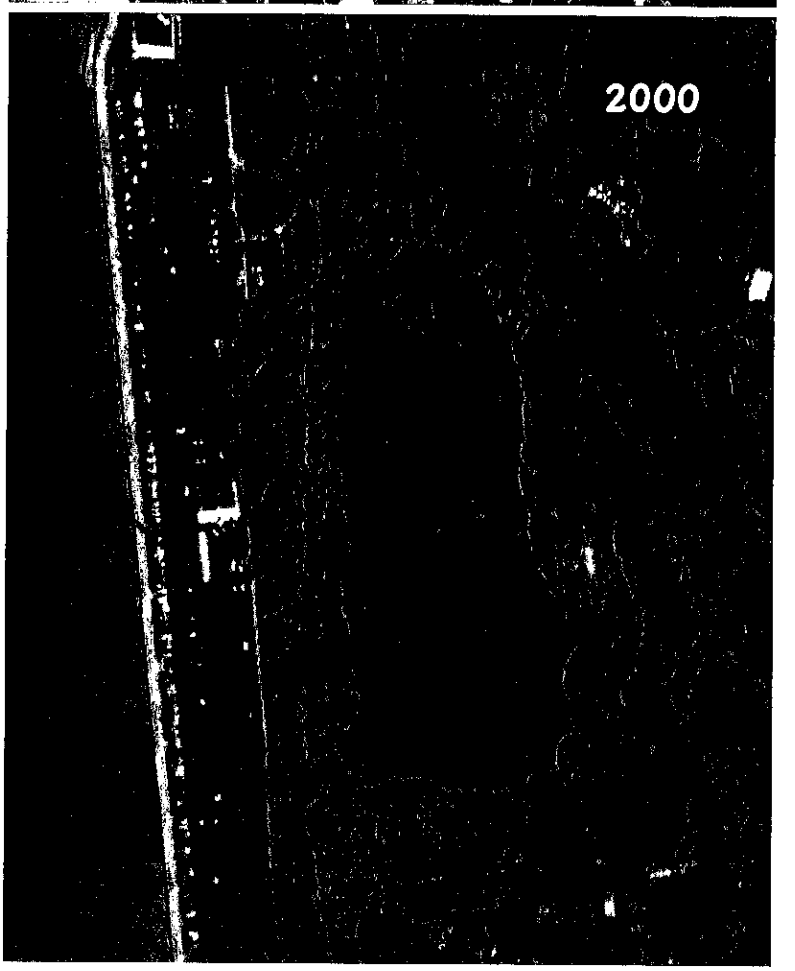
In the images on the ***second following page*** is a snap shot in time representing the pressure on the Chalet Fields for use. Since then the fields have been "restored" to organic lawn several times, only to deteriorate with heavy use.

The Beach Chalet Fields through the years









9-3-96

Twelve youth teams on three fields at Beach Chalet

Alex Goodson broke the end of his tibia, across the growth plate, when he stepped in a hole on Beach Chalet #3. He is one the first casualty of Rec and Park this season.

Staff Note: Representative email from 237 individuals

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: form_engine@www.formsite.com on behalf of raymondshop@comcast.net <form_engine@www.formsite.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2013 11:26 AM
To: City Fields Foundation
Subject: Postcard to Coastal Commission

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I cannot attend the Appeal Hearing in early May on the Beach Chalet Renovation Project, so I am writing to voice my support of the project.

San Francisco needs these fields renovated. Please help our kids remain safe, healthy and happy by voting "no substantial issue" on this appeal.

-: Raymond Williamson
-: 80 Rossmoor Drive
-: San Francisco, CA 94132

Alan Magary
1440-16th Avenue
San Francisco CA 94122
415-661-0537
al@magary.com

RECEIVED
APR 30 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

April 26, 2013

California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street
Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

re **Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020 (San Francisco Recreation and Park Department,** San Francisco Co.) Appeal...[of] decision granting permit with conditions to San Francisco Recreation and Park Department to renovate existing athletic fields in Golden Gate Park with synthetic turf, lighting, seating, and other facility improvements...

I live in the Inner Sunset two blocks from Golden Gate Park. My two daughters often played Viking youth league soccer at the Beach Chalet pitches, and the family often bicycles in the park these days, so I am familiar with the area. I want to support the SF Rec & Park proposals to renovate the Beach Chalet fields. Although I am a traditional SF environmentalist, I think the opposition to the renovation is irrational and even hysterical.

SF *needs* athletic and other recreational facilities, particularly for its relatively small population of young people. Many facilities *should* be in Golden Gate Park and are appropriate even in the coastal zone. One objection to the renovation is to the artificial turf. Certainly it would be better to have real grass, but Rec & Park can more easily maintain the artificial turf. Parking, bleachers, sidewalks--all these are necessary for public access and convenience.

I was editor of the Coastal Plan (1976) but until now have never participated in the permit process. In this case I feel strongly that the local development is justified and opposition is not, except for useful environmental mitigation.

Sincerely,

Alan Magary

cc: SF Rec & Park

April 23, 2013

RECEIVED
MAY 01 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

My name is Jeremy Sasson and I am one of the thousands of adult athletes who play sports in San Francisco and support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields. Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

I have played soccer every year since I was six years old (I'm now 24). I grew up in the East Bay, where fields were always readily accessible to play on. I love living in San Francisco, but since moving here, it's become significantly more difficult to find places to play. It's not uncommon for my adult soccer team to cancel practice on a given week simply because all the fields in the city have been completely booked.

The Beach Chalet Fields are in such terrible condition that I haven't even had the chance to play on them since I moved here. From what I hear they are often closed and while open are filled with holes, something that can result in a career-ending injury for an adult athlete. Renovating the fields would both remove this risk of injuring athletes and free up field space to let everyone play when they desire.

The time to fix the Beach Chalet Fields is now. Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward.

Thanks,

Jeremy Sasson
Kezar FC
San Francisco

#Th 15c

RECEIVED

MAY 01 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 21, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

My name is Kim Freudenberg and I am the parent two boys, ages 8 and 10, who play soccer in San Francisco. We live in the Outer Sunset district of San Francisco. I am writing in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project and ask that you cast a "No Substantial Issue" vote when you consider the Coastal Permit Appeal for the project.

My children love playing soccer. I have seen them grow so much as players and as team members during the years they have been playing. They are able to get exercise, learn from caring adults, and make friends through the game.

The process to approve this field renovation has been ridiculous. Our children need a safe place to play soccer in the western part of the city. The current fields have too many gopher holes and are closed too often for the grass to rest or because of rain (even when that rain was days ago). My children and I have attended and spoken at every hearing at San Francisco City Hall regarding this project, often times waiting hours for our chance to speak and keeping the kids up way past their bedtime. The opponents of this project are people who I would bet have never even set foot near the Beach Chalet fields. Why would they? These are soccer fields already - not a gorgeous grassy picnicking area. There are plenty of other places to enjoy relaxing in Golden Gate Park. Our kids deserve a place where they can get out in the fresh air and kick the ball around! Renovating this field will add 9000 hours of playing time - not just for organized games and practices, but for my husband to take the boys out to play on the weekend. South Sunset, our closest turf field, is packed with people all weekend. It would be amazing to have another set of fields to choose from!

I have heard all of the arguments - hours of them - against this project. Field lights - what about the streetlights already up and down the Great Highway? Artificial turf - sure, I would love plush grassy fields too, but we live in the foggy sand dunes out here and it is too difficult to keep grass alive, wasting resources and time the kids could have been playing there. Also, turf is a more even surface for less injuries. And it is absolutely not taking away anything from anyone who wants to enjoy nature in the Park. I guarantee you no one goes to the Beach Chalet fields for anything but soccer. It is not a gorgeous meadow where people relax and picnic. A better complex with lighting would also make this area safer, as there are activities going on in the surrounding areas to which we would not want our kids exposed.

Please cast a "No Substantial Issue" vote when considering the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

I am hoping to make the hearing in person, but if it is during the school day, I have volunteer commitments at my sons' school that will prevent me from attending. But please I urge you to do the right thing for our kids.

Sincerely,
Kim Freudenberg
U11 Glens Red and U8 Glens Champions
Sunset District, San Francisco

#Th 15c

April 28, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

My name is Karl and I play on one of the San Francisco's youth soccer teams, the Glens Champions.

Soccer is cool and gives fun exercise. I also like it because I get to run and score goals. It is also my favorite sport.

Sometimes the fields are closed because too much people were using it and I went to Beach Chalet and it was closed because it rained like 3 weeks ago. I want to change it to turf so I can play on it.

The hearings were so long, so please can we get this over with? It is not a meadow, it is a soccer field. Please can we lay turf on it?

Thanks so much,

Karl Freudenberg
Age 8
Glens Champions, San Francisco

RECEIVED
MAY 01 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

#Th15c

April 28, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

My name is Kurt and I play on one of the San Francisco's youth soccer teams, the Glens Red.

Soccer is a fun game where you use your feet. I like soccer because it gives you exercise and it is fun to kick the ball and pass, and score goals. I like winning soccer games and talking to my friends. I felt proud of myself when my coach sent an email giving me a good compliment.

Usually every Sunday I want to go play soccer but some places I can't play at because they are closed from rainy weather and re-growing the grass. Sometimes when I go to South Sunset it's too crowded on the nice turf. It is too holey at Beach Chalet and kids can fall and hurt their backs, like I did.

We went to two hearings to try and get turf at Beach Chalet. The hearings were very long and boring, but I stayed because I wanted to participate in getting turf. I want turf because it is safer for kids to play on. The soccer field right now is not a meadow. Can we please just get turf?

Thanks so much,

Kurt Freudenberg
Age 10
Glens Red, San Francisco

RECEIVED
MAY 01 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

I want to play at a
safe field at the Beach
Chalet and not be rained
out all the TIME.

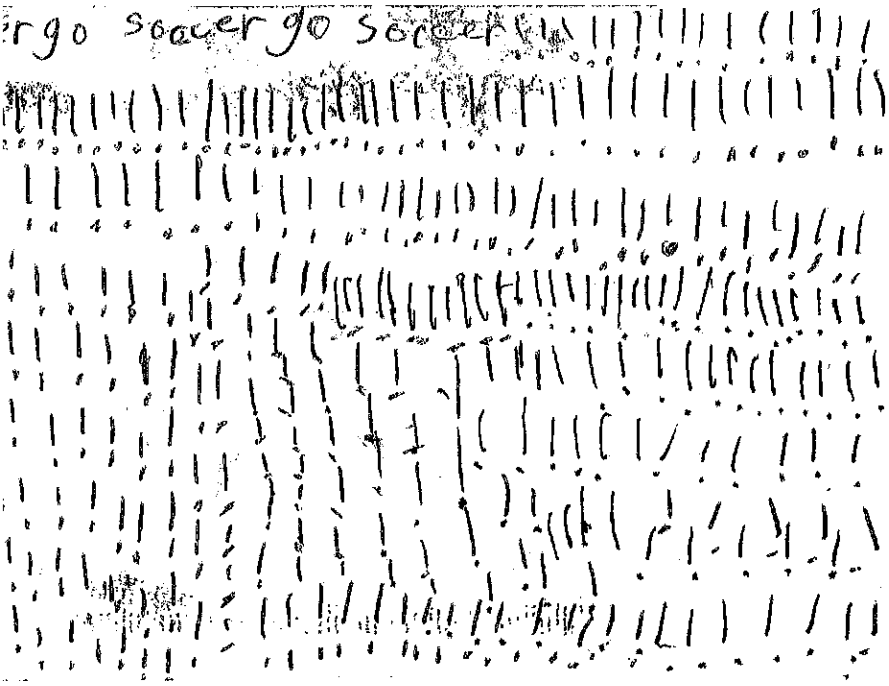
Finn Conway
age 13

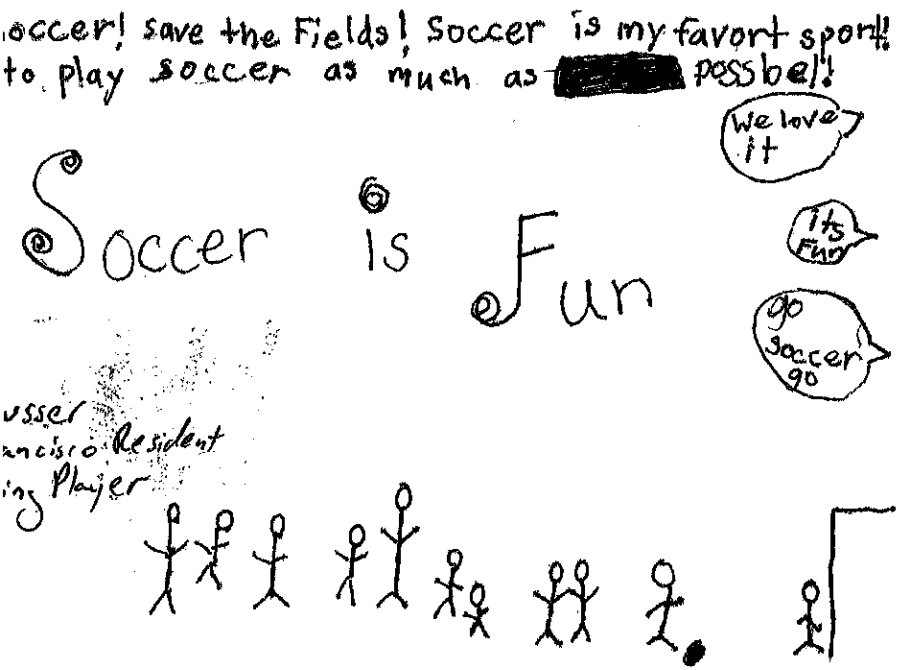
PLEASE APPROVE THE
BEACH CHALET FIELDS
PROJECT FOR OUR
KIDS

DAGMAR DALEY
100 FAIR OAKS
SF CA 94110

Help make San Francisco
livable & fun for its kids!!
This renovation will be good
for everyone and not adversely impact
the environment.
Please Vote Yes.

Rebecca Susser
SF Resident

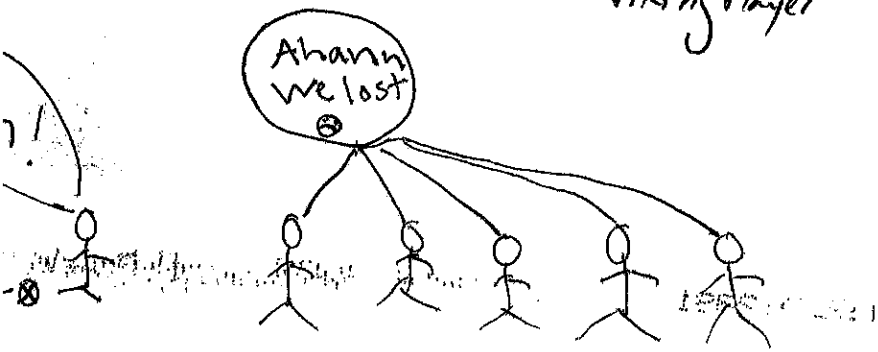

rgo soacer go soccer


occer! save the Fields! Soccer is my favort sport!
to play soccer as much as [redacted] possbel!
We love it
Soccer is Fun
its Fun
go soccer go
usser
ancisco Resident
ing Player

Soccer is awesome
We need more fields

(please!)

Viking Player



From:	John Fisher
To:	CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject:	Turf Fields at Beach Chalet
Date:	Friday, May 03, 2013 7:43:51 AM

It makes no sense to replace the Beach Chalet soccer fields with anything but turf. The City cannot take care of these highly used fields which is why they have potholes and are dangerous for the ankles and legs or the athletes who use them. Add to that the fact that turf fields save lots of water since they do not need to be irrigated, and this is a huge win for the families of San Francisco. That is why the decision to install turf has been overwhelmingly approved by every SF governmental agency that has voted and reviewed this. I was in attendance at one of those meetings and it was exciting and inspiring to see the young kids and their parents and coaches and adults from very diverse backgrounds and neighborhoods all over the city speaking on behalf of their park and their fields. Please do not take this away from them.

John Fisher
San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO
Parks Alliance

P.O. Box 170160
San Francisco, CA 94117-0160
415.621.3260
www.sfparksalliance.org

May 3, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) lends its strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourages the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

SFPA believes the Beach Chalet Project will be a significant public good, increasing the fields' playability and safety, while more than tripling the number of hours currently available there for recreation. At a time when healthy recreation for both kids and families is becoming increasingly important, yet simultaneously San Francisco kids are regularly turned away from recreation for lack of playfields, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City's documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth.

SFPA finds the continued use of Beach Chalet as an athletic playfield consistent with its historical use over the last 80 years, and consistent with the Golden Gate Park Master Plan's designation of the Beach Chalet site as a "Major Recreation Area."

SFPA considers the Beach Chalet Soccer Project both unique and complex because of its location in Golden Gate Park, and its proximity to Ocean Beach. Although constituting only seven of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres- less than 1% - replacing grass with synthetic turf and installing lighting at Beach Chalet is something that should be, and has been, considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report.

We note that the City has adopted synthetic turf standards that require turf vendors to provide detailed end-of-life recycling plans for synthetic turf. We also note the EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow." Both of these observations were key contributors to SFPA's support.

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky." SFPA recognizes the value of dark nighttime skies for this area of the City, and we believe every effort has been made to mitigate lighting impacts. Because weather conditions may provide additional variables, SFPA encouraged the City to monitor the lighting systems at Beach Chalet Soccer Fields once they are installed, consistent with recommendations made by the National Park Service, and report findings back to the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Commission. Our Board of Supervisors adopted this recommendation.

The new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. We strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,

Matthew O'Grady
Executive Director

Cc: Phil Ginsburg, Recreation and Parks Department General Manager
Patrick Hannan, City Fields Foundation
Rosemary Cameron, SFPA Board President

From: Cole Rathje
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: I support Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project
Date: Sunday, May 05, 2013 9:04:47 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

The Beach Chalet Project will be a significant public good, increasing the fields' playability and safety, while more than tripling the number of hours currently available there for recreation. At a time when healthy recreation for both kids and families is lacking in San Francisco, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City's documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth.

Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow."

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
Cole Rathje
2551 14th Ave
San Francisco, CA 94127

From:	Joel Streicker
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	Beach Chalet Project
Date:	Sunday, May 05, 2013 9:14:51 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger:

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **It will also help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Thank you for considering my viewpoint.

Sincerely,

Joel Streicker

4256 22nd St.

San Francisco, CA 94114

From: Claudine Ryan
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Field Renovation
Date: Sunday, May 05, 2013 9:26:16 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am a parent of three soccer-loving boys who practice and play at Beach Chalet fields, strongly support this renovation, have represented their teams and spoken on behalf of the project, and are distraught that it continues to be held up due the voices of a few, despite comprehensive research supporting this project and support from so many. At this point, it is hard to explain to my kids that this is the way the political system should work.

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
Claudine Ryan
21 Jersey St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

From: Juliette Hirt
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Please support the Beach Chalet soccer field project
Date: Sunday, May 05, 2013 9:28:02 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,

Juliette Hirt
4256 22nd Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

From:	kathy sabatino
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject:	Beach Chalet Soccer Fields
Date:	Sunday, May 05, 2013 9:36:13 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
Kathy Sabatino
95 Andover Street
SF, CA 94110

From: Esther San Miguel
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Date: Sunday, May 05, 2013 9:58:26 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
Esther San Miguel
2246 47th AVE
San Francisco, CA 94116

From:	Kane, Larry
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	"sarah.ballard@sfgov.org"; "jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org"
Subject:	Beach Chalet Athletic Fields
Date:	Sunday, May 05, 2013 10:47:07 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger:

As a parent of 3 young girls in San Francisco, the wrestling coach for over 20 years at Galileo Academy of Science and long time active user of Golden Gate Park, I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,

Larry Kane
4348 24th Street
San Francisco, CA
94114

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From: Jessica Closson
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: In support of the Beach Chalet Project in San Francisco
Date: Sunday, May 05, 2013 11:22:14 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

The Beach Chalet Project will be a significant public good, increasing the fields' playability and safety, while more than tripling the number of hours currently available at this location for recreation. At a time when healthy recreation for both kids and families is lacking in San Francisco, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City's documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth.

Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow."

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,

Jessica Closson
4037 23rd St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

From:	Kate Sherwood
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	Letter of Support For Beach Chalet Field Renovation
Date:	Sunday, May 05, 2013 11:32:11 PM

Dear Kevin,
Please see that this gets to Commissioner Shallenberger - thank you!

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) and The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **It will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
Katherine R. (Kate) Sherwood
1157 Dolores St.
San Francisco, CA 94110

From:	Julie Jackson
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org; sarah.ballard@sfgov.org
Subject:	Beach Chalet soccer field support
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 12:24:09 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Sincerely,
Julie Jackson
Mom to Jasper, 12, & Shelby, 8
890 Carolina Street
San Francisco, CA 94107
415-647-7471

From: Rene Bihan
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 6:58:22 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

As a registered Landscape Architect, Board member of the Cultural Landscape Foundation, and proud San Francisco parent I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

René Bihan
Managing Principal

SWA Group
301 Battery Street
2 Mezzanine North
San Francisco, CA 94111
+1-415-836-8770 office
+1-415-293-1516 direct
+1-415-836-8771 fax
www.swagroup.com

From: Éric LEPETIT
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: SF need more play fields for our kids.
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 7:06:52 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Eric

From: Albert Ko
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject: Soccer Fields
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 7:12:13 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Sincerely,

Albert Ko
Richmond District Resident and Father of Four

From: naomi weinstein
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: SF needs these soccer fields!
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 7:21:26 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Thank you.

Naomi Weinstein
(mom of three grown kids who played soccer in SF)

From: Cece Kaufman Himelstein
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject: Yes! Beach Chalet Athletic Field
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 8:13:05 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

As a mother of two active city kids , I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Cece Kaufman
336 Avila St.
SF, CA 94123

From:	Carl Bettag
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject:	Beach Chalet soccer fields
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 8:20:52 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
Carl Bettag

722 Diamond Street

San Francisco, CA 94114

From:	Shaban Shakoori
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	Beach Chalet Fields
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 8:22:37 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
Shaban Shakoori
50 Rossmoor Drive
San Francisco, CA 94132

Shaban Shakoori
Broker, Attorney* & Top Producer in Coldwell Banker's #1 Office
San Francisco 415.229.1313 | Peninsula 650.558.4223

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http://www.residentialsf.com
http://www.facebook.com/residentialsf
https://twitter.com/#!/residentialsf
http://www.linkedin.com/in/shabans
DRE No. 01448689 *Inactive

From: Limkin, Anna
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Action: Beach Chalet Field Renovation
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 8:33:13 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

Our family, friends and colleagues are in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending our strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project.

We believe the Commission should vote “No Substantial Issue” on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide generations of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **It will help RETAIN families in San Francisco and keep this a balanced city.** We strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

At a time when healthy recreation for both kids and families is lacking in San Francisco, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City’s documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth.

Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park’s 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR’s finding that “with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow.”

In addition, the EIR asserts that the “proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site’s boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky.”

The historical opportunity to do the right thing for this city, for our city’s children (and their health!) is in your hands.

Thank you,

Anna Limkin & Fabien Lannoye

Anna Limkin, EDAC
Senior Design Architect

901 Market Street
San Francisco CA 94103
Direct Line (415) 241-4421 On Site
Ph: (415) 281-5549
stantec.com

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From:	Tim Colen
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	Phil Ginsburg; sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; Jen Kwart
Subject:	SUPPORT City Fields at Beach Chalet!!!
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 8:33:46 AM
Attachments:	SFHAC_5000_logo.pdf

Dear Mr. Kahn and Members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of San Franciscans who support the renovation of the Beach Chalet fields and urge the Commission to consider that they have been used as playing fields for over 70 years. I played in City soccer leagues there 40 years ago. These fields were in poor condition then and they are in even worse condition now. Our son is heavily involved in youth sports and it is universally true that young athletes prefer artificial fields to all but the very best and most restricted grass fields. Public testimony from the many dozens of young athletes who spoke at the hearings in San Francisco confirms this.

The City Fields proposal would bring the reality of excellent playing fields to thousands of athletes who do not have access to this simple benefit. Disapproving this project would assure that Beach Chalet will perpetuate its failure in providing quality recreational opportunity to young athletes. The grass fields simply cannot accommodate the demand.

As a dense city, San Francisco does **not** do a good job of providing athletic playing fields. It is an area in which the suburbs have an enormous advantage over our City and another factor in the vexing issue of our attracting and retaining families with children.

The Coastal Commission's staff is mistaken in calling this a "pastoral area." The Beach Chalet area is no more "natural" than the adjacent residential neighborhoods. It is a very pleasant artificial environment that replaced what was originally there – beach dunes. I think our friends who oppose the City Fields project misconstrue what city parks are intended for.

I respectfully urge the Coastal Commission to respect the votes to support made by every public body that has addressed Beach Chalet. This includes five City commissions and our Board of Supervisors. After all this, it would be undemocratic and unfair to ignore the lengthy and extensive public process that has gotten us to this moment.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us get on with fixing these fields!

Sincerely, Tim Colen

Tim Colen, Executive Director
San Francisco Housing Action Coalition
95 Brady Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
Office: (415) 541-9001
Cell: (415) 601-1709
www.sfhac.org

"The SF Housing Action Coalition advocates for the creation of well-designed, well-located housing, at ALL levels of affordability, to meet the needs of San Franciscans, present and future."

From:	Bill Jackson
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	Writing in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 8:35:14 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger:

I am a parent of children who play soccer in the City and am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote “No Substantial Issue” on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,

Bill Jackson
3749 22nd St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

From:	Brian Elliott
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	Supporting the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 8:40:56 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

As a San Francisco resident, I am writing to express my support for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project, adding my voice to organizations like San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) and the San Francisco Parent Political Action This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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I strongly support the Beach Chalet Renovation Project, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

best,

Brian Elliott
435 Clipper Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
--

Brian Elliott
brianpelliott@gmail.com
(415) 269-9926

From:	Lauren Brody
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	Beach Chalet Soccer Project
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 8:43:07 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Lauren Brody

From: Edmund Sarraille
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Kids Soccer Field
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 8:46:56 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote “No Substantial Issue” on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

--
E.J. Sarraille
415-430-7901

From:	Peter Curley
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject:	Beach Chalet Soccer
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 8:47:08 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

--

Peter Curley
Voice: 415-513-8950
www.linkedin.com/in/petercurley

From: David Scott
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Support for Beach Chalet soccer field project
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 8:50:32 AM

Mr Kahn:

I *support* the San Francisco Department of Park and Recreation in its project to install an artificial turf soccer field on the site of the existing Beach Chalet soccer field. I have been to the existing soccer field and find its condition appalling. It currently does not serve the needs of the community. Please consider the following:

- The proposed new soccer field is *not* directly on the coast, but is set back several hundred feet. Between the soccer field and the existing beach are a man-made concrete break wall and a heavily used, six lane highway, in addition to the Beach Chalet itself. No one is proposing getting rid of these.
- Many of the most popular and most heavily used facilities in Golden Gate park are man made.
- The existing soccer field is constantly torn up by use. The only way to prevent this is to ban soccer, which would simply not serve the needs of the community.
- There is a huge demand for soccer facilities in San Francisco. The existing field is very heavily used, which is in fact the problem.
- There is now a large, ugly maintenance facility directly attached to the soccer field which no one is complaining about.

I find the complaints against the proposed artificial turf field to be well-intentioned, but misplaced and misguided. I hope that the Coastal Commission will approve this project and allow the city to move forward with this worthwhile project.

David Scott
353 Guerrero St
San Francisco, CA 94103
415-522-1694

From: Limkin, Anna
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Urgent: SF Beach Chalet Field Renovation
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 8:51:00 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

Our family, friends and colleagues are in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending our strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project.

We believe the Commission should vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide generations of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **It will help RETAIN families in San Francisco and keep this a balanced city.** We strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

At a time when healthy recreation for both kids and families is lacking in San Francisco, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City's documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth.

Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow."

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

The historical opportunity to do the right thing for this city, for our city's children (and their health!) is in your hands.

Thank you very much,

Anna Limkin & Fabien Lannoye

Anna Limkin, EDAC
Senior Design Architect

901 Market Street
San Francisco CA 94103
Direct Line (415) 241-4421 On Site
Ph: (415) 281-5549
stantec.com

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: Dan Everest
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Support for the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 8:54:19 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Dan Everest
dan.everest@me.com
(415) 661-1484
(415) 336-6053 cell

From:	Mcfadden, Patricia A CIV NAVFACHQ, BRAC PMO
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject:	Support for the Beach Chalet Field Renovation
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 9:16:32 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger (via Kevin Kahn),

As a native San Franciscan and parent to 2 soccer players, I want to voice my support for the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal.

My father, Dr. Michael McFadden, was one of the founders of the original San Francisco Glens Soccer Club in the 1960's. I have fond memories of being at Beach Chalet field as child watching the games and seeing my Dad run out when a player was hurt and needed assistance. I didn't get to play soccer myself as it wasn't offered in the schools and there were not organizations like Vikings Soccer as there are today. Today kids from all over the City play on co-ed and non co-ed teams giving equal opportunity for boys and girls to learn the valuable team skills that soccer provides.

This project will provide safe playing fields for thousands of youth, adults, and families that can be used year round. While I love grass fields they are more expensive to maintain and the uneven terrain has been the source of many sprained ankles while at play. I understand that the project has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and that storm water and other issues can be easily monitored and mitigated. I strongly support the proposed fields and I urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

The Beach Chalet field improvement project will serve the City for decades with increased field time and increased safety. It will increase healthy recreation for both kids and families and draw families to Golden Gate Park and the beach. This is a valuable resource for all the families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Thank you,

Patricia A. McFadden
353 Jersey Street
SF, CA 94114
415-642-5672

From: Catherine Lepetit
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 9:21:02 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Catherine Lepetit
Account Director, Sephora
Benefit Cosmetics
T: 415-281-6513
C:415-691-5319
FACEBOOK | TWITTER | YOUTUBE

From: Cliff Staton
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: SF Beach Chalet Athletic Fields
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 9:23:54 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cliff Staton
3992 23rd St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

From:	Colin Schmidt
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	angela bailey; Emily Queliza
Subject:	Beach Chalet and minority populations
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 9:29:28 AM

Kevin,

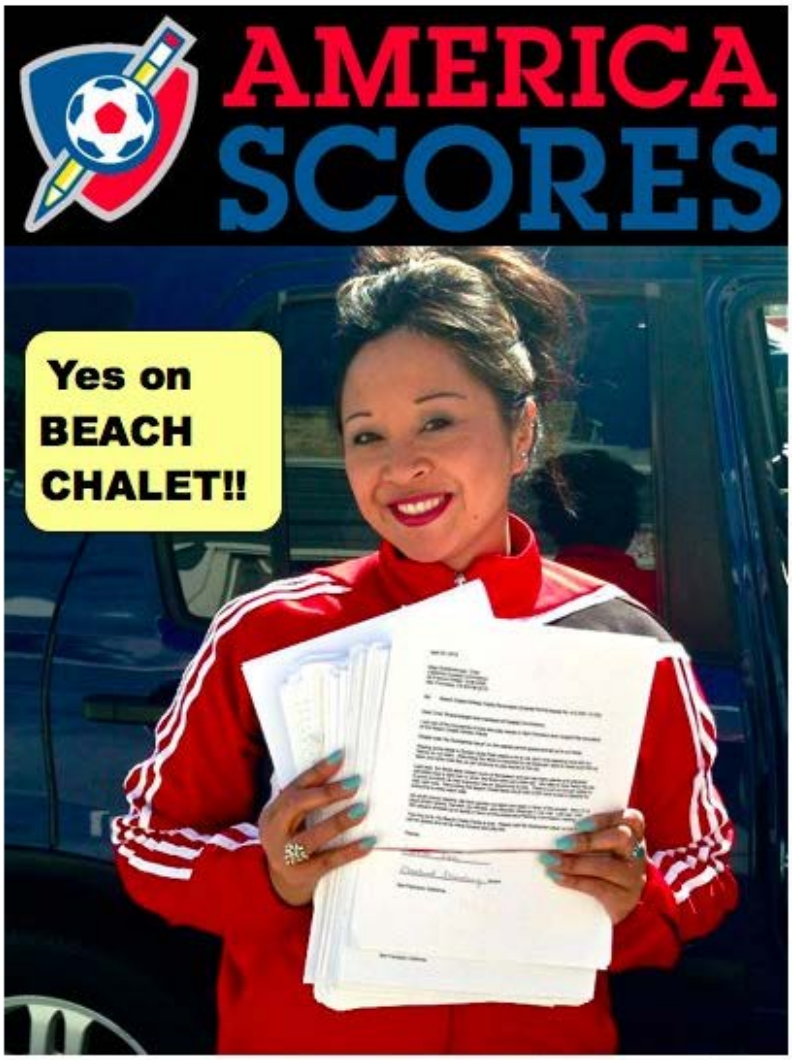
America SCORES engages nearly 1000 families in six-day-a-week soccer and enrichment programs. The children who participate are from low-income families -- over 90% qualify for meal subsidies -- and 99% are children of color.

Most of the days, these children play soccer on pavement. Availability of athletic fields is a severe limiting factor for safe, accessible outdoor play. For the families we serve, it is not a question of turf vs. grass, but rather turf vs. pavement.

The Beach Chalet renovation project will increase the supply of athletic fields in the hours of high demand -- after-school, evening, and weekend. More time at Beach Chalet will result im more time and more access throughout the entire network of recreational spaces in all corners of San Francisco. It will allow more low-income families a field to play on that is not pavement.

Said another way, to level the playing field for low-income youth who are otherwise bound to pavement and limited recreational opportunities, we need more playing fields. Beach Chalet is the answer. We support the Mayor, the Board of Supervisors, and the dozens of other groups who have studied and voted in favor of moving forward.

We look forward to seeing you at the hearing on May 9 and expressing our concerns in person. To date, we've collected over 400 letters in support of the project moving forward.



Over 400 Letters in SUPPORT of more access to athletic playing fields in San Francisco!

Sincerely,

Colin Schmidt
Executive Director, America SCORES Bay Area, 415-377-3887

Events: 2013 Legacy Awards // 2013 SCORES Cup // Beach Soccer Blast

Links: Facebook //Twitter //Blog //Photos // Video // Pinterest

From:	Stephanie Gillis
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject:	Beach Chalet Athletic Fields: SF families want this renovation
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 9:45:33 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,
I am writing to lend my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote “No Substantial Issue” on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco and we have fewer children than dogs: we need to make this a priority**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.
As a parent with two active soccer-playing boys, and as one who cares deeply about the environment and health, I have closely followed the analysis surrounding the potential impacts of the artificial turf. Given the level of scrutiny this project has received, I feel confident in the findings of the EIR: that “with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow.” In addition, the EIR asserts that the“proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site’s boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light in the night sky."
As to arguments that this renovation would somehow degrade the beauty of GG Park, I find that argument specious at best. One only needs to visit the North Tahoe Regional Park, one of the most beautiful and natural parks one can imagine, to see how well an artifical turf field can blend with the natural environment and actually enhance the park. There is nothing particularly appealing about a gopher-ridden, muddy, browned plot of grass.
The Beach Chalet Project will be a significant public good, increasing the fields’ playability and safety, while more than tripling the number of hours currently available there for recreation. At a time when healthy recreation for both kids and families is lacking in San Francisco, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City’s documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth. Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Gillis
2622 22nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94116

From: Alessandro Soldi
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 9:48:16 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow."

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Thanks for your time,
Alessandro Soldi

From:	beth daecher
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject:	Beach Chalet Field Renovation
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 9:56:26 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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best,
Beth Daecher
4227 25th Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

beth daecher
bdaecher@pacbell.net

From:	Henry Karnilowicz
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	Beach Chalet field renovation
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 10:00:19 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
Henry Karnilowicz
3762 22nd Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

From: Tim Norton
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Proposed Soccer Fields
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:03:07 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Regards,

Tim Norton
5237 California Street
San Francisco, California

From: Shannon Range
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: In support of Beach Chalet Fields and a family-friendly San Francisco
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:03:12 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote “No Substantial Issue” on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Sincerely,
Shannon K'doah Range
1280 Noe Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

--
Shannon K'doah Range
silentkdesigns.com
415-867-4689

From: robyn wilkinson
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: please help keep our kids in the city
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:04:08 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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From: Richard Anderson
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Renovation
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:06:28 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Sincerely,

Richard Anderson
564 Elizabeth Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
415.550.8850
415.939.8328 Cell

From: Dennis Seaman
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Field
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:06:42 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Dennis L Seaman
Vice President of Sales and Marketing
SeaYu Enterprises®
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From: Michael Fox
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Althletic Field Renovation Project
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:12:44 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Sincerely,

Michael Fox
35 Yerba Buena Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94127

From: Sean Ryan
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Please Approve the Chalet Fields
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:18:51 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Sincerely,

Sean Ryan
21 Jersey St
San Francisco, CA 94114

That's the note everyone is sending – as a personalized part, I'm a father of 3 kids in SF – the fanatical resistance to this well thought out project is what just drives families out of the city – we all want a diverse city, but there has to be room for kids in it, and the includes sports facilities – it

can’t all be for dogs and single people. The reasons given for opposing this project are so absurd as to be an SNL sitcom, but they just serve to keep delaying the project, which is really frustrating. Even if this won’t even benefit my own kids at the glacial rate this is proceeding, it’s good for the city, so please approve it.

From: David Latterman
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Support for Beach Chalet fields
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:29:51 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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David C Latterman
63 Stoneyford Ave
San Francisco, CA

PS- I have a son in youth soccer and we really do need more space!

From:	Douglas B. Evans
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	Beach Chalet Field Rennovation
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 10:33:41 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

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Sincerely,

Douglas Evans
474 Liberty St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

From: Jackie Holen
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: I support the Beach Chalet Field Renovation!
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:35:42 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I agree with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) and strongly support the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project. I encourage the Commission to vote “No Substantial Issue” on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

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Sincerely,

Jackie Holen
3749 22nd St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

From:	Amie Latterman
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject:	Letter of Support For Beach Chalet Field Renovation
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 11:20:36 AM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Sincerely,
Amie Latterman

Parent to two (soon three) future athletes
Resident of Excelsior North, San Francisco
Development Director, SPUR (for identification purposes only)
Board member, Parents for Public Schools (for identification purposes only)

From:	Don Neuwirth
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org; Todd David
Subject:	Beach Chalet Project
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 12:19:20 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I was a member of the original Coastal Commission staff and worked on permit appeals from 1973 until 1980. Then I became the first Program Manager of the Coastal Access Program. Most recently I have been running the Oakland Schoolyard Initiative and have been responsible for the installation of six artificial turf athletic fields. This combination of experience and my strong feelings about youth sports compel me to write you in support of the proposed fields in Golden Gate Park. These field are consistent with the Coastal Act and continue the historic transformation of dune fields into recreational resources for San Francisco.

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Sincerely,

Don Neuwirth
P.O. Box 460173

San Francisco, CA 94146-0173
415.550.8575

From: howard fallon
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: I Support the Beach Chalet Field Renovation
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 12:24:41 PM

Commissioner Shallenberger,

Why do thousands of San Franciscans have to be held hostage by a few people who NEVER want anything changed in Golden Gate Park for some perverse notion of hysterical preservation. As a parent & coach of soccer playing children, I have had to suffer the ridiculousness of the horrible playing surfaces at Beach Chalet created from over-demand on so few fields in our City. Artificial turf can be played again & again & again with no degradation in the quality of the surface thereby enabling many soccer enthusiasts the opportunity to play.

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal.

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In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Please support the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project as it will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands & help keep families in San Francisco.

Howard Fallon
333-27th Street
San Francisco, CA 94131
http://www.skymemorialfoundation.org/

From:	Kent Allen
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject:	Support for Beach Chalet Field Renovation
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 1:03:19 PM

From: SF Parent PAC [mailto:sfparentpac@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 12:41 PM
To: Todd David
Subject: SF Parent PAC Action Item--Please Send "Letter of Support" For Beach Chalet Field Renovation

Dear Commish Shallenberger,

Try to resist the temptation to back the NIMBYs who oppose the field renovation. If you've ever tried to play on SF fields with holes and so forth, then you should understand the pain that awaits knees and ankles. Fix the field guys so that kids and whoever else can play safely.

If people have issues with lights, they can simply adjust their shades. This is a no-brainer issue that has been hi-jacked by the self-centered advocates that one typically finds in SF.

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote “No Substantial Issue” on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Sincerely,

Kent Allen

From:	Rina Yates
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	SF needs more soccer fields for our kids
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 1:15:22 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Sincerely,
Rina Yates

From:	Nicholas Gregoratos
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject:	Beach Chalet
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 1:16:11 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

As a lifelong resident of San Francisco, a father of three boys and an environmentalist, I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Nick Gregoratos
Prisoner Legal Services

555 Seventh Street, 210
San Francisco, CA 94110
415-575-4365
510-919-6883 Cell
510-291-9908 Fax

"The degree of civilization in a society is revealed by entering its prisons."

-Crime & Punishment, Feodor Dostoyevsky

From:	Glyn & Paula Dutton
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject:	Beach Chalet Soccer Fields
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 1:24:14 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Sincerely,
Glyn Dutton
408 Eureka St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

From:	Christine Falvey
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	Proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project in SF
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 1:35:50 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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From:	Tony, Leslie and Atticus
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	Support Proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project-VOTE "No Substantial Issue"
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 1:39:35 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote “No Substantial Issue” on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

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Sincerely,

Leslie Wong

From:	trianaa
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org
Subject:	Soccer Fields
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 1:42:17 PM

California Coastal Commission
725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Re: Permit Number A-2-SNF-12-020
Golden Gate Park Athletic Fields Renovation
Submission of Written Testimony

Dear Commissioner Shallenberg:

I am a San Francisco Parent and also a life-long conservationist. My family and I have an extensive familiarity and a continuous history of usage and care taking of not only the soccer fields in question but also Ocean Beach, the Beach Chalet, and the "west end" of Golden Gate Park in general. It is our opinion, after much consideration, that the proposed synthetic turf renovation of the soccer fields would be appropriate and beneficial to Golden Gate Park and San Francisco. We feel that many of the objections to the development are overblown and impertinent: the area in question is not untrammeled habitat or wilderness, it is a human dominated urban park/playground. The area is already highly and continuously illuminated, as is necessary for the existing 24 hour a day usage of the adjacent beach and highway.

Furthermore, though we whole heartedly support coastal conservation, we question whether it is appropriate in this case for the Coastal Commission to even be involved in second guessing the already prolonged and well vetted proceedings of the government agencies properly responsible for this decision concerning an existing urban facility. Please do not let the Coastal Commission be dragged into the pseudo-naturists' and NIMBY's last chance "Hail Mary" ploy to keep the soccer fields dysfunctional and locked up half the year.

Sincerely,

Robert T Anderson
221 Douglass St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

From:	Kristen Tucker
To:	CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject:	Beach Chalet Fields
Date:	Sunday, May 05, 2013 9:27:09 PM

Dear Coastal Commissioners:
My name is Kristen Tucker and I am a soccer player who has been playing soccer in SF for over 20 years. I am also now the mother of two kids who now play soccer in SF as well. I have been involved with many different leagues over the years (see below), and the number one stress is finding enough fields for all of the kids and adults who want to play soccer. The 2nd biggest stress is when the fields close due to rain and the subsequent scramble to reschedule cancelled games. The addition of artificial turf fields at Crocker Amazon and other sites in the City has allowed much more access to every league and has eased some of the difficulties in finding fields, esp. during rainy weather. The Beach Chalet fields are another prime location for soccer fields that could provide much needed access to soccer facilities rain or shine.

Along with being an athlete, I am also a biology teacher and a card-carrying environmentalist, so I share your concern about preserving the California coastline in it's natural state. I know there are lots of arguments on both sides of the "turf or not to turf" issue, but I do feel strongly that the fact that those fields need to be constantly watered to maintain them is a real concern, and since we are not changing the current use of the fields, the water argument seems a strong one in favor of moving to turf.

I hope you will consider all sides of this issue. We need this space to be preserved for soccer playing, and we could really benefit from it being converted to all weather turf.

Sincerely,

Kristen Tucker
Golden Gate Womens Soccer League
San Francisco Coed Recreational Soccer League
Vikings Youth Soccer League
Police Activities League Soccer

From: jackbarry99@gmail.com on behalf of Jack Barry
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: Dear Coastal Commission.....
Date: Saturday, May 04, 2013 7:06:06 PM

I write to support the City of San Francisco in its plans for artificial turf soccer fields and lights for these same fields.

I proposed to the SF Supervisors that they create the Dept. of the Environment, and the SF Environmental Commission, of which I was a member for the first two years.

I take "environmental issues" with the utmost seriousness., but I feel that the benefits of the artificial turf in reduced water consumption, and maintenance costs are a MAJOR point, and I
see the possibility of night soccer as a real social plus.

If one pulls back, so to speak, and takes a higher perspectvie, the amount of acreage that would be affected... is miniscule, and the assertion that birds would be harmed....is very debatable...

We don't close down SF International Airport, even though it has enormous impacts on bird activity... We want to, effectively, block "night soccer", and full time use of the fields due to mud, and re-sodding
that natural fields require. ???

Please think of the benefits of getting maximum athletic usage from this site.,

John Barry.

Environmentalist for the City plan for the Soccer Fields at Beach Chalet.

Real Estate Sales & Management.
Full Service. Half the Cost.
jackbarry99@gmail.com

From:	rarandajr_ciscokid
To:	CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject:	Beach Chalet soccer fields
Date:	Saturday, May 04, 2013 8:01:28 AM

Dear Sirs,
As a dad who watched his two daughters play on these fields that where filled with gopher holes and other obstacles, please approve The City's proposed improvements.

Thank you,
Robert Aranda Jr.

Sent from Samsung tablet

From: Janet
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: Soccer field for families and fans
Date: Friday, May 03, 2013 4:06:28 PM

Get serious, they have been there since 1933. We need mixed use of GG park.

Sent from my iPad

From:	Patty DeVlieg
To:	CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject:	In SUPPROT of the improved soccer fields at Golden Gate Park
Date:	Friday, May 03, 2013 1:38:06 PM

Please count me among the supporters of the renovation proposed for the soccer fields at GG Park. As a regular attendee at neighborhood meetings, I have heard a lot of complaining about the plan at the Coalition of SF Neighborhoods and other venues. These arguments are NIMBY-ism at its worst. Under a veil of concern for the environment, the complainers are against any change, especially if it might bring unwanted light and noise into their neighborhood. And of course, there is the unspeakable concern that they might bring undesired visitors from other neighborhoods, and even other communities. Let's remember that GG Park is a shared public resource for recreational use by the entire City and visitors to the City, and our kids need a decent place to play soccer. In my neighborhood, our renovated soccer fields at Crocker-Amazon Park have been a great success. Let's show the same spirit in GG Park, and let the games begin!

Patricia DeVlieg
679 Madrid Street
SF, CA

From: Granger Tripp
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: Western Golden Gate Park
Date: Friday, May 03, 2013 10:38:38 AM

Commission Members,

Please do not block the planned improvements to the soccer fields on the western edge of Golden Gate Park. Having raised three kids in SF, I can attest to the challenges of finding safe and useable athletic facilities in our City. We all know the challenges (natural and man made) of providing space for fields and the importance of allowing kids to exercise. The planned improvements are reasonable and modest. While natural grass sounds great, it is not practical and would, in the end, kill the effort to upgrade the facilities. Finding the right balance in the preservation of our environment is a challenge. This is the time to support families and give a green light to the improvements.

Thank you,

Granger E. Tripp
843 Elizabeth St.
SF CA 94114

From: Laura Fisher
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: in favor of City Fields Beach Chalet project
Date: Friday, May 03, 2013 10:18:13 AM

I support the proposed Beach Chalet City Fields project in San Francisco. my children have played on the fields and they were frequently potholed, muddy and often closed due to inclement weather. The renovation would create more play space for kids and families and create community in a part of the city that has not been given much attention. I sincerely hope this project gets approved as it will be a benefit to San Francisco and its residents.
Thank you.
Laura

From: John Fisher
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: Turf Fields at Beach Chalet
Date: Friday, May 03, 2013 7:43:51 AM

It makes no sense to replace the Beach Chalet soccer fields with anything but turf. The City cannot take care of these highly used fields which is why they have potholes and are dangerous for the ankles and legs or the athletes who use them. Add to that the fact that turf fields save lots of water since they do not need to be irrigated, and this is a huge win for the families of San Francisco. That is why the decision to install turf has been overwhelmingly approved by every SF governmental agency that has voted and reviewed this. I was in attendance at one of those meetings and it was exciting and inspiring to see the young kids and their parents and coaches and adults from very diverse backgrounds and neighborhoods all over the city speaking on behalf of their park and their fields. Please do not take this away from them.

John Fisher
San Francisco

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of kids who play soccer in San Francisco and support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Playing at the fields in Golden Gate Park means a lot to me, and I love spending time with my team and friends. Rebuilding the fields is important to me because I want to make sure that my team and other kids like us can continue to play soccer in the city.

Last year, the fields were closed much of the season and we had many games and practices cancelled due to light rain or modestly soggy sports fields. We need to have fields that are in good condition so that everyone has an opportunity to play. There is just not enough space to play right now. Renovating the Beach Chalet fields would add 9,000 more hours of playtime for everyone to enjoy each year.

As youth soccer players, we have spoken out again and again in favor of this project. Many of us have written letters, met with city officials and attended meetings in City Hall. Last year, over 300 players showed up to testify in favor of this project at a Planning Commission meeting.

The time to fix the Beach Chalet Fields is now. Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward and play ball.

Thanks,

Alex Sigs

April 16, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Regarding:
Beach Chalet Athletic Fields' Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and Members of Coastal Commission:

I am a San Francisco resident writing in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields' renovation. I ask you to cast a "No Substantial Issue" vote when you consider the Coastal Permit Appeal for the project.

From having had two daughters practice and play soccer games on those fields, as well as attending many junior varsity and varsity soccer and lacrosse games in my role as Head of School at Drew School, I know those fields are often in dangerous conditions prior to preventative work we do just before practices and games. Also, frequently the fields are closed due to rainy, wet weather and the decision to close them to the public – often for days on end. I believe that the renovated fields will make these fields available for hundreds of more hours annually, increasing public use and promoting good health among young people in this City. The addition of lighting will make the surrounding area much safer, even as it extends the chances for people to be active nearby.

The renovation of the fields will improve the character of GG Park by allowing, even encouraging, more people to enjoy a greater range of park-like activities like soccer. These fields have been there for 70 plus years: the use is established. The renovation will save water, plant new trees and flora, and enhance the sense of safety that will complement the Park's role in the life of San Francisco.

The majority of San Franciscans support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields. I am one of hundreds who have written letters and attended meetings at City Hall and elsewhere to ensure that the project moves forward. Those hearings have been well-publicized and well-attended. The issues have been debated repeatedly, with multiple decisions made to let the renovations go forward. Last May I was there as 300 kids and 100 adults testified in support of the project. I respect the opposition's sense of what a park is, but in this City, with so few open spaces for soccer and other field sports, the need for this renovation trumps the need for this area of the GG Park to be closed and inaccessible and unsafe for its intended purpose so frequently, as it is now. We need these fields as a daily resource for all citizens.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,

Samuel M. Cuddeback III

April 23, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

My name is Walt De Petris and I am a San Franciscan resident writing in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Field renovation. I am writing to ask that you cast a "No Substantial Issue" vote when you consider the Coastal Permit Appeal for the project.

Beach Chalet has been an integral part of my kid's athletics as it hosts most of their soccer games. They are avid players and enjoy playing soccer. Unfortunately, their teams are often scheduled to use Beach Chalet. The poor field conditions have resulted in injuries to many of the players due to inconsistent terrain and tight field alignment. Since the field has poor drainage and no lights, it's also often closed and not available after dark.

Renovating the fields will improve the character of Golden Gate Park. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields have existed as a part of the park for over 70 years, but the renovation and the use of synthetic turf will help save 5.7 million gallons of water each year. The project will also ensure that hundreds of new plants and trees will also be planted along the fields.

The majority of San Franciscans support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields. Hundreds of us have written letters and attended meetings to ensure that the project moves forward. Last May 300 kids and 100 adults testified in support of the project. Please do not let a small but vocal minority hold this project back when the good of the city is at stake.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Sincerely,

Walt De Petris

Walt De Petris
555 Marina Blvd
San Francisco, CA 94123

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of San Franciscans who support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Currently, the Beach Chalet fields are not serving their purpose as a public space. The fields are in awful, even dangerous condition, and they are closed to the public except by paid reservation. It is in the interest of the public good to make these fields available to everyone. The new improved Beach Chalet fields will have "open play" hours so that everyone can use this space, not just those who can pay for it.

Renovating the Beach Chalet fields will also improve public safety in the area. The area surrounding the Beach Chalet fields has seen an increase in crime, including a murder last summer. Increasing the lighting and improving the facilities will help to alleviate these issues and make it safer for children who play there and neighbors who live nearby.

This renovation is also the right choice for the environment. The Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 5.7 millions gallons of water each year.

The project is in line with the intended use of the space. It has been used as a soccer field since the 1930s, and this is a project that the majority of San Franciscans want. Last May, 300 kids and 100 adults testified at a hearing in support of this project. Please do not let a small but vocal minority hold this project back when the good of the city is at stake.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks, TYLER ROSS

Date: 21 April 2013

To: Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

From: Stephen Arnold
63 Verna Street
San Francisco CA 94127

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation
(Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chairwoman Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

My name is Steve Arnold. I am a San Franciscan native and current resident writing in support of the upgrades to the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields as proposed by San Francisco's Recreation & Parks Department. I am writing to request that you cast a "No Substantial Issue" vote when you consider the Coastal Permit Appeal for the project. I begin my request by including the Coastal Commission's Mission Statement as a confirmation of the general parameters guiding review the project:

Protect, conserve, restore, and enhance environmental and human-based resources of the California coast and ocean for environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations.

I believe this project before you falls comfortably within the "human-based resource" category. The Beach Chalet Fields have been soccer fields for many decades. They are the western-most feature in what must be one of the finest man-made urban amenities ever conceived, Golden Gate Park. They have provided San Franciscans with sports fields for many decades. More recently however, with the upsurge in interest in soccer and other field sports, particularly among the kids, the facility is over-burdened.

In the face of the ever-increasing demand, SF Rec & Park has been forced to make them available only to organized sports leagues and to charge for their use. They are forced to close the fields whenever it rains, as well as for several months straight in late fall/winter, simply to keep them serviceable the rest of the year. It has come to the point where this rare urban resource, in its current state, is no longer sustainable and can no longer keep up with the demands of the population that needs it.

SF Rec & Park has come up with a design to enhance the resource with a cost-effective upgrade to the existing facility that will provide year-round use for many more people well into the future. The design confines the upgrades to the current area. It does not encroach upon nor alter the landscape and activities around it in any significant way. It trebles the usable playing time, cuts maintenance costs, and saves water. As both an architect and an SF taxpayer, I applaud this as a very sound, cost-effective design proposal that does much to satisfy the needs of the SF community, now and into the future, with minimal impact to the site. Such a solution surly meets the Commission's criteria of "environmentally sustainable and prudent use for current and future generations".

Lastly, as I recall one of the primary issues that prompted California voters to establish the Coastal Commission was to control the attempts by a few to claim exclusive rights to the coast at the expense of the many. While this current debate does not pit the interests of the wealthy few against the interests of the rest of us, it does pit the interests of a vocal few against the interests of rest of us.

I believe the proposed project is a carefully considered solution to a very real problem that conforms to the criteria of your mandate as set forth in the Mission Statement. I therefore urge you to conclude that there is no substantial issue that would cause you to hesitate in your approval of the project.

With sincere regard for all the great work the Commission has done over the decades - thank you,

Stephen Arnold

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of kids who play soccer in San Francisco and support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Playing at the fields in Golden Gate Park means a lot to me, and I love spending time with my team and friends. Rebuilding the fields is important to me because I want to make sure that my team and other kids like us can continue to play soccer in the city.

Last year, the fields were closed much of the season and we had many games and practices cancelled due to light rain or modestly soggy sports fields. We need to have fields that are in good condition so that everyone has an opportunity to play. There is just not enough space to play right now. Renovating the Beach Chalet fields would add 9,000 more hours of playtime for everyone to enjoy each year.

As youth soccer players, we have spoken out again and again in favor of this project. Many of us have written letters, met with city officials and attended meetings in City Hall. Last year, over 300 players showed up to testify in favor of this project at a Planning Commission meeting.

The time to fix the Beach Chalet Fields is now. Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward and play ball.

Thanks,

Sophia

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of San Franciscans who support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Currently, the Beach Chalet fields are not serving their purpose as a public space. The fields are in awful, even dangerous condition, and they are closed to the public except by paid reservation. It is in the interest of the public good to make these fields available to everyone. The new improved Beach Chalet fields will have "open play" hours so that everyone can use this space, not just those who can pay for it.

Renovating the Beach Chalet fields will also improve public safety in the area. The area surrounding the Beach Chalet fields has seen an increase in crime, including a murder last summer. Increasing the lighting and improving the facilities will help to alleviate these issues and make it safer for children who play there and neighbors who live nearby.

This renovation is also the right choice for the environment. The Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 5.7 millions gallons of water each year.

The project is in line with the intended use of the space. It has been used as a soccer field since the 1930s, and this is a project that the majority of San Franciscans want. Last May, 300 kids and 100 adults testified at a hearing in support of this project. Please do not let a small but vocal minority hold this project back when the good of the city is at stake.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,

Sicha Gutierrez

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

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Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,

Rose Fitz

April 9, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Kids/Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation
(Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger (and Distinguished Members of the Coastal Commission):

I am a long-time San Francisco resident with three school-age children. I am writing to you today in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Field renovation. I am writing to ask that you cast a "No Substantial Issue" vote when you consider the Coastal Permit Appeal for the project.

I am at the Beach Chalet at least once a week. I have a son who plays Lacrosse and needs to practice there because they cannot get access to the few turf fields in the city. It is dangerous. My son and his friends have frequent minor injuries from the uneven grass surfaces. Sometimes the injuries are more serious due to ruts, holes and other variable playing surfaces that all grass fields have.

Often their practices get cancelled—sometimes at the last minute—due to weather issues causing park and rec to shut down the Beach Chalet fields. This never happens when they are Kimbel. Kimbel is the best playing surface in the city—whether they are playing baseball, soccer or lacrosse.

When I was last at the Beach Chalet I had to call the SF Police Department to arrest a drunken vagrant who was threatening the parent of one of my son's lacrosse teammates. There are so many homeless people who congregate in the immediate vicinity because the area is currently so little used and it's dark at night so they can "live" in the bushes. My children should not be subjected to this. Parks are for families, not homeless people. Please approve this project so we can get this area renovated so it will be put to its highest and best use for all of us.

Golden Gate park is a treasure that should be maintained and used. The project will make this piece of the park safer and it will therefore increase its utility to the residents of the area. Kimbel field is used all day and well into the night by families from all over San Francisco (and many from surrounding cities whose kids come into San Francisco for games and tournaments. Before they renovated Kimbel, only people from the Western Addition used this area because it was considered dangerous and was not attractive. Now it is one of the flagship parks for sports like Lacrosse and Soccer in the city.

The majority of our friends support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields because they know that it will make them safer and more usable.

My 11-year-old son testified at City Hall to support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields. Please don't let him and thousands of others like him down. Please vote for the renovation.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Respectfully,

Ron M. Lissak
168 25th Avenue
San Francisco, Ca 94121
(415) 593-4520

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of San Franciscans who support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

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Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of San Franciscans who support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

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Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,

Rita Gonzalez

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of kids who play soccer in San Francisco and support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Playing at the fields in Golden Gate Park means a lot to me, and I love spending time with my team and friends. Rebuilding the fields is important to me because I want to make sure that my team and other kids like us can continue to play soccer in the city.

Last year, the fields were closed much of the season and we had many games and practices cancelled due to light rain or modestly soggy sports fields. We need to have fields that are in good condition so that everyone has an opportunity to play. There is just not enough space to play right now. Renovating the Beach Chalet fields would add 9,000 more hours of playtime for everyone to enjoy each year.

As youth soccer players, we have spoken out again and again in favor of this project. Many of us have written letters, met with city officials and attended meetings in City Hall. Last year, over 300 players showed up to testify in favor of this project at a Planning Commission meeting.

The time to fix the Beach Chalet Fields is now. Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward and play ball.

Thanks,

Perry Coats

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of San Franciscans who support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Currently, the Beach Chalet fields are not serving their purpose as a public space. The fields are in awful, even dangerous condition, and they are closed to the public except by paid reservation. It is in the interest of the public good to make these fields available to everyone. The new improved Beach Chalet fields will have "open play" hours so that everyone can use this space, not just those who can pay for it.

Renovating the Beach Chalet fields will also improve public safety in the area. The area surrounding the Beach Chalet fields has seen an increase in crime, including a murder last summer. Increasing the lighting and improving the facilities will help to alleviate these issues and make it safer for children who play there and neighbors who live nearby.

This renovation is also the right choice for the environment. The Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 5.7 millions gallons of water each year.

The project is in line with the intended use of the space. It has been used as a soccer field since the 1930s, and this is a project that the majority of San Franciscans want. Last May, 300 kids and 100 adults testified at a hearing in support of this project. Please do not let a small but vocal minority hold this project back when the good of the city is at stake.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,

Patricia Baker

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,

Mitch Burrow

April 7, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of San Franciscans who support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields. This latest NIMBY attempt to derail a process that has been duly investigated and ruled upon, twice, cannot be permitted to bully the majority of tax-payers who are trying, against great odds, to raise children in this most un-child-friendly city.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Currently, the Beach Chalet fields are not serving their purpose as a public space. The fields are in awful, even dangerous condition, and they are closed to the public except by paid reservation. It is in the interest of the public good to make these fields available to everyone. The new improved Beach Chalet fields will have "open play" hours so that everyone can use this space, not just those who can pay for it.

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Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thank you,

Melissa Abbe

ABBE
1024 LAKE STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94118

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of kids who play soccer in San Francisco and support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Playing at the fields in Golden Gate Park means a lot to me, and I love spending time with my team and friends. Rebuilding the fields is important to me because I want to make sure that my team and other kids like us can continue to play soccer in the city.

Last year, the fields were closed much of the season and we had many games and practices cancelled due to light rain or modestly soggy sports fields. We need to have fields that are in good condition so that everyone has an opportunity to play. There is just not enough space to play right now. Renovating the Beach Chalet fields would add 9,000 more hours of playtime for everyone to enjoy each year.

As youth soccer players, we have spoken out again and again in favor of this project. Many of us have written letters, met with city officials and attended meetings in City Hall. Last year, over 300 players showed up to testify in favor of this project at a Planning Commission meeting.

The time to fix the Beach Chalet Fields is now. Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward and play ball.

Thanks,

Mara Shan

The Manning Family
118 Woodland Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94117
415.661.7440

April 5, 2013

Mary Shallenberger
Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation
(Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Like my children, I (John) grew up playing at the Beach Chalet soccer fields. The place has been a dump for 35 years!!!

Families leave San Francisco for many reasons, but one of them is a lack of playing fields for youth sports. Turf fields ~~are~~ exist safely all over San Francisco and all over the world.

Please let the Beach Chalet project happen.

Sincerely,
The Manning Family

John Manning
(Dad, coach, former player)

Kmanning
Kristine Manning
(Mom, team manager, former player)

Sean Manning
Sean Manning
(player, U13 SFFC Earthquakes)

alexa Manning
Alexa Manning
(player, U12 Dynamite United)

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

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April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Linda Lee

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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Thanks,

Kevin Grant

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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Playing at the fields in Golden Gate Park means a lot to me, and I love spending time with my team and friends. Rebuilding the fields is important to me because I want to make sure that my team and other kids like us can continue to play soccer in the city.

Last year, the fields were closed much of the season and we had many games and practices cancelled due to light rain or modestly soggy sports fields. We need to have fields that are in good condition so that everyone has an opportunity to play. There is just not enough space to play right now. Renovating the Beach Chalet fields would add 9,000 more hours of playtime for everyone to enjoy each year.

As youth soccer players, we have spoken out again and again in favor of this project. Many of us have written letters, met with city officials and attended meetings in City Hall. Last year, over 300 players showed up to testify in favor of this project at a Planning Commission meeting.

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Thanks,

April 16, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

JJ Holoubek
San Francisco, CA

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Jenn Neil

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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Thanks,

Jane Smith

12

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Hannah Oliver

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,

Gordon McSellum

April 11, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: **Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation**
(Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of the Coastal Commission:

I write this letter to urge you to support the Beach Chalet Athletic Field renovation. More specifically, and for the reasons explained below, I ask that you cast a "No Substantial Issue" vote when you consider the Coastal Permit Appeal for the project.

My family has lived in the Richmond District in San Francisco for over 15 years. My wife and I have two children, one still in middle school and one in high school. One or more of us use various fields and facilities in Golden Gate Park almost every day of the year and have done so for years. Golden Gate Park and the playing fields in the Park have proved an invaluable resource to us as we have tried to keep ourselves and our kids active and healthy while living in an urban environment.

Sadly, and despite the fact that there are not actually that many kids in San Francisco, there are not nearly enough playing fields in the City to accommodate the number of children and adults who want to play on them. The soccer fields near the Beach Chalet are currently terribly underutilized because the fields cannot be properly maintained and as a result are riddled with gopher holes, flooded or bare and dangerous to play on. The fields are often completely fenced off.

Even though my two children no longer play organized club soccer, because I think the issue is so important to other families in the City, I have attended several hearings relating to the plans to renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Field. The renovated and improved Beach Chalet fields will not have to be constantly closed. The numbers of hours that kids and adults can play on the fields will increase dramatically. Also, the current plan calls for "open play" hours so that everyone can use this space, not just organized soccer leagues.

I don't believe that renovation of the fields will adversely affect the "character" of Golden Gate Park. The notion that this end of Golden Gate Park is, or ever was, a "sylvan woodland" is factually baseless. The existing use for these fields is as soccer fields. These

playing fields have been in this location for decades. The proposed use is as soccer fields as well. The proposed renovations will, in my opinion improve usability and public safety in this area of the Park. Because the fields are so often closed and fenced, the area surrounding the Beach Chalet fields has become increasingly unsafe. I believe that the increased use of the fields by families and better lighting around the fields will help with these safety problems without having any significant negative impact on the surrounding environment.

I have listened to the arguments made about concerns over the proposal to put artificial turf on these fields. On balance, I believe the "environmental" concerns are unsupported by any valid scientific facts or studies. The benefits of putting artificial turf on these playing fields outweigh the emotional arguments put forward for "natural grass" fields. Natural grass soccer fields are not that environmentally friendly. The use of synthetic turf will help save 5.7 million gallons of water each year. The renovation project also calls for hundreds of new plants and trees that will be planted along the fields. The fields will not require mowing, weed killing or fertilizer which will reduce possible toxic runoff and will reduce the amount of fossil fuels used to maintain these fields over the long term. The argument that birds currently eat worms from the field is not a sufficiently compelling reason to replant the field with turf.

In a time where childhood obesity and health problems relating to obesity in America have reached epidemic proportions, we should not let a small but vocal minority prevent the families and children of San Francisco from getting the outdoor exercise space they so desperately need.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal.

Thank you very for considering my input,

Geoffrey Gordon-Creed
111 14th Ave
(415) 751-6619

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

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April 18, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Last year, the fields were closed much of the season and we had many games and practices cancelled due to light rain or modestly soggy sports fields. We need to have fields that are in good condition so that everyone has an opportunity to play. There is just not enough space to play right now. Renovating the Beach Chalet fields would add 9,000 more hours of playtime for everyone to enjoy each year.

As youth soccer players, we have spoken out again and again in favor of this project. Many of us have written letters, met with city officials and attended meetings in City Hall. Last year, over 300 players showed up to testify in favor of this project at a Planning Commission meeting.

The time to fix the Beach Chalet Fields is now. Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward and play ball.

Thanks,

Erin Behnken

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of kids who play soccer in San Francisco and support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

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Thanks,

EMILY CHO

April 10, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am, Ellen Magnin Newman, one of the thousands of San Franciscans who support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Currently, the Beach Chalet fields are not serving their purpose as a public space. The fields are in awful, even dangerous condition, and they are closed to the public except by paid reservation. It is in the interest of the public good to make these fields available to everyone. The new improved Beach Chalet fields will have "open play" hours so that everyone can use this space, not just those who can pay for it.

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The project is in line with the intended use of the space. It has been used as a soccer field since the 1930s, and this is a project that the majority of San Franciscans want. Last May, 300 kids and 100 adults testified at a hearing in support of this project. Please do not let a small but vocal minority hold this project back when the good of the city is at stake.

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Thanks,

Ellen Magnin Newman

April 16, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I strongly urge you to allow the upgrade of the historic soccer fields at the western end of Golden Gate Park to go forward. As a past Chair of the City's Ground Sports Advisory Committee I in have been intimately involved with the maintenance and use of this greatly valued recreational space. Created in 1928 by John McLaren and the Parks Commission, the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields are today the oldest public soccer Fields in California. The level of activity needed greatly exceeds the capacity of the city to maintain organic grass and the resulting conditions either mean our citizens risk injury, or the use must be severely restricted.

I appreciate that the Coastal Commission is empowered to protect our coastline, but I do not feel this project in anyway diminished our coast or its access.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,

Chris Duderstadt 1327 10th Ave. SF, CA.

Alex Goodson broke the end of his tibia, across the growth plate, when he stepped in a hole on Beach Chalet #3.

Dear Costal commissioners,
Whenever I play on turf, I don't hurt or turn my ankles. On grass it is the opposite. Thank you!

Please change the fields at beach chalet to turf!

Charlotte Abbe

ABBE
1024 LAKE STREET
~~SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94118~~

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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Thanks,

Brandon Craft

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Anouk O.

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Amy Logan

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

amelia

April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

My name is Kathryn A Woods and I am a San Franciscan resident writing in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Field renovation. I am writing to ask that you cast a "No Substantial Issue" vote when you consider the Coastal Permit Appeal for the project.

Beach Chalet fields are limited in their use and not serving their purpose as a public space. These fields need to be used by all citizens. The new improved Beach Chalet fields will have "open play" hours so that everyone can use this space, not just those who can pay for it.

Renovating the Beach Chalet fields will also improve public safety in the area. The area surrounding the Beach Chalet fields has seen an increase in crime, including a murder last summer. Increasing the lighting and improving the facilities will help to alleviate these issues and make it safer for children who play there and neighbors who live nearby.

As a local landscape architect with much knowledge in cultural and environmental landscapes I strongly believe that improving the field will enhance and preserve this area of Golden Gate Park to be used in the way it was originally intended.

It is clear that there are just a few people who are against the renovation of the fields while a large majority of residents would like to have the improved fields to use.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,

Kathryn Alexis Woods

April 18, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of kids who play soccer in San Francisco and support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

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Thanks,

Alex Sigs

April 3, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

My name is Andrew Ach and I am writing in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project, asking that you cast a "No Substantial Issue" vote when you consider the Coastal Permit Appeal for the project.

Providing safe, well-maintained, and sustainable athletic fields to California's youth should be a priority for our city and our state. As a city resident, I've seen the positive role that sports plays in the physical and mental development of youth in my community. In addition to helping them stay healthy and fit, sports help kids learn the importance of teamwork, the value of hard work, and the joy that comes with a positive self -image. Kids and their teammates learn to believe in themselves; a lesson they take with them off the field and carry through life.

We are in desperate need of more athletic fields in San Francisco. Some athletic leagues have to turn away kids because the City simply does not have enough sports fields to meet the demand. The current fields at Beach Chalet are often muddy, filled with gopher holes, and dangerous. The City has to close the fields 50% of the time to let them rest from constant play or recover from rain, causing frequent game and practice cancellations, and further limiting opportunities for our kids to play and exercise.

We must do better for our kids and create safer, more accessible places for them to play ball. Through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our city's Recreation & Parks Department we have made tremendous progress. We've renovated fields in neighborhoods across San Francisco and we've added 76,000 hours of additional playtime for our kids. We need to do the same thing at the Beach Chalet fields.

Golden Gate Park has been home to the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields for over 75 years. The proposed plan does not call for constructing entirely new fields, rather it simply improves the existing fields, adding 9,000 hours of playtime each year. The Golden Gate Park Master Plan designates the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields as an "active recreation area" and encourages increasing play on these fields to draw more visitors into the western end of the Park.

I have watched for many years as this project has been debated through an exhaustive public process. There have been dozens of hours of public meetings and

thousands of letters submitted in support of this project. Last year 300 young people came to City Hall to speak in favor of the project, many of them waiting for hours to have their chance to testify. At every turn, decision-makers reviewed the project, asked questions and voted to approve this thoughtfully designed and critically needed project.

Now it is in your hands. Please stand with San Franciscans and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Andrew Ach
San Francisco

April 27, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of San Franciscans who support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

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This renovation is also the right choice for the environment. The Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 5.7 millions gallons of water each year.

The project is in line with the intended use of the space. It has been used as a soccer field since the 1930s, and this is a project that the majority of San Franciscans want. Last May, 300 kids and 100 adults testified at a hearing in support of this project. Please do not let a small but vocal minority hold this project back when the good of the city is at stake.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,

Xavier Zamora.

April 27, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks, Victor Hernández

Victor Hernández

April 27, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Tselate Mussie

TSELATE MUSSIE

April 27, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Stephanie P Nesmith

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April 27, 2013
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Thanks,

Ruth Bernstein

April 27, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

ROLANDA MARIE CHU

April 27, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Robin Bowman

April 27, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Rachel Simpson

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Rebecca Biernat

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Paul O'Driscoll
S.F. Glens FC.

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1464 23rd Ave SFCA 94122

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Thanks,

Kristin Scheel

April 27, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,

Eduardo Montgomery Gonçalves Neto

April 27, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

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Doug Ordonez

April 27, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
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David Kelly

April 27, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
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April 27, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
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CHRIS RETAJCZYK

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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Thanks,

CHARLES THAYER
Charles Thayer
304 Montcalm St.
SF 94110

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Catherine Kelley

April 27, 2013
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Thanks, ARTUS TRAN 13 Team: Ardvarks

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Adrian

ADRIAN DUGGAN

April 27, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Adam

Adam Quinn

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

My name is [illegible] and I am writing in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project, asking that you cast a "No Substantial Issue" vote when you consider the Coastal Permit Appeal for the project.

Providing safe, well-maintained, and sustainable athletic fields to California's youth should be a priority for our city and our state. As a city resident, I've seen the positive role that sports plays in the physical and mental development of youth in my community. In addition to helping them stay healthy and fit, sports help kids learn the importance of teamwork, the value of hard work, and the joy that comes with a positive self -image. Kids and their teammates learn to believe in themselves; a lesson they take with them off the field and carry through life.

We are in desperate need of more athletic fields in San Francisco. Some athletic leagues have to turn away kids because the City simply does not have enough sports fields to meet the demand. The current fields at Beach Chalet are often muddy, filled with gopher holes, and dangerous. The City has to close the fields 50% of the time to let them rest from constant play or recover from rain, causing frequent game and practice cancellations, and further limiting opportunities for our kids to play and exercise.

We must do better for our kids and create safer, more accessible places for them to play ball. Through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our city's Recreation & Parks Department we have made tremendous progress. We've renovated fields in neighborhoods across San Francisco and we've added 76,000 hours of additional playtime for our kids. We need to do the same thing at the Beach Chalet fields.

Golden Gate Park has been home to the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields for over 75 years. The proposed plan does not call for constructing entirely new fields, rather it simply improves the existing fields, adding 9,000 hours of playtime each year. The Golden Gate Park Master Plan designates the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields as an "active recreation area" and encourages increasing play on these fields to draw more visitors into the western end of the Park.

I have watched for many years as this project has been debated through an exhaustive public process. There have been dozens of hours of public meetings and thousands of

letters submitted in support of this project. Last year 300 young people came to City Hall to speak in favor of the project, many of them waiting for hours to have their chance to testify. At every turn, decision-makers reviewed the project, asked questions and voted to approve this thoughtfully designed and critically needed project.

Now it is in your hands. Please stand with San Franciscans and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

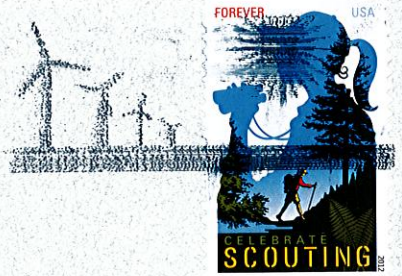
Sincerely,

Name Rosalie Chow

City San Francisco, Calif

SAN FRANCISCO CA 940

09 APR 2013 PM 2 L



Office of Roselyne C. Swig
244 Kearny Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94108

Susan Hirsch, Project Director
1714 Stockton St., Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94133

94133293000

April 3, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

My name is Linda Ach and I am writing in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project, asking that you cast a "No Substantial Issue" vote when you consider the Coastal Permit Appeal for the project.

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Sincerely,

Linda Ach
San Francisco

April 3, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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Sincerely,

Andrew Ach
San Francisco

From:	David Wooll
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	I support the Beach Chalet Project as it is currently proposed
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 2:05:38 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote “No Substantial Issue” on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

The Beach Chalet Project will be a significant public good, increasing the fields’ playability and safety, while more than tripling the number of hours currently available there for recreation. At a time when healthy recreation for both kids and families is lacking in San Francisco, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City’s documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth.

Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park’s 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR’s finding that “with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow.”

In addition, the EIR asserts that the “proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site’s boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky.”

Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
David Wooll
4317 21st ST #3
San Francisco, CA 94114

From: Maureen Mcavoy
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Field renovation project
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 2:45:16 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

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Sincerely,
Maureen McAvoy
435 Clipper Street
SF, CA 94114

From:	Ana Paula Quintanilla de Marti
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject:	Beach Chalet Project
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 3:27:20 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Best,
Ana Paula Quintanilla de Marti
415.685.3120
www.maamam.com

From:	Deirdre Pharr
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	Beach Chalet Project
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 3:47:27 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am writing to tell you that I support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

Sincerely,
Deirdre Pharr
4930 17th Street
SF CA 94117

From:	Diane Tateishi
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject:	In support of Beach Chalet Field Renovation
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 4:03:41 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

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Sincerely,
Diane Tateishi
256 Benton Ave
SF CA 94112

From: Dan Cohen
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Support for Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 4:24:34 PM

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco ParksAlliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote “No Substantial Issue” on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

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Sincerely,
Dan Cohen
1468 Sanchez St.
San Francisco, CA 94131
415-648-7850

TO CA COASTAL COMMISSION:

AS THE GIRLS' DIRECTOR OF A LARGE YOUTH SPORTS ORGANIZATION IN SF, I URGE YOU TO PLEASE APPROVE THE BEACH CHALET FIELDS RENOVATION. WE SERVE 250 KIDS AGES 7-18 AND ARE IN DESPERATE NEED OF MORE USABLE FIELDS IN THE CITY. OUR KIDS WILL NOT PLAY ~~SP~~ SPORTS OR WILL FLEE TO MARIN OR SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO FOR FIELDS, IF WE DON'T PASS THIS. PLEASE HELP US!!!

SINCERELY,
ELISABETH DEAN

From:	Michael O"connor
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org; Philip.Ginsburg@sfgov.org
Subject:	On the lack of SF college soccer players....lack of fields.
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 5:02:48 PM

Dear Comm Shallenberger,

I am a soccer parent in SF.

My daughter is a potential college player. When she was in 6th grade it became clear to me that her chances of playing soccer in college and receiving a potential scholarship were greatly diminished if I did not help her get to a better club team OUTSIDE of San Francisco.

Here is the quantitative breakdown of NCAA teams in Northern California and what Northern California regions they have recruited or pulled players.:

TOTAL REGIONAL BREAKDOWN OF "BAY AREA" PLAYERS FROM 8 D1 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITIES

9 northbay
29 eastbay/contra costa
23 penn / southbay
3 central valley
12 saccramento / nor cal
2 san francisco

I have attached the college-by college breakdown for each school below.

I think the fact that SF produced 2 NorCal college players out of 79 Bay Area players is amazingly poor and reflects the lack of opportunity that currently exists for a family in SF interested in soccer. On top of this fact, USF DONS don't even have 1 girl from San Francisco on their team.

This breakdown of NorCal NCAA rosters is a pretty sad reflection on SF and shows why any family interested in an athletic future for their child needs to leave the City....and shows why we need to stronger commitment to more fields and upkeep....or turf.

--
Michael O'Connor
Parish Entertainment Group
1.888.477.9288 (of)
1.888.882.9288 (f)
415.637.1435 (c)

www.thenewparish.com-booking/partner
www.brickandmortarmusic.com- booking/partner
www.independentsf.com - partner

DAVIS

1 northbay
6 eastbay/contra costa
3 penn / southbay
2 central valley
4 sack / nor cal
0 san francisco

CAL

1 northbay
8 eastbay/contra costa
3 penn / southbay
0 central valley
1 sack / nor cal
1 san francisco (but player went to high school in marin)

STANFORD

1 northbay
1 eastbay/contra costa
3 penn / southbay
0 central valley
0 sack / nor cal
1 san francisco (University High School)

ST MARYS

1 northbay
5 eastbay/contra costa
2 penn / southbay
1 central valley
2 sack / nor cal
0 san francisco

USF

1 northbay
0 eastbay/contra costa
2 penn / southbay
0 central valley
1 sack / nor cal
0 san francisco

9 players at USF come from So Cal and not one player on the team comes from San Francisco...wow...thats's pretty sad.

SANTA CLARA

1 northbay
3 eastbay/contra costa
2 penn / southbay
0 central valley

1 sack / nor cal
0 san francisco

SAN JOSE STATE

1 northbay
3 eastbay/contra costa
8 penn / southbay
0 central valley
2 sack / nor cal
0 san francisco

UC SANTA BARBARA

2 northbay
3 eastbay/contra costa
0 penn / southbay
0 central valley
1 sack / nor cal
0 san francisco

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am a parent of a child who plays youth soccer in San Francisco, and I am writing to ask you to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Raising a child in San Francisco can be very difficult. Due to the high cost of living, insufficient transportation and lack of recreational facilities, we have seen many of our friends and neighbors with kids leaving our great city. We want to stay in San Francisco and we are committed to making our city more family friendly.

San Francisco desperately needs more athletic fields. On so many weekends, we've had to look in the eyes of our disappointed kids and explain why their games are cancelled when it's a perfectly sunny day. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are currently in such poor condition that they must close to let the grass rest. While teams fill our synthetic turf fields across San Francisco, we watch these precious fields go unused for much of the year.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are the right place for this project. This region of Golden Gate Park has been used as an athletic field for over 75 years. This project is the right choice environmentally as well. The Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 5.7 millions gallons of water each year.

My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions very seriously, and at each turn, city officials have voted in our favor. They have seen hundreds of our kids lined up in their soccer uniforms speaking about the importance of these fields and they were compelled to support them.

Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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Sincerely,

Luis E Aguiniga

E.R Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Last year, the fields were closed much of the season and we had many games and practices cancelled due to light rain or when the fields were just a little wet. We need to have fields that are in good condition so that everyone has an opportunity to play. There is just not enough space to play right now. Renovating the Beach Chalet fields would add 9,000 more hours of playtime for everyone to enjoy each year.

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The time to fix the Beach Chalet Fields is now. Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward and play ball.

Thanks,

Ludwika.A

R. E School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Lucas Morales

Hillcrest Elementry School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Lonis

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Louis

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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San Francisco, California

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Thanks,

Lizbeth Cea

Cleveland Elemetary School

San Francisco, California

Dear Chair shallenberger and members of coastal commission,

My name is Libni Gonzalez and I play on the soccer team at Paul Revere Middle school with America SCORES in San Francisco. Please vote to let us renovate the beach Chalet Athletic Fields in park because we need more safe places to play. The reasson why I like Soccer is important to me is because it is something that inter-tains me and im good at it and gets me physical exircise. Its dangerous because its grass only one but makes kids slip, and it will be a great help for our team.

thank you very much,
Libni Gonzalez
14
America SCORES, san francisco
Paul Revere

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Leila Tehrani

Daniel Webster School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Larissa

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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Thanks,

Lander

Redding School

San Francisco, California

4/25/13

Miss Shallenberger
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont street, suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of the California Coastal Commission. I am a member of an America's SCORES soccer program. My Name is Kobe Hutchinson. We are with the San Fransisco SCORES group but we train in Oakland at Westlake Middle School. I am writing to you because I want you to vote for the renovation and reconstruction of the fields in Golden Gate Park. Even though we are probably not going to play there, We still wanna do what we can to help the soccer community. I really enjoy soccer and sports and so do many, and the park will get many visitors from this work. I hope you take this into consent.

From,
Kobe Hutchinson

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Kimberly Carballo

Cleveland Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Kevin

Bret Harte School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Kevin Ajpop

E. R Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am a parent of a child who plays youth soccer in San Francisco, and I am writing to ask you to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Raising a child in San Francisco can be very difficult. Due to the high cost of living, insufficient transportation and lack of recreational facilities, we have seen many of our friends and neighbors with kids leaving our great city. We want to stay in San Francisco and we are committed to making our city more family friendly.

San Francisco desperately needs more athletic fields. On so many weekends, we've had to look in the eyes of our disappointed kids and explain why their games are cancelled when it's a perfectly sunny day. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are currently in such poor condition that they must close to let the grass rest. While teams fill our synthetic turf fields across San Francisco, we watch these precious fields go unused for much of the year.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are the right place for this project. This region of Golden Gate Park has been used as an athletic field for over 75 years. This project is the right choice environmentally as well. The Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 5.7 millions gallons of water each year.

My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions very seriously, and at each turn, city officials have voted in our favor. They have seen hundreds of our kids lined up in their soccer uniforms speaking about the importance of these fields and they were compelled to support them.

Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Kayler SU

Hillcrest School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Katherine
_____

J. Serra
_____ School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Mission Education Center School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Justin Rubio

E. R. Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Julio Mejia

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Judah Zolot

Daniel Webster School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Juancarlos

Daniel Webster School

San Francisco, California

April 4/26/13 2013 4/26/13

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of crystal com
My name Josue and I play
on the soccer team at Paul Re
middle School whith America
scores in San francisco.

I like soccer because its
fun and you could be defence
foward and goaly. Its Important
because you could ern alout of
money and play.

Josue Andrade 11 years old
School name paul Revere

April 25, 2013

Dear Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commision
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94109-2219

Re: Beach Chaler Athletic fields
renovation (Coastal permit Apipeal No
A-2-SIVF-12-020

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of
Coastal Commision

My name Joshua Ahanonu and I play
on the soccer team at Westlake
Middle school with American Scores
San Francisco

Please vote to let us renovate the
beach Athletic fields in Golden Gate
park because we need more safe places
to play. I love playing because it is
fun and builds teamwork

Thank you, Joshua A.

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Josh Pits

Briyanty School

San Francisco, California

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Joseph

Brent Harte School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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Jose

Bryant School

San Francisco, California

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Thanks,

José Vasquez

Everett Middle School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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José Ramirez

Hillcrest E School

San Francisco, California

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Thanks,

Jose Contanti

Everett Middle School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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José Canales

MLK School

San Francisco, California

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Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

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MLK middle School

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M.E.C. School

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Jordan P

Paul Revere School

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Jonathan

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J. J.

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

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Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am a parent of a child who plays youth soccer in San Francisco, and I am writing to ask you to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Raising a child in San Francisco can be very difficult. Due to the high cost of living, insufficient transportation and lack of recreational facilities, we have seen many of our friends and neighbors with kids leaving our great city. We want to stay in San Francisco and we are committed to making our city more family friendly.

San Francisco desperately needs more athletic fields. On so many weekends, we've had to look in the eyes of our disappointed kids and explain why their games are cancelled when it's a perfectly sunny day. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are currently in such poor condition that they must close to let the grass rest. While teams fill our synthetic turf fields across San Francisco, we watch these precious fields go unused for much of the year.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are the right place for this project. This region of Golden Gate Park has been used as an athletic field for over 75 years. This project is the right choice environmentally as well. The Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 5.7 millions gallons of water each year.

My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions very seriously, and at each turn, city officials have voted in our favor. They have seen hundreds of our kids lined up in their soccer uniforms speaking about the importance of these fields and they were compelled to support them.

Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Jim Heardt

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

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E. R Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

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45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

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Thanks,

Jeremy

Bryant School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
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Thanks,

Jerardo Chan Yah
Marshall School

San Francisco, California

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Thanks,

Javier

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

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M. E. C School

San Francisco, California

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Javier chel silva
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Marshall _____ School

San Francisco, California

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Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I am writing to ask you to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Providing safe, well-maintained, and sustainable athletic fields should be a priority for our city and our state. As a coach, I've seen the positive role that sports plays in impacting young people's lives. Through membership of a sports team, kids learn the importance of teamwork, the value of hard work, and the joy that comes with a positive self-image. My players learn how to believe in themselves, and this is a lesson they take with them off the field.

We are in desperate need of more athletic fields in San Francisco. Some athletic leagues have to turn away kids because we simply do not have enough space to handle the demand. The current fields at Beach Chalet are often muddy, filled with gopher holes and dangerous. The City is forced to close the fields to let them rest, and we lose even more of the limited practice and game space.

We must do better for our kids and create safer and more accessible places for them to play ball. Through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our city's Recreation & Parks Department, we have made tremendous progress. We've renovated fields in several neighborhoods across San Francisco and we've added 76,000 hours of additional playtime for our kids. We need to do the same thing at the Beach Chalet fields.

Golden Gate Park has been home to the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields for over 75 years. The proposed plan does not call for constructing entirely new fields; it simply improves the existing fields to add 9,000 hours of playtime each year. The western area of the park has been designated for residential use and the proposed renovation meets the goals of the Golden Gate Park's Master Plan.

I have watched several youth soccer teams come and go through the many years during which this project has been debated. The public process has been exhaustive. We have sat through dozens of hours of public meetings and submitted letters in support of this project. Last year, we stood with over 300 young people who came out to speak in favor of the project, many of them waiting for hours to have their chance to testify. At every turn, decision-makers' questions have been answered and the project has been approved.

Now it is in your hands. Please stand with San Franciscans and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Javier

MLK School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Jason

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

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Jason Cazares

Marshall School

San Francisco, California

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Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am a parent of a child who plays youth soccer in San Francisco, and I am writing to ask you to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Raising a child in San Francisco can be very difficult. Due to the high cost of living, insufficient transportation and lack of recreational facilities, we have seen many of our friends and neighbors with kids leaving our great city. We want to stay in San Francisco and we are committed to making our city more family friendly.

San Francisco desperately needs more athletic fields. On so many weekends, we've had to look in the eyes of our disappointed kids and explain why their games are cancelled when it's a perfectly sunny day. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are currently in such poor condition that they must close to let the grass rest. While teams fill our synthetic turf fields across San Francisco, we watch these precious fields go unused for much of the year.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are the right place for this project. This region of Golden Gate Park has been used as an athletic field for over 75 years. This project is the right choice environmentally as well. The Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 5.7 millions gallons of water each year.

My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions very seriously, and at each turn, city officials have voted in our favor. They have seen hundreds of our kids lined up in their soccer uniforms speaking about the importance of these fields and they were compelled to support them.

Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Josefi Melgoza

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Jared Ortega

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

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Bret hafte School

San Francisco, California

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Jamal Thorne

Webster School

San Francisco, California

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Hillcrest School

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Isabel Campos

Cleveland Elementary School

San Francisco, California

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Isaac Hurtz

Cleveland School

San Francisco, California

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Hillcrest School

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Thanks,

Igorfer Velasquez

Hill Crest School School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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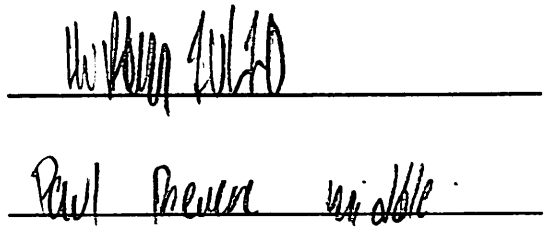

Paul Revere Middle School

San Francisco, California

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

My name is Hiram and I play on the Soccer team at paul revere middle school with America SCORES in San francisco

Please vote to let us renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate park because we need more safe places to play. I love playing soccer to stay active. This is important to me and my team because it helps us Stay active and become or make close friends. The fields were closed because it was to dangerous to play on with all the got holes. I want ~~want~~ the field renovated so we can have a safe enviorment.

Thank you for your time.

Name Hiram
Age 14
America SCORES, San francisco
Paul Revere

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Hilario Santos

Mission Education Center School

San Francisco, California

Beach Chalet Athletic fields April 1/26/11

Dear Chair Shallenberger members of Coastal Commission.

My name is Herman Julio and I play on the SCORES soccer team at Paul Revere Middle School with America SCORES in San Francisco. I love playing soccer with my friends. This is important because I want to be active. I want Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project to make more fields for other schools because maybe one day one team can't play because a field.

Thank You Very Much,

Herman Julio
12
America SCORES, San Francisco
Paul Revere

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

April 22, 2013

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Thanks,

Henry

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Henry Vasquez

Everett School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Henry [illegible]

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

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Thanks,

Heidy

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

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Thanks,

Hector Roa

Marshall School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Everett middle School

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Harif Mendicati

Marshall School

San Francisco, California

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Gustavo

Hillcrest School

San Francisco, California

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Mission Education Center School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Thanks,

Grace Diaz R

Redding School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Thanks,

Glendy López

Mission Education Center School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Redding School

San Francisco, California

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Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Gilma Alvarez

Bryant School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of kids who play soccer in San Francisco and I support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Playing at the fields in Golden Gate Park means a lot to me, and I love spending time with my friends on my team. Rebuilding the fields is important to me because I want to make sure that my team and other kids like us can continue to play soccer in the city.

Last year, the fields were closed much of the season and we had many games and practices cancelled due to light rain or when the fields were just a little wet. We need to have fields that are in good condition so that everyone has an opportunity to play. There is just not enough space to play right now. Renovating the Beach Chalet fields would add 9,000 more hours of playtime for everyone to enjoy each year.

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Thanks,

Gilberto Duarte

Everett MS School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Gibson

Redding E. School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Thanks,

Gerson Hernandez

Mission Education Center School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Genaro González

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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Sincerely,

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 26, 2013

Dear Chalet Shallen bergen an members of Costal commission,

My name is Gabriel and I play on the soccer team at Paul Revere Middle school with American scores in san francisco

please vote to let us renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic field in Golden Gate

I love soccer because soccer is in my vane. The field were too close and dangerous. We want it because we want more time to play soccer

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Gabriel Haas 4/26/12

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Freddy

Redding, E. School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

FRED Hughes

MArShall School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Francisco Ordonez

Junipero Sierra School

San Francisco, California

April 25, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation
(Coastal permit appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of
Coastal Commission

My name is Francisco Lorenzo and I play on the
soccer team at Westlake Middle School
with America SCOPES in San Francisco.

Please vote to let us renovate the Beach Chalet
Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park because
we need more safe places to play.
I love playing because it's fun and it gets me
unbored and get good grades. It is important
because it keeps you active.

Thank you very much,
Francisco Lorenzo
13
America SCOPES, San Francisco
Westlake Middle School

April 25 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco CA 94105-2219

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(Coastal permit appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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America SCORES, San Francisco
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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Faishaun Segi

Bret Harte School

San Francisco, California

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Fabian Ramirez

Marshall School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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Sincerely,

Evelina Marenco

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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Sincerely,

Eva Mestis

E.R. Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Thanks,

Estéfany

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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Thanks,

Erin Garcia

Redding School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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The time to fix the Beach Chalet Fields is now. Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward and play ball.

Thanks,

Erick Sarck

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 25, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, chain
California coastal commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear, chair Shallenberger and Members of coastal commission.
My name is Erick Sarat and I play on team for paul revere middle school with America scores in San Francisco.
please vote to let us renvate the beach chalet Athletic feild in Gloden Gate park because we need more safe place to play.
The coastal permit appeal for the beach chalet Athletic field renovation in San Francisco.

Thank you very much
Erick Sarat
12
America scores, San Francisco.
Paul revere

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of kids who play soccer in San Francisco and I support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Playing at the fields in Golden Gate Park means a lot to me, and I love spending time with my friends on my team. Rebuilding the fields is important to me because I want to make sure that my team and other kids like us can continue to play soccer in the city.

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Thanks,

Erick Arriaza

MLK M.D. School

San Francisco, California

April 25, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Costal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Feild Renovation (costal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Costal Commission,

My name is Erick Arevalo and I play on the soccer team at Westlake Middle school with America SCORES in San Francisco.

Please vote to let us renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Feilds in Golden Gate Park because we need more safe places to play

I love to play soccer because I stay fit, and, it distracts me from the tv so I will be entertained with something I love to do plus soccer for me was always in my family.

Thank you very much,

Erick Arevalo
12 years old
America SCORES, San Francisco
Westlake Middle School

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of kids who play soccer in San Francisco and I support the *renovation* of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Playing at the fields in Golden Gate Park means a lot to me, and I love spending time with my friends on my team. Rebuilding the fields is important to me because I want to make sure that my team and other kids like us can continue to play soccer in the city.

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Thanks,

Erica

Redding School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Emily

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Emily Carreto

Cleveland School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Redding School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Thanks,

Emiliano

Marshall School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Emelyn Lopez

E.R. Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Thanks from Elvis gabriel Enguidanos Machado

Daniel Webster School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Eliezer G.

Everett MS School

San Francisco, California

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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Eli Salinas

Maghow School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Edwin tenorio

Cleveland School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Edwin Martinez

Hillcrest Elementry School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Edwin Chun

E L Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Edgar Muñoz

E.R. Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Edgar Boch

Everett Middle School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am a parent of a child who plays youth soccer in San Francisco, and I am writing to ask you to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Raising a child in San Francisco can be very difficult. Due to the high cost of living, insufficient transportation and lack of recreational facilities, we have seen many of our friends and neighbors with kids leaving our great city. We want to stay in San Francisco and we are committed to making our city more family friendly.

San Francisco desperately needs more athletic fields. On so many weekends, we've had to look in the eyes of our disappointed kids and explain why their games are cancelled when it's a perfectly sunny day. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are currently in such poor condition that they must close to let the grass rest. While teams fill our synthetic turf fields across San Francisco, we watch these precious fields go unused for much of the year.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are the right place for this project. This region of Golden Gate Park has been used as an athletic field for over 75 years. This project is the right choice environmentally as well. The Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 5.7 millions gallons of water each year.

My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions very seriously, and at each turn, city officials have voted in our favor. They have seen hundreds of our kids lined up in their soccer uniforms speaking about the importance of these fields and they were compelled to support them.

Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Ellery Hallie

Hillcrest School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Paul Revere Middle School

San Francisco, California

APRIL
26
2013

Dear Chair Shallenberger & Members of Coastal Commission

My name is Dshannyah Sampson and I play soccer team at Paul Revere Middle School with America SCORES in San Francisco. Please vote to let us renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Feilds in Golden Gate Park because we need more safe places to play. I like playing soccer because it is something fun to do and I can have fun and see my friends. Also because it is healthy and I want to learn to play more sports. This is important to me because it just makes me happy & it makes my team happy. The Feild have to many potholes an a the grass feild has too much sticks. I want it to move forward because it can be a better place for me and my teammates.

Thank you very much,
Dshannyah Sampson
12 years old
America SCORES, San Francisco
Paul Revere Middle School

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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San Francisco desperately needs more athletic fields. On so many weekends, we've had to look in the eyes of our disappointed kids and explain why their games are cancelled when it's a perfectly sunny day. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are currently in such poor condition that they must close to let the grass rest. While teams fill our synthetic turf fields across San Francisco, we watch these precious fields go unused for much of the year.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are the right place for this project. This region of Golden Gate Park has been used as an athletic field for over 75 years. This project is the right choice environmentally as well. The Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 5.7 millions gallons of water each year.

My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions very seriously, and at each turn, city officials have voted in our favor. They have seen hundreds of our kids lined up in their soccer uniforms speaking about the importance of these fields and they were compelled to support them.

Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

E.R TAYLOR Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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Thanks,

Dieno

Cleveland School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Diane

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Thanks,

Diane Cedillo

Cleveland School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I am writing to ask you to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Providing safe, well-maintained, and sustainable athletic fields should be a priority for our city and our state. As a coach, I've seen the positive role that sports plays in impacting young people's lives. Through membership of a sports team, kids learn the importance of teamwork, the value of hard work, and the joy that comes with a positive self-image. My players learn how to believe in themselves, and this is a lesson they take with them off the field.

We are in desperate need of more athletic fields in San Francisco. Some athletic leagues have to turn away kids because we simply do not have enough space to handle the demand. The current fields at Beach Chalet are often muddy, filled with gopher holes and dangerous. The City is *forced to close the* fields to let them rest, and we lose even more of the limited practice and game space.

We must do better for our kids and create safer and more accessible places for them to play ball. Through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our city's Recreation & Parks Department, we have made tremendous progress. We've renovated fields in several neighborhoods across San Francisco and we've added 76,000 hours of additional playtime for our kids. We need to do the same thing at the Beach Chalet fields.

Golden Gate Park has been home to the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields for over 75 years. The proposed plan does not call for constructing entirely new fields; it simply improves the existing fields to add 9,000 hours of playtime each year. The western area of the park has been designated for residential use and the proposed renovation meets the goals of the Golden Gate Park's Master Plan.

I have watched several youth soccer teams come and go through the many years during which this project has been debated. The public process has been exhaustive. We have sat through dozens of hours of public meetings and submitted letters in support of this project. Last year, we stood with over 300 young people who came out to speak in favor of the project, many of them waiting for hours to have their chance to testify. At every turn, decision-makers' questions have been answered and the project has been approved.

Now it is in your hands. Please stand with San Franciscans and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Diana Rodriguez DiaRo

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Denis Hernandez

Everett Middle School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Dara

Ft. Marshal School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Daniel Z

Bret Harte School

San Francisco, California

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Daniela Hernandez

E-L Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

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Thanks,

Daniel Sandoval

Redding School School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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E. R Taylor Elementary School

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Dalia Leverman

Hillcrest School

San Francisco, California

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Dakarai

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

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Thanks,

Cristian pacheco

Marllal School

San Francisco, California

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Crisiyh

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

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Sincerely,

Claudia V. M.

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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Thanks,

Claudia Mendoza

R Everett Middle School

San Francisco, California

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission, My name is Claudia Hernandez, and I play on the soccer team at Middle School with America Scores in San Francisco.

Please vote to let us renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park because we need more safe places to play.

I love playing soccer, because Its fun! Its important to us because we love and really enjoy playing soccer. I want the Beach Chalelet Athletic Fields Renovation Project to move foword, because soccer is very important to all kids.

Thank you very much,

America SCORES, San Francisco

Paul Revere Middle School

April 22, 2013

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Last year, the fields were closed much of the season and we had many games and practices cancelled due to light rain or when the fields were just a little wet. We need to have fields that are in good condition so that everyone has an opportunity to play. There is just not enough space to play right now. Renovating the Beach Chalet fields would add 9,000 more hours of playtime for everyone to enjoy each year.

As youth soccer players, we have spoken out again and again in favor of this project. Many of us have written letters, met with city officials, and attended meetings in City Hall. Last year, over 300 players showed up to testify in favor of this project at a Planning Commission meeting.

The time to fix the Beach Chalet Fields is now. Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward and play ball.

Thanks,

Citlalli Sanchez

Cleveland Elementary School

San Francisco, California

4/28/15

Mary Shallenberger, chair
California Coastal Commission
45 fremont street, Suite 2000
San francisco, Ca 94105-2219

Re: Beach chalet Athletic Fields Renovation
Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

Dear chair Shallenberger & members of Coastal commission,

My Name is Cisco Negoescu and I Play on the Soccer team at westlake Middle school with America scores in San francisco.

Please vote to let us renovate the beach chalet Athletics fields in Golden gate Park because we need more safe Places to Play.

I love soccer because my great grand father Played soccer and he coached soccer too. He has a Stadium in San francisco that was named after him and he was in the hall of fame. So I decided to Play and it turned out fun. So this is how I ended up loving and Playing soccer.

Sincerely,
Cisco
Negoescu

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am a parent of a child who plays youth soccer in San Francisco, and I am writing to ask you to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Raising a child in San Francisco can be very difficult. Due to the high cost of living, insufficient transportation and lack of recreational facilities, we have seen many of our friends and neighbors with kids leaving our great city. We want to stay in San Francisco and we are committed to making our city more family friendly.

San Francisco desperately needs more athletic fields. On so many weekends, we've had to look in the eyes of our disappointed kids and explain why their games are cancelled when it's a perfectly sunny day. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are currently in such poor condition that they must close to let the grass rest. While teams fill our synthetic turf fields across San Francisco, we watch these precious fields go unused for much of the year.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are the right place for this project. This region of Golden Gate Park has been used as an athletic field for over 75 years. This project is the right choice environmentally as well. The Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 5.7 millions gallons of water each year.

My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions very seriously, and at each turn, city officials have voted in our favor. They have seen hundreds of our kids lined up in their soccer uniforms speaking about the importance of these fields and they were compelled to support them.

Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Christine Campos

Bret Harte Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

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Thanks,

Christian Morales

Hillcrest Elementary school
School

San Francisco, California

April 25, 2013

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members Of Costal Commission,

My name is Chris Hilton and I play on the Soccer team at westlake Middle School with America Scores in San francisco.

please vote to let us renovate The Beach Chalet Athletic fields in Golden gate park because we need more Safe places to play.

I like playing Soccer because It takes my mind off all my problems. Its a relief and it feels good. Not many people like playing Soccer but I think its a cool Sport.

P.S. Sorry about the handwriting its hard to write with people taping your Shoulder every five seconds. Also people banging on the table.

Sincerly, Chris Hilton
Age 14
grade 8th
Westlake

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Catherine

Redding School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Carzell

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Carolina Escobar.

Junipero Serra. School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Carmen Perez

E.R. Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Carlos

Hillcrest School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Carlos Castellon

MLK School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Caio

Marshall School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Bryant Valencio

Redding Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Bryana SARAT

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Bryan Borjas

E.R. Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Bryan

Marshall School

San Francisco, California

Dear Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission

My name is Brayan Sanchez and I play on the team Paul Revere Middle School with America Scores in San Francisco. Please vote to let renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic fields in Golden Gate Park because we need more safe places to play. I Love playing soccer because I've been playing since I was 4 yrs. This is important to me because I have more places to play in. This is important to my team because if someone is playing in the fields we could play in other fields. I want the Beach chalet Athletic fields because we all have more chances to play.

Thank you very much.
Brayan Sanchez
14
America scores, San Francisco
Paul revere

Mary Shallenber, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St, Suite 2000
San Francisco, Ca. 94105-2219

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

MK Brittney neey

MLK School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Bridgette Marion

E.R. Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
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Thanks,

Benji

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Thanks,

Avisahi Lopez

Cleveland School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Atyanchu Shah

MLK School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Ashley Alfaro

MLK School

San Francisco, California

4/25/13

Arnoldo Macias

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commision
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RE: Beach Chalet Athletic fields Revonation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-

Dear chair shallenberger and member of Coastal Commission,

My Name is Arnoldo Macias and I play on the soccer team at Westlake Middle School with America SCORES in San Francisco.

Please vote to let us renovate the beach Chalet Athletics Fields in Golden Gate Park because we need more safe places to play.

I love soccer, Soccer has been my favority sport seance a kid and I never had the chance to be in a soccer team. It is very important to me and my team to work together as we do in this team.

It is very important to me and my family and my teams family to play in a safe place thats why we want the field to be Renovated. Thank you.

Sincerely Arnoldo Macias

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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E. R. Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

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Thanks,

Anthony

Redding Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Anne Marie Jackson

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Thanks,

Annia Wu

Hillcrest Elementary School

San Francisco, California

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Thanks,

Angelo Rodiguez Santiago
Deniol Webster School

San Francisco, California

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Angelica Green

Marshall School

San Francisco, California

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E. R Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

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San Francisco, California

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Cleveland Elamantary School

San Francisco, California

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Ana Infante

cleveland School

San Francisco, California

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Amilcar Ramirez

Allcrest - School

San Francisco, California

4/25/15 2013 Amadou

Mery Shallenderger char
California coastal commissino
45 Fremont Street Suit 2000
San Francisco 94205-2219
Re: Beach chalet Athti Field Renovait comto
Dear
Dear chaler shallenderger and memder of.
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Amadou. SCORES in sanfrant amnt.
Pleaasw valu to me

Please vote to letus renovate tho Beeah + cathaw
Athletic Field in Golder. Gate Park decause we

letus renovate. h mart u amt ha Park amt ant
Park decause we need more Safe Play.

I have Plamty to lennem it + a Baenmt ct cat thet

Its fun.

Thank You very munch

Amadou
12

Americs SCORES Sun

Wes Hake

April 22, 2013

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Alvin Bui

Hillcrest E. School

San Francisco, California

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Alista Tayl

Juniperro Serra Elementary School

San Francisco, California

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My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions very seriously, and at each turn, city officials have voted in our favor. They have seen hundreds of our kids lined up in their soccer uniforms speaking about the importance of these fields and they were compelled to support them.

Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Alicia Gayton

Cleveland School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am a parent of a child who plays youth soccer in San Francisco, and I am writing to ask you to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Raising a child in San Francisco can be very difficult. Due to the high cost of living, insufficient transportation and lack of recreational facilities, we have seen many of our friends and neighbors with kids leaving our great city. We want to stay in San Francisco and we are committed to making our city more family friendly.

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Sincerely,

Alfredo Martinez.

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of kids who play soccer in San Francisco and I support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Playing at the fields in Golden Gate Park means a lot to me, and I love spending time with my friends on my team. Rebuilding the fields is important to me because I want to make sure that my team and other kids like us can continue to play soccer in the city.

Last year, the fields were closed much of the season and we had many games and practices cancelled due to light rain or when the fields were just a little wet. We need to have fields that are in good condition so that everyone has an opportunity to play. There is just not enough space to play right now. Renovating the Beach Chalet fields would add 9,000 more hours of playtime for everyone to enjoy each year.

As youth soccer players, we have spoken out again and again in favor of this project. Many of us have written letters, met with city officials, and attended meetings in City Hall. Last year, over 300 players showed up to testify in favor of this project at a Planning Commission meeting.

The time to fix the Beach Chalet Fields is now. Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward and play ball.

Thanks,

Alexis Gamez

Everett ES School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Alexis Billy O.

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

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Alexia Morales

Hillcrest School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Alex Alvarez

E.R. Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Alejandra

Redding School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Aldair Callupe Vasquez

Everett middle School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Adriana Hernandez

Cleveland School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Adeena Nasser

E. L Taylor Elementary School

San Francisco, California

4/25/13

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, Ca 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation
(Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNE-12-
12-020

Dear Chair Shallenberger & members
of Coastal Commission)

My Name is Adante Henderson and I Play
Soccer at Westlake middle school
with American Scores in
San Francisco.

Please vote to let us renovate
The Beach Chalet Athletic fields in
Golden gate Park because we need
More Safe Places to Play.

I like playing soccer because It
takes my mind off all my problems. Its a
relief and it feels good. Not many
people like playing soccer but I think
it a cool sport P.S. Sorry about
the handwriting it hard to write
with People tapping your shoulder
every five seconds. Also People
banging on the table. Sincerely, Adante H
Age 14 Grade 8th westlake.

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Abner

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Mission Education Center School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

4/23/13

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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San Francisco, California

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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am one of the thousands of kids who play soccer in San Francisco and I support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal and let us fix our fields.

Playing at the fields in Golden Gate Park means a lot to me, and I love spending time with my friends on my team. Rebuilding the fields is important to me because I want to make sure that my team and other kids like us can continue to play soccer in the city.

Last year, the fields were closed much of the season and we had many games and practices cancelled due to light rain or when the fields were just a little wet. We need to have fields that are in good condition so that everyone has an opportunity to play. There is just not enough space to play right now. Renovating the Beach Chalet fields would add 9,000 more hours of playtime for everyone to enjoy each year.

As youth soccer players, we have spoken out again and again in favor of this project. Many of us have written letters, met with city officials, and attended meetings in City Hall. Last year, over 300 players showed up to testify in favor of this project at a Planning Commission meeting.

The time to fix the Beach Chalet Fields is now. Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward and play ball.

Thanks,

Mission Education Center School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I am writing to ask you to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Providing safe, well-maintained, and sustainable athletic fields should be a priority for our city and our state. As a coach, I've seen the positive role that sports plays in impacting young people's lives. Through membership of a sports team, kids learn the importance of teamwork, the value of hard work, and the joy that comes with a positive self-image. My players learn how to believe in themselves, and this is a lesson they take with them off the field.

We are in desperate need of more athletic fields in San Francisco. Some athletic leagues have to turn away kids because we simply do not have enough space to handle the demand. The current fields at Beach Chalet are often muddy, filled with gopher holes and dangerous. The City is forced to close the fields to let them rest, and we lose even more of the limited practice and game space.

We must do better for our kids and create safer and more accessible places for them to play ball. Through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our city's Recreation & Parks Department, we have made tremendous progress. We've renovated fields in several neighborhoods across San Francisco and we've added 76,000 hours of additional playtime for our kids. We need to do the same thing at the Beach Chalet fields.

Golden Gate Park has been home to the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields for over 75 years. The proposed plan does not call for constructing entirely new fields; it simply improves the existing fields to add 9,000 hours of playtime each year. The western area of the park has been designated for residential use and the proposed renovation meets the goals of the Golden Gate Park's Master Plan.

I have watched several youth soccer teams come and go through the many years during which this project has been debated. The public process has been exhaustive. We have sat through dozens of hours of public meetings and submitted letters in support of this project. Last year, we stood with over 300 young people who came out to speak in favor of the project, many of them waiting for hours to have their chance to testify. At every turn, decision-makers' questions have been answered and the project has been approved.

Now it is in your hands. Please stand with San Franciscans and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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Raising a child in San Francisco can be very difficult. Due to the high cost of living, insufficient transportation and lack of recreational facilities, we have seen many of our friends and neighbors with kids leaving our great city. We want to stay in San Francisco and we are committed to making our city more family friendly.

San Francisco desperately needs more athletic fields. On so many weekends, we've had to look in the eyes of our disappointed kids and explain why their games are cancelled when it's a perfectly sunny day. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are currently in such poor condition that they must close to let the grass rest. While teams fill our synthetic turf fields across San Francisco, we watch these precious fields go unused for much of the year.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are the right place for this project. This region of Golden Gate Park has been used as an athletic field for over 75 years. This project is the right choice environmentally as well. The Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 5.7 millions gallons of water each year.

My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions very seriously, and at each turn, city officials have voted in our favor. They have seen hundreds of our kids lined up in their soccer uniforms speaking about the importance of these fields and they were compelled to support them.

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April 22, 2013

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Cleveland School

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April 22, 2013

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San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Everett Middle School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Sincerely,

Leandro Carlos

HILLCREST School

San Francisco, California

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Alejandra Rosa

Cleveland School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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Bryant Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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Paul Revere School

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Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

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Sincerely,

Hillcrest Elementary School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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Jan Elizabeth Carter

Junipero Serra School

San Francisco, California

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Mission Education Center School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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E. R. Taylor Elementary School

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Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I am writing to ask you to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Providing safe, well-maintained, and sustainable athletic fields should be a priority for our city and our state. As a coach, I've seen the positive role that sports plays in impacting young people's lives. Through membership of a sports team, kids learn the importance of teamwork, the value of hard work, and the joy that comes with a positive self-image. My players learn how to believe in themselves, and this is a lesson they take with them off the field.

We are in desperate need of more athletic fields in San Francisco. Some athletic leagues have to turn away kids because we simply do not have enough space to handle the demand. The current fields at Beach Chalet are often muddy, filled with gopher holes and dangerous. The City is forced to close the fields to let them rest, and we lose even more of the limited practice and game space.

We must do better for our kids and create safer and more accessible places for them to play ball. Through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our city's Recreation & Parks Department, we have made tremendous progress. We've renovated fields in several neighborhoods across San Francisco and we've added 76,000 hours of additional playtime for our kids. We need to do the same thing at the Beach Chalet fields.

Golden Gate Park has been home to the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields for over 75 years. The proposed plan does not call for constructing entirely new fields; it simply improves the existing fields to add 9,000 hours of playtime each year. The western area of the park has been designated for residential use and the proposed renovation meets the goals of the Golden Gate Park's Master Plan.

I have watched several youth soccer teams come and go through the many years during which this project has been debated. The public process has been exhaustive. We have sat through dozens of hours of public meetings and submitted letters in support of this project. Last year, we stood with over 300 young people who came out to speak in favor of the project, many of them waiting for hours to have their chance to testify. At every turn, decision-makers' questions have been answered and the project has been approved.

Now it is in your hands. Please stand with San Franciscans and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Paul Revere School

San Francisco, California

April 22, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
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May 2, 2013

Honorable Mary Shallenberger, Chair and Commission Members
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Permit Number: A-2-SNF-12-020
Hearing Date: Thursday, May 9, 2013
Item No: Th15c

Ms. Shallenberger and all other Commission Members:

I am writing in support of this appeal. I do not support the proposed project to renovate Golden Gate Park's existing athletic fields with synthetic turf. Instead, I support the Hybrid Alternative which would provide renovated natural grass fields. We need to protect the natural green open spaces that San Francisco has.

Most artificial turf fields, including the type proposed for this project, are made out of thousands of used tires. Even though the project reuses something that would otherwise get thrown away, tires were never designed to be used as playing surfaces. They are extremely toxic because they contain high amounts of lead, chromium, zinc, and other heavy metals. As a parent, I am appalled that we are still considering using such toxic material on surfaces where our children play. We regulate chemical usage in toys and playground structures, so playing fields should be no different.

We need to teach our children to respect the environment by leaving them clean, safe places to play. Natural habitats should be respected, especially where humans and native animals currently coexist. Also, we should maintain (and expand) opportunities for carbon sequestration. Natural grass fields will help us do this. As a California Coastal Commission member, please support this effort to protect our park.

When this project for artificial turf was studied for approval, the alternative, for natural grass fields, was never studied. I attended the Artificial Turf Task Force meetings in San Francisco in 2008 and we were not allowed to compare artificial turf to its natural alternative. How can we find an appropriate playing surface material without analyzing the other common choice?

Although much of the fields come from recycled product, no manufacturer has yet been able to recycle the artificial turf. By choosing artificial turf, we are committing to buy more product from the manufacturer every ten years (which is the manufacturer's recommended life span of the product). Also, we are then responsible as a city to dispose of the old artificial turf into a

landfill when landfill costs continue to rise. San Francisco has a goal of no landfill waste by the year 2030. I was told that the Recreation and Parks Department would be exempt from this goal so that they could use artificial turf. It is beyond unreasonable to expect residents and businesses to comply with an admirable goal of no landfill waste if the Recreation and Parks Department is not required to do the same.

Artificial turf is not protected by warranty if people use strollers, bicycles, or wheelchairs on it. We should not be taking land that was previously accessible to all and make it inaccessible to many San Franciscans. As an architect, I am trained in making buildings accessible for all. It is imperative that we make ALL public spaces accessible, especially spaces that started that way.

Artificial turf must have a drainage system installed instead of letting the soil drain naturally. In San Francisco, we already cannot handle all of our waste water on some rainy days. With each artificial turf field we add, we must accommodate more waste water, some of which inevitably gets poured out into the bay without first being treated. In San Francisco, we are encouraging residents to convert their concrete yards into permeable surfaces so we should not be willing to cover up large expanses of existing permeable surfaces in park land.

Proponents of artificial turf only have two arguments. First, they claim we'll save money on water. This is true, however we will not save as much as they claim. Artificial turf requires water (and disinfectants) to be cleaned on a regular basis, and water is used to cool the fields when they reach high temperatures. Field surfaces can be much higher (by forty to fifty degrees) than the air temperature. Second, they claim that soccer teams will get more hours of playing time. This is also true, but again the gains in hours are not as high as they claim.

We should not be willing to decimate these fields in order to provide a few more hours of soccer playing. The future costs to our city are too high and the health of our children needs to be respected, not ignored.

Please stand up for our children, our park's future, and our environment. Vote to appeal the decision to renovate the existing athletic fields in Golden Gate Park with artificial turf.

Thank you very much in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

--Edward Pertcheck, Architect
L.E.E.D. Accredited Professional
83 Scotia Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94124
(415) 336-1593
epertcheck@yahoo.com

From: Brian Colfer
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: San Francisco Soccer Fields
Date: Friday, May 03, 2013 1:55:05 AM

These fields are an important part of the sporting cultural fabric of the community. They can be a wonderful place to enjoy the community of sport with the careful restoration plans. Please allow these fields to flourish.

Sent from my iPad

From:	Deborah Robbins
To:	CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject:	Soccer fields should stay natural
Date:	Friday, May 03, 2013 8:14:11 AM

Coastal Commissioners:

I write in opposition to the plan to cover four fields in Golden Gate Park with artificial turf and surround them with tall lights. This plan recognizes no value in the trees, plants, insect life, and wildlife that call that meadow home now. I understand that the development plan also calls for the construction of bleacher seating, parking areas, and sidewalks. These amenities for humans would destroy this area as habitat for other species. Surely we can arrive at a compromise that does not destroy this meadow. Golden Gate Park is this city's green heart. How appalling for a visitor to come across a green stretch of our park that is fake and lifeless! I do sympathize with parents who want their children to enjoy the benefits of outdoor play. I would respectfully suggest that our children would be better served by an experience of a functioning ecosystem, with its occasional inconveniences, than by paving one more bit of paradise.

Thank you for taking my views into consideration.

Deborah Robbins
robbinsdeborah@gmail.com

From: John Frediani
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: beach chalet
Date: Friday, May 03, 2013 9:54:51 AM

I support the commissions decision to block the destruction of the soccer fields.

Sent from my iPad

From: David
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: Artificial turf in Golden Gate Park
Date: Friday, May 03, 2013 12:47:44 PM

Dear Commissioners,

As a long-time surfer at Ocean Beach I am opposed to the installation of artificial turf at the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields. The run-off from the proposed artificial turf is toxic and will pollute the ocean and endanger the health of beach goers. Not to mention the health of the children playing on the fields and the wildlife of the Park. This is a misbegotten plan. Contrary to the editorial in the San Francisco Chronicle, the overwhelming message from San Francisco to the Coastal Commission is that we don't want artificial turf in Golden Gate Park.

David Romano
759 La Playa St., #1
San Francisco CA 94121

From: David Ambruster
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: Natural turf
Date: Friday, May 03, 2013 12:48:20 PM

I am a homeowner and parent living two blocks from Golden Gate Park and four blocks from Ocean Beach.
I support the Coastal Commission staff report calling for natural turf on the soccer fields at Beach Chalet. There is no place for artificial turf in this area. Grass fields can be used for soccer- in fact they are better and healthier for children. They also maintain the natural feel of the park.
I also support recommendations for limiting artificial lighting to protect bird life.

Thank you for hearing all opinions,
Yours,
David Ambruster
1462 45th Ave.
San Francisco, CA
94122

From: Rosanne Liggett
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: NO TO OCEAN BEACH Development
Date: Friday, May 03, 2013 1:16:14 PM

Greetings CCC:

I disagree with today's Chronicle Editorial about the proposed development at Ocean Beach soccer fields.

Your staff recommendations are right. A soccer field development at Ocean Beach would be environmentally harmful to the stated Golden Gate Park mission for a naturalistic environment at the ocean end of the park and other issues.. Night time lighting would destroy enjoyment of sunset and darkness that is increasingly rare in our urban life.

It is urgent that responsible people resist the temptation to destroy natural areas for the ever insistent demands of developers, investors, and politicians who bend to the winds. More soccer fields can be developed in SF without creating the environmental harm that the Ocean Beach area would suffer.

Please hold your stand and resist the powerful influences to the contrary. I live in Bernal Heights in San Francisco and enjoy the beach and western end of the park as it is. I attended the Board of Supervisor's hearing on this topic and was shocked at the lack of serious consideration given to the opponents of this project. Unfortunately, in SF these days, there is a wave of development happening all over and the Director of Parks & Recreation is a controversial figure on many projects for privatizing areas of the public park system.

Thank you to the CCC staff for an informed and intelligent report on this matter.

Sincerely, Rosanne Liggett

From: Cynthia Cudaback
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: astroturf?
Date: Friday, May 03, 2013 1:18:27 PM

---

re: soccer fields in western GG park.

I'm with you on this one - not digging the astroturf/sensitive environment combination. Have you published any information about the specific problems of asturf? Does it count as permeable or impermeable, and how does it affect water quality?

I can't access your website right now, possibly because the editors of the Chronicle solicited letters in support of the astroturf for the soccer field. If you send me some information about astroturf and water quality, I'll share it with my students in East Bay elementary and middle schools.

keep up the good fight!

Cynthia Cudaback, PhD
OceanAndYou.com

From: Carol Polk
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: Thank you, thank you
Date: Friday, May 03, 2013 2:13:07 PM

The SF Chronicle asked readers to tell you how we feel about the proposals to "improve" the soccer fields near Ocean Beach. Please accept my sincerest thanks for keeping focused on issues much larger than whether some people need more places to play games later in the day.

Yesterday I told the Mayor, the head of Rec and Park, and my local Supervisor of my appreciation of your actions. I'm happy to add these thanks, although I don't think Ed Lee will be.

The Chronicle is all wet in its assault on the Commission in this matter.

From: Jonica Brooks
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: Please do not replace grass with plastic turf and glaring sodium lights!
Date: Friday, May 03, 2013 5:10:50 PM

>>
>> Dear Costal Commissioners:
>> Please heed the environmental concerns around the replacement of grass for astro-turf and high pressure sodium lighting in the Beach Chalet area, and say 'No' to the astro-turf and extreme lighting. Now more than ever we need to promote well being for our environment and truly live on our planet in more sustainable ways. My friends who have kids that do play on astro-turf will tell you that they find pieces of astro-turf all over the house when the kids come in after playing on those plastic fields. Please do not approve toxic plastics that will only end up in our environment and ocean! Additionally, please heed the concerns of the neighbors that live in the area and do not want the 'sun' still shining at 10PM. A decision in the right direction would force us all to find more sustainable ways to fix up that area.
>> Thank you,
>> Jonica Brooks RN
>> 3804-23rd Street
>> San Francisco CA
>> 94114
>

From: Michael Aubert
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: Let nature be!
Date: Friday, May 03, 2013 8:36:11 PM

Please do not cave in to those who would destroy the natural environment of Golden Gate Park and reject the insane ball field proposal. No artificial turf, no lighting!! There are plenty of other sites to build artificial soccer fields, but not in Golden Gate Park!

Sent from San Francisco Chronicle for iPad Download the App here

From:	SF Ocean Edge
To:	CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject:	Beach Chalet - I support the Staff Report and am opposed to the artificial turf and sports lights
Date:	Saturday, May 04, 2013 1:28:40 AM

This is to write in support of the excellent Staff Report.

Kids need soccer, but they also need nature. Golden Gate Park is the heritage for the future for all kids. Please continue to protect the Park!

SF Ocean Edge

From: jblanchard07@comcast.net
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: Block the fields
Date: Saturday, May 04, 2013 10:16:00 AM

I have sent the flowing letter to the SF Chronicle in response to their Editorial myopically and brainlessly calling for artificial turf and night lighting at the west end of Golden Gate Park. Don't let them do it. Thanks. jb

Thanks to your Editorial "Don't block fields" May 3, I have sent a note to the California Coastal Commission requesting just that. Although, at the current pace of urban development, we may soon be able to take a short stroll along a foot bridge to Oakland and back from one side of the City let's make an effort to preserve some of the naturalness we have left on the Western Edge. Kids can play Soccer on grass. They've done so for years. If GG Park can maintain a thousand acres of beautiful lawns why can't they maintain 4 soccer fields? Perhaps the money spent on artificial turf and stadium lighting would be better used to invest in a new rototiller or mower. Or an extra Gardner. That wind swept side of the City still has an Ocean Beach feel to it even with the streets and houses. Don't blow it by mimicking, and mocking, nature with fake grass and sunlight. CCC - Block the fields!

John Blanchard
Pacifica

From: Jessica Dervin-Ackerman
To: CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Subject: Beach Chalet Appeal
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 11:36:36 AM

May 9th, 2013 CCC
Hearing

Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

Jessica Dervin-Ackerman

Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 5,
2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

(Staff has been copied on this letter)

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I support the Staff Report, and I encourage you to do so also.

Renovating the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and minimal or no lighting is a practical solution to the needs for a playing field within Golden Gate Park and the Coastal Zone.

However, the Beach Chalet project as proposed would not only destroy the naturalistic character of the western end of Golden Gate Park, but it would also directly destroy over 7 acres of habitat and have a negative impact on habitat for a much wider area. The proposed artificial turf soccer complex limits use by the general public of a public area

that should be open to everyone for multi-use. The 150,000 watts of stadium lights on 60 foot poles would light up the western edge of the Park and the beach, impacting the enjoyment of this area, which is now used by families for enjoying the sunset, strolling along the Promenade at dusk, sitting by a fire ring or learning about astronomy through star - gazing.

The Staff Report addresses all of those issues in a practical, feasible manner, and I recommend that you adopt it.

I also encourage you to look at alternatives, in particular the proposed Hybrid Alternative. This alternative will provide hours of play for our children while protecting the habitat and naturalistic character of Golden Gate Park and the beauty of Ocean Beach.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jessica Dervin-Ackerman

548 43rd St. Apt A.
Oakland, CA 94609

From:	Barbara Conahan
To:	CoastalBeachChaletAppeal
Cc:	Barbara Jeanne Conahan
Subject:	Soccer Field GGP SF
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 1:29:31 PM

Coastal Commission Members,

I urge the members of the Commision to recommend a permeable landscaped (grass) soccer field without floodlights in Golden Gate Park. Water and air needs to penetrate the soil to reduce storm sewer flooding, filter rainwater, and produce oxygen. Natural lighting, versus floodlights, preserves the night sky for viewing the stars and planets so that the immense nature of the universe can be pondered and appreciated. It is documented that our youth are now increasingly alienated from nature (nature deficit disorder). Survival of our planet and future generations depends on appreciation, respect, and exposure to the natural world. The impact of animal habitats in the west end of the park need to be valued in your decision making as well.

Please consider all of the above criteria, there are other locations nearby that already have commercial and residential lighting and space. Please view a light pollution map of the earth to understand the importance of preserving dark space in San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Barbara Conahan and H.E. Scott Miller

FYI:

We met in GGP playing coed soccer in the 1970's!
I am a nurse practitioner and highly value and teach the importance of exercise, nutrition, and prevention of obesity/disease.
We have a child who grew up in SF and actively participated in organizes sports.
We value safe activity choices for youth, young acults and adults and seniors.
We are star gazers whenever possible in our foggy and brightly lit city.
We care deeply about people, nature, and the planet.

From: dslark@juno.com
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Hearing May 9th re Beach Chalet Athletic Fields
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 1:33:07 PM

Dear Mr. Kahn

Please be in receipt of the below letter concerning the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields:

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing

Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Dorothy Sprey
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

My name is Dorothy Sprey I am a longtime resident (since 1993) of Larkspur CA and the San Francisco Bay Area (since the 1960's)

Although I live in Marin County now Ocean Beach and Golden Gate park are among my favorite places to visit - I love the beach, the Beach/Park Chalet facilities and Java Beach coffee house on Judah.

I am so upset and opposed to the current San Francisco City plan to install artificial turf and bight lighting until 10PM (!!) on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Especially with the lighting it will completely alter the experience of being at the beach and ruin the views all along that section of coast for example from the Cliff House.

I also understand that artificial turf is not exactly the best thing for the environment and will increase toxic runoff into the nearby ocean.

I understand the need for upgrades to serve the children of San Francisco to better give them a safe place to play sports and am in support of what I understand to be your recommendation of upgraded (natural) turf and lighting but not the artificial turf and bright bright lighting until 10PM at night.

Please please vote Thursday to endorse the Coastal Commission's plan and not to approve artificial turf and obtrusive night lighting.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Sprey
P O Box 5207/9 Escalle Lane
Larkspur, CA 94977
dslark@juno.com

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Coast Central District
Kevin.Kahn@coastal. ca.gov

San Francisco Ocean Edge
sfoceanedge@earthlink.net

From:	Ed Ow
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject:	SF Beach Chalet Athletic Fields
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 2:08:48 PM

Dear Mr. Kahn:

I am a native San Franciscan, and I was part of a volunteer group of 30-40 individuals, under the auspices of the SF Recreation and Parks Department and the Friends of the SF Recreation and Parks, who worked on the fourth Saturday morning of each month from 1997 through 2007 to clean up Golden Gate Park's West End, which had become overgrown, trash-filled, and unsafe to walk through.

Over the 100+ Saturday morning workdays, we removed deadwood and ground debris, pruned trees and shrubs, and put in plants along the several West End paths, that now provides a wonderful area for the enjoyment of the public who can safely stroll and bike through the area. The West End clean-up also brought a diversity of birds and and other small wildlife to the entire natural woodland area.

I am strongly opposed to the current proposed renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields facility.

The expansion of soccer fields, the proposed tower nighttime lighting, the expansion of parking (which has already caused traffic problems and pedestrian safety issues in area), the spectator seating, as well as year-round use of the soccer fields, will all drastically diminish the natural woodlands character of the West End.

Growing up in San Francisco, I am cognizant of the need to provide our younger generation with recreational facilities. I have actively supported the development and maintenance of our many city neighborhood parks and recreation centers that serve our city's youths.

However, Golden Gate Park, and especially its West End, allows our current and future generation of San Franciscans to also enjoy the tranquil natural woodlands environment in the midst of an highly urban city.

Thank-you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Ed Ow
4216 Fulton Street
San Francisco, CA 94121
ed4216@gmail.com

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Joan Joaquin-Wood <joanwood@earthlink.net>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 1:10 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: Ocean Edge Katherine Howard
Subject: May 9,2013 CCC Hearing - Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal #A-2-SNF-12-020

I am a native San Franciscan as was my mother, Marie Schlichting Joaquin, her sisters Senta Schlichting Moore and Henrietta Schlichting Meier, daughter Sarah Kliban, and grandson Benjamin Kliban. My Schlichting grandparents August and Henrietta Ward Schlichting were immigrants who met and married here at the close of the 19th Century. Although Golden Gate Park belongs to the world I feel that I have an extra ownership right because of these five generations. The Schlichtings lived in the Sunset during the time the Park was being built and I have lived here continuously since graduating Stanford in 1948. The Park should remain in its natural state without the imposition of a professional soccer stadium which is what this dispute is about. The two worst elements of the plan are artificial turf, a well-known carcinogen in the form of drifting particles from ground up tires, and the proposal to take down 55 trees which act as a windbreak from ocean winds. The Project sponsors have evaded CEQA study of this cataclysmic event by calling them "bushes" which avoids CEQA analysis. Care of the ancient windmills should set an example for how the Park is loved and respected. The Athletic Fields need a couple more full-time gardeners and revision to the irrigation system. Please vote with your staff's recommendation. Thank you. Joan Wood, 37 Houston Street, S.F. 94133-0214

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

Joan Wood

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: DC <dareto21@att.net>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 11:58 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Natural setting in GG park

Kevin,

Please include my sincere resistance to any artificial turf in GG park. The soccer fields as they are now offer birds especially a place to graze undisturbed. Geese and crows are often seen in the early morning eating bugs in the fenced in areas, undisturbed by dogs or humans. Many other birds live around the weeds growing in the dump area currently being renovated. If you go there in the evening you see smaller birds flying around catching bugs, especially near sunset. Also the hawks can often be seen looking for gophers or other small prey. Recently the park in this area successfully supported a den of coyotes through the spring and summer months. They also depend on small animals that need a natural setting. There is no reason that the fields can't be managed similar to the polo fields further east. They were recently renovated without artificial turf. Although I am opposed to the lights and bleachers as well my greatest concern is the artificial turf. This more than anything will degrade the natural setting and disturb habitat for many animals that make this wild part of San Francisco so special.
Thank you for your time. No artificial surface in Golden Gate Park please.

Sincerely,
Dale Connolly
415 759-8134
1234 47th Ave #1
SF, CA 94122

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Jocelynn Stone <jocelynn.stone@presidioedu.org>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 12:05 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing

Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

Jocelynn Herrick Stone

Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I support the California Coastal Commission staff report. I do not believe that artificial turf, lighting and seating should be installed at the soccer fields in Golden Gate Park.

I believe that there are much better locations for such a specific use project, such as the parking lots and stadium at Candlestick Park. Why doesn't the city reuse that land that is already established as a sports venue. Perhaps the city could attract a professional soccer team and create a whole training center.

Golden Gate park purpose is to be a naturalistic landscape within the urban landscape. Artificial turf and lights make no sense, especially out near the ocean. With our understanding of the environment and how artificial light is detrimental in so many ways adding a new source of light pollution makes no sense. In the same way it makes no sense to use artificial turf, which will create a dead soil zone.

I also believe that the site is a bad choice for this use as it is not easily accessed by the majority of San Francisco's residents. It is on the far side of the city where the population density is very low and there is minimal public transit.

Please reject this proposal by the City of San Francisco and send them back to the drawing board.

Sincerely,

Jocelynn Herrick Stone

522 Stanyan Street

San Francisco, CA 94117

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

April 22, 2013

Hon: Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St., Ste 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, S.F., CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger;

I am writing to voice my opposition to the Beach Chalet Soccer Field project as currently planned by the Rec + Parks Dept. of San Francisco. I sincerely hope that collectively we can inject some reason into the Rec + Parks and persuade them to pursue the Hybrid Alternative that will preserve the open space of the wild west end of GG Park while also providing for the soccer leagues growing needs for facilities.

The west end of GG Park has been a valuable resource to me since my college years as a Biology Student at SF State University back in the seventies. It continues to be a cherished location to me today. It is really the only expansive wild ground in San Francisco. There are other parks, but none where there is an expanse of natural world where one can feel away from the urban hustle and crowds. I appreciate all of GG Park, but only the western end provides the opportunity for solace and the illusion that one is far away from the city. I have read that John McClaren's master plan for the park specifically designed it with that in mind.

I have been a proud San Franciscan since 1968. I work as a professional medical device sales person and work life can get stressful To unwind and rejuvenate I ride my bicycle in the park and I always finish my ride on the old railroad path that runs along the Beach Chalet soccer fields. I often encounter other individuals, many of whom are children there that also find the spot to be a lovely place to sit for awhile and unwind. The natural setting and the birds there are just especially delightful. I have watched Red Shoulder Hawks hunt for gophers inside the soccer fields on a cloudy day. I revel in the flock of crows there and have enjoyed countless hours watching their antics.

In my opinion this project by the Rec + Parks Dept is strongly skewed by the understandable influence of the Fischer Family funding and the organized voice of the Soccer League. The voices of the many individuals and families that reap huge, ongoing benefit from the undeveloped west end of the park are difficult to organize and hear. It's an obvious fact. The Supervisors and the Rec + Parks Dept just can't hear our voices over the roar of all that money and pressure from the soccer folks. Let's think of all the children, not just the ones that can afford to play soccer.

So I hope that the Coastal Commission will consider weighing in to attempt to persuade the city to give this project a second look.

The lighting planned for the new athletic fields is of great concern for me. We have a small population of Great Horned Owls in the park. The Golden Gate Audubon society believes there are just two breeding pairs in the park. One of those breeding pairs nests every year very close to the soccer fields. How will the massive night lighting until 10:00 pm affect their available hours of hunting? How will the lights impact the many migrating bird species a few feet away on the beach and surf areas? How will the artificial turf reduce the gopher prey for the Red Shouldered and Red Tailed Hawks that call the area home?

Thank you for your efforts in helping us to defend our cherished open space in GG Park.

Regards,

Joyce Warriner
32 Dorland St.
San Francisco, CA 94110

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Renee Richards and John Hill <fogline@pacbell.net>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 11:13 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet Artificial Turf Soccer Fields

Agenda Item: Thursday, May 9, 15c
App. #A-2-SNF-12-020

California Coastal Commission
Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000415
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Hon. Shallenberger,

I am a resident of San Francisco, parent of a youth athlete, frequent user of Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach and former San Francisco Little League parent coach, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal to cover the natural grass Beach Chalet Soccer Fields in Golden Gate Park with artificial turf and install stadium lighting. Rather, I believe if the proponents of this project really want to do what is best for the City, its residents, and the legacy of Golden Gate Park, the Beach Chalet Fields should be rehabilitated with real turf and no lights, as the Coastal Commission staff also suggests, and the artificial turf project should be implemented at the West Sunset Playground fields.

I disagree with the apparent conclusion by the Planning Department and Rec and Park Board that covering the west end of Golden Gate Park with artificial turf is in any way consistent with the history or appropriate use of Golden Gate park, or any land near the Pacific Ocean. It is hard to believe the project was approved given the conclusion by Planning that the project would cause a substantial change to a significant historical resource.

Thousands of people visit the West End of GG Park every day, residents and tourists alike. The view of the West End of the park from the Great Highway, Sutro Park, and other parts of the City will be negatively affected by stadium lighting towers. Thousands of volunteer hours and millions of donor dollars have been spent in the efforts to renovate and maintain the nearby windmills to restore the historic beauty and quality of Golden Gate Park, and now proponents want to cover acres of nearby grass--just

hundreds of yards away from the windmills on one side and Ocean Beach on the other--with artificial turf and stadium lighting? Absurd.

Environmentally, removal of 9 acres of natural grass will destroy necessary habitat to birds, butterflies and other wildlife, and no mitigation is proposed. This boggles the mind in light of the ongoing efforts of the National Park Service to convert the Golden Gate National Recreation Area into a more protected National Park in which human and domestic animal use will be highly restricted in the adjacent Ocean Beach and Fort Funston areas. Installation of ten 60' towers with stadium lighting that will remain on until 10:00 pm every night is completely contrary with not only the historic and wild nature of the West End of Golden Gate Park, but of Ocean Beach and the GGNRA.

The proponents of this project seem to be holding the City hostage. They seem to say "our way or the highway," as I have read reports that the offer to do the turfing project is only open as long as it is done at the Beach Chalet fields. This is also unacceptable. There is only one Golden Gate Park. There is only one Ocean Beach. There is no recycling of the artificial turf plastic and tire crumb rubber, and in 8-10 years 400 tons of debris will go to the landfill. In addition, from what I can tell by going to Crocker Amazon, I would be surprised if highly used artificial turf fields get the 10 year lifespan described in the EIR. The Crocker fields are already showing substantial wear, and during soccer games even two and three years ago my son's shoes would be filled with tire crumb bits after every soccer game or practice at Kimball and Crocker. We know fish and birds are dying from eating plastic pellet "nurdles" (http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/10/29/MNF91LNMLB.DTL), why wouldn't wildlife that lives or migrates through GG Park also knowingly or unwittingly consume tire crumbs, to their certain detriment?

It is much healthier, less expensive and more environmentally sustainable for the City to restore the natural grass fields, and those fields can be maintained beautifully as has been shown by the newly refurbished Polo Fields. One can't play on them in the pouring rain or on a cold night, but is that such a bad thing?

In addition, I did not see anything in the EIR about the relative impact on the park and surrounding neighborhoods of thousands of additional people who will use the Beach Chalet soccer fields until 10 p.m. every night.

Project Alternative Number 2, renovating the West Sunset Fields with artificial turf, is a much better plan. There will be no adverse and significant negative historical impact. The neighborhood already has street lighting, and Saint Ignatius High School is nearby which also has athletic lighting in place. In addition to SI, Sunset Elementary and Giannini Middle School are nearby and their students could benefit from the use of turf fields during school-day hours. The West Sunset playground has already been renovated, so the costs associated with creating the proposed adjacent play/recreation area would be unnecessary. In addition, the branch library there has just been redone.

While the long-term safety of tire crumb use is still debated, West Sunset Fields are not located in an environmentally sensitive area.

In addition, and importantly, any use of artificial turf fields at West Sunset rather than GG Park could involve not only the creation of more turf soccer fields, but also turf baseball fields. Demand is great for baseball fields in San Francisco. While I am not a proponent of playing through inclement weather, and am not a fan of artificial turf, it is unfortunate that after a Spring rainstorm, when the sun comes out and the kids are chomping at the bit to play baseball or soccer, fields can remain closed for 24 or more hours after the last drop has fallen because of standing water and field saturation. West Sunset is less than 2 miles from the Beach Chalet, is not in an historically protected park, is not in an environmentally sensitive area, and would provide additional access not only to after-school and adult sports teams from all over San Francisco, but school kids from three immediately adjacent schools, a public library and playground.

I urge you to reject the proposal to cover the Beach Chalet soccer fields with artificial turf and install stadium lighting, and to recommend the alternative proposals that the Beach Chalet fields be rehabilitated with natural grass, no stadium lighting, and that artificial turf be installed at the West Sunset fields.

Thank you for consideration of this email.
Renee Richards
666 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From:	Markos Major <markosmajor@gmail.com>
Sent:	Monday, May 06, 2013 11:02 AM
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	matt@sfparksalliance.org; phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org; staci.white@sfgov.org; Nuru, Mohammed; David.Assmann@sfgov.org; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject:	Coastal Commission - supporting soccer fields free of petroleum-based lawns - for oceans free of plastic gyres -

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

CCSF Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

With sincere concern for environmental and community health I write today to show my support for the maintenance of real grass turf at the end of our stellar Golden Gate Park. Currently I'm maintaining several contracts with, and in partnership with, several SF City Agencies and I know that I am not alone when I state that plastic lawn is NOT an environmental solution. Indeed it will be a hazardous waste site and in need of bioremediation if this project is permitted.

This is something I have discussed with many of my colleagues in and out of local government and we all agree that working with organic materials (as opposed to petroleum-based products) is not necessary - or even advisable.

Plastic lawns are NOT the solution for the 7 acres of soccer fields in GGP.

I look forward to the CCC's efforts in working with SFRPD and the SFParks Alliance to ensure that hazardous material is NOT replacing the carbon-sequestering power of real lawns. Indeed, climate adapted grasses can work much better than plastic lawns - and ensure environmental and community health.

Please act as an environmental and community health advocate (and the health of our oceans) by saying "NO" to plastic lawns in GGP.

We are a state of great riches and I look forward to working with State and local governments to ensure quality parks and recreation spaces - for today and the future or our oceans.

Sincerely - for an ocean free of plastics -

Markos Major
Climate Action Now! manager
415.503.7639
markosmajor@gmail.com

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District, Dr. Phil Guinsberg Director, SFRPD; Mohammed Nuru, Director, SFDPW; David Assmann, SFE; Matt O'Grady, ED, SFPA.

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Nancy Wuerfel <nancenumber1@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:47 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Item 15c, Beach Chalet Athletic fields

May 6, 2013 Staff has been copied on this letter

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Nancy Wuerfel
SUPPORT THE STAFF REPORT ON THE BEACH CHALET ATHLETIC FIELDS

Dear Commissioners:

Please support the staff report and recommendations to modify elements of the Beach Chalet project. I am a co-appellant to the Beach Chalet appeal.

Our appeal is not about an either/or choice between playing soccer OR preserving the coastline and the park. The appeal supports kids playing soccer IN a naturalistic setting adjacent to the beach. This appeal supports expanding soccer opportunities at the hybrid alterative location.

We recognize the intense pressure that elected officials and bureaucrats are putting on the Commissioners to permit the extreme development of the Beach Chalet fields to be a soccer complex at the expense of the naturalistic setting. Our grass root supporters are here to urge you to resist approving this kind of inappropriate renovation inside our world known, historically recognized Golden Gate Park. There is another site at West Sunset Playground for city officials to accomplish their goals. There is only one Golden Gate Park!

It is my opinion that the California Coastal Commission was created *specifically to moderate* between conflicting points of view on the appropriateness of shoreline development. You have many regulations and documents to guide your decision. In the end, preservation of the naturalistic character of the park and the coast for the enjoyment of the present and future generations must be the goal you achieve.

Thanks for considering my comments.

Nancy Wuerfel
2516 23rd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94116

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
SF Ocean Edge

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Douglas L Comstock <dougcomz@mac.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:37 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Please keep San Francisco's Golden Gate Park Ocean Access Sylvan

The purpose of Golden Gate Park is for a "sylvan retreat" according to it's founders. How does that equate to a commercial sports field usage, with artificial turf, over-lighted and overused by sports fans and their careless attitude to the quiet usage for which this rare space in San Francisco was intended. Please find that the proposed soccer field does not conform to the proper usage guidelines.

There are other places near or even within the City's borders to develop their sports field.

Doug Comstock
414 845-5778
westsideobserver.com

570 48th Avenue
San Francisco, CA. 94121

May 2, 2013

Honorable Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, suite 2000
San Francisco, CA. 94105

RE: Beach Chalet soccer fields renovation, Golden Gate Park

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

We live just up the hill from the Beach Chalet fields. From the first neighborhood meeting about 2 years ago, we have objected to this project—to the SF Rec and Park director, the Rec and Park Commission, and the Fisher family who have donated the funds and crushed rubber for the project. None have listened to our concerns. We trust that you and your colleagues will.

We moved to our house in 2007 because it is remarkably quiet and dark at night. We hear the ocean and the wind, and see the moon. Really no other sounds and no lights. During the day it's nearly as quiet in the back too. The proposed project would ruin this for us: the playing up to 10pm would end the nighttime quiet and the very tall, bright lights would brighten the sky.

Of course, others besides neighbors are concerned about this project. We walk in GGP at the West end all the time, as do many others seeking refuge from the noise and activity of the City. The added players, traffic, and hustle and bustle would be ruinous for those seeking peace and tranquility.

We strongly favor the 'hybrid alternative,' think that placing a 'stadium' type facility at the Beach Chalet is nuts, and that going ahead as planned would truly degrade if not eliminate the peace and quiet that the West end was intended to provide. We do hope you'll act to preserve this almost unique environment. Many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Fries and Linda Fries

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: dianariver <dianariver@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:31 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: dianariver@aol.com
Subject: Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Diane M. Rivera
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: **Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA**
Staff has been copied on this letter

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
San Francisco Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St. Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105
Reference: Appeal Number: A-2-SNF-12-020
Golden Gate Park Beach Chalet athletic fields-San Francisco

Dear Ms. Shallenberger and California Coastal Commissioners;

I am a native Sunset District resident and a frequent user of Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach. I am OPPOSED to the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields by the City and County of San Francisco as they have proposed which is resulting in this appeal and I support the CCC staff report written on this topic.

I am opposed to the proposed installation of synthetic turf in the Beach Chalet Soccer fields:

1. The synthetic material will be ingested by persons of all ages, especially young people and disrupt their health.

2. The synthetic material will be absorbed into the ground water system and contaminate the water supply and harm all life forms.

3. The synthetic material will leach into the ocean waters getting into the natural food chain contaminating all wildlife, marine animals large and small and moving up the food chain.

I am opposed to the proposed installation of the 60 foot tall sets of field lighting that is planned for this project.

1. *The proposed lighting will detract from the natural beauty of San Francisco's Ocean Beach.*

2. *The proposed lighting will take away the night sky and our ability to see the stars at night.*
3. *The* proposed lighting will disorient the flight patterns of migrating birds.
4. *The proposed lighting may have an effect on the fish that swim next to our shore line.*

I am opposed to this project as it will result in the loss of 55 trees that will affect wildlife habitat for all species.
I am opposed to this project as it will increase traffic and create more pollution in this area.

I am opposed to this project as it will take away the natural link between the park and the beach.
I am opposed to this project as it will be a misuse of natural beauty of the Western End of Golden Gate Park.
I am opposed to this project as it will turn what should be a meadow available to all into a single-use area.

I am opposed to this project as it will create an area that is not equitable to everyone who likes to hiking, picnic, and enjoy nature.

I do not want the Ocean Beach area to be marred with this very urban soccer complex that will serve a selected few individuals.
Respectfully, I thank you for your consideration.

Diane M. Rivera
4133 A Judah St.
San Francisco, CA 94122
Native Sunset District Resident

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

John de Forest

Agenda's Item #15-C
John de Forest

May 2, 2013

Mary K. Shallenberger, Chair
Dan Carl, Deputy Manager
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street - Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Members and Staff of the Coastal Commission :

Please do NOT replace the natural grass soccer fields at Beach Chalet with artificial turf and 60-foot-tall lights. (Agenda Item # 15-C). I support the alternative of adding soccer facilities off-site, while improving the grass fields and preserving wildlife habitat at Beach Chalet. I live nearby.

I'm not agains soccer. I used to play it on a varsity team. But the western end of Golden Gate Park was intended to remain more natural and less developed. Birds use this site—*heavily*— It is situated adjacent to Ocean Beach along the Pacific Flyway.

Let's find a way to meet SF's soccer needs without destroying this natural legacy and jeopardizing precious Californnia wildlife.

Yours truly,

2534 Lake Street San Francisco, CA 94121
johndeforest@earthlink.net
415 387-1442

Agenda Item: Th15c
App. #A-2-SNF-12-020
Renee A. Richards
OPPOSED TO BEACH CHALET
ARTIFICIAL TURF PROJECT

California Coastal Commission
Central Coast and North Central Coast District Offices
Dan Carl, Deputy Director
Madeline Cavalieri, District Manager
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
FAX (415) 904-5400

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
FAX: 831/427-4877

May 3, 2012

Dear Coastal Commission,

I am a resident of San Francisco, parent of a youth athlete, frequent user of Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach and former San Francisco Little League parent coach, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal to cover the natural grass Beach Chalet Soccer Fields in Golden Gate Park with artificial turf and install stadium lighting. Rather, I believe if the proponents of this project really want to do what is best for the City, its residents, and the legacy of Golden Gate Park, the Beach Chalet Fields should be rehabilitated with real turf and no lights, as the Coastal Commission staff also suggests, and the artificial turf project should be implemented at the West Sunset Playground fields.

I disagree with the apparent conclusion by the Planning Department and Rec and Park Board that covering the west end of Golden Gate Park with artificial turf is in any way consistent with the history or appropriate use of Golden Gate park. It is hard to believe the project was approved given the conclusion by Planning that the project would cause a substantial change to a significant historical resource.

Thousands of people visit the West End of GG Park every day, residents and tourists alike. The view of the west end of the park from the Great Highway, Sutro Park, and throughout the City will be negatively affected by stadium lighting towers. Thousands of volunteer hours and millions of donor dollars have been spent in the efforts to renovate and maintain the nearby windmills to restore the historic beauty and quality of Golden Gate Park, and now proponents want to cover acres of nearby grass--just hundreds of yards away from the windmills on one side and Ocean Beach on the other--with artificial turf and stadium lighting? Absurd.

Environmentally, removal of 9 acres of natural grass will destroy necessary habitat to birds, butterflies and other wildlife, and no mitigation is proposed. This boggles the mind in light of the ongoing efforts of the National Park Service to convert the Golden Gate National Recreation Area into a more protected National Park in which human and domestic animal use will be highly restricted in the

adjacent Ocean Beach and Fort Funston areas. Installation of ten 60' towers with stadium lighting that will remain on until 10:00 pm every night is completely contrary with not only the historic and wild nature of the West End of Golden Gate Park, but of Ocean Beach and the GGNRA.

The proponents of this project seem to be holding the City hostage. They seem to say "our way or the highway," as I have read reports that the offer to do the turfing project is only open as long as it is done at the Beach Chalet fields. This is also unacceptable. There is no recycling of the artificial turf plastic and tire crumb rubber, and in 8-10 years 400 tons of debris will go to the landfill. In addition, from what I can tell by going to Crocker Amazon, I would be surprised if highly used artificial turf fields get the 10 year lifespan described in the EIR. The Crocker fields are already showing substantial wear, and during soccer games even two and three years ago my son's shoes would be filled with tire crumb bits after every soccer game or practice at Kimball and Crocker. We know fish and birds are dying from eating plastic pellet "nurdles" (http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/10/29/MNF91LNMLB.DTL), why wouldn't wildlife that lives or migrates through GG Park also knowingly or unwittingly consume tire crumbs, to their certain detriment?

It is much less expensive and more environmentally sustainable for the City to restore the natural grass fields, and those fields can be maintained beautifully as has been shown by the newly refurbished Polo Fields. One can't play on them in the pouring rain or on a cold night, but is that such a bad thing?

In addition, I did not see anything in the EIR about the relative impact on the park and surrounding neighborhood of thousands of additional people who will use the Beach Chalet soccer fields until 10 p.m. every night during times when the West End of the park or the Great Highway are closed for special events. Special events dramatically affect the west end of GG Park almost every weekend from May through October. A few events that cause virtually every road (and sometimes even pedestrian access) to be closed in the west end of the park include music festivals Hardly Strictly Bluegrass and Outside Lands and road races and walks such as AIDS Walk, Nike Women's Marathon, San Francisco Marathon and Bay to Breakers.

Project Alternative Number 2, renovating the West Sunset Fields with artificial turf, is a much better plan. There will be no adverse and significant negative historical impact. The neighborhood already has street lighting, and Saint Ignatius school is nearby which also has athletic lighting in place. In addition to SI, Sunset Elementary and Giannini Middle School are nearby and their students could benefit from the use of turf fields during school-day hours. The West Sunset playground has already been renovated, so the costs associated with creating the proposed adjacent play/recreation area would be unnecessary. In addition, the branch library there has just been redone. While the long-term safety of tire crumb use is still debated, West Sunset Fields are not located in an environmentally sensitive area.

In addition, and importantly, any use of artificial turf fields at West Sunset rather than GG Park could involve not only the creation of more turf soccer fields, but also turf baseball fields. Demand is great for baseball fields in San Francisco. While I am not a proponent of playing through inclement weather, and am not a fan of artificial turf, it is unfortunate that after a Spring rainstorm, when the sun comes out and the kids are chomping at the bit to play baseball or soccer, fields can remain closed for 24 or more hours after the last drop has fallen because of standing water and field saturation. West Sunset is less than 2 miles from the Beach Chalet, is not in an historically protected park, is not in an environmentally sensitive area, and would provide additional access not only to after-school and adult sports teams from all over San Francisco, but school kids from three immediately adjacent schools, a public library and playground.

I urge you to reject the proposal to cover the Beach Chalet soccer fields with artificial turf and install stadium lighting, and to recommend the alternative proposals that the Beach Chalet fields be rehabilitated with natural grass and artificial turf be installed at the West Sunset fields.

Thank you for consideration of this fax.
Renee Richards
666 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121

BEACH CHALET
SOCCER FIELD

Karen Ezekiel:
OPPOSED
AGENDA Th 15c

KAREN KALS EZEKIEL

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

5.1.2013

To The Costal Commission:

Please follow the advice of your committee and do not allow the toxic turf, the fence, or the lights at the soccer field.

Thank you

Karen Ezekiel

30 HODGES ALLEY SAN FRANCISCO CA 94133 (415) 362-4844

5/1/13

BEACH CHALET SOCCER FIELD
PERMIT APPEAL

KEVIN KAHN
CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION
45 FREMONT ST, SUITE 2000
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

DEAR MR. KAHN,

I AM STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THE ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO THE BEACH CHALET SOCCER FIELD AREA FOR AESTHETIC, HEALTH AND PHILOSOPHICAL REASONS. GOLDEN GATE PARK IS A GREAT SWATH OF NATURE FOR BOTH RESIDENTS AND VISITORS. TO PUT TOXIC AND HAZZARDOUS MATERIAL WHERE PEOPLE, INCLUDING CHILDREN, PLAY WHICH MUST BE PERIODICALLY DISPOSED OF IS IRRESPONSIBLE. HUGE LIGHTS TO BLANKET THE AREA IS OFFENSIVE. CHIPPING AWAY AT THE NATURALNESS AND BEAUTY OF THE PARK IS VERY WRONG.

Lee Hastings
OPPOSED
ADJENDA ITEM NO: Th15c

May 2, 2013

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

California Coastal Commission
Mary K. Shallenberger, Chair
Dan Carl, Deputy Manager
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Please DO NOT destroy the natural grass soccer field at the Beach Chalet area with artificial turf (Agenda Item #15-C). This area was meant to be natural. Birds use this area, because it's located near Ocean Beach along the Pacific Flyway.

Also, artificial turf is terrible on knees and shins, elbows and arms: kids should be able to fall on natural grass.

Please DO NOT destroy this area that best serves birds, insects, children, and all people who enjoy walking along the paths.

Sincerely,
Barbara Mous
368 Frederick Street
SF CA 94117

380

570 48th Avenue
San Francisco, CA. 94121

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

May 2, 2013

Honorable Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, suite 2000
San Francisco, CA. 94105

RE: Beach Chalet soccer fields renovation, Golden Gate Park

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

We live just up the hill from the Beach Chalet fields. From the first neighborhood meeting about 2 years ago, we have objected to this project—to the SF Rec and Park director, the Rec and Park Commission, and the Fisher family who have donated the funds and crushed rubber for the project. None have listened to our concerns. We trust that you and your colleagues will.

We moved to our house in 2007 because it is remarkably quiet and dark at night. We hear the ocean and the wind, and see the moon. Really no other sounds and no lights. During the day it's nearly as quiet in the back too. The proposed project would ruin this for us: the playing up to 10pm would end the nighttime quiet and the very tall, bright lights would brighten the sky.

Of course, others besides neighbors are concerned about this project. We walk in GGP at the West end all the time, as do many others seeking refuge from the noise and activity of the City. The added players, traffic, and hustle and bustle would be ruinous for those seeking peace and tranquility.

We strongly favor the 'hybrid alternative,' think that placing a 'stadium' type facility at the Beach Chalet is nuts, and that going ahead as planned would truly degrade if not eliminate the peace and quiet that the West end was intended to provide. We do hope you'll act to preserve this almost unique environment. Many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Linda J. Fries

Robert Fries and Linda Fries

859 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121

May 1, 2013

RECEIVED
MAY 0 3 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

To: California Coastal Commission
Mary K. Shalenberger, Chair and
Dan Carl, Deputy Manager
45 Fremont Street, Suite2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Madam and Sir:

I am writing to express by concern about the artificial soccer turf and 60-foot light towers proposed for the Beach Chalet fields at the west end of Golden Gate Park.

First, artificial turf has been proved to cause unnecessary injury to players who play on it, as has been seen by the return to natural grass on many professional sports playing fields.

Second, and most importantly, light towers spewing light in an area where many birds and animals live, will cause great disruption to their habitat and quality of life. It will also wreck havoc on migrating birds, to say nothing of the human neighbors.

I believe that there are already alternative sites close by that could be used for the same purpose.

I hope that you wiill not approve the City's proposal.

Thank you for your consideration,

Grace W. Ruth

Grace W. Ruth

May 1, 2013

California Coastal Commission
Mary K. Shallenberger, Chair and
Dan Carl, Deputy Manager
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Re: Permit A-2-SNF-12-020
Agenda Item 15C

Dear Coastal Commission Members and Staff;

Please do not support the project to install artificial turf and stadium lighting at the Beach Chalet soccer fields in Golden Gate Park adjacent to Ocean Beach in San Francisco.

As a San Francisco resident and Golden Gate Audubon member and volunteer I urge you to appeal the renovation of the Beach Chalet soccer fields in Golden Gate Park. This project will replace natural grass with artificial turf and install stadium lighting with no mitigations. Today people connect with nature in a variety of ways at this site.

The western end of Golden Gate Park was planned to be naturalistic. Later the Golden Gate Master Plan and Western Shoreline Area Plan of the General Plan for the Coast Commission were all approved to retain the naturalistic landscape and a connection to Ocean Beach for park visitors. Today the area fills the recreational needs of many people but this proposal is for only a single use and the project does not properly address the impacts.

The proposed irrigated gravel covered in plastic and crumbled car tire material brightly lit with stadium lights will be a 9.4 acre loss to San Franciscans, park visitors, and wildlife.

The proposal will decrease the number of birds, bats and other wildlife that live in or migrate through Golden Gate Park and along Ocean Beach. A local birder conducted a casual survey and found 70 species of birds at this site. The City paid for an EIR where the biological survey was conducted briefly in the winter and reported only 52 species – completely missing migrating and nesting species. The project has no mitigation for birds and other species. There is no "other place" in San Francisco for these birds and wildlife to go. This site provides habitat for nesting and resting birds and other wildlife. The site is along the Pacific Flyway, a major migratory route for birds each spring and fall.

The lighting was not been properly evaluated in the project. The adjacent Golden Gate National Recreation Area is a "dark skies park" where people can observe the moon, stars and planets. Shorebirds, seabirds, passerines and other species depend on the dark skies for navigation. Within the park, darkness is needed for nesting and resting.

San Francisco boasts of being a green city but this proposal is about the wrong type of green – it is not a sustainable project. The proposal is expensive at $12 million dollars and short term – with only an 8 to 10 year life span. Then the artificial material must be replaced yet there is no recycling plan and it will end up in landfill. There is no plan or funds for the millions of dollars required for replacement.

There is a solution which allows for kids and adults to play on improved grass soccer fields with no lights. Improved grass fields would be sustainable, less expensive and allow for the opportunity to connect with nature.

I urge you to make a thoughtful, forward thinking decision to meet soccer needs without destroying Golden Gate Park and the adjacent part of Ocean Beach and the amazing wildlife that depends upon this area.

Sincerely,

Noreen Weeden
493 Vermont Street
San Francisco, CA 94107

Agenda Item
15-C

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Shirley Golub

May 1, 2013

Madame Chair + Mr. Carl + all
the commission members:

As a 40 yr. + resident of SF + strong proponent of keeping nature as pristine as possible, especially where it can impact California's beautiful Coastline, I am hoping you will challenge the SF Bd. of Supervisors' bad decision, which I believe was based purely on special interests, not the will of all the citizenry of our fair state.

Thank you for your efforts,

Shirley Golub
425 Upper Terrace
SF, CA 94117

May 3, 2013

Agenda Item -2219
Katharine Snyder

Dear California Coastal Commissioners,

I am writing you to ask you not to replace the grass at the Beach Chalet Soccer Field in Golden Gate Park. The grass should remain and the area less developed in order to allow the animals and birds (both native to area and those migrating through) to continue using the space. It is an important resting area for birds during their migration on the Pacific Flyway.

It would do a lot of harm to the flora and fauna if fake turf was used to replace real grass. Also the installation of bright lights would be detrimental to many types of animals and birds including the ocean-going birds especially during nesting season.

There must be other soccer fields that would allow expansion for other soccer teams to practice and have games that would not impact the natural environment. That area is just too delicate and important an area to urbanize.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours truly,

Katharine Snyder
Resident of the Richmond District 35+ years
415-221-7146

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Beach Chalet soccer fields permit appeal
Opposed
Rasa Gustaitis Moss
ITEM Th 15c

May 3, 2013

Dear Coastal Commissioners,

Please protect the coast of San Francisco against the damage that would be inflicted by the City's Beach Chalet soccer field proposal in its current form. There is much political clout behind it, and serious financial interest behind it. The Commission has often been the citizens' last bulwark against ill-advised development projects that would irreparably damage the coast's natural resources. Surely one of the most fragile and precious of these in our city is this meadow, where children and adults have for years played soccer and other sports on grass surrounded by trees, and where many birds visit. Please carry on your tradition by supporting your staff's excellent recommendations.

It's ridiculous to argue that grass fields at this location cannot be protected from gophers and sogginess. As far as I have been able to determine, there has been no feasibility study to support such an argument. Nor have other alternatives to increase soccer play opportunities in the city been seriously examined.

Please note that if a parade of children is brought into the hearing by the Viking Soccer League in behalf of the Rec and Parks proposal, this group has a self-interest in supporting the parks' administration. Many soccer playing children's parents are alarmed at the serious bruises, subject to infections, that kids playing soccer on artificial turf incur.

Help the birds flying at night, and those of us who come to Ocean Beach to experience the night sky over the ocean by refusing to accept the proposed stadium lights. Proponents will argue the project is for children. Consider whether they need to play till 10 p.m.

This morning I watched several ravens walking peacefully on the grass in the field enclosed by a locked chain link fence. An old man came by to practice hitting a golf ball in one of the few places in Golden Gate Park where you don't have to pay to play. He would have enjoyed a bigger field than what was left behind the fence.

I hope you can see the place before you vote. We count on you. Just a little while ago we celebrated the tunnel through Montara Mountain. The coast won at Devil's Slide, though the victory took two generations of citizens' time and effort.

I count on your good judgment.

Respectfully,

Rasa Gustaitis Moss
359 Jersey Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

Beach Chalet Fields
Chris and Usha Korinthias
Opposed to permit
Agenda ITEM Th 15c

May 3, 2013

To the Coastal Commission:

Please support the restoration of the grass fields. Children all over the world play soccer on grass, so why must our children play on toxic artificial turf? Why must they lose more grass when there is already so little left in the city for them?

Our son is 8 and an enthusiastic soccer player. But he also loves wild creatures. We know the artificial turf is harmful to birds and other wildlife. We know that scrapes when you fall on artificial turf are like rug burn, more serious and painful than on well-kept grass, and more easily infected. With MERSA and other viruses now a serious problem, let's not court more trouble. There are ways to exclude gophers from grass fields, and to improve drainage so they don't get soggy. Let the available money be spent on gardeners and maintenance, not on disposing of toxic tire crumble on playing fields. Please stand up for your excellent staff recommendation.

Thank you.

Christopher and Usha Korinthias
359 Jersey
San Francisco, CA 94114

Beach Chalet Fields Appeal
Opposed
Ken Downing & Roseline Verbrugge
ITEM NO: Th 15c

May 3, 2013

To the CoastalCommission:

I oppose the current San Francisco Parks and Recreation proposal to build a soccer field complex with artificial turf and stadium lights behind Ocean Beach.

Other opportunities exist to expand soccer playing opportunities, which are badly needed, and they have not been seriously considered. The proposed high-impact complex is wrong for this part of Golden Gate Park and for Ocean Beach.

I hope you support your staff's recommendation that that grassy sports fields be restored. These fields can be used and enjoyed by everyone, including children and adults who don't play soccer. It's downright silly to argue that they can't be improved because of gophers and drainage. There are engineering solutions, if the will is there to apply them.

Respectfully,

Ken Downing
3814 Ortega
SanFrancisco, CA 94114

Ruthie Sakheim
105 Palm Avenue #6
SF CA 94118

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

California Coastal Commission
Central Coast and North Central Coast District Offices
725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

AGENDA ITEM #: Th15c
PERMIT NUMBER: A-2-SNF-12-020
NAME: Annemarie A. Donjacour
POSITION: **Oppose** the project

April 30, 2013

Dear Coastal Commissioners:

I am writing to you to strongly oppose the proposed project to renovate the athletic fields in Golden Gate Park with synthetic turf, lighting, seating and other modifications. These changes will significantly and adversely affect the natural character of the west end of Golden Gate Park. The City of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department (SF Rec and Park) is going against its own Golden Gate Park master plan and the mission of the Coastal Commission to "Protect, conserve, restore, and enhance environmental and human-based resources of the California coast and ocean for environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations."

The recently published staff report of the Coastal Commission very admirably summarizes the objections that I would make to this project. The staff report also makes sensible, sustainable alternative recommendations for improving the safety and accessibility of the existing grass soccer fields. I applaud this report and urge the Commission to adopt its recommendations. Many thanks to the staff of the Coastal Commission for the work and thought that went into the publication of this report.

I would like to briefly underscore the major objections to the SF Rec and Park proposal to renovate the Beach Chalet Soccer fields. The project includes the construction of seven acres of astroturf fields. Astroturf replaces a living surface with material made from ground-up tires. My major concern is the effect of the run-off, including lead, from this surface into the surrounding soil and water, in addition to the direct deadening effect that it has on the landscape. Artificial surfaces are not the panacea for sports injuries, as they are sometimes portrayed, but cause their own kind of damage to the body (infection prone abrasions, knee and ankle injury, etc., see www.synturf.org).

The project will install and use 150,000 watts of lighting on 60 ft high poles will interfere with the life cycles of many birds, especially those that hunt at night. These nocturnal predators, such as owls, maintain a natural balance of rodent prey species, i.e. they keep the rat population down. In addition, the lighting will be more widely visible than SF Rec and Park claims, as they did not

take into account the "glow" affect produced by the often-present fog at the Beach Chalet site. This will substantially interfere with the rare experience of darkness and the night sky that is currently enjoyed by people at Ocean Beach. This is not to mention the cost of the energy used to light the fields at night to the city.

The net effect of this project will be to destroy wildlife, plant life, and the opportunity for people, especially children, to experience a more natural setting. Visitors to Golden Gate Park from all over the state and the world treasure the harmony that comes from a landscaped eastern park and a wild western end. In addition, the value of the experience of nature on children is only now being appreciated by science, but has been known culturally for millennia. Let's not be the generation to completely cut our kids off from their source. Children in this city and state need birds and trees and stars more than they need this kind of synthetic playing surface and artificial environment.

Please listen to the staff report and the voices of the people most directly affected by this decision. Fulfill your mission and reject San Francisco Recreation and Park Department application A-2-SNF-12-020 and embrace the Hybrid alternative, which supports both nature and sports experiences for us and our children.

Sincerely,

Ruth Salcheim

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

30 April, 2013

TO: California Coastal Commission
Central Coast & No. Central Coast District Offices
725 Front St. #300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: Public Meeting to consider Appeal against SF Rec/Parks Dept.

Permit #: A-2-SNF-12-020

Date of Hearing: May 9, 2013, Marin Civic Center, San Rafael

I protest San Francisco's Recreation & Parks decision to replace the grass on the existing Beach Chalet soccer fields with synthetic turf, install 60' high lights for night play to 10 p.m., seating, restrooms, road access, etc.

I object to the removal of existing trees and shrubbery, and I fear for the effects of nightlights on migratory and local bird patterns.

I believe the R. & P. proposal will have negative effects on the entire oceanside and coastal Golden Gate Park area.

The decision by Recreation and Parks NOT to do a thorough E.I.S., and NOT to heed the City's overall plan for this Park is wrong.

The soccer fields can simply be improved and better-maintained, or they can be put elsewhere. Artificial turf is a bad choice.

If we lose the natural state of the western end of G.G.Park to an over-developed athletic facility, we can never recover what its original purpose was: to maintain this end of the Park in its bucolic state.

Please DO NOT approve this destructive R.& P. proposal.

Joan Intrator

Joan Intrator
3863 25 St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

(415)648-5659

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MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

Beach Chalet Soccer Fields
A-2-SNF-12-020
Item #: Th15c
Pam Hemphill MD
Oppose the artificial turf

423 Hill Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
April 30, 2013

California Coastal Commission
Central Coast and North Central Coast District Offices
725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Commissioners:
I am writing to ask that you oppose the conversion of grass soccer fields in the west end of Golden Gate Park to artificial turf. Please protect our historic park which is important to all of the residents of San Francisco, providing habitat and the beauty of a natural landscape.

This issue is not about an opposition to soccer. Children can play on renovated grass fields and according to the medical literature be safer than on artificial turf. They can also have a great time exploring a wonderful park with a lot of different options.

This proposed project would light up the night sky until 10PM with 60 foot tall stadium lights and all of the rain that would fall onto these artificial turf fields would go into the sewer rather than into the ground water as it now does with the grass fields. Yet San Francisco plans to pump ground water in the future, losing 7 acres of rainfall to this project if it is built. This new complex would bring traffic to the quiet end of the park at night.

As a Commissioner on the Animal Control and Welfare Commission for the past 6 years, I am well aware of wildlife issues in Golden Gate Park. Under the present management of the Recreation and Parks Department everything seems to have become a potential playing field and/or a commercial opportunity. It has been sad to watch. This is abetted by the City Fields Foundation that hopes to continue to profit as these fields are replaced over and over at great expense to the city.

There are as many citizens percentagewise in San Francisco over age 65 as there are under age 18. They will not be playing soccer, but can enjoy a grass field in many other ways. There is a shared use option in the retention of the natural grass fields. Let's face it, most adults do not play team sports. The Recreation and Parks Department has become simply the Recreation Department, not focusing on what

makes a park wonderful, not possessing a desire to address that half of the responsibility invested in the department, not protecting the environment, or our children.

Under the leadership of the present director, there has been significant removal of habitat in Golden Gate Park and in other park properties in the city and new plantings have not ameliorated this. Biodiversity is declining. Please do not allow this last insult of installing plastic grass, a real slap in the face to those of us who care about habitat, wildlife and parks. Protect our coast and the western end of Golden Gate Park. Keep it natural for stargazing and bird watching and ocean listening.

Respectfully,

Pam Hemphill MD

Pam Hemphill MD

5 Eastlake Avenue
Pacifica, CA 94044

April 30, 2013

California Coastal Commission
Central Coast and North Central Coast District Offices
725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RECEIVED
MAY 0 3 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

RE: AGENDA ITEM #: Th15c
PERMIT NUMBER: A-2-SNF-12-020
NAME: James N. Kremer
POSITION: **Oppose** the project

Dear Coastal Commissioners:

We oppose the proposed project to renovate the athletic fields in Golden Gate Park with synthetic turf, lighting, seating and other modifications.

The report of the Coastal Commission staff effectively summarizes my important ~~objection~~ objections, as well as providing sensible, sustainable alternatives for improving the safety and accessibility of the existing grass soccer fields.

As proposed, the project would destroy wildlife, plant life, and the opportunity to experience a more natural setting. We object to the proposed construction of seven acres of *astroturf* fields, and to the installation of high intensity of lighting on high poles. The lighting would interfere with the rare experience of darkness and the night sky, as well as impacting local wildlife, especially nocturnal birds

Please support your staff report and the people most directly affected. I urge you to reject A-2-SNF-12-020 and to embrace the Hybrid alternative.

Sincerely,

James N. Kremer Pacifica McCarthy Kremer

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: leanne walker <leawalk@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 9:50 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco CA

Kevin,
Please forward my letter to Hon. Mary Shallenberger I do not have her email.

Thanks,
Leanne Walker

From: leanne walker <leawalk@yahoo.com>
To: "Kevin.Kahn@costal.ca.gov" <Kevin.Kahn@costal.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 3, 2013 8:37 PM
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco CA

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Leanne Walker
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 3, 2013
Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am a native San Franciscan and have been involved with the fight in San Francisco to keep "lights out and no turf." I believe that GGP should remain in a naturalistic state. That GGP is a treasure and should be enjoyed by everyone.

Recently I found out about the California Coastal Commission's appeal and of your excellent Staff Report which I support.

GGP and Ocean Beach coastline are both jewels. Putting lights and artificial turf would ruin both! Please, please do the right thing.

Sincerely,
Leanne Walker
916 Serena Drive
Pacifica, CA 94044

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Masterpiece Gardening <sfmonkshood@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:03 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; %20sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet project and support of the Staff Report

Dear Coastal Commission,

I was born in San Francisco, live in the outer Sunset neighborhood next to the Beach Chalet area and walk or bike in this area of Golden Gate Park almost daily. I urge you to halt this artificial soccer field plan and applaud your efforts in doing this. It's a bad idea for this location for many reasons which far outweigh the advantages it would provide for a very small minority of soccer activists. We have many recreational areas of Golden Gate Park and not many areas, such as this, that are planned and maintained as primarily wild and open, natural for the most part. It's a shame the city park officials often represent special interests and financial gain in decisions instead of the interests of the majority of people who use the park. They seem to completely forget their roles as protectors to pass on this important area to future generations to use as intended, a beautifully preserved wilderness area as the park meets the shoreline. Please help them remember and find new priorities that weigh more factors and bring some common sense to this careless trend of constantly destroy natural areas of the park they are hired to care for and preserve.

Sincerely, Scott J Fernandez

Masterpiece Gardening
Scott Fernandez
1847 32nd Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94122

visit my website:
http://www.masterpiecegardening.com/page/page/1360005.htm

http://www.celticguitarmusic.com/tb_main.htm

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: ELIZABETH FOREE <feforee@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:22 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: West end Golden Gate Park

Dear Kevin,
We have been Great Highway homeowners since 1986. We moved here for the night sky, the quiet community and nature.
All that has changed in the years and unfortunately in the negative. We no longer have a night sky due to all the lights on the upper & lower Great Highway. These lights are for traffic and safety. Just a couple of night ago I heard lots of geese fly by using the beach to navigate but could not see them. Another example of night light pollution is the playing field at Saint Ignatius; these lights are similar in brightness to what is planned at the soccer field.
We are also concerned about paving GGPark. It is not a feasible idea.
Thank you for reading our letter....Elizabeth Foree & Ralph Henson

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Ulakate <ulakate@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 12:30 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet project and support of the Staff Report

To the Commission:

I applaud your staff report and its recommendations. I appreciate you being a part of the growing movement around the world that rejects plasticizing the natural environment. You propose a sensible balance between nature, a healthy coastal environment and recreational needs.

Although I live in Santa Cruz County now, I formerly lived in San Francisco and know the Beach Chalet area well. Please preserve this special place for future generations.

Thank you,

Katherine Sweet
3989 Glen Haven Road,
Soquel, Ca 95073

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Curt Kiest <curthiker@mac.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 12:59 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA, Oppose Project and Support CCC Staff Report

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Curtis Kiest, MD
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

My name is Dr. Curtis Kiest. I am an orthopedic surgeon here in San Francisco, working at Kaiser San Francisco. I write to oppose the project to convert the Golden Gate Park soccer fields to artificial turf. Those who would benefit from selling the turf have attempted to describe the artificial surface as safer or better for play. In fact, we know as orthopedists that artificial turf increases injuries, both minor and major. When we see new sports injuries, we always ask where they occurred, on what surface. And more often than would be expected, the answer is artificial turf. In particular, the incidence of ACL (Anterior Cruciate Ligament) Tears is increased on artificial turf. I include the most recent study here, but there are dozens:

The effect of playing surface on the incidence of ACL i... [Knee. 2013] - PubMed - NCBI

In short, I strongly oppose switching the fields to artificial support, for medical and safety reasons.

(Please note that these are my own views, and do not represent official policy from Kaiser or the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons).

Sincerely,

Curtis Kiest, MD
450 6th Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94118

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: mrsstim@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 1:22 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet project and support of the Staff Report

My family and I do NOT support the soccer field project in Golden Gate Park.
In the fall and winter months the soccer lights would be turned on at around dark, which can be as early as 4:30-5pm.
This means theses super-bright lights would be on for at least 5 hours.
We live uphill from the location and it's a joy and an immense privilege to look out at night, see the ocean, stars, hills, Pacific Coast Highway.

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Barbara Stebbins <bstebbins14@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 1:38 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet project and support of the Staff Report

Dear Coastal Commissioners,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed athletic fields development at the Beach Chalet and in support of the California Coaslal Commission Staff's suggesting that artificial turf and bright lighting are inconsistent with the character of that part of Golden Gate Park. The Beach Chalet and surrounding area as they are now are unique to the San Francisco landscape. That rare combination of wild shoreline, a structure sporting amazing murals and playing fields is so characteristic of what is special about San Francisco.

I am frequent visitor to this part of Golden Gate Park and frequently bring out-of-town visitors to share its beauty. I was chagrined to hear of the proposed athletic field development. I believe adding seating, artificial turf and bright lighting would drastically alter the whole feeling of this portion of Golden Gate Park.

Thank you for consideration of this position,

Barbara Stebbins
bstebbins14@gmail.com
1505 Keoncrest Dr.
Berkeley, CA 94702

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: John Odell <jodell@ccsf.edu>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 1:24 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing

Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

John Odell

Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to express my unconditional support of the staff report on the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields issue. I have been a frequent bicylist in Golden Gate Park for more than twenty years, and I also monitor the nests of four species of raptors who raise their young every year in the park -- Great Horned Owls, Red-tailed Hawks, Red-shouldered Hawks, and Cooper's Hawks. While the artificial lighting would negatively effect the diurnal-nocturnal rythms of all these birds and other birds and mammals, especially negatively impacted would be the Great Horned Owls. They begin their breeding season in late December, partly because they hunt at night. At least one of their nests is within the light spill area of the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields, and taking up to six hours of nighttime hunting away from them would be very detrimental to their ability to feed themselves and their young.

But that is not the only reason I support the staff report. Golden Gate Park is a world icon. Its Master Plan calls for the western end of the park to be a naturally forested, semi-wild place, a refuge from the eastern, more urbanized part of the park, a sylvan oasis in the midst of the city. Astro Turf does not belong here. This incredibly bad idea reminds me of the Joanie Mitchell song, "Pave Paradise, Put Up A Parking Lot."

And there are other places in the city to establish youth soccer facilities, places that are closer to the neighborhoods they need to serve, and more accessible by public transportation.

I strongly urge you to accept and endorse the staff report rejecting this travesty, and to urge your fellow commissioners to do the same. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

John Odell
115 Hoffman Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94114

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Suzanne Dumont <zangsf1@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 1:41 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: SF Ocean Edge
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet project and support of the Staff Report

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Suzanne R. Dumont
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am so appreciative of the excellent April 2013, CCC staff report that I read in totality, regarding the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields. I am writing you today to strongly encourage you to uphold this report in spite of the intense lobbying and pressure from SF Recreation and Parks on this issue. Unfortunately, the current director of our beloved SF Recreation and Parks does not listen to the citizens, preferring to focus his efforts catering to the wealthy, and to well-connected politicians. Power and money must not drive this decision, especially because of all of the environmental dangers attached to this thoughtless Recreation and Parks proposal.

I have attended many Beach Chalet hearings and of the many reasonable options have been offered SF Recreation and Parks, all been refused. Instead they have spent thousands or perhaps millions, hiring public relations consultants to jam this project through. In the meantime, SF Recreation and Parks has fenced off the fields and have neglected it for over a decade. This planned neglect was done to insure that their public relations photos would have plenty of photos of gopher holes and weeds to to promote their claim that the fields are unusable.

It would be short-sighted of us to allow the proposed 7.5 acres of carcinogenic rubber pellet underlayment for artificial turf so close to the Pacific Ocean. As well, the proposed stadium lighting is completely out of character for the area and would be a blight for humans, and a nightmare for birds, especially when the fog that is frequently there creates lighting confusion for them.

Thank you so much for your hard work on this issue.

Please stand strong against the monied resources of SF Recreation and Parks. Under Recreation and Parks Director Phil Ginsburg and Recreation and Parks Commission President, Mark Buell we have seen the "dark ages" for the green movement in San Francisco, ironically, a city that loves to claim it is the greenest city in America.

Sincerely,

Suzanne R. Dumont
841 Rockdale Drive
San Francisco, CA 94127

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Barbara Hughes <barbaramileshughes@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 1:44 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: San Francisco Ocean Beach Chalet area proposes soccer fields

I am writing as a lifelong resident of the Sunset District of San Francisco in opposition to the proposed plan to rebuild the soccer fields with artificial turf, giant overhead night time and foggy day lighting inferring with the natural wonder of the Golden Gate Park area. As a child I walked, rode bicycles, horseback rode and so forth there even when it was a military area and home to the smelly waste water treatment plant. However, sectioning out, fencing from the general public and compromising the habit of birds and wildlife to satisfy the agenda of the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department for a public, quasi-private partnership with my tax-payer dollars is not the way I want my portion of the tax pot to be spent. Save San Francisco's Ocean Beach Coastal inhabitants and dunes.

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: marjorie blackwell <marjb@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 1:51 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet project and support of the Staff Report

One of the biggest problems with artificial turf is the need to replace it every 8-10 years. Not only is this an extraordinary expense for the city, it is a huge cost to the environment, as the old turf ends up in a landfill.

Artificial turf has been proven to cost more per sq. foot over time than maintaining grass fields.

Why should Golden Gate Park be paved over like a parking lot with artificial turf? Please reject the proposal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Marjorie Blackwell

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Rupert Clayton
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 5, 2013

To: Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

From: Rupert Clayton
1336 Willard Street
San Francisco, CA 94117
rupert.clayton@gmail.com

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
[Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020]
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to register my strong opposition to the planned development of four artificial turf soccer fields with artificial night-time lighting at the west end of Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. I strongly support the report prepared by the commission's staff.

While there are many reasons why this development would irreparably harm the environment, destroy historic park landscape, reduce recreational opportunities for many Californians, and create an unprecedented source or light pollution along San Francisco's western side, **I want to focus here specifically on the specious logic used by the project's backers to supposedly demonstrate why no alternative project can meet the need of San Francisco soccer players.**

In fact, there is a fundamentally obvious "compromise alternative" that would leave the Beach Chalet site as good quality grass playing fields to be used primarily by children, as they have for more than 80 years, and transfer the planned intensive night-time play to another site further from the ocean and outside historic Golden Gate Park. My detailed analysis of these issues is attached. I thank you for your attention to this issue and trust that you will preserve the California coast.

Sincerely,

Rupert Clayton

Comments on Project Alternatives

Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, San Francisco, CA

Project Backers and Local Planners Failed to Consider a "Compromise Alternative"

Deficient Selection of Project Alternatives

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires an EIR to *"describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the project, or to the location of the project, which would feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the project but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project, and evaluate the comparative merits of the alternatives"* (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6).

The EIR for this project included the following alternatives: 1) No Project Alternative, 2) Off-Site Alternative, 3) Grass Turf with Reduced Lights Alternative, and 4) Synthetic Turf without Lights Alternative (EIR: Chapter VI). **The report specifically excluded from consideration the most obvious way to minimize environmental impacts and better meet project objectives—renovating the grass turf fields at the Beach Chalet without night lighting, and also providing additional hours for soccer play at another location.**

Recommended Components for a "Compromise Alternative"

I and many other individuals and groups made submissions throughout the local planning process requesting consideration of a "compromise alternative" that has great potential to meet the maximum number of project objectives consistent with minimal environmental impact to Golden Gate Park, the additional site, and the wider environment. This proposal aims to balance the genuine need for more playing time and better facilities for youth and adult soccer in San Francisco with the needs of other park users, nearby residents and broader environmental mandates.

I asked that the EIR include a Compromise Alternative structured generally as follows:

1. **Renovate athletic fields at the West Sunset Playground, including:**
    - An improved playing surface for some or all fields
    - Night lighting for some or all fields
2. **Renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields with living grass turf:**
    - Use contemporary field construction techniques, such as:
        - Good soil structure and soil improvement products for stronger grass roots
        - Effective subsurface drainage to cut down on loss of play time due to rain
        - State-of-the-art irrigation to both provide full coverage of the fields and to also save water by irrigating only when needed
        - New sod
        - Gopher barriers and an active gopher-control program

- Fix up restrooms as needed
- Introduce ADA access that is sensitive to the overall design concept of the park and consistent with other meadows in the park
- No sports lighting at the Beach Chalet site
- No expansion of the number of parking spaces (consistent with the requirements of Appendix 41 to the San Francisco Code).
- Only such new or modified pathways as can be accomplished without significant impact to the historic resources in Golden Gate Park
- No bleacher-style raised spectator seating

Essentially, the aim here is to remove from the Golden Gate Park portion of the project all those elements that cause it to have a significant adverse environmental impact, and then to provide sufficient additional playing hours at the off-site location to meet the sponsor's objectives (without causing significant adverse environmental impact at that location either).

There are two aspects of the Compromise Alternative that could be varied somewhat while retaining essentially the same cores aspects:

- There are many possible locations for the off-site portion of the Compromise Alternative. **I suggest that for ease of comparison, the EIR focuses on the West Sunset Playground for the off-site portion of the compromise alternative.** This location is already considered in the existing Off-Site Alternative, and is located a short distance from the Beach Chalet site. However, the off-site portion of the Compromise Alternative could also be sited elsewhere in the city without greatly changing the analysis. If, for example, there were significant local impacts from development at the West Sunset Playground, then selecting a different location for the off-site alternative could mitigate these. The sponsor's stated objectives include some geographically specific components. Given that the Compromise Alternative includes expanded hours for daytime play at the Beach Chalet site, relocating the off-site portion elsewhere in the city could even prove to be more convenient for adult soccer players seeking evening playing hours.
- While the Compromise Alternative requires a renovated grass surface for the four Beach Chalet fields (to ensure less than significant impact on historical resources), the surfaces for playing fields at the off-site location should be selected based on the most cost-effective approach that meets CEQA guidelines and overall project objectives. The existing grass fields at West Sunset Playground are well maintained and deliver many hours of daytime play. It may be possible to sufficiently increase playing time simply by lighting the existing grass fields with some surface improvements. Alternatively it may be necessary to construct one or more artificial turf fields at West Sunset Playground in order to achieve sufficient playing hours to meet objectives.

Despite requests for consideration of a "Compromise Alternative" from the San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission, nine non-governmental organizations and 41 individuals, San Francisco's planning commission chose instead to accept the assertion of a non-specialist in the city's planning department that there is no meaningful difference between four unrestored poor-quality fields and four well-drained, newly constructed grass soccer fields with physical gopher barriers.

Why the Existing Alternatives Alone are Insufficient

Parts of the Compromise Alternative were included as elements of some alternatives in the EIR.

- Alternative 2: Off-Site Alternative (EIR: VI-7 to VI-9) considers an alternative site, but only with no renovation of the Beach Chalet site, not in combination.
- Alternative 3: Grass Turf with Reduced Lights Alternative (EIR: VI-9 to VI-12) considers renovated grass turf at the Beach Chalet site, but retains sports lighting and does not include additional renovated fields elsewhere.
- Alternative 4: Synthetic Turf without Lights Alternative (EIR: VI-12 to VI-14) considers not installing sports lighting at the Beach Chalet site, but retains synthetic turf and does not include additional renovated fields elsewhere.

However, each of the existing alternatives either causes some significant environmental impact, fails to meet the sponsor's stated objectives, or both. This is because each contains some combination of elements that fails in some way. The same is true for the project as proposed, and remains true with the mitigations suggested by the EIR.

For these reasons, it would be wrong to view the Compromise Alternative as simply a restating of portions of these existing alternatives. By combining elements differently, it will reduce environmental impacts, while more successfully meeting the project's goals.

Why the Compromise Alternative should have been Considered

In contrast to the alternatives proposed in the EIR, the Compromise Alternative is able to reduce environmental impacts to less than significant levels, while meeting the sponsor's objectives. More basically, it can provide great soccer facilities and retain the environmental value of Golden Gate Park.

Because the major elements of the Compromise Alternative have already been considered within other alternatives, the incremental work required for the planning department to research its impacts would be minimal. However, it is only possible for the sponsor, government agencies and city residents to assess the merits of Compromise Alternative by including it in the EIR as a distinct alternative.

Two other considerations make strong arguments for analyzing the Compromise Alternative:

- Firstly, many people in San Francisco have asked for consideration of the Compromise Alternative. This approach has been presented to the public as an option by the volunteer group SF Ocean Edge, and has received very strong support. More than 10,000 people have signed a petition requesting the key components—renovated grass fields at the Beach Chalet and no night-lighting. Similarly, 10 of 16 candidates in San Francisco's November 2011 mayoral election pledged their support to an alternative with these components. No candidate pledged to support artificial turf or night lighting in Golden Gate Park. To present an EIR that fails to include this alternative is self-evidently inadequate.
- Secondly, there are good reasons to view the Compromise Alternative as more cost-efficient than the proposed project. Cost estimates for the planned project have ranged up to $12 million. Recently, the city renovated seven grass pitches at the Polo Fields for $1 million–$1.3 million. From this we can estimate that renovating the four grass pitches at the Beach Chalet might cost less than $1 million, plus another $1 million or less for renovated restrooms, ADA-compliant parking and similar improvements. This leaves a substantial budget of perhaps $10 million to renovate and light fields at another site. There is good reason to think that the Compromise Alternative can deliver greater benefits than the proposed project, at lower cost, and with far less environmental impact.

How the Compromise Alternative is Environmentally Superior

The EIR identified the No Project Alternative and Off-Site Alternative as environmentally superior because they would not cause significant unavoidable historical resource impacts from the installation of artificial turf, night lighting, bleachers and new pathways within Golden Gate Park (EIR: Table VI-1). **The Compromise Alternative would qualify as Environmentally Superior** for these same reasons.

The EIR identified no significant environmental impacts in the Off-Site Alternative (EIR: Table VI-1). The Compromise Alternative would have similar or lesser environmental impact at this second site than the Off-Site Alternative presented in the EIR.

How the Compromise Alternative Meets the Project Objectives

The Compromise Alternative would substantially meet all the sponsor's objectives:

- It would increase athletic play time at the Beach Chalet, through improvements to the grass surface, drainage and gopher controls. It would also increase athletic play time at the off-site location through both surface improvements and night-lighting.
- The ancillary improvements to the Beach Chalet site would improve public access as stated in the sponsor's objectives. The only areas in which these stated objectives would not be met would be those that either would cause unavoidable impact to historic resources under any alternative (and therefore cannot be met under CEQA) or those that are in direct contravention of the city code, such as expansion of the parking lot, which would violate the following provision of Appendix 41 to the San Francisco Code:

> *No net gain in parking spaces existing as of the effective date of this ordinance, other than those provided for in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, shall be permitted.*

- It would substantially increase ground sports opportunities at two nearby sites in the north-east portion of San Francisco.
- It would provide safe facilities for players and visitors at both sites through gopher-proofing, improved drainage, and state-of-the-art athletic field surfaces. Other amenities would be provided as appropriate to the type of use at each site, and in keeping with preserving the historic value of Golden Gate Park.
- Properly constructed grass fields with gopher protection would greatly reduce the maintenance and resource needs. The sponsor's view that installation of four artificial turf fields at the Beach Chalet site would necessarily reduce maintenance or resource usage needs to be fully substantiated with independent data. Both field types require responsible maintenance, although the type of work clearly differs.
- ADA requirements would be part of the design for both sites, so this objective would be fully met.
- It will be fully consistent with the *Golden Gate Park Master Plan.*

One stated objective remains to be addressed: "Improve safety and increase night-time use of Golden Gate Park by installing new lighting and bringing more recreational facility users to the area". Contained within this are many unsubstantiated assumptions. Here are some of these assumptions and counter-arguments that demonstrate that **this objective is essentially an attempt by the sponsor to unreasonably restrict the range of alternatives under consideration**.

- Assumption: "More recreational facility users in the park at night will increase safety". Counter-argument: "Simple logic indicates that an area with no night-time use has no crime or safety issues. SFPD statistics show that the areas with most crime and injuries at night, are those where most people congregate at night."
- Assumption: "Night lighting will increase safety". Counter-argument: "While we generally feel safer in well-lit areas at night, there are many studies that show that the link between lighting and safety is far more complex. Clearly night-lighting increases night-use, which increases the potential for crime and injury. Also, bright sports lighting has the effect of obscuring the surrounding dark shadows and facilitating crime in those areas."
- Assumption: "Increasing night-time use of the west end of Golden Gate Park is consistent with the *Golden Gate Park Master Plan.*" Counter-argument: "The master plan states that *'Lighting is for safety purposes and is not intended to increase night use.'* (GGPMP: 9-5). The Beach Chalet fields are not included in either the night-use areas or potential night-use areas. There is no night use planned at any athletic facility west of Crossover Drive.

Therefore, it seems that any alternative that meets the objective as written must necessarily violate both CEQA and the *Golden Gate Park Master Plan.* Despite this, the Compromise Alternative does

provide an opportunity to improve safety of both sites (through better design) and night-time use of the off-site location.

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Terry Rolleri <terryrolleri@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 2:53 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet project and support of the Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am a homeowner from the Richmond district writing to express my concerns regarding the Beach Chalet proposal. Although I have many objections to this proposal, I will limit my comments to the two issues that seem to pose the greatest harm to Golden Gate Park and the coast.

The proposal calls for the construction of ten light polls, extending 60ft in height and generating a total 150,000 watts of lighting. This lighting will clearly have negative impacts on birds and other wildlife. It will create light pollution on the coast as well as in the adjoining neighborhood. I have seen estimates that it will impact houses from Fulton Street to Geary Boulevard and from Ocean Beach to 43rd Avenue.

I am equally opposed to the replacement of natural grass with artificial turf in Golden Gate Park. The Beach Chalet field is habit for all kinds of wildlife and replacing it with artificial turf will cause great harm to park wildlife. It could also potentially create toxic runoff that would leech into the ocean.

The City of San Francisco has attempted to portray this as choice between preserving the Park and coastline or, providing more play space for kids. This is a false choice. There is an alternative plan which will provide children with more dedicated play space without harming the Park or our coast. This plan has been referred to as the "Hybrid Alternative." The City is planning to renovate the soccer fields at the West Sunset Playground, which are only a short distance from the Beach Chalet Fields and approximately the same size. But at the West Sunset Playground the City is planning to use natural grass. Why not simply substitute the two and renovate the Beach Chalet Fields with natural grass and no sports lighting. And at the West Sunset Playground use artificial turf. Sport lighting is already in place at the West Sunset Playground. Given how destructive this proposal is for the Park and coast, I cannot understand why the City refuses to consider this alternative.

In closing, I am aware that kids need a place to play, but we must remember that someday these same kids will grow up and have families of their own. I believe we have to ask the question, if we allow this proposal to move forward, what kind of Park and coast will these kids inherit? When I look back over the past 40-50 years, I cannot help but be thankful to those that prevented the City of San Francisco from being covered with freeways. I am thankful that others prevented housing from being built in the Marin Headlands. And recently, we celebrated the opening of the Devil's Slide Tunnel, which was the alternative to Caltrans building a six-lane bypass through Montara State Beach. And now, we turn to the

California Coastal Commission to step forward and protect our Park and coastline. The Commission has the power and duty to stop or modify this proposal. At the very least, you must require that the City abandon plans to install 150,000 watts of sports lighting.

Sincerely,

Terry Rolleri

810 37th Avenue

San Francisco, California 94121-3408

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Terry Rolleri <terryrolleri@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 2:57 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet project and support of the Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am a nurse, Red Cross and Glide Church volunteer and a member of the San Francisco Vegetarian Society. I am writing in opposition to the proposal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields. Although there is much wrong with this proposal, I have two main concerns.

Specifically, I am referring to the proposal to replace 7 acres of natural grass with tire crumb rubber. These fields are more than just a place for recreation. They are important habitat for birds and other wildlife. Replacing the grass with artificial turf will harm precious wildlife. For this reason, artificial turf should definitely be rejected.

I am equally opposed to the idea of installing stadium lighting. Such bright lights have no place in our

park or along our coast. I cannot see the necessity for these lights -- proponents talk about giving kids more time to play, but I think we do not want young students playing soccer until 10 p.m. when they should be home concentrating on school work. These lights will also play havoc with wildlife, and flood the coast and surrounding neighborhood with light pollution. The stadium lighting should be removed from the project.

Finally, I want to express my support for the Hybrid Alternative. The proposed project will be so destructive to the coast, park and wildlife that any reasonable alternative should be seriously considered. The City is already planning to upgrade the soccer fields at the West Sunset Playground with natural grass. This site is approximately the same size as the Beach Chalet Fields and we could save money because stadium lighting is already at the site. If our goal is to give kids a place to play, then why not avoid this controversy and switch this project to the West Sunset Playground? Rehabilitate the Beach Chalet Fields with natural grass and no stadium lighting, and rehabilitate the fields at the West Sunset Playground with artificial turf.

Our kids need a place to play but they also need natural areas. We must remember that someday they will inherit this park and coastline from us, and pass it on to their children. Let's do what is right for them and their future.

Sincerely,

Nancy Loewen
810 37th Avenue
San Francisco, California 94121

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Judy Irving <films@pelicanmedia.org>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 3:18 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Support staff report: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields

May 9th,

2013 CCC Hearing

Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Judy Irving
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 5,
2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I'm an independent documentary filmmaker ("The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill"); my films focus on the relationships between people and animals in and around urban settings. My in-progress film, "Pelican Dreams," takes place along the Pacific coast from Baja to the Columbia River, so I am strongly connected to our magnificent coast. As you know, animals don't come to hearings or speak up for themselves, but we can do it for them, and I want to add my voice to those of thousands of other supporters in urging you to protect, preserve, and enhance the western edge of Golden Gate Park for the benefit of animals and people, not just the sports-crazed among us! As you know, many birds are drawn to bright lights, and this can be fatal when they crash into skyscrapers or collide with towers. The western edge of Golden Gate Park should be kept as natural as possible, and as dark as possible at night, so that it blends in with the coast and ocean and does not disrupt wildlife. Please adopt the CCC staff report, which accurately reflects the intent of the law as well as the wishes of Bay Area residents. Do not be swayed by Rec/Park lobbyists, intent on selling off our beautiful city simply to make money. Listen to the birds!

Best regards,

Judy Irving

Judy Irving
Producer/Director
"The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill"
"Pelican Dreams" (in progress)
South Bay Salt Pond Habitat Restoration Photographer

Pelican Media
1736 Stockton Street, Suite 2
San Francisco, CA 94133

415-362-2420 phone
415-912-5611 fax
www.pelicanmedia.org

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Mary Keitelman <mkeitelman@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 3:22 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: SFoceanedge.org stopBeachChalet
Subject: Coastal Commission

EMAIL TO COASTAL COMMISSION: Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov;
COPY: sfoceanedge@earthlink.net

May 5, 2013

Dear Kevin Kahn, Coastal Commissioners, Coastal Commission Staff:

This is a letter in support of Coastal Commission Staff Report for Coastal Commission item 15c, Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020 (San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, San Francisco Co.) scheduled for May 9, 2013.

The proposed soccer fields, with over 9 acres of cement, plastic turf and night lighting present an insupportable health hazard to children and a deadly cost to wildlife. It's no surprise to learn that the proposal is inconsistent with the City's own master plan for Golden Gate Park.

1. Chemicals and lead in plastic turf are deadly for children, and for all living things. It is unacceptable to expose children to any of these chemicals. They are all unacceptable, but lead in particular, stands out as something to which we must not expose young people.
   Some details here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lead_poisoning#Effects_on_children

2. This project also effectively removes a little over 9 acres of habitat for residential and migrating birds on the Pacific flyway by
   - Removing grass which supports insect and other wildlife
   - Adding lights at night which makes it impossible for birds to tolerate nesting
   - Adding cement which also does not support insect or other wildlife

Wild birds need habitat to survive; they can not select another migration route or decide to move if there's no food and rest along the way. If the habitat is gone, more of the migrating and resident birds will simply fail to survive.

I urge you, support the Staff Report for item 15c, which is harmful to children and wildlife, and contrary to the master plan for Golden Gate Park.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this vital issue.

Sincerely,

Mary Keitelman

7 Acacia Court
Pacifica, CA 94044

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: informationmistress <informationmistress@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 3:57 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: LETTER IN SUPPORT OF STAFF REPORT & OPPOSING PROJECT

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing

Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

Lori Higa

Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I've been a resident of San Francisco since the '70s and was a homeowner in Ocean Beach just down the street from the park/Chalet area for 15 years. I frequently visit and enjoy the park, especially the area around the Beach Chalet and have been doing so for decades.

I'm a working class person with humble roots who had little access growing up to the extraordinary natural environment that this area offers. As such, I deeply appreciate its specialness and think it absolutely essential to preserve it.

I'm writing to express my opposition to the Dept. of Recreation & Parks' decision to install artificial turf and lights for the soccer fields. For obvious reasons, beyond destroying what little is left of disappearing natural habitat for wildlife in ways that would be difficult to restore, this proposal takes away one of the few remaining healthful pleasures and opportunities we have in our City for people, most importantly children, to run and play in fresh open air on real grass fields.

As for the harsh artificial lights, these will hurt, disrupt and damage the lives of resident and migratory birds and other wildlife here. I've been a witness to the tragic destruction of western snowy plover and marine animals, resources and habitat at Ocean Beach and Fort Funston over the decades--all preventable.

Longtime residents have told me stories of the days in the '60s when there were so many abalone they would come down to Ocean Beach and gather them for food. It is borders on criminal that the Dept. of Recreation & Parks won't implement solutions that can be a win-win for the environment, local users, residents and city budgets.

Thank you for your consideration. I ask the Commission to do the right thing and make the best, compassionate, environmentally and economically responsible and sound decision for the public good, the environment and those without a voice.

Sincerely,

Lori Higa, MBA
563 Minna St., unit 3
San Francisco CA 94103

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No A-2-SNF-12-020
Joanne Bartels
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I have been a resident in the Outer Sunset for over 15 years. I am now a homeowner and have a husband and newborn baby here.

My husband and I plan to raise our daughter here because we want her to grow up running around in the natural beauty that is Golden

Gate Park. We think it would be a shame to see a gigantic concrete, astroturf and enormous lights shining down in what has always been

a serene natural setting.

I know that our daughter will one day play organized sports and I know that I will probably be the parent driving her to go play soccer.

No matter how convenient it would be to only have to walk a few short blocks to what could be a location to play I feel it would not be

worth all the destruction that will occur to this beautiful park.

I urge you to please stop the Parks and Recreation department from going forth on their plan to build this large synthetic soccer complex

in one of cities only large natural landscapes.

Sincerely,

Joanne Bartels
1374 47th Ave.
San Francisco, CA
94122

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: dino martino <redgallo50@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 4:38 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet project and support of the Staff Report

Greetings Mr. Kevin Kahn,

I'd like to thank you for your involvement in the Beach Chalet project. I am a native San Franciscan, and I oppose the Beach Chalet project, which would harm this beautiful park, that our founding fathers left us, with toxic artificial turf. Please do not be fooled by the backers of this project, their motives are purely political and monetary. I ask that you please vote to shut this project down, and to save our beautiful Golden Gate Park from the contemporary mind set and development.

Sincerely,
Mr. Dino Bini

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Curt Sanburn <jcstwo@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 4:40 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: SF Ocean Edge
Subject: RE GG Park Soccer Field proposal

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Curt Sanburn
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I urge the Commission to adopt the recommendations of the April 26 CCC staff report, which emphatically enumerates the shortcomings inherent in SF Rec & Parks' costly and overwrought plan for the Beach Chalet soccer fields in Golden Gate Park. These are shortcomings that I, as a resident of the outer Richmond district and frequent user of the west end of GG Park, have been fearful of for almost two years. I attended early community meetings on the plan, at which an unholy alliance of Rec & Parks staffers, PR people for the Fisher family, and bussed-in soccer kids, moms and dads, tried to steamroll their plan despite its clear problems, and despite impassioned opposition from neighborhood residents. I can only call the city's attitude arrogant and unfeeling toward the concerns of Richmond and Sunset district residents. I am still mystified by the city's hellbent motivation to execute this obviously un-green "improvement" to perhaps the entire Bay Area's single most important and historic slice of parkland. It was heartening to read your staff's clear-headedness.

If I can quote from the staff report: The city's plan "does not protect the naturalistic quality of the western end of Golden Gate Park, including in terms of its historic status ... is contrary to the mandate for reforestation by removing over 55 trees ... does not preserve the natural characteristics of the Cliff House/Sutro Baths area; and ... does not protect the Richmond and Sunset residential areas from traffic and visitor impacts.

Artificial turf has NO PLACE in Golden Gate Park; frequent stadium night lighting has NO PLACE in Golden Gate Park. Please defend San Francisco's great coastline from the forces of short-sightedness and expedience, as much as you can. I have faith that the CCC will see the truth in this issue, as it has so many times in the past.

Sincerely,

Curt Sanburn
7700 Geary Blvd. #110
San Francsico, CA 94121

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Portland Coates <portlandcoates@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 4:43 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

My name is Portland H. Coates and I am a resident of San Francisco. I Oppose the proposed Project and Support the Staff Report.

I am a member of various organizations all of which oppose this project, The Sierra Club and the Audobon Society to name a few. I am opposed to the saran-wrapping of park areas in all forms. This cannot and will not give a Natural experience to children or anyone visiting this part of the park.

I dont think it is a good idea for children to play or be exposed to this "substance" over long periods of time. To be scratched by it or rubbed by it. What do we know of the effects of this artificial turf over the long run in close contact with children?

More importantly, I have spoken to some soccar coaches and asked them - what kind of turf do the world class soccer teams play on? I mean Brazil, England, Manchester United, South Africa, France, Germany --- all of the coaches said in no uncertain terms that none of these teams would EVER play on artificial turf.

If its so great and so great for play and so forth ---- why would these teams - whose livlihood depends on the play and its outcome refuse to ever play on this artificial turf? If they won't there must be a very good reason and I dont want our children playing on it either.

Another point which is very important to me is the Pacific Coast Flyway for birdlife flying up and down the Pacific Coast during various times of the year. I do not like to think that they will be disoriented by the bright lights shining in this area of San Francisco late into the night and throwing off their flight patterns.

Sometimes - in the interests of more important issues (Allowing Nature to move gracefully on in its own way) - we should and must stand aside and not manipulate the natural order of things to make a few bucks or save a few bucks--- its just not worth it and it proves nothing.

Please support the staff report and do not allow artificial turf to be put all over the soccer fields at the West End of Golden Gate Park.

Thank you --- Portland H.Coates, 1537 12th Avenue, San Francisco, Ca

Howard Wong, AIA

May 3, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Subject: Support Staff Recommendation to Reject Artificial Turf and Stadium Lights
Cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

Dear Ms. Shallenberger and California Coastal Commission:

Consistent with the Local Coastal Program, Ocean Beach Master Plan, Golden Gate Park Master Plan and the Mission of the California Coastal Commission, I urge **rejection** of the unnecessary artificial turf and stadium lights at the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

In terms of fundamental environmental principles, a simple map of San Francisco depicts north-south and west-east naturalistic pathways, linking the Pacific Ocean, Golden Gate Park, Panhandle, streetscapes, neighborhood parks, hills and the Bay. These are natural migratory flyways and greenways, which have rich ecological benefits---yet to be fully understood. A large plasticized surface and bright lights would sever the flow of these naturalistic paths.

At the western edge of Golden Gate Park, the merging of ocean, beach, streetscapes, trees and green meadows would best protect, conserve, restore, and enhance environmental and human-based resources of the California coast and ocean for environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations.

I write as someone with deep roots in San Francisco's open space and historic resources. As an Architect, I was the lead principal for restoration of Golden Gate Park's Sharon Building and Spreckels Temple of Music; and project manager for the Conservatory of Flowers Master Plan and Design. As a citizen, I served on the Parks & Recreation Open Space Advisory Committee, Neighborhood Parks Council's Board of Directors and campaign committees for Park Bonds. As a native San Franciscan, I have fond memories of Golden Gate Park---childhood bicycle lessons, picnics and formative experiences in gardens/ lakes/ fields.

The proposed plans for artificial turf and stadium lights are unnecessary, since viable and much more beneficial alternatives exist. In this case, the proposed project appears to be driven more by political expediency and revenue goals---exploiting and exacerbating large amounts of car parking in order to rent fields to well-heeled groups from suburban cities.

Howard Wong, AIA 128 Varennes St. San Francisco, CA 94133 (415)-982-5055 wongaia@aol.com

The proposed project's significant budget could be better dispersed to disadvantaged neighborhoods throughout San Francisco, which would enable easier access to fields for low-income children.

DESIGN ALTERNATIVES

- Hybrid Alternative: Install artificial turf at West Sunset Playground and renovate the Beach Chalet Fields with hardy real grass and drainage systems with minimal lighting.
- Renovate the Beach Chalet Fields with hardy real grass, state-of-the-art drainage systems and field construction. Distribute remaining funds to fix playing fields throughout the City.
- Partner with the Hunters Point Housing Project, which has a large open space component, to create world-class athletic fields, serving a larger cross-section of San Franciscans.
- Partner with the Mission Bay Project, which has a large open space component, to merge financial resources for centrally-located athletic fields.
- Partner with the Treasure Island Project, which has a large open space component, to merge financial resources for world-class regional athletic fields.
- Partner with the Port of San Francisco, which has landside properties and piers, for possible athletic fields---similar to waterfront recreational projects in other cities.
- Partner with the PUC, which has reservoirs with rooftops, for recreational fields.
- Although restrictive in uses, coordinate with the Presidio/ GGNRA for possible sites that may accept artificial turf fields.
- Finally, seek innovative uses of the urban environment, such as rooftop surfaces in existing and new developments....

Excerpt from "Whitecaps Fan Blog" (Vancouver Whitecaps Soccer Team): "Fake grass blights Pacific Northeast soccer"
The problem with FieldTurf in Portland and Seattle has been recently highlighted by the fact the US National team would dearly love to play in front of such magnificent support in Seattle and Portland, but do not want to play on it. Instead, they want to lay a temporary grass surface over the FieldTurf. One commentator, Richard Farley of NBC Sports ProSoccerTalk, has said they should just play on the FieldTurf surfaces. He says "there is nothing wrong with Portland or Seattle's fields."
How wrong Farley is. Anyone who knows the game of football knows that FieldTurf is really no substitute for natural grass where professional football is concerned. I have never heard any top player express the wish to play on FieldTurf over grass; rather, they universally express contempt for FieldTurf.
There are a number of reasons why the World's top clubs travelling through North America insist on playing on grass, and won't play on FieldTurf. Such clubs include Manchester United, Real Madrid, Barcelona, Celtic and others who refuse to play on the stuff. Why? Because it is not worthy of play at the top levels of the game. They feel it threatens their player's careers and exposes them to muscle and ligament damage. Anybody who has played a game on FieldTurf knows the toll it takes on the body. While there is no doubt FieldTurf is better than the Astroturf of old, the world's best teams are right about all of these concerns.
There is a reason why we missed seeing David Beckham in 2011 and Thierry Henry in 2011 and 2012 in Vancouver: both players were nursing minor injuries and did not want to aggravate them by playing on FieldTurf. If we had a proper grass pitch, we might well have seen them.

Covering Golden Gate Park with artificial turf is like covering Ocean Beach with artificial sand or covering grass fields with asphalt. Especially when substantive alternatives exist, the prudent course is to preserve Golden Gate Park's naturalistic environment---consistent with the Local Coastal Program, Ocean Beach Master Plan, Golden Gate Park Master Plan and the Mission of the California Coastal Commission,

Sincerely,

Howard Wong, AIA

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Howard Wong, AIA 128 Varennes St. San Francisco, CA 94133 (415)-982-5055 wongaia@aol.com

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Nancy Buffum <nancybuffum@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 5:39 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Cc: sf ocean edge
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet project and support of the Staff Report

Hello Staff of the Coastal Commission

I so appreciate your thorough and thoughtful report on the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project, (which I accessed though the SF Ocean Edge organization).

I agree with the the substantive recommendations of Coastal Commission staff.

As a nearby resident, frequent park user, bird watcher, and parent of former youth soccer players, I am heartened to see recommendations for integrative landscaping and natural turf, less lighting, better path material, easier public access, and less obtrusive and out-of-natural-character seating.

I was very distressed that San Francisco officials brushed aside the City's own commitment to keeping the west end of Golden Gate Park as natural and wild as possible. Since San Francisco city officials have chosen to side with lobbyists against the interests of the people and the environment, I very much appreciate the Coastal Commission's balanced examination of the proposed project and the descriptions of sensible, sensitive remediation.

Thank you for doing your job. Please know that many many San Francisco residents and visitors prefer a natural setting to an over-developed stadium; and that many soccer players and soccer supporters recognize the hazards of artificial turf and would rather not play on it/have our children play on it.

I look forward to the west end of Golden Gate Park remaining dark, friendly to wildlife, and more enjoyable for both sports teams and other human users of the park

Nancy Buffum
415 Kirkham Street
nancybuffum@sbcglobal.net
415.845.2584

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Annamarie Simmons <misscleo22000@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 5:45 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Fields

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Annamarie Simmons
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

My name is Annamarie Simmons and I am opposed to the project to cover the athletic fields of Golden Gate Park with artificial turf. I feel that artificial turf would destroy the beauty of the fields and I think that bright lights will be an eyesore on the fields. I support the California Coastal Commission's report.

Sincerely,

Annamarie Simmons
1714 Franklin St., #100-220

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Michael Fraley <fraley@usfca.edu>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 7:09 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet project and support of the Staff Report

Hello,

Please keep Golden Gate Park as it is, without artificial turf or stadium lights that will disturb the natural habitat. Golden Gate Park is a valuable refuge. We should protect it and keep it safe for animals.

Thank you,
Michael

--
Michael Fraley
Manager, Applications Programming
University of San Francisco
(415) 422-2976
fraley@usfca.edu

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Todd David <toddsdavid@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 7:26 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Letter of Support For Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger:

I stand with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

The Beach Chalet Project will be a significant public good, increasing the fields' playability and safety, while more than tripling the number of hours currently available there for recreation. At a time when healthy recreation for both kids and families is lacking in San Francisco, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City's documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth.

Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow."

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
Todd David
384 Eureka St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

--
Matching parent fundraising to support all SF schools: www.edmatchsf.org
Giving a powerful voice to parents in SF politics: www.sfparentpac.com
Creating permanent open space www.noevalleytownsquare.com

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: elizabeth cataldo <elizabethcataldo@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 7:59 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Beth Cataldo
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing in support of the California Coastal Commission staff's recommendations that the Beach Chalet project should not move forward as planned. I am a resident of San Francisco and live close to Golden Gate Park. I frequent the park and also volunteer for several environment organizations, including the Farallones Marine Sanctuary and the Marine Mammal Center. I am also an avid birder and hiker and visit Ocean Beach almost daily.

As a resident and frequent user of this area of the park, I concur that the installation of Astroturf and bright lights will negatively alter the environment. This is not an improvement but will create a lasting legacy of imitation nature next to one of the most beautiful shorelines in the world. I am not against upgrading these soccer facilities, but this should be done with natural grass, an improved drainage system to make sure that chemicals do not get deposited in natural waterways and more natural lighting.

Californians, especially San Franciscans, are proud of our leadership in driving sustainability and being guardians of the environment. How this "improvement" plan was passed is difficult for me to understand. I am relieved that the California Coastal Commission staff has looked at the project from a more objective point of view and is recommending that the City alter the project to fall in line with the goals of preserving a healthy coastline.

Thank you for your consideration,

Beth Cataldo
692 8th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94118

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Aaron Peskin <aaron.peskin@earthlink.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 8:20 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

May 5, 2013 (VIA U.S. MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL)

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

Dear Chair Shallenberger,

I write in strong support of your staff's sensible and reasonable recommendations in the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields matter that will be before the California Coastal Commission this Thursday, May 9th (Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020).

As a former member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors (2001-2009) and the president of said body (2005-2009) I am well-versed with the issues that are before you in this matter including the City's General Plan, the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, the Recreation and Open Space Element, and the Local Coastal Program (LCP).

From my personal knowledge of these local documents as well as the California Coastal Act of 1976, I believe that the Staff Report and the recommendations contained therein are well reasoned and consistent with applicable State and local laws and plans. I commend your staff for crafting a set of recommendations that address San Francisco's longstanding need for new active recreational facilities without vastly diminishing the historic, bucolic nature of the west end of Golden Gate Park where San Francisco meets the Pacific Ocean. As staff correctly points out, with appropriate revisions, the City's goals of achieving increased recreational usage can be met without violating the LCP or diminishing the naturalistic setting of the area.

While Golden Gate Park, one of our Country's great urban parks, is by its very creation a human altered landscape, it is indeed a naturalistic setting and the Beach Chalet fields are a key element of that setting at the west end of the park in the Coastal Zone. In fact, I wholeheartedly support taking down the ugly, chain-link fence that went up in 1998 (without the benefit of any public process or input) that has discouraged San Franciscans from using the area. However, the proposed introduction of artificial turf, concrete paths and stadium lighting to the Beach Chalet Fields is the result of recent misguided City policy.

This project as proposed is not consistent with the requirements of the City of San Francisco Local Coastal Program and I urge you and your fellow Commissioners to uphold Staff's Recommendations to protect Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Aaron Peskin

224 Filbert Street
San Francisco, CA 94133

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Carol yenne <cyenne@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 8:24 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: support

I am lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Carol Yenne
681 Alvarado St.
San Francisco, ca 94114

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Regina Faustine <rfaustine@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 8:30 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities and help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

The Beach Chalet Project will be a significant public good, increasing the fields' playability and safety, while more than tripling the number of hours currently available there for recreation. At a time when healthy recreation for both kids and families is lacking in San Francisco, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City's documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth.

Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow."

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Regina Faustine
214 Hoffman Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94115

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Jane Weil <jane@janeweil.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 8:29 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Support For Beach Chalet Field Renovation

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

The Beach Chalet Project will be a significant public good, increasing the fields' playability and safety, while more than tripling the number of hours currently available there for recreation. At a time when healthy recreation for both kids and families is lacking in San Francisco, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City's documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth.

Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow."

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,
Jane Weil
1160 Mission St #2108
San Francisco, CA 94103

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Matching parent fundraising to support all SF schools: www.edmatchsf.org
Giving a powerful voice to parents in SF politics: www.sfparentpac.com
Creating permanent open space www.noevalleytownsquare.com

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: rachel long <rlovelight@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 8:51 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; jen@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject: Beach Chalet Field Renovation

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am in agreement with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) as well as The San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee (SF Parent PAC) in lending my strong support to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project, and encourage the Commission to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal. This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. **Quite simply, it will help keep families in San Francisco**. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed

The Beach Chalet Project will be a significant public good, increasing the fields' playability and safety, while more than tripling the number of hours currently available there for recreation. At a time when healthy recreation for both kids and families is lacking in San Francisco, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to ameliorate the City's documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours, especially for youth.

Although the Beach Chalet Soccer Project affects less than 1% of Golden Gate Park's 1,017 acres, it has been considered carefully through an extensive Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The EIR's finding that "with implementation of storm water collection and testing requirements, the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow."

In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Once again, the new Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project will increase the recreational opportunities for thousands of youth, adults, and families. It will help keep families in San Francisco. I strongly support it, and urge the Commission to allow this much-needed renovation to proceed.

Sincerely,

Rachel Long
749 27th st. SF 94131

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Quincy Yu <qyu@sea-yu.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 8:58 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project

Importance: High

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

I am a parent, a third generation San Franciscan and small business owner writing in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project.

Along with organizations like The San Francisco Parks Alliance and San Francisco Parent Political Action Committee, I want to strongly encourage the Commission to vote "**No Substantial Issue**" on the coastal permit appeal.

This project will provide thousands of youth, adults, and families with healthy recreational opportunities. And with the dearth of such facilities in San Francisco for both kids and families, the Beach Chalet Project represents an uncommon opportunity to address the City's documented shortfall of available playfield recreation hours.

This project has been delayed enough! The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has found that the field would not contribute to degradation of groundwater quality and to Ocean Beach from groundwater outflow. In addition, the EIR asserts that the "proposed lighting is unlikely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough to adversely affect the surrounding neighborhoods. Also, the spillover would not affect the amount of light of the night sky."

Our city needs Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project to proceed. San Francisco wants to keep families in the city, and thus it needs to continue to build the services and infrastructure needed to keep families here.

I strongly urge the Commission to support families by voting "No Substantial Issue."

Sincerely,

Quincy Yu
SeaYu® Enterprises
P.O.Box 16236
San Francisco, CA 94116
415.566.9677 Ext 113 Office
415.566.9667 Fax
qyu@sea-yu.com
www.odorandstainremover.com
Facebook: clean+green
Twitter: @cleanandgreen

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Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Linda Lewin <storyspinner168@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 10:51 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet project and support of the Staff Report

I live in the Richmond District of San Francisco and love walking in the western end of the park at least once a week to take in nature. I enjoy the sights, sounds and feel of the area and do not want it to be converted into a crowded, commercial, lit-up area. I think it would be a disaster to have the soccer field there. I know there are other places where kids can play soccer without having toxic turf put in and ruining this part of our treasured backyard. For those of us who live in apartments, it IS our backyard.

Linda Lewin

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: V.Lubet <vslubet@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 05, 2013 11:36 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: sarah.ballard@sfgov.org; ". jen"@cityfieldsfoundation.org
Subject: Beach Chalet Soccer Fields

Dear Commissioner Shallenberger,

This is not a mass duplicated letter, its a letter from me, a San Francisco native. I love Golden Gate Park. Its a place to escape to when you need to get away from the fast pace of City life. I have a 10 year old who has played soccer at the Beach Chalet Soccer fields and I have experience the disappointment of a cancel soccer game but that pales in comparison to the enjoyment we get from the natural environment the Beach Chalet fields has to offer. Golden Gate Park is a special place, I hope you see the value in keeping the park a haven for wildlife, plants and natural beauty but yet still serving a balance of recreational activity that fits into the vision of the park. I'm not opposed to Artificial Turf but I'm opposed to it's use in the wrong environment, a asphalt school yard would be better suited for its use and recreation.
My voice joins others in keeping the Beach Chalet Soccer fields as they are now and hopefully well into the future.
Sincerely,
Victor Lubet
1075 Carolina St. S.F 94107

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Tehmina Khan <teatime4pm@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 1:06 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet project and support of the Staff Report

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Tehmina Khan
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am a San Francisco soccer mom who opposes the plan to pave over the Beach Chalet fields with artificial turf; thus I stand in favor of the Coastal Commission staff report. My son's team has played several games at Beach Chalet. It is true that the grass is uneven and needs improvement, but turf is not the answer. As a parent watching a game, it is much more comfortable and enjoyable to sit on real grass rather than on plastic covered tire crumbs. I do not understand why soccer is now being equated with artificial turf. It seems to me that we have a failure of imagination when it comes to providing soccer fields for our children. I am urging you to support a win-win alternative which would improve the existing grass fields without adding lights. I have many reasons for this:

1. Although we are a soccer-obsessed family, we also love Golden Gate Park, especially the less developed western end. We love to look at the night sky at Ocean Beach, and the proposed lighting would ruin this experience. There are so few dark places in the city; this project would bring urban light pollution all the way to the ocean! Also, as a city family, we would be sad to lose seven acres of Golden Gate Park open space to an urbanized single-use development.
2. We are not big fans of artificial turf. After soccer practice and games, we come home with tire crumbs in our clothes and hair. It sometimes ends up in players' mouths and eyes and in the mouths of younger siblings. When the temperature exceeds a mere 70 degrees, the surface becomes too hot to touch and we can see the heat currents radiating off the surface. I have burned my feet running barefoot on artificial turf on an ordinary summer day. Some days the chemical smell is terrible and I worry about the kids breathing in these gases while exercising intensely. I also worry about bacteria, viruses, and fungi that become trapped in the plastic grass and cannot break down. Furthermore, old tires are considered too toxic to dispose of in landfill. Why then do we use them to create children's playing fields? Our favorite fields are the Polo Fields in Golden Gate Park — decently maintained grass fields that lend themselves to multiple uses.
3. According to SFUSD, most of the city's children live in the southern and eastern parts of the city. Therefore, I feel it makes more sense to focus on renovating or creating new fields in the neighborhoods where most of the children are. Some seasons we have had to drive for an hour to get across town to soccer games. We have tried to recruit players who simply cannot make it to the fields to which we are assigned. Furthermore, many of our neighborhood fields are in terrible disrepair. My son practices at Franklin Square in the Mission District. The field is a tire crumb sand pit and is full of sink holes when it rains; it poses a greater health and safety hazard than Beach Chalet. We would much prefer that some of the funds be used to repair existing turf fields rather than to create new ones.

4. Why do we believe that our playing surface should be perfectly even and manicured? In most of the world, children play on less than perfect grass and even bare dirt. My son's former teammate recently moved to France and sent back video of himself and his new team in Paris playing on dirt. In France! A much more soccer obsessed society than ours.
5. If we can maintain grass on golf courses, why can't we maintain grass on soccer fields? It seems to me a matter of will.
6. We love that San Francisco prides itself on being a green city. If we destroy the open space at Beach Chalet, we take a step backwards.
7. According to my son's coach, we have more than enough fields in the city -- we just don't have access to them. The city could easily contract with public and private schools to allow recreational teams access to these fields when the schools are not using them. The coach also noted that the youth soccer lobby is powerful and well-funded.

We can do better by our children than to put artificial turf in Golden Gate Park. I urge you to stand by the staff report. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Tehmina Khan

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Paul Lufkin <plufkin@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 7:44 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Oppose Beach Chalet Project

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Paul Lufkin
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter *is*

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I support the staff report on this project and oppose the project itself -- and I urge you to do the same. I have lived and worked in San Francisco for thirty-plus years. The stresses and strains of life in an urban environment are well known; but I love the City and have hoped to remain here into my retirement and indefinitely. I just wanted to write and say that I will regard it as an infinite sadness if I cannot in moments when I require simplicity, quiet, and renewal repair to the outer reaches of Golden Gate Park and find the familiar mix of trees, grass, fog -- and yes, sometimes mud -- that has always greeted the walker/wanderer in this area and that such a restorative!

My apartment is in the upper Market Street area. In recent months, every single vacant lot, gas station, or funky corner store/bldg has been invaded with giant cranes and the accoutrement of condo-building. I badly need to be able to escape periodically to the natural, simple, unchanged reaches of places like the Ocean Beach area of GGP in order to balance the ongoing process of urbanization that inherently exists in most of the City owing to economic pressures.

Please save my natural breathing space and oppose the project that would so urbanize the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields and their environs. I am counting on you!

Sincerely,
Paul T. Lufkin
240 Cumberland Street, #302
SF, CA 94114

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Lee Schulstad <lrs303@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 8:14 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Oppose Beach Chalet Project

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing

Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

Lee Schulstad

Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am a resident of a south-facing condominium located at the intersection of La Playa St. and Fulton St. I am strongly opposed to any installation of bright lights at the Beach Chalet soccer field. I really really do not want the glare of bright lights on tall poles 24 hours a day less than a block away. I want darkness at night.

Sincerely,

Lee Schulstad

855 La Playa St., #466

San Francisco, CA 94121

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Christopher Keene <ctkeene@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 8:14 AM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: I support the beach chalet soccer fields

The soccer fields are one of the key resources for families with children growing up in San Francisco.

I strongly support the proposal to put in new fields near the beach chalet!

- chris keene
1126 dolores street 94110
District 8

RECEIVED
MAY 03 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

Agenda Item: Th15c
App. #A-2-SNF-12-020
Renee A. Richards
OPPOSED TO BEACH CHALET
ARTIFICIAL TURF PROJECT

California Coastal Commission
Central Coast and North Central Coast District Offices
Dan Carl, Deputy Director
Madeline Cavalieri, District Manager
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
FAX (415) 904-5400

725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
FAX: 831/427-4877

May 3, 2012

Dear Coastal Commission,

I am a resident of San Francisco, parent of a youth athlete, frequent user of Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach and former San Francisco Little League parent coach, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal to cover the natural grass Beach Chalet Soccer Fields in Golden Gate Park with artificial turf and install stadium lighting. Rather, I believe if the proponents of this project really want to do what is best for the City, its residents, and the legacy of Golden Gate Park, the Beach Chalet Fields should be rehabilitated with real turf and no lights, as the Coastal Commission staff also suggests, and the artificial turf project should be implemented at the West Sunset Playground fields.

I disagree with the apparent conclusion by the Planning Department and Rec and Park Board that covering the west end of Golden Gate Park with artificial turf is in any way consistent with the history or appropriate use of Golden Gate park. It is hard to believe the project was approved given the conclusion by Planning that the project would cause a substantial change to a significant historical resource.

Thousands of people visit the West End of GG Park every day, residents and tourists alike. The view of the west end of the park from the Great Highway, Sutro Park, and throughout the City will be negatively affected by stadium lighting towers. Thousands of volunteer hours and millions of donor dollars have been spent in the efforts to renovate and maintain the nearby windmills to restore the historic beauty and quality of Golden Gate Park, and now proponents want to cover acres of nearby grass--just hundreds of yards away from the windmills on one side and Ocean Beach on the other--with artificial turf and stadium lighting? Absurd.

Environmentally, removal of 9 acres of natural grass will destroy necessary habitat to birds, butterflies and other wildlife, and no mitigation is proposed. This boggles the mind in light of the ongoing efforts of the National Park Service to convert the Golden Gate National Recreation Area into a more protected National Park in which human and domestic animal use will be highly restricted in the

adjacent Ocean Beach and Fort Funston areas. Installation of ten 60' towers with stadium lighting that will remain on until 10:00 pm every night is completely contrary with not only the historic and wild nature of the West End of Golden Gate Park, but of Ocean Beach and the GGNRA.

The proponents of this project seem to be holding the City hostage. They seem to say "our way or the highway," as I have read reports that the offer to do the turfing project is only open as long as it is done at the Beach Chalet fields. This is also unacceptable. There is no recycling of the artificial turf plastic and tire crumb rubber, and in 8-10 years 400 tons of debris will go to the landfill. In addition, from what I can tell by going to Crocker Amazon, I would be surprised if highly used artificial turf fields get the 10 year lifespan described in the EIR. The Crocker fields are already showing substantial wear, and during soccer games even two and three years ago my son's shoes would be filled with tire crumb bits after every soccer game or practice at Kimball and Crocker. We know fish and birds are dying from eating plastic pellet "nurdles" (http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/10/29/MNF91LNMLB.DTL), why wouldn't wildlife that lives or migrates through GG Park also knowingly or unwittingly consume tire crumbs, to their certain detriment?

It is much less expensive and more environmentally sustainable for the City to restore the natural grass fields, and those fields can be maintained beautifully as has been shown by the newly refurbished Polo Fields. One can't play on them in the pouring rain or on a cold night, but is that such a bad thing?

In addition, I did not see anything in the EIR about the relative impact on the park and surrounding neighborhood of thousands of additional people who will use the Beach Chalet soccer fields until 10 p.m. every night during times when the West End of the park or the Great Highway are closed for special events. Special events dramatically affect the west end of GG Park almost every weekend from May through October. A few events that cause virtually every road (and sometimes even pedestrian access) to be closed in the west end of the park include music festivals Hardly Strictly Bluegrass and Outside Lands and road races and walks such as AIDS Walk, Nike Women's Marathon, San Francisco Marathon and Bay to Breakers.

Project Alternative Number 2, renovating the West Sunset Fields with artificial turf, is a much better plan. There will be no adverse and significant negative historical impact. The neighborhood already has street lighting, and Saint Ignatius school is nearby which also has athletic lighting in place. In addition to SI, Sunset Elementary and Giannini Middle School are nearby and their students could benefit from the use of turf fields during school-day hours. The West Sunset playground has already been renovated, so the costs associated with creating the proposed adjacent play/recreation area would be unnecessary. In addition, the branch library there has just been redone. While the long-term safety of tire crumb use is still debated, West Sunset Fields are not located in an environmentally sensitive area.

In addition, and importantly, any use of artificial turf fields at West Sunset rather than GG Park could involve not only the creation of more turf soccer fields, but also turf baseball fields. Demand is great for baseball fields in San Francisco. While I am not a proponent of playing through inclement weather, and am not a fan of artificial turf, it is unfortunate that after a Spring rainstorm, when the sun comes out and the kids are chomping at the bit to play baseball or soccer, fields can remain closed for 24 or more hours after the last drop has fallen because of standing water and field saturation. West Sunset is less than 2 miles from the Beach Chalet, is not in an historically protected park, is not in an environmentally sensitive area, and would provide additional access not only to after-school and adult sports teams from all over San Francisco, but school kids from three immediately adjacent schools, a public library and playground.

I urge you to reject the proposal to cover the Beach Chalet soccer fields with artificial turf and install stadium lighting, and to recommend the alternative proposals that the Beach Chalet fields be rehabilitated with natural grass and artificial turf be installed at the West Sunset fields.

Thank you for consideration of this fax.
Renee Richards
666 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Janet Clark
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 3, 2013
Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am a resident in the Sunset District of San Francisco and have been involved with the fight in San Francisco to keep "lights out and no turf." I believe that GGP should remain in a naturalistic state. That GGP is a treasure, a public park and should be enjoyed by everyone.

Recently I found out about the California Coastal Commission's appeal and of your excellent Staff Report which I support. I really appreciate the work you have done. I thought it was a lost cause.

GGP and Ocean Beach coastline are both jewels. Putting high powered lights changes the whole dynamic of Ocean Beach and artificial turf is not natural! We need to preserve what we have for future generations.

Sincerely,
Janet Clark
2657 35th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94116

Cc: SF Ocean Edge

41 Eastwood Drive
San Francisco, CA 94112

California Coastal Commission
Central Coast and North Central Coast
District Offices
725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

AGENDA ITEM #: Th15c
PERMIT NUMBER: A-2-SNF-12-020
NAME: Annemarie A. Donjacour
POSITION: **Oppose** the project

RECEIVED
MAY 02 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

April 30, 2013

Dear Coastal Commissioners:

I am writing to you to strongly oppose the proposed project to renovate the athletic fields in Golden Gate Park with synthetic turf, lighting, seating and other modifications. These changes will significantly and adversely affect the natural character of the west end of Golden Gate Park. The City of San Francisco Recreation and Park Department (SF Rec and Park) is going against its own Golden Gate Park master plan and the mission of the Coastal Commission to "Protect, conserve, restore, and enhance environmental and human-based resources of the California coast and ocean for environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations."

The recently published staff report of the Coastal Commission very admirably summarizes the objections that I would make to this project. The staff report also makes sensible, sustainable alternative recommendations for improving the safety and accessibility of the existing grass soccer fields. I applaud this report and urge the Commission to adopt its recommendations. Many thanks to the staff of the Coastal Commission for the work and thought that went into the publication of this report.

I would like to briefly underscore the major objections to the SF Rec and Park proposal to renovate the Beach Chalet Soccer fields. The project includes the construction of seven acres of astroturf fields. Astroturf replaces a living surface with material made from ground-up tires. My major concern is the effect of the run-off, including lead, from this surface into the surrounding soil and water, in addition to the direct deadening effect that it has on the landscape. Artificial surfaces are not the panacea for sports injuries, as they are sometimes portrayed, but cause their own kind of damage to the body (infection prone abrasions, knee and ankle injury, etc., see www.synturf.org).

The project will install and use 150,000 watts of lighting on 60 ft high poles will interfere with the life cycles of many birds, especially those that hunt at night. These nocturnal predators, such as owls, maintain a natural balance of rodent prey species, i.e. they keep the rat population down. I have personally witnessed the decrease in wildlife at Crissy Field since the opening of Planet Granite gym spilled light onto the field at night. In addition, the lighting will be more widely visible than SF Rec and Park claims, as they did not take into account the "glow" affect produced by the often-present fog at the

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: Susan Gerhard <susanger@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, May 03, 2013 2:33 PM
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc: SF Ocean Edge
Subject: Please Keep Beach Chalet Fields Living Grass

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Staff has been copied on this letter.

May 3, 2013

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am deeply hopeful that the Coastal Commission's staff report, which I read and support, will allow San Francisco to keep the Beach Chalet fields living fields of grass, as opposed to converting them to plastic turf and rubber tire crumb.

I, like many San Franciscans, have spent many hours on these fields, as both a soccer player and wildlife lover, appreciating this meadow space where birds, families, trees and soccer players all interact. What I wish most is that the fields remain grass with a naturalistic landscape, that the fence comes down (for public access) while the City considers developing / maintaining other living fields with the money given to the city for these projects or money saved by scaling them back.

I am deeply concerned about the growing number of public and school fields in San Francisco being converted to artificial turf and the impact it's having on our environment and our psyche. I know you have read the documents on basic environmental impacts: heat from the fields and the carbon balance, toxicity to players and the surrounding area, displacement of flora and fauna and the lighting's effect on migratory birds.

But the biggest issue for me, as a San Franciscan, a city person, is the loss of multiple uses/enrichedexperiences in these sports facilities. We have such limited "green" space in this very dense city, it's a shame to lose more of it. I am not just a

soccer player and soccer "mom," as well as a coach and trainer working on the fields. I am also a person who loves the outdoors. And the experience of being "outdoors" on an artificial turf field is altogether different than being on a living field: On artificial turf, you don't hear large numbers of birds chirping or get to take in the scent of fresh grass. And as I've played at Crocker and South Sunset over the past few years, I've been saddened to see the occasional regal birds like red-tailed hawks landing on the turf in search of food to find only rubber crumbs. The "experience" issue may not seem to matter if you imagine a child or adult playing only one hour of soccer a week. But imagine the difference in experience for children who are on these fields for two hours a day, the entire year, as many of our soccer kids are. Some children are playing on these fields all day long for a full six weeks during summer camps at places like South Sunset. Meanwhile small children and infants brought to games to watch a parent, brother or sister play are rolling around in tire crumb with unknowable chemical profiles instead of soft grass with flowers.

I sincerely hope the City can consider refurbishing the Beach Chalet fields as grass and that we can continue to play soccer in this beautiful meadow.

Sincerely,

Susan Gerhard

193 Crescent Ave.

SF, CA 94110

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge, 1243 42nd Avenue, San Francisco, CA

N. Central Coast Dist. Office
Dan Carl, Deputy Director
45 Fremont St., Suite 2000
San Francisco, California 94105

RECEIVED
APR 30 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

Th15c

I write to inform you of my opposition to the Soccer Field project behind the Beach Cholet at the ocean end of Golden Gate Park. There are so many of us local residents that are dead set against this project and hope you will stop it!

① The highly toxic artificial turf. Really?

② The super-bright 60 foot tall stadium lighting pollution every day, all year to 10 pm.

③ Changing the whole feeling of the western part of Golden Gate Park, which should be preserved in its entirety.

④ Paving over a large section of park - losing greenery - for cars and walkways? Even dirt paths are preferable. Let people park by the beach and walk over.

⑤ New huge stadium seating. When our kids were playing soccer, we often brought our own folding chairs, or blankets, or we scooted closer together to make room for each other in low bleachers, or we stood. Worked fine.

⑥ I hope a good portion of the fields will still be available to the rest of us (the general public) to use for a pick-up kickaround game now and then, & for local city leagers who also want to play or practice.

I guess my biggest grievance is the artificial turf. I can't believe you're actually considering it. But the extreme lighting, the noise level, the # of cars, amount of ground paved over, etc, can't be ignored. This is Golden Gate Park for heaven's sake! What were you thinking?

From:	Dennis O"Rorke
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	Diane Palacio; Shawna McGrew; martythelark@aol.com Larkin; Me; Dennis O"Rorke
Subject:	Appeal No. A-2-SNF-020
Date:	Thursday, May 02, 2013 5:12:37 PM

Appeal No. A-2-SNF-020
Dennis O'Rorke
1360 McAllister Street
San Francisco, CA
I am in opposition to
The Rec and Park proposal.

Commissioners,
Briefly, please reject the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department's plan to install large intrusive lighting and artificial turf at the Beach Chalet area. This would be greatly disruptive to wildlife in this area as well as adjacent neighbors. My 90 year old uncle and his wife live on Lincoln Way about 1 block from the current soccer fields and they are quite distressed by this proposal. I worked for Recreation and Park for over 33 years. Artificial turf would NEVER have been approved by any previous Park Commissions.

Thank you for your time and attention
Dennis O'Rorke

DIANE M. RIVERA

4133 A Judah St.
San Francisco, CA 94122
415-753-1443 - email: dianariver@aol.com

May 2, 2013

San Francisco Coastal Commission – San Francisco
45 Fremont St. Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

Attention: Kevin Kahn

Reference: Appeal Number: A-2-SNF-12-020
Golden Gate Park Beach Chalet athletic fields-San Francisco

Dear California Coastal Commissioners;

I am a native Sunset District resident and a frequent user of Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach. I am OPPOSED to the renovation of the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields by the City and County of San Francisco as they have proposed which is resulting in this appeal.

I am opposed to the proposed installation of synthetic turf in the playing fields for at least 3 reasons:

1. **The synthetic material will be ingested by persons of all ages, especially young people and disrupt their health.**
2. **The synthetic material will be absorbed into the ground water system and contaminate the water supply and harm all life forms.**
3. **The synthetic material will leach into the ocean waters getting into the natural food chain contaminating all wildlife, marine animals large and small and moving up the food chain.**

I am opposed to the proposed installation of the 60 foot tall sets of field lighting that is planned for this project.

1. **The proposed lighting will detract from the natural beauty of San Francisco's Ocean Beach.**

2. **The proposed lighting will take away the night sky and our ability to see the stars at night.**

3. **The proposed lighting will disorient the flight patterns of migrating birds.**

4. **The proposed lighting may have an effect on the fish that swim next to our shore line.**

I am opposed to this project as it will result in the loss of 55 trees that will affect wildlife habitat for all species.

I am opposed to this project as it will increase traffic and create more pollution in this area.

I am opposed to this project as it will take away the natural link between the park and the beach.

I am opposed to this project as it will be a misuse of natural beauty of the Western End of Golden Gate Park.

I am opposed to this project as it will turn what should be a meadow available to all into a single-use area.

I am opposed to this project as it will create an area that is not equitable to everyone who likes to hiking, picnic, and enjoy nature.

I do not want the Ocean Beach area to be marred with this very urban soccer complex that will serve a selected few individuals.

Respectfully, I thank you for your consideration.

Diane M. Rivera
Native Sunset District Resident

Hiroshi Fukuda
Richmond Community Association 146 18th Avenue San Francisco, CA 94121

December 12, 2011

California Costal Commission
725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
fax 831-427-4877

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation, Permit Number A-2-SNF-12-020

Dear California Costal Commissioners,

The Richmond Community Association (RCA) strongly urges the California Coastal Commission to uphold the Appeal of the renovation of the Beach Chalet soccer field project, and recommend the Westside alternative option.

Golden Gate Park is one of the most renown public parks in the United States. It was intended for all San Francisco to enjoy as an escape from the dense urban setting. Most San Franciscans to not have adequate open space in their neighborhoods, and they depend on Golden Gate Park for a serene setting for relaxation.

Beach Chalet is located on the western end of the park which the Golden Gate Park Master Plan intended to be kept in a natural state. The eastern end of the park was intended to allow for various attractions i.e. museums, tea garden, botanical garden, etc. The proposed Beach Chalet soccer fields will be a violation of the Golden Gate Park Master Plan and should not be allowed. Converting the natural turf to artificial turf, increasing the parking lot, and installing ten light towers will destroy the natural sylvan setting of the western end of Golden Gate Park. It will replace more than seven acres of natural grass and topsoil with more than seven acres of artificial turf. In addition the project will install ten sixty foot light towers, bleachers, additional parking, cut down 55 trees. The lights will be on every night until 10 PM. We can understand the lights at ATT Park but not in a pastoral setting in the west end of Golden Gate Park.

The impact on wildlife habitat will be deleterious. Owls that sleep during the day will be perplexed and the impact on the environment cannot be good. Birds migrating will vary their course and stay away from their customary path. The view from the Sunset and Richmond Districts will be more like the view of ATT Park from the Bay Bridge. The view from Ocean Beach will be forever ruined. The simulations were incomplete and did not realistically provide the view after the installation of the towers. The view from the Cliff House, the ocean, and from the Sunset and Richmond Districts.

I can understand young soccer players pleading for more soccer fields, but there is no need for 60 foot light towers because youth soccer ends about 6 PM, and. The light towers are primarily for adults. The adult leagues will include many non-residents, and this can be seen just as another effort to raise income for the Recreation and Park Department. We should not sacrifice parkland when other alternatives are available.

The best Alternative Plan was not considered and needs to be included:

1. Renovate the West Sunset Playground with an improved playing surface and night lighting for some or all of its fields. Benefits: extended playing time year-round for all ages in the evenings. This extends playing time in winter for youth soccer in the late afternoon. Restroom facilities and bleachers already in place and do not have to be built. Some night lighting already in place

2. Renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields with natural grass: use contemporary field construction techniques, such as good soil structure and soil improvement products for stronger grass roots. Install effective subsurface drainage to cut down on loss of play time due to rain. Install state of art irrigation to provide full coverage of the fields and to also save water by irrigating only when needed. Install new sod and gophers barriers and an active gopher control program Fix up restrooms as needed. Introduce ADA access that is sensitive to the overall design concept of the Golden Gate Park and consistent with other meadows in the park. Increasing the playing time at Beach Chalet in addition to the increase at West Sunset Playground will greatly benefit youth and adult playing time. Golden Gate Park's parkland will benefit and it will remain consistent with the Golden Gate Park Master Plan and the Secretary of the Interior Guidelines. This will benefit wildlife habitat, preserves existing trees and park windbreak.

The Richmond Community Association is opposed to the Beach Chalet project because the coastline along San Francisco will be severely impacted for no good reason. Children can play soccer just as well at a renovated West Sunset field, and light towers there would severely impact the coastline. Please do not allow income for the San Francisco Park and Recreation Department to take precedent over preserving the California coastline for future generations.

Sincerely,

Hiroshi Fukuda, President
Richmond Community Association

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Susan Witka
Oppose Project.

April 21, 2013
824 43rd Ave.
San Francisco, Ca. 94121

Dear Ms. Shallenberger and Coastal Commission,

I live on 43rd Ave. @ Fulton St. because I want to be close to the natural world of Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach. This is a very special area where Park connects to Beach. Sports lighting, and, paving the earth over with more asphalt to bring more cars, and suffocating it with astroturf? This will have a detrimental affect on the wildlife of the Park and Ocean Beach. Please stop this!

I am a teacher at George Washington High School on 32nd Ave. @ Anza. Most of the campus had been paved over with concrete and asphalt. But, at least the students could still connect with the Earth as they played, or ate lunch on the Athletic Field. Out of my classroom window, I would watch flocks of wild geese eating and resting on the Field. About 3 years ago, the Field was covered with artificial turf. The wild geese no longer come. I ask my students, who are athletes, if they prefer natural or artificial turf. Most say that they like to play on natural fields. Some say the artificial hurts their skin, and others question the health affects, and, what happens when the turf breaks down?

We live in times of sacrificing our Earth and wildlife for economic gain. Please save this fragile beautiful area of San Francisco. Thank you.

SUSAN WITKA. Sue Witka

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Gordon E. Howard, Ph.D.
Oppose Project

April 24, 2013 P. 1 of 3

The Honorable Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Regarding: Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Development in Golden Gate Park

NOTE: Copy sent to staff c/o Kevin Kahn

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

Thank you for holding a hearing on this matter that is important not only to the integrity of this historic park, but to the future of coastal zone planning and management.

I have been asked to review the plans and associated documents by San Francisco Ocean Edge and to present you with my opinions on selected points based on my professional experience. I am an Emeritus Professor of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management, Clemson University, Clemson, SC, having spent 38 years in that field. These comments are freely given as I am not under contract as a paid consultant.

Golden Gate Park is one of three flagship municipal parks in North America, along with Central Park in New York City and Mount Royal Park in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The proposed soccer super complex would degrade the Golden Gate Park, radically altering its mission and design standards. I liken it to renting paddle boats on the reflecting pools in The Mall in Washington, DC.

Others will, no doubt, present a large number of issues against this soccer stadium complex. I have chosen the three issues presented below.

Point 1

The City and County of San Francisco Emergency Response Plan: Tsunami Response Annex (March, 2011) map (Attachment B) clearly shows that the soccer super complex area is within the tsunami run-up zone. Attachment B is based on 21st century modeling. Additionally, the Annex presents this:

> **"Evacuation Priorities**
>
> **First Priority is to clear people from: . . . Soccer fields near beach in Golden Gate Park (SFPD and PRD) . . ."**

San Francisco Parks and Recreation (PRD) cites data from mid-20th century models to assure us that the complex is above the run-up zone of a tsunami. However, 21st century modeling and current maps place the soccer super complex in the run-up zone. The Japanese now know that their mid-20th century projections used to estimate tsunami heights were inadequate. Their tsunami walls were overtopped by several meters. Last century's models should be ignored.

The predicted rise in ocean surface levels due to ocean warming and the rapid glacial melting currently in progress will exacerbate the potential for tsunami run-up at the project site and may put the area at risk from tidal surges associated with strong ocean

I am surprised that California would allow the construction of such a super sports complex in a high risk area using tax payer dollars for construction and/or maintenance. Many states and Federal guidelines* only allow natural area recreation with minor infrastructure, such as picnic areas, areas such as the grass play area currently in the vicinity of the Beach Chalet, and agriculture fields to be maintained in such high risk areas.

*FEMA Guidelines recommend keeping buildings out of the area below the tsunami flood level or the base flood elevation (BFE) as the best practice.

Point 2

"A prophet is not without honor, except in his own country, and among his kindred, and in his own house" Jesus of Nazareth, Mark 6:4.

And so, in California, the home of Richard Louv, renown, award-winning author of The Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder, a "natural" area with grass, trees, shrubs, mud, and wild creatures is to be transmuted into a plasticscape suitable only for kicking a ball and open only to ball kickers. Today, more than ever in the past, children deserve more than a plasticscape. They need contact with Nature and natural conditions. Even in kicking a ball, learning to deal with high and low grass on a somewhat uneven surface is part of one's natural education. Playing soccer in a plasticscape is more akin to entering into an "X-Box ®" virtual world than being in the natural world.

The present open space area allows children and adults to create experiences which may or may not have to do with sport, but which do place them in contact with Nature in a coastal environment. It is not soccer restricted. It is not a one activity area as the super complex will be. The general public is not now excluded from this area at any time. Such will not be the case with the soccer complex.

In all of San Francisco, there is no other open space for children or adults like this place. With all due deference to Louv, adults suffer from Nature-Deficit Disorder, too.

Point 3

Sports field lighting at this location is an incredibly bad idea because of its location so close to the coast and in proximity to those natural habitats that are not marked for destruction by the super complex. **There is no evidence presented that assures that migratory birds will not be impacted, not to mention impacts on the resident crepuscular and nocturnal birds.**

Statements are made about the lights being turned off at 10 PM. But as far as I can tell, there is absolutely nothing to prevent them from being used all night long. **How long the lights stay on seems to be a decision left to the Parks and Recreation administration.** Once the super soccer complex is built, there will be pressures to maximize its use and to generate income to support it. Late night and all-night events will ensue.

My recommendation is that this open space play area be maintained as it is or, better yet, returned to a more natural state akin to the historic habitat of the area. Maintaining the natural nature of this open play space would be in the best interest of the residents of San Francisco including the children who play soccer and those children's parents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Please place this letter in the official documents of this hearing such that it is carried forward to all subsequent proceedings.

Sincerely,

Gordon E. Howard, Ph.D.

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

Barbara Austin
22 Rossi Avenue
San Francisco, California

April 30, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

As a supporter of natural playing fields and parks I strongly object to the destruction of a beautiful natural area of our beloved Golden Gate Park

I live across the street from a park that was cited to install Artificial Turf. Our neighborhood fought this and has prevented this. If one looks at the plan for the artificial turf the area would have been fenced off and limited to two soccer only playing fields only. Today with the natural grass there are 2 baseball games, 2 soccer games, dogs playing, all going on at the same time. The park is serving more people with diverse interest all at the same time

My objections to the plan are:
- Loss and limit of public use
- Destruction of Natural Habitat
- Destruction of open space
- Lighting affects on animal habitat and Pacific flyway

Sincerely,

Barbara Austin
22 Rossi Ave
San Francisco, California

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
SF Ocean Edge, 1243 42nd Avenue, San Francisco, Ca 94122

Denise D'Anne Oppose Project

-----Original Message-----
From: Denise D Anne [mailto:ddanne1@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2013 7:26 PM
To: kathyhoward@earthlink.net
Subject: LETTER TO COMMISSIONERS

Dear Commissioners:

It is inconceivable that park dotted with buildings, strobe lights, and artificial turf can be appreciated as a park. A park should be and has been a place of retreat with trees, grass, flowers, and birds and small animals. A park has its own unique fresh air smell and the smell of undiluted earth. Can we please eschew the gigantic Beach Chalet soccer complex as not fitted for our precious Golden Gate Park?

Sincerely,

Denise D'Anne
351 Guerrero St.
San Francisco, CA 94103

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Barry Eisenberg
Oppose Project

From: Barry Eisenberg [mailto:eisenbergbarry@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2013 11:10 PM

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

I write to express my strong opposition to the proposed makeover of the Beach Chalet soccer fields and ask that you vote against this ill-advised scheme when it comes before the California Coastal Commission hearing.

I've lived a couple of blocks from the Beach Chalet soccer area since 1989 and I'm shocked that anyone would even dream of turning such a quiet and beautiful area of Golden Gate Park along with its adjoining beachfront into a bustling sports megacomplex. People come to this part of town to get away from the cars and crowds and all the activity that typifies a large city. Turning a wonderful natural asset into a garishly lit and artificially surfaced facility would attract mobs that would totally destroy the quietude that we now treasure. It's an abomination dreamt up by people who don't seem to understand or value the uniqueness of this area at all.

I'm a sports enthusiast and I'm all for kids playing soccer on well-maintained natural fields. This project however is really more of a selfish power play by a group of adult soccer enthusiasts intent on building an empire for their sport than it is about what's "good for the children".The proponents' stubborn insistence on this particular location has less to do with altruistic motivation than it entails the vanity of certain financial donors wanting a trophy GG Park location to hang their name on. An alternative venue which would satisfy the need for new fields without destroying an invaluable natural resource is insistently rejected, while meanwhile the city and its shortsighted Recreation and Park Department have been compliant on account of the money they mistakenly think it would save. But what about the costs of periodically replacing the astroturf?

How about the aquifer below that astroturf? The city intends to tap into that groundwater to augment its supply from Hetch Hetchy but I don't think the water will be very potable after percolation through toxic tire shreddings. What about the birds and other wildlife which would be decimated by this plan? What about the starry evening skies we relish that would be polluted for miles around every night of the year by the high intensity lighting?

This is the wrong plan in the wrong place and for all the wrong reasons. As a guardian of our beautiful and unspoiled ocean coastline I confidently hope you'll look beyond the hype surrounding such a misbegotten project and protect what we currently enjoy in this priceless and irreplaceable part of San Francisco.

Barry Eisenberg
1283 45th Avenue
San Francisco, CA

Calif Coastal Com.

PO Box 72136
S.F. 94142-1136
3-21-2013

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Lois Roberts
Oppose Project

Dear Commissioners,

Our beautiful coast has relied on your protection thus I thank you.

A new problem to the coast is the installation of plastic grass & night lights over 10 acres at Ocean Beach in San Francisco.

Please reject this project,

Yours truly,

Lois Roberts

April 26, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2003

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, Ca

Dear Mrs. Shallenberger,

I want to protect Golden Gate Park from development of a soccer field. There must be other places that could be used for that purpose. Developing that place means putting down a surface that would be unnatural to the park and using bright lights which would interfere with sky viewing from such a pristine space. My son is an astronomer and uses the area nearby with his astronomy club.

I've lived in California for over 50 years and enjoyed Golden Gate Park as a place that has always been natural. Why is it necessary to develop it unless someone is making a profit from it?. Soccer can be played in another place where bright lights won't interfere with the wildlife of the park. The impact of development would impinge on how the park has always been used.

Sincerely,

Lois Goggin

Lois Goggin
18836 Lenross Ct
Castro Valley, Ca 94546

Cc: Kevin Kahn, Costal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, Ca 94105-2219

Cc: SF Ocean Edge, 1243 42nd Ave, San Francisco, Ca. 94122

Dr. David Schneider
OPTOMETRIST
(510) 848-6733 • ds6956@earthlink.net

1736 HEARST AVENUE • BERKELEY, CA 94703

3/13

DEAR CCC —

I URGE YOU TO

REJECT THE BEACH

CHALE PLAN.

SINCERLY —

DAVID

April 25, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed plan for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park. As a resident of the Sunset district since 1996, and an almost daily visitor to the park, I am greatly concerned about the potential negative impacts these proposed changes will have on its natural beauty and serene character.

In particular, I am extremely dismayed about the loss of open space and wildlife habitat, the elimination of over 55 trees, and the environmental consequences of using artificial turf. I worry about the safety of cyclists, runners, and families due to the introduction of significantly more traffic to the west end of the park. And I dread the blemish that high wattage sports lighting will be on the natural aesthetic of the park, particularly after dark.

Don't get me wrong; I am a big supporter of soccer. I have two young sons—3 and 6. The older boy is currently on a soccer team, and the younger one will be following in his footsteps soon enough. I expect to be involved in soccer leagues for years to come, and I fully understand the need for safe, sustainable facilities.

Nevertheless, I believe it is a question of balance and fairness. Why elevate soccer to such a degree that it crowds out other worthy activities that the area currently supports? Why go against the master plan of the park with its emphasis on providing a naturalistic setting? It seems to me there are more even-handed ways to handle this situation. The Hybrid Alternative is one viable example. So is renovating the existing facilities with real grass, which would be more cost effective and leave funds over to fix up other facilities around the city.

My family chose to live where we do in large part due to the proximity of Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach. Both are an important part of our lives and something we value greatly. The proposed plan for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields is bad for the park and bad for San Francisco. I respectfully request that you reconsider moving forward with the plan as it stands.

Sincerely,

Ben Citron
1558 34th Ave, San Francisco, CA 94122

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge, 1243 42nd Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122

PERMIT NUMBER: A-2-SNF-12-020
ITEM NO: **TH15c**
Ellen Koivisto
Opposition to the Project
P1 of 2

April 30, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to ask you not to permit the artificial turf, stadium lighting, increased parking, and extensive tree removal proposed in the current Beach Chalet Athletic Fields plan, and to instead consider improvements of the natural grass fields, along with removal of the cyclone fencing currently surrounding the fields, as being appropriate improvements for this site.

I have lived a few blocks from these soccer fields for over twenty-five years. I taught for 6 years at Rivendell Elementary, at the corner of 46th and Irving and, before the entire space was fenced in, we regularly took our students out to the Beach Chalet Fields for picnics and to play. I have taught at SFUSD high schools for the past 19 years and commute through the park, biking past these fields every school day on my way to work. I know this part of the park very well and depend on it for grounding me before I exit into the busy, urban school where I work.

At work, I teach chemistry, biology and astronomy, and I've spent a lot of time developing environmental chemistry and endrocrine-disruptor/environmental toxin/body burden units for my classes. Anecdotally, in my lifetime I've seen enormous changes caused by chemicals: Girls are hitting puberty much younger, asthma rates are sky-rocketing, allergies are increasing in number and intensity, and there are more children with autism spectrum disorder. All of these things are connected in the scientific literature to unregulated, massive chemical exposures. Things I can't see directly have the same source, as is also well-reported in the scientific literature: We have massive exposure to phthalate esters, our heavy metal body burden is large and directly related to behavioral and cognitive problems, and we're exposed to hundreds of chemicals that have never been tested. We are literally living at the bottom of a test tube. In my work, I've waded through the primary research articles in peer-reviewed journals and I've talked to scientists who do this research. I just didn't expect to be dealing with these chems so close to home.

When I first found out about this project, I was astounded it would even be considered seriously. When I was finally convinced the proponents were serious and I began to research artificial turf and crumb rubber, I was appalled. Chemicals I know and loathe from my work are in the turf and in the crumb rubber in-fill. The MSDSs on these chems are very clear – these are toxic, environmental contaminants that are generally carcinogenic or mutagenic. I went to meetings and listened to the proponents of artificial turf and crumb rubber argue their products are environmentally sound. So I did research, both of the literature and in the field, looking at their arguments, and none of their arguments held water.

I teach astronomy. I know the skies out here, and the amount of fog we get. I know what fog does to surface light sources. And I know how the EIR tried to by-pass, distort, and obfuscate all the relevant information about fog, light, and the local skies. I can see the naked eye planets at night. I can track the major constellations all year round. On a relatively dry night, with even a small telescope, I can see details of the craters on the moon, the rings of Saturn, Jupiter's moons. This area is a dark sky oasis that stretches from Marin to Daly City and west to the horizon, and that dark sky would be burned away by stadium lighting.

It's become clearer to me over the years that everyone needs nature. Our bodies need it, our immune systems need it, and our souls need it. Team sports are fine, but so is kite-flying, bird-watching, or seeing the heavens rotate above you. I need the owls and the coyotes and the skunks and the hawks and the snowy plovers and the chance to see bioluminescent algae wash onshore. These things can co-exist. But they can only co-exist in a natural setting. Please let this area remain as natural as possible.

Sincerely,

Ellen Koivisto
1556 Great Hwy #101
San Francisco, CA 94122

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122

firstname: Marcus Melander

email: journeymm@aol.com

company: none

city: Santa Cruz

zip: 95060

phone: 831-234-7458

Interest: Find a balance please....one artificial turf field not three. We have these fields in Santa Cruz. I have been playing soccer for 30years...it's nice to have an option, but I search out the grass fields constantly...fewer injuries, better smell, not so hot, more comfortable and inviting in relation to artificial turf. Good luck.

source: Sierra Club posting

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JEAN BARISH
Oppose Project

JEAN B BARISH, ESQ.
5758 GEARY BOULEVARD, #341
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94121

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April 30, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

I am an Appellant in the referenced Appeal, involving the grant of a Coastal Permit to the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department to construct artificial turf soccer fields with stadium lights in Golden Gate Park. I have just had the opportunity to review the Commission Staff Report on this matter, and am writing to urge you to support their recommendations.

The Staff Report was thorough and well documented. Specifically, the report recognizes the importance of maintaining a naturalistic environment at the western edge of Golden Gate Park, and recommends a number of modifications to the project that would accomplish that goal. These modification include the following: Redoing the natural turf fields with natural grass; eliminating or reducing field lighting, and limiting lighting otherwise to that necessary for public safety; maximizing revegetation efforts with an eye towards emphasizing naturalistic spatial organization for the fields area (e.g., curvilinear as opposed to linear); modifying fencing; modifying seating to informal bench seating and/or more limited linear seating forms; and, modifying paths to be decomposed granite or equivalent as opposed to concrete. All of these excellent recommendations will help maintain the pastoral and naturalistic character of the Park while providing an outstanding recreational space for the children of San Francisco. I am very pleased with these conclusions and recommendations, and hope the Commission will adopt them.

I also urge the Commission to adopt the Staff recommendation to support the "win-win hybrid alternative." This alternative would renovate playing fields at the West Sunset playground, just a few blocks south of Golden Gate Park, with safe artificial turf and night lights. It was identified by the City's certified CEQA document as the environmentally superior alternative to meet project objectives, and would also address LCP requirements. Appellants presented this option to the Recreation and Park Department months ago, but without success. Hopefully, with the Commission's support and encouragement, the Department will now agree that this alternative will meet all the project objectives and also preserve San Francisco's crown jewel, Golden Gate Park.

Finally, a letter from Land Protection Partners, prepared by Travis Longcore, Ph.D., and Catherine Rich, J.D., M.A, submitted on behalf of Appellants, thoroughly analyses many of the impacts of the night lighting proposed for this project. This letter reviewed the light polluting effects of night lighting, and the impact of this light pollution on the dark sky and migratory birds, including the endangered Western Snowy Plover. It also points out a number of weaknesses in the analysis of night lighting found in the EIR prepared by the City of San Francisco. I encourage the Commission to review this letter in their deliberations and endorse its findings.

The revised plan that the Commission Staff proposes will not only provide more recreational soccer fields in San Francisco, it will also protect the priceless environment of Golden Gate Park. By following the recommendations of the Staff the Commission will assure that children will have a safe, beautiful place to play in a park that will remain true to its purpose...providing a priceless urban oasis for present and future generations.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jean B Barish, Esq.
5758 Geary Boulevard, #341
San Francisco, CA 94121

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, Ca 94122

1621 Judah Street, San Francisco, CA 94122

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Jean Palmeter
Oppose Project.

Jean Palmeter

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April 21, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I want to express my strong opposition to the soccer field planned for the area of the Beach Chalet. Such an anti-environmental project does not belong in a city and state on the forefront of conservation.

When I decided to move to San Francisco, I was lucky enough to have friends in Los Angeles who owned an apartment building by the park. I walked in the park every morning, enjoying the escape from the city noise and traffic. On those walks I ended up becoming friends with a woman who had me join in the study of Great Blue Herons nesting at Stow Lake for the SF Bay Bird Observatory. I worked on that study for two seasons and because of it have become an avid bird watcher.

The building was sold and I had to move but I knew that I wanted to live by Golden Gate Park; it had become my home, my place of peace, a good place to walk and a place to watch birds. Until recently when I could no longer afford all three, I was a member of the Botanical Gardens and the Deyoung: I am still a member of the CA Academy of Science. This place, this park has been my home now for over 15 years.

I enjoy seeing not just birds but other wildlife in my part of the city. Recently on a lands end walk, my visiting family and I saw a gray whale near mile rock. Watching the river otter at Sutro Baths was delightful, a close encounter with a coyote at Strawberry Hill on Stow Lake was awesome, seeing Great Horned owls so close you could practically reach out and touch them, or sitting at the buffalo paddock watching Western Bluebirds flying back and forth, probably feeding their babies – all these things make our part of the city special. Protecting this oasis from development and companies offering fake grass should be a priority. It is the Outer Lands – the place for natural adventures, a place within the city to bring us back to nature, our roots, it reminds us how important it is to protect the ocean and lakes and rivers. It is a place in the city, easy to get to, to educate children about nature not just a place to play.

The changes planned for the park would destroy the areas natural woodland feel that was the intent of the founders but not only that, the loss of trees and the night lighting would infringe on the historic context of the park. The lights of the city itself are hazardous to lots of migrating birds so these lights out near the end of the park and by the ocean will most certainly effect birds and wildlife.

If anyone thinks fake grass made from chemicals that heat up and emit gases is safe, or that just heats up in the sun to well over the air temperature, for anyone but especially young children playing soccer, well I would suspect that somebody is paying for some pretty good public relations and/or that someone or some very powerful people are behind changing our natural grass parks into fake chemical fume emitting crap. The run off from all these places will eventually wind up in our rivers and oceans. The runoff from this soccer field when it rains will probably directly impact Ocean Beach.

Please continue our commitment to this beautiful place we call home. In your decision I hope the Commission will be consider the impacts to the coast and the Park, the loss of access by the general public of the open space some of us value so deeply, the impact to wildlife from so much night activity and the night lighting and of course the concerns about what will leach into our waters. Chemical grass does not belong in Golden Gate Park or anywhere along our coast.

Sincerely,

COPY

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

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Kimberly Linden
Oppose Project

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April 18, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject:Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger and to Members of the California Coastal Commission,

I have been asked to write a personal letter to you about this project.
I am requesting that you deny this project as proposed.

I am under the impression that your body acts to protect and preserve the California Coast for this generation and for those generations of all species that will follow.

As a sixth generation San Franciscan, I am aware of the many challenges, losses, and changes that this great City has undergone-- through family narratives and involvement in the City's workings, policies, and agendas.

It is a sad time indeed when the City's public places are pushed for funding through privatization, as if it were a unique and superior option. When I read about the short-sighted thinking around using synthetic, toxic materials to cover natural ground and detrimental night lighting so intimate to the Park and to the Coast, I feel sick.
I grew up in the Avenues, close to Ocean Beach, and spent many years with family and friends in the Park. Life was different then. It's not that I am averse to change or athletic fields. Quality of life is very important to me. I wonder what quality of life is being suggested by using these types of materials with this time of lighting. I wonder what the long-term impacts to seabirds and to ground water. I also wonder what the impacts are to the children who will be in contact with these materials. I think the EIR did not adequately address cumulative health and long-term effects.
In fact, I think that short-term, corporate sponsorship has become the mode of operation for this project, using language to make opposition appear as if against sports or children.
This is not true. I am writing this letter in support of public health, participation, and foresight.

Everything we as human beings do has an impact on this planet we live on. I think projects like this appear benign at first glance. With further study, though, this project is seriously detrimental to the natural environment, the restorative nature of this area, and to the species who inhabit this land and ocean. Jeopardizing nature and the natural environment are not legitimate choices.
I am opposed to the synthetic materials and to the night lighting.
I am also questioning the illegality of violating the Golden Gate Parks Master Plan.
I have included an excerpt about John McLaren for your reading pleasure.

Respectfully,
Kimberly Linden
655 Stockton St., San Francisco, CA 94108

K. LInden letter, p. 2

p 2 of 6

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, Ca 94122

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Oppose Project

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XXVI

John McLaren, here

There was a young Scotsman came to California in 1870. John McLaren he was called, as though it were a single word —JohnMcLaren. Throughout his life friends would meet him and greet him with, "How are you, JohnMcLaren, and how are your trees?"

He came to California in 1870 and saw a new and young country, a country of young men who were enthusiastic builders. Everything was new and young; the fortunes that were being made; the cities that were being built. Young and new! But he saw one other thing that meant more to him than all the other amazing wonders of the young West. In the hills behind San Mateo he saw the *Sequoia sempervirens*—the "evergreen" redwoods. They were the oldest living things on earth. Their seeds had fallen and the earth had taken them and new trees had grown before Christ was born. They had stood for more than two thousand years, the everlasting trees. They would stand through untold generations ahead unless—unless the avarice of man and the folly of man should spread destruction and fire through the glorious avenues of the groves.

John McLaren looked at the redwoods and said, "I, too, would like to grow redwoods."

Men who knew the young Scotsman laughed and told

From Tales of San Francisco
Samuel Dickson
Stanford University Press 1947

him to stick to his gardens. It took thousands of years to grow a redwood.

Now, that dream of growing redwoods was only a phase, an incident, in the life of John McLaren. But because I believe it led to the most beautiful pages of the story of his life, I will return to it presently.

John McLaren had been a dairyman in his native land and had driven his cattle along the banks of the Bannock. Before he was twenty he deserted the dairy lands and went to Edinburgh to study horticulture in the Royal Botanical Gardens. His curriculum was a practical one; he was hired as gardener's helper in the gardens. After he had served his apprenticeship he followed the path of dreams to California, to the fields of gold, to the land that was said to have the climate of Italy and the beauty of an English country garden. He came to San Francisco in 1870—and saw the redwoods. And he remembered his father's frequently reiterated admonition: "Me boy, if ye have nothing to do, go plant a tree and it'll grow while ye sleep."

So, young McLaren planted trees, planted them on the huge estate of George Howard that was sprawled across the San Mateo foothills; he planted trees on the ranch of Leland Stanford at Palo Alto, and turned grainfields into a botanical garden. On a small peninsula called Coyote Point that juts into the Bay, he planted at one time seventy thousand trees. And in the days that were still the days of his youth, he said, "I hope to plant a million trees before I die. Firs—pines—redwoods—eucalyptus——a million trees!"

So, McLaren planted trees for fifteen years, and during those years the village that was sprawled along the water front of San Francisco Bay became a city. It was no longer a boom town, no longer a hectic mushroom town. Its dwell-

K. Linden, p.3

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ings had reached westward, past the elegant, rococo mansions of Mason and Taylor and O'Farrell streets; its homes were reaching out across Van Ness Avenue, out toward the Presidio and the hundreds of thousands of acres of sand dunes that lay between it and the ocean.

And in those sand dunes an idea was conceived, so fantastic that even the men who dreamed the dream said, "It's only a utopian fantasy that never can come true, but it would be a fine thing if some day, some way, those acres of sand could be turned into a great park."

Then someone thought of John McLaren. He had been successful in his first big enterprise in Scotland; he had planted the grass called "sea bent" in the shifting sands that were swept by the winds of the North Sea and had fastened down the sands along the Firth of Forth. Perhaps he could plant sea bent in the hundred thousand acres of city-owned dunes that ran down to the waters of Golden Gate. Yes, McLaren said he could do it. Yes, and he would take on the job of building a Golden Gate Park. But first he had certain demands to make. These were his demands:

He was to have thirty thousand dollars a year for grading and planting.

He was to have all the water he wanted and needed.

He was to have the sweepings of San Francisco streets to fertilize his ground.

And above all, he insisted that never in this park of his should a sign read "Keep Off the Grass." The parks and the green lawns were to be places where men could sleep in the sun, where children could play, where the city could enjoy green grass and shade trees and beds of flowers unhampered by "No Trespass" signs.

Well, of course, that last demand was a whim; they

would humor the young Scotsman and there would be no "Keep Off the Grass" signs. As for water, he could have as much as he wanted—if he could find it. So John McLaren built two Dutch windmills out near the ocean and pumped water. And the city smiled a kindly smile and said, "He'll pump salt water. Nothing will grow." But there was no salt in the water McLaren pumped. As for the sweepings of the city streets, obviously he was welcome to them. Welcome? It almost broke John McLaren's heart when the horse and buggy gave way to the automobile.

But, about the first demand—thirty thousand dollars a year—people said the city fathers were crazy. Editorials appeared in the papers. San Francisco was reverting to the madness of forty-niner days; it figured to turn sand dunes into flower gardens and that could not be done. And John McLaren planted his sea bent and his seedlings. They said there was no excuse for a hundred-thousand-acre park in San Francisco. And John McLaren planted rhododendrons. They said, "Well, if there's going to be a park there'll have to be statues." So they built statues of every great and near-great man of whom they could think.

John McLaren hated statues. "Stookies!" he called them. So, every time the city fathers planted a "stookie" John planted trees to hide it. Some of the most beautiful groves planted by McLaren are there to hide the "stookie" of a famous man.

For almost ten years he emptied the sweepings of the city streets into his hundred thousand acres of sand dune. And Golden Gate Park became a beautiful reality. The trees were growing, the flowers were growing, bridle paths ran along the broad driveways, an artificial lake was created in a plateau of sand—a lake called Strawberry where, with

K. Linden, p. 4

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Kimberly Cuadra
Oppose Project

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the instinct of the busman on holiday, sailors take their girls rowing in little boats. The park almost reached to the ocean's edge; almost, but not quite.

John McLaren had tied down the sand dunes, but he had not yet controlled the ocean waves that swept new sands over the man-made garden. Something had to be done about the ocean waves and McLaren was the man to do it. He put the waves to work. Along the ocean beach he put down a row of thousands of bundles of laths. In front of the laths, facing the ocean, he dumped twigs and branches that had been pruned from the park trees. The ocean piled sand into this simple barricade. A nice ridge ran the length of the beach. McLaren planted more laths atop the ridge. Again the ocean piled sand around them. There were more laths, higher still, more twigs and branches piled up, more sand sweeping it from the ocean. That was a job that took forty years, and when it was finished the ocean had built an esplanade twenty feet high and three hundred yards wide. That is the story of the Esplanade with its double highway that runs from the Cliff House along the ocean's edge, mile after mile. It was a task that took John McLaren and the Pacific Ocean forty years. But McLaren never bothered about time. He still wanted to plant a million trees and grow redwoods.

In the early 'nineties there was an exposition in Chicago, a world's fair. A San Francisco delegation visited it, led by Michel de Young, a newspaper publisher of San Francisco. De Young, inspired by the Chicago Fair, said he would build a finer one in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. He headed a subscription list, raised funds, and, as the country was just emerging from a national panic, the Midwinter Fair opened.

It was not much of a fair as world's fairs go. Little is

remembered of it. Old-timers will tell of the Midway, of the Ferris Wheel, of the Streets of Cairo where Little Egypt danced. They will tell of Chiquita, the smallest woman in the world, of the Indian Village and of the Music Stand. The Fair went the dilapidated way of all discarded fairs, and all that remained was a museum and the Music Stand.

The museum was the depository for all the old junk San Franciscans did not want in their parlors. It took years to clear the junk away, but today, according to established records, more people pass through the turnstile of the beautiful De Young Museum than visit the Metropolitan Museum in New York in a year's time. As for the bandstand, it remained, and in the days when society still traveled in victorias and phaetons and buckboards, each Sunday everyone who counted drove his or her horses around it and listened to the melodies of Victor Herbert and the "Chimes of Normandy," and the "Fledermaus." Children found their haven just east of the bandstand in the playground where donkey rides were a thrilling delight and the most delicious spongecake in the world was to be had. All of which has little to do with John McLaren. Little—and yet McLaren loved children, and his park was their park.

With the passing of the Midwinter Fair a new and dangerous craze swept the land—the bicycle age. Tricycles, bicycles, tandems, and family affairs with four, five, or six seats spun along the path to the Cyclers' Rest. There the gay blades smoked Sweet Caporals and bought Queen Charlottes for their bloomered girl friends. And John snorted and went right ahead planting his flowers and his trees.

That was all more than forty years ago. Today tens of thousands find their way to the De Young Museum, the Steinhart Aquarium, the Fleishhaker Zoo, or to the Conserv-

K. Linden, p. 5

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K. Linden, Lumpkin Oppose Project

atories where exotic flowers bloom. They listen to the music from the bandstand. They please the soul of John McLaren by walking on the grass. They walk in quiet awe through the tens of thousands of blooming rhododendrons or row their boats on Strawberry Lake—Stow Lake, some call it. They steer their model yachts across the yacht lake in front of the Portals of the Past, and walk through Lovers' Lane, and shriek from the bleachers at Kezar Stadium where the East-West Game is an annual event.

And, hovering over it all—this most beautiful of parks grown in shifting sands—is the spirit of John McLaren. He died in 1943; he was ninety-seven years old. For eighty years he had lived by his father's admonition: "Me boy, if ye have nothing to do, go plant a tree and it'll grow while ye sleep." John McLaren planted more than two million trees.

The *Sequoia sempervirens.* The oldest living things on earth, trees that took thousands of years to attain their full stature! John McLaren wanted to grow redwoods, and wise men laughed at his folly. So, from seeds McLaren planted the grove of *Sequoia sempervirens,* the evergreen redwoods, in Golden Gate Park. He was eighty years when he planted them. He lived to be ninety-seven, a clear-eyed little Scotsman working almost to the day of his death. And when he died, his grove of redwoods stood in Golden Gate Park—trees thirty feet high!

No, John McLaren did not like statues—"Stookies." But he loved trees.

K. Linden, p. 6

XXVII

Mardikian and Food

Almost all San Franciscans like food at any time of the day or night. We mean that literally. Why, one of San Francisco's most famous dishes was invented to appease the wives of husbands who came home from the club at two or three in the morning. That dish was the "oyster loaf," invented in San Francisco and originally famous at the California Market.

You would go to your club and play "table stake" poker, and you would stay for just another round and another roodle, and then it was late. So, you would stop at the Market on your way home, and they would fix you up an oyster loaf. They would wrap it in pages and pages of newspaper to keep in the heat, and you would tuck it under your arm and either climb into your hack from Kelly's Stables or catch an Owl cable car and, arriving home, you would awaken your suffering, sleepless wife and say "Look, dear, an oyster loaf!" Whereupon she would sit up in bed and smile mournfully and eat the oyster loaf and forgive you all your sins and shortcomings—and late comings.

Now, in case you are a foreigner—and anyone who does not live in San Francisco is a foreigner—and you are uninitiated into the delectable mysteries of an oyster loaf, it is only fair to explain that an oyster loaf is just what the name

PERMIT NUMBER: A-2-SNF-12-020
ITEM NO: **Th15c**
Gene Thompson
Opposition to the Project

P 1 of 2

April 29, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I live in the neighborhood close to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project. I am strongly opposed to this project . My opposition is both personal and objective.

Personally, I regret that a large part of the park that I love may soon be made even less accessible to members of the general public. I have lived three blocks away from this meadow for decades. I walk or ride my bicycle through this area almost daily and regard it as a refuge from the stress of city life. At one time the soccer fields themselves were open to all. When my daughter was young we used to walk through the fields and enjoy the beauty of the natural surroundings. My daughter used to go to that meadow with her school mates to play--sometimes soccer, sometimes just spontaneous Frisbee or other games. Of course it has long been fenced off, but at least we can still enjoy the area around the soccer fields. The peaceful, natural setting of this part of the park will be diminished, however, when grass, shrubs and trees are torn out in favor of acres of plastic and asphalt, with towers of glaring light blasting away the night sky.

Objectively, I am concerned about the environmental effects of this project. My greatest concern is with the crumb rubber used to cushion the plastic turf. At a public meeting I attended, a parent described how he and his children regularly tracked the crumbs in their cleats all the way from a soccer field to the floor of their house.

According to the EPA's website, tires contain the following compounds:

- acetone
- arsenic
- barium
- benzene
- cadmium
- chromium
- cobalt
- copper
- isoprene
- lead
- manganese
- mercury
- methyl ethyl ketone
- methyl isobutyl ketone
- naphthalene

P 2 of 2

- nickel
- phenol
- polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
- toluene -- and others

How much crumb rubber will accumulate in park soil over time, and how will that accumulation affect flora and fauna? Will animals directly consume the rubber? What are the potential effects as these compounds are broken down and absorbed into the ecosystem?

Proponents of this project have rightly claimed that recreation is important for our children. But it is also important that our children not be disengaged from Nature, and that we do not destroy Nature.

When my daughter was a child, there was nothing better than to lie in that meadow on a rare clear night and look up at the stars.

Sincerely,

Gene Thompson
1556 Great Hwy, apt 101
San Francisco, CA 94122

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122

Nancy B. Ream
Oppose Project

P 1 of 2

April 24, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, S.F.
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

On Saturday, April 13, 2013 I attended my nine year old granddaughter's soccer game, sponsored, I believe, by S.F. Police Athletic League, on Field One at The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, pictured above.

I was amazed to see the playing fields looking so well... abundant grass, well groomed, not at all distressed, as I had imagined,....because of the proposal to replace the grass there with artificial turf.

I had already been concerned about the proposed removal of trees, the toxicity of the proposed turf, and, particularly, the addition of the proposed high voltage lighting, which would greatly

reduce vision of the Western night sky, and very possibly, present problems for birds and wild life.

Now I am questioning why such a unnatural change should take place on these fields.

I hope the California Coastal Commission will explore this proposed conversion to artificial turf most carefully, and consider natural, harmonious alternatives.

Sincerely,

Nancy B. Ream
3385 Clay Street
San Francisco, CA 94118

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge, 1243 42nd Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Oppose Project

P 2 of 2

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
David Romano & Judy Pell
Oppose Project

P 1 of 2

April 22, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

We are long-time residents at Ocean Beach and walk along the sea wall or in the Park daily.

We are very much concerned with the installation of artificial turf and night lighting in Golden Gate Park, as proposed by the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department. We ask you to consider the following points and urge you to consider the merits of natural grass and natural lighting for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

1. What fumes will the artificial turf give off? Will these fumes be toxic to plants, animals and people? Will the fumes add to air pollution in the Park and surrounding neighborhoods?

2. How quickly will the artificial turf degrade? What danger does the degradation and resulting detritus pose to the plants, animals and ground water of the Park? Won't this detritus be toxic if inhaled by people using the fields and those in proximity to the fields? What about families with infants and young children who will be playing on, and dining in proximity to the fields? Won't the bits and pieces of artificial turf that are kicked up come in contact with the skin of, and be inhaled by, infants and young children?

3. There will be toxic run-off into the Ocean. There are often surfers in the water directly across from the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

4. The Beach Chalet Athletic fields can not support more than the current set-up of 4 playing fields, with one of the four fields laying fallow at any one time. On a summer's day there is already a heavy load of traffic from people going to Ocean Beach, the Beach Chalet and Park Chalet, The Queen Wilhelmina Tulip Garden and Wind Mill, Golden Gate Park Golf Course, and just visiting the western end of the Park. The increase in traffic that will occur if four fields are in full time use will result in degrading the environment of the western end of the Park. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields can't sustain 4 full time playing fields concentrated in one place where there is already high density use of the Park

5. Night lighting will have an unnatural, and inevitably adverse, impact on the flora and fauna of the Park and will increase air pollution due to the additional traffic using the fields after dark.

6. There are safety and traffic issues resulting from the proposed increase in use that will adversely impact anyone visiting the Beach and the western edge of the Park. The safety and traffic issues issues have not been adequately addressed. There is heavy use of this area already by bicycles, walkers and joggers and families visiting Ocean Beach and the Park. Pedestrian

safety will certainly be an issue at the western end of Golden Gate Park if the plan proposed by Rec and Park for night lighting goes forward.

Please consider the above points in evaluating the proposed renovations to Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Yours sincerely,

David Romano and Judy Pell
759 La Playa Street, #1
San Francisco CA 94121

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, Ca 94122

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May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Shawna McGrew
Purpose Project and Support Staff Report

May 1, 2013

Dear Commissioner Groom,

I was a Principal Recreation Supervisor for 37 years at the San Francisco Department of Recreation and Park . For my last 20 years I supervised many recreation centers. It was a great job.

I wanted to let you know that I support the Hybrid Alternative. In my professional opinion, West Sunset would work very well with artificial turf and night lighting. It is a good location - near schools and transportation, with lots of parking. It already has night lighting on the tennis and basketball courts. It is always easy to say "no" and to find a 100 reasons why something won't work, but this will.

And there are other locations, too, besides West Sunset. Boxer Stadium at Balboa Park is now grass. Boxer Stadium already has bleachers and a tall fence around it. (See attached birds-eye view.) It is hidden away from the surrounding homes at Balboa park. If it had artificial turf and lights, that would not bother anyone. From the photo, you can see that even the combined baseball/GA fields at Balboa Park need renovation. There is already a children's play area, bathrooms and even a police station. This is next to a freeway and near a BART station and many Muni lines. And City College is nearby. This is just one of many fields that no one goes to for nature -- just to play sports.

And it is not as if there isn't already recreation in the west end of the park -- there is a golf course and an archery range. There will be a restaurant at the Murphy windmill. Even more people will be coming out there to see the new windmill. But we need to keep at least some of this section of the park as parkland for everyone. Many people are not able to do team sports or are not interested in organized recreation.

SFRPD has a lot of fields for soccer - and even gyms used for indoor soccer leagues. I love kids and all kinds of recreation, but to me it is simple. Golden Gate Park is a special place, and it should not be destroyed.

I hope you can talk to Rec & park and get them to come to the table to work this out. As I always told my kids and my staff -- we have to work together!

Sincerely,

Shawna McGrew

Shawna McGrew
1522 32nd Avenue, SF CA
415-681-3544

Attachment: RPD of Balboa Park, with Boxer Stadium

cc: Kevin Kahn
Commissioners
SF Ocean Edge

NORTH
Havelock St.
BALBOA PARK
Matthew Boxer Stadium
280 freeway
San Jose Ave.
Sergeant John V. Young St.
GA 4
GA 3
GA 2
GA 1
A
B
Sunberg Diamond
GA 7
Diamond 2
GA 6
GA 9
GA 8
GA 5
GA 10
Diamond 1
Sweeney Diamond
© 2010 Google
© 2010 Europa Technologies
Ocean Ave.
Google
Imagery Date: Jun 30, 2007
37°43'29.38" N 122°26'31.98" W elev 195 ft
Eye alt 7745 ft

PERMIT NUMBER: A-2-SNF-12-020
ITEM NO: **TH15c**
Ellen Koivisto
Opposition to the Project

April 30, 2013

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MAY 02 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to ask you not to permit the artificial turf, stadium lighting, increased parking, and extensive tree removal proposed in the current Beach Chalet Athletic Fields plan, and to instead consider improvements of the natural grass fields, along with removal of the cyclone fencing currently surrounding the fields, as being appropriate improvements for this site.

I have lived a few blocks from these soccer fields for over twenty-five years. I taught for 6 years at Rivendell Elementary, at the corner of 46th and Irving and, before the entire space was fenced in, we regularly took our students out to the Beach Chalet Fields for picnics and to play. I have taught at SFUSD high schools for the past 19 years and commute through the park, biking past these fields every school day on my way to work. I know this part of the park very well and depend on it for grounding me before I exit into the busy, urban school where I work.

At work, I teach chemistry, biology and astronomy, and I've spent a lot of time developing environmental chemistry and endrocrine-disruptor/environmental toxin/body burden units for my classes. Anecdotally, in my lifetime I've seen enormous changes caused by chemicals: Girls are hitting puberty much younger, asthma rates are sky-rocketing, allergies are increasing in number and intensity, and there are more children with autism spectrum disorder. All of these things are connected in the scientific literature to unregulated, massive chemical exposures. Things I can't see directly have the same source, as is also well-reported in the scientific literature: We have massive exposure to phthalate esters, our heavy metal body burden is large and directly related to behavioral and cognitive problems, and we're exposed to hundreds of chemicals that have never been tested. We are literally living at the bottom of a test tube. In my work, I've waded through the primary research articles in peer-reviewed journals and I've talked to scientists who do this research. I just didn't expect to be dealing with these chems so close to home.

Beach Chalet soccer field permit appeal
Jim King
Opposed
Agenda ITEM NO: Th15c

May 1, 2013

Kevin Kahn
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco 94105

RECEIVED
MAY 02 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Kahn:

I am writing to express my support for the Hybrid Alternative for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Project; an action that would preserve natural grass and limit night lighting at the west end of Golden Gate Park and provide for artificial turf and enhanced night lighting at the nearby West Sunset Playground.

Clearly the soccer fields that have long been a fixture at the west end of the park require maintenance including new grading, improved irrigation and sod. However, improvements to the site need to be carefully balanced with attention to maintaining the natural and intrinsic values of the park and the coastal environment. The proposed introduction of artificial turf and night lighting violate that balance. With the proposed infrastructure comes the prospect of dramatically increased public use, particularly at night. The action would impose decidedly urban elements on this natural area undermining its unique combination of sylvan and seascape character.

The Hybrid Alternative would address the need for improved recreational opportunities in the future while preserving the character of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields and surrounding park environs for future generations. This would create 4 upgraded natural grass fields at Beach Chalet, and 6 soccer pitches at West Sunset (3 full sized pitches and 3 U10 pitches) resulting in almost as many play hours as the proposed Project. It would restore both play areas and achieve all project objectives for comparable cost at great benefit to the residents of San Francisco. It would preserve the coastal environment for residents and the myriad of visitors from across the world. This action is a reasonable compromise that is in keeping with both the California Environmental Quality Act and the Coastal Act. I urge the Commission deny the action as proposed in favor of this solution.

Sincerely,

Jim King

Jim King
522 Douglass St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

May 1, 2013

Agenda Item #15-C
Marilyn Kane

California Coastal Commission
Mary K. Shallenberger, Chair
Dan Carl , Deputy Manager
45 Fremont Street #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RECEIVED
MAY 0 2 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Dear Chair and Deputy Manager of the Coastal Commission,

I am writing to express my support for the alternative solution - i.e. no artificial turf and light towers, but rather natural grass. This is not only for the benefit of the many birds and wildlife that make their home in Golden Gate Park and on the Ocean, but also to retain Golden Gate Park in its natural state. I have been a resident of San Francisco since 1978 , live close to the park, and make use of it often. It is one of the wonders of this city, and the more we can preserve our natural resources the better - not just for our psyches but for our environment.

Thank you for your consideration of my opinion.

Sincerely,

Marilyn J Kane

Marilyn J Kane
1464 17th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122

May 1, 2013

Agenda Item # 15-C

Dear Coastal Commission:

PLEASE DO NOT replace the natural grass soccer fields at Beach Chalet with artificial turf and 60-foot-tall lights. The thought of this loss of a natural area appalls me.

Please find alternative soccer facilities off-site while improving wildlife habitat at Beach Chalet. I'm a frequent hiker and wildlife watcher in the western end of the park. I find the idea of covering these fields with plastic appalling and very sad.

Birds don't feed on artificial, plastic grass. Please keep Golden Gate Park natural and beautiful.

I was a soccer mom too, but let's find a way to meet soccer needs without destroying this natural legacy and jeopardizing precious local wildlife.

Sincerely,

Sharon Starr
270 Hearst Ave.
San Francisco CA 94131

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Agenda Item #15-C
Jennifer Dees & Neil Chase

California Coastal Commission
Mary K. Shallenberger, Chair and
Dan Carl, Deputy Manager
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RECEIVED
MAY 02 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Dear Coastal Commission Members:

Nature and recreation can co-exist, but not when artificial turf is installed, and not when undue light pollution is created.

Please do NOT replace the natural grass soccer fields at Beach Chalet with artificial turf and 60-foot-tall lights. (Agenda Item # 15-C).

I support the alternative of adding soccer facilities off-site, while improving the grass fields and preserving wildlife habitat at Beach Chalet.

The western end of Golden Gate Park was intended to remain more natural and less developed. Birds use this site, which is located adjacent to Ocean Beach along the Pacific Flyway.

Let's find a way to meet San Francisco's soccer needs without destroying this natural legacy and jeopardizing precious local wildlife.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dees and Neil Chase

7 Brentwood Avenue
San Francisco, California 94127

Agenda item #15-C
Jennifer DAGGY

Dear Coastal Commission members and staff,

As a long time San Francisco resident, I would like to ask you to reject the proposal to replace the natural grass fields at Beach Chalet with artificial grass and lighting. I would support the alternate proposal to improve the natural grass and relocate the artificial fields to West Sunset playground.

I recognize you have the difficult task of weighing passionate and competing arguments but this proposal will not balance the needs of sport and wildlife. As a sports fan and a bird watcher, I am familiar with that area of the park which today has the advantage of being important to both wildlife and residents. The artificial fields will mean a much less poorer environment for the wildlife and those of us who ~~admire~~ enjoy the natural surroundings.

Thank you for your time and effort in considering this important issue.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Daggy
1558 Walla Street
San Francisco CA 94117

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MAY 02 2013
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COASTAL COMMISSION

May 1, 2013

Agenda Item # 15-C

Tomas Latham

California Coastal Commission
Mary K. Shallenberger, Chair and Dan Carl, Deputy Manager
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Coastal Commission members and staff:

Please do NOT replace the natural grass soccer fields at Beach Chalet with artificial turf and 60-foot-tall lights. (Agenda Item # 15-C). I support the alternative of adding soccer facilities off-site, while improving the grass fields and preserving wildlife habitat at Beach Chalet. The western end of Golden Gate Park was intended to remain more natural and less developed. Birds use this site, which is located adjacent to Ocean Beach along the Pacific Flyway.

Let's find a way to meet San Francisco's soccer needs without destroying this natural legacy and jeopardizing precious local wildlife.

Yours truly,

Tomas Latham
240 Cumberland St #304
San Francisco, CA 94114-2674

Thursday, May 9th, 2013 Hearing
Agenda No. Th15c
Application No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Kathleen McCowin, President
Viking Soccer Parents for Grass
Fields in Golden Gate Park
Opposition

RECEIVED
APR 30 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 28th, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

Our Viking Soccer Parents organization supports the preservation of the 7 acres of Beach Chalet grass fields in Golden Gate Park. We oppose the plan to turn these lovely grass fields our children play on into a concrete and ground tire sports complex. Currently, nature and our children happily coexist on these fields, with migrating geese grazing on resting fields while our children play. We object to our children being used as an excuse for this ill-conceived project, whose real purpose is to increase adult play time and further privatize Golden Gate Park.

While City Fields and the Viking Soccer management would have you believe all soccer enthusiasts support their project, our organization is proof that this is not the case. However, when we parents present our concerns publically, there is immediate pressure from Viking Soccer management to retract our comments. By example, at a City Hall rally, I commented that we Viking Soccer parents were never consulted before the Viking management endorsed and advocated for this sports complex. Moments later, the President of Viking Soccer confronted me, demanding I go to the press and retract my statements.

Due to potential retaliation against our soccer playing children, most of our dozens of members have asked that their names be withheld. This is why you may not have heard from more soccer parents supporting grass fields. Remarkably, some of our children were taken to City Hall by the Viking Soccer management against our wishes to lobby for the project.

Biological Toxicity

To our organizations concerns, the proposed sports complex would be constructed on toxic waste fill too dangerous to be permitted in landfill: finely ground tires. Our fear for our children's health when breathing and ingesting this toxic waste is mirrored in fears for the health of the surrounding wildlife. Worse, the runoff and particle scatter will easily reach endanger species on Ocean Beach just yards away.

South Sunset
4/18/13

Failure of Containment

Failure of containment of the toxic material in the proposed sports complex is a serious health risk to both our children and wildlife. **Ex.1** is pictures of a recently constructed sports complex, identical to the planned complex, in South Sunset Park in San Francisco. The ground tire fill is poorly contained, spreading over the surrounding cement and beyond.

A sample tube of the material from South Sunset Park field is included with this correspondence. Note the toxic material's flyaway characteristics. **Ex.2** is a chart of the many toxic chemicals in this fill and its runoff. The runoff from each of the 10 fields recently constructed in San Francisco kills 100% of small marine life, as shown in a study by a professor at University of California Santa Cruz. Even more concerning, the Beach Chalet fields are in a highly windswept area, where, despite drift fences, sand blows uncontrolled in large drifts.

No Funding for Scheduled Refurbishment

With severe budget cuts, and 20% reduction in staff, San Francisco Park & Rec Department has stated that it does not have the $1M needed to install gopher mesh and a French drain system in the Beach Chalet grass fields to correct their current deficiencies. After San Francisco pays $7.5M for its share of the proposed sports stadium project, it is unclear the San Francisco Park & Rec Department will later have $4M required for the scheduled material replacement. Consider also that this underfunded department must fund the intervening $12M needed to refurbish the 12 artificial turf fields already installed in San Francisco's public parks. **Ex.3** is a chart detailing the timing and cost of these refurbishments.

The Fishers' foundation, City Fields, states "there is little money in San Francisco's budget for park maintenance, and the partnership does not include funding for long-term repairs and upkeep". City Fields is structured to be disbanded after the last installation. As shown in **Ex.4,** failure of funding for refurbishment of fields of the same construction in New York City resulted in ruined fields and catastrophic failure of containment of the toxic fill.

In eight years, the toxic fill from the proposed sports stadium would be scattered to the strong ocean winds, infiltrating and contaminating both Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach with toxic waste. This key factors, among others such as migrating birds, was not addressed by the environmental impact report.

No Current Need

City Fields has used our children as an excuse for forcing the loss of these irreplaceable open fields so needed in our dense city. However, of over 1200 games played in the 3 major youth leagues this year, only 20 started after 4:30. **Ex.5** Night play is for adults only. Therefore, the proposed 60 foot stadium lights running until 10:00PM do not support youth soccer. These proposed stadium lights pose a serious danger to birds migrating on the Pacific Coast Flyway immediately above the fields, and increase the risk of predation to the snowy plover nests a few yards away.

There are no current statistics indicating any additional need for San Francisco fields for youth soccer. After the building of 10 new soccer fields in San Francisco, statistics on the efficacy of this effort are

overdue. Given the current automated fields reservation system, such data would be readily at hand. It is telling that this information is currently being withheld, and has been requested by the San Francisco Parks Alliance as a condition to its support of this project.

Even if destroying these historic Golden Gate Park grass fields would somewhat increase youth soccer play time, our organization would not support the project. These grass fields, so carefully developed by McLaren by delivering countless loads of top-soil by horse drawn wagon to the Outerlands, should not be casually discarded in the name of progress. Both wildlife and our children need a place of nature in our crowded city.

Your decision is the last chance to save these lovely Golden Gate Park fields and their surrounding woods from destruction. We appreciate the courage it takes to run counter to the wishes of the billionaires funding the City Fields organization. Our members believe the California Coastal Commission is equal to this challenge.

Respectfully,

Kathleen McCowin, President

Viking Soccer Parents for Grass Fields in Golden Gate Park
2417 44th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94116
650-862-4703

Exhibits:

1. photo South Sunset fields containment failure, with sample vial of infill material
2. chart toxic chemicals in ground tire fill
3. chart $12M recurring costs-end of useful life materials refurbishment cost
4. photo New York fields of same construction without material refurbishment
5. chart day-only game times for San Francisco youth soccer

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: California Coastal Commissioners

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122

Exhibit 1

South Sunset Fields: taken from South end
poor containment, tracking to surrounding pavement
7/8/12

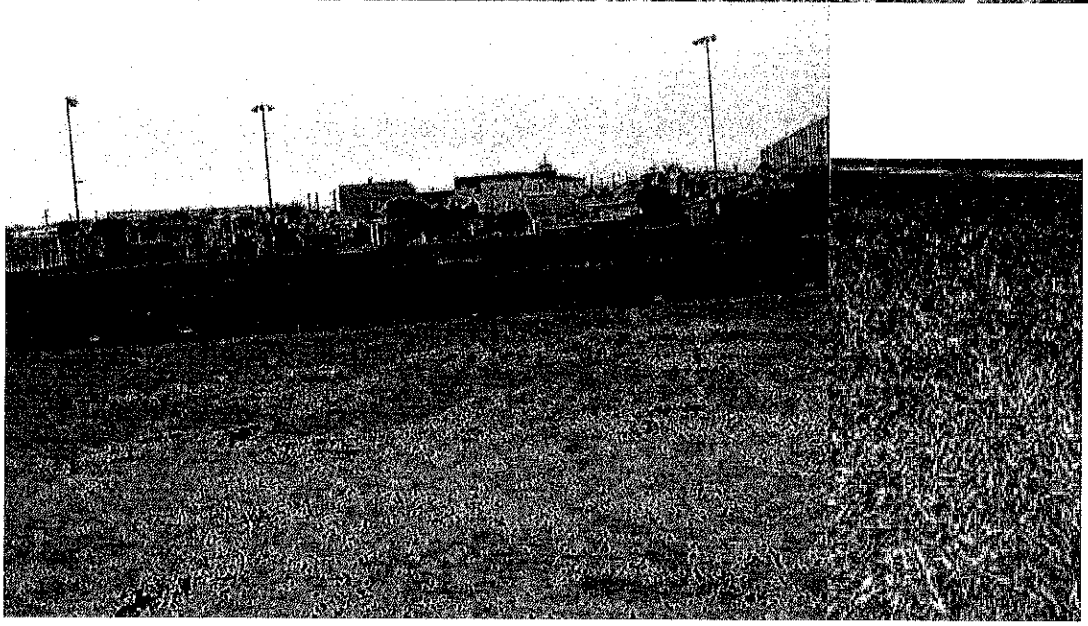

Exhibit 2

Toxicity Ground Tire Components

Chemicals in ground tires (partial list)	Toxicity
Benzene	Carcinogen, Developmental Toxicant, Reproductive Toxicant
Carbon Black	Carcinogen
PAHs	Reproductive Toxicant ,Respiratory Toxicant,
Zinc-large amounts	micromolar amounts of the free ion kill some organisms*
Butylated hydroxyanisole	Carcinogen
Phthalates	Endocrine Toxicant, Reproductive Toxicant

*See award-winning toxicology study by a San Francisco soccer player Claire Dworsky in collaboration with Dr. Diane Deighton of University of California at Santa Cruz (http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=ZbS86BcSnUM) Ms. Dworsky (below) won an award for this research showing San Francisco field run-off from 10 different fields caused 100% death rate of *Daphnia*, an aquatic animal. This may be due to the zinc toxicity of these materials.

Exhibit 3

FACT SHEET

San Francisco Plastic Turf Soccer Fields
End of Useful Life Materials Replacement Cost to City

materials replacement cost ½ installation cost	install dates	scheduled replacement	SF public park site	# fields	notes
$ 1,000,000	2006	2014*	Garfield Square	1	rubber infill-surface
$ 1,000,000	2006	2014*	Silver Terrace	1	blades shorter
$ 5,000,000	2008	2018	Crocker Amazon	5	rubber infill-surface
$ 1,000,000	2008	2018	Franklin Square	1	rubber infill-surface
$ 3,000,000	2008	1018	South Sunset	3	tears @ 4 years
$ 1,000,000	2010	1020	Kimbel	1	rubber infill-surface
$ 12,000,000	Cumulative 2014 to 1020		All installations to 2012	12	New York fields failed sooner

*per City Fields, first 2 field installation have materials warranty of 8 years. For subsequent installations, the materials warranty may be 10 years.

$12M recurring cost to San Francisco - 10 year cycle plastic turf soccer fields materials replacement

Assumptions:

SF City pays full materials replacement costs

"... there is little money in San Francisco's budget for park maintenance and the partnership does not include funding for long-term repairs and upkeep" (2010 *City Fields Foundation* Case Study, page 15)

1st materials replacement 8 years from installation

Current warranties for materials in SF fields range from 8-10 years. Industry standard 10 years end of useful life used here, although much less and somewhat more useful life of material have been reported. City Fields Foundation notes required replacement of turf in 10-15 years (ibid).

$1M/field: 50% of installation cost per industry websites

From: Viking Soccer Parents for Grass Fields in Golden Gate Park
Kathleen McCowin, President kmccowin@berkeley.edu

Exhibit 4

New York soccer fields of same proposed construction without material refurbishment

New York City, NY: Soccer referees boycott two turf fields due to dangerous conditions. According to a news report in *New York Daily News* (March 26, 2010), the New York City Soccer Officials Association is boycotting two of artificial turf fields at Flushing Meadows-Corona Park (Fields 1 and 5) because of several gaping tears and ripped seams at each field

Exhibit 5

FACT SHEET
Beach Chalet 60' Stadium Lights
proposed illumination to 10:00 PM

San Francisco Soccer Players age 8-19 Play No Night Games
"Lighting is for safety purposes and is not intended to increase night use." GG Park Master Plan (pg. 9-5)

Youth Soccer League	# Games	Start times
PAL league U8-U14 Spring games	700	8:30 -4:30
	15	5:15-5:30
	0	night games
Viking League U10-14 Spring games	450	8:30-4:30
	5	5:15-5:30
	0	night games
Mission Youth League U8-U19 Summer Games	120	9:00-2:00
	0	night games
TOTALS	**1270**	8:30-4:30
	20	5:15-5:30
	0	**night games**

Data from league websites on 7/4/12. Game totals approximate. Includes boys, girls, and mixed teams.

From: Viking Soccer Parents for Grass Fields in Golden Gate Park
Kathleen McCowin, President kmccowin@berkeley.edu

RECEIVED
APR 29 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

April 24, 2013

The Honorable Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Regarding: Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Development in Golden Gate Park

NOTE: Copy sent to staff c/o Kevin Kahn

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

Thank you for holding a hearing on this matter that is important not only to the integrity of this historic park, but to the future of coastal zone planning and management.

I have been asked to review the plans and associated documents by San Francisco Ocean Edge and to present you with my opinions on selected points based on my professional experience. I am an Emeritus Professor of Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management, Clemson University, Clemson, SC, having spent 38 years in that field. These comments are freely given as I am not under contract as a paid consultant.

Golden Gate Park is one of three flagship municipal parks in North America, along with Central Park in New York City and Mount Royal Park in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The proposed soccer super complex would degrade the Golden Gate Park, radically altering its mission and design standards. I liken it to renting paddle boats on the reflecting pools in The Mall in Washington, DC.

Others will, no doubt, present a large number of issues against this soccer stadium complex. I have chosen the three issues presented below.

Point 1

The City and County of San Francisco Emergency Response Plan: Tsunami Response Annex (March, 2011) map (Attachment B) clearly shows that the soccer super complex area is within the tsunami run-up zone. Attachment B is based on 21st century modeling. Additionally, the Annex presents this:

> **"Evacuation Priorities**
>
> **First Priority is to clear people from: . . . Soccer fields near beach in Golden Gate Park (SFPD and PRD)** . . . "

San Francisco Parks and Recreation (PRD) cites data from mid-20th century models to assure us that the complex is above the run-up zone of a tsunami. However, 21st century modeling and current maps place the soccer super complex in the run-up zone. The Japanese now know that their mid-20th century projections used to estimate tsunami heights were inadequate. Their tsunami walls were overtopped by several meters. Last century's models should be ignored.

The predicted rise in ocean surface levels due to ocean warming and the rapid glacial melting currently in progress will exacerbate the potential for tsunami run-up at the project site and may put the area at risk from tidal surges associated with strong ocean

I am surprised that California would allow the construction of such a super sports complex in a high risk area using tax payer dollars for construction and/or maintenance. Many states and Federal guidelines* only allow natural area recreation with minor infrastructure, such as picnic areas, areas such as the grass play area currently in the vicinity of the Beach Chalet, and agriculture fields to be maintained in such high risk areas.

*FEMA Guidelines recommend keeping buildings out of the area below the tsunami flood level or the base flood elevation (BFE) as the best practice.

Point 2

"A prophet is not without honor, except in his own country, and among his kindred, and in his own house" Jesus of Nazareth, Mark 6:4.

And so, in California, the home of Richard Louv, renown, award-winning author of The Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder, a "natural" area with grass, trees, shrubs, mud, and wild creatures is to be transmuted into a plasticscape suitable only for kicking a ball and open only to ball kickers. Today, more than ever in the past, children deserve more than a plasticscape. They need contact with Nature and natural conditions. Even in kicking a ball, learning to deal with high and low grass on a somewhat uneven surface is part of one's natural education. Playing soccer in a plasticscape is more akin to entering into an "X-Box ®" virtual world than being in the natural world.

The present open space area allows children and adults to create experiences which may or may not have to do with sport, but which do place them in contact with Nature in a coastal environment. It is not soccer restricted. It is not a one activity area as the super complex will be. The general public is not now excluded from this area at any time. Such will not be the case with the soccer complex.

In all of San Francisco, there is no other open space for children or adults like this place. With all due deference to Louv, adults suffer from Nature-Deficit Disorder, too.

Point 3

Sports field lighting at this location is an incredibly bad idea because of its location so close to the coast and in proximity to those natural habitats that are not marked for destruction by the super complex. **There is no evidence presented that assures that migratory birds will not be impacted, not to mention impacts on the resident crepuscular and nocturnal birds.**

Statements are made about the lights being turned off at 10 PM. But as far as I can tell, there is absolutely nothing to prevent them from being used all night long. **How long the lights stay on seems to be a decision left to the Parks and Recreation administration.** Once the super soccer complex is built, there will be pressures to maximize its use and to generate income to support it. Late night and all-night events will ensue.

My recommendation is that this open space play area be maintained as it is or, better yet, returned to a more natural state akin to the historic habitat of the area. Maintaining the natural nature of this open play space would be in the best interest of the residents of San Francisco including the children who play soccer and those children's parents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Please place this letter in the official documents of this hearing such that it is carried forward to all subsequent proceedings.

Sincerely,

Gordon E. Howard, Ph.D.

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

April 25, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposed plan for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park. As a resident of the Sunset district since 1996, and an almost daily visitor to the park, I am greatly concerned about the potential negative impacts these proposed changes will have on its natural beauty and serene character.

In particular, I am extremely dismayed about the loss of open space and wildlife habitat, the elimination of over 55 trees, and the environmental consequences of using artificial turf. I worry about the safety of cyclists, runners, and families due to the introduction of significantly more traffic to the west end of the park. And I dread the blemish that high wattage sports lighting will be on the natural aesthetic of the park, particularly after dark.

Don't get me wrong; I am a big supporter of soccer. I have two young sons—3 and 6. The older boy is currently on a soccer team, and the younger one will be following in his footsteps soon enough. I expect to be involved in soccer leagues for years to come, and I fully understand the need for safe, sustainable facilities.

Nevertheless, I believe it is a question of balance and fairness. Why elevate soccer to such a degree that it crowds out other worthy activities that the area currently supports? Why go against the master plan of the park with its emphasis on providing a naturalistic setting? It seems to me there are more even-handed ways to handle this situation. The Hybrid Alternative is one viable example. So is renovating the existing facilities with real grass, which would be more cost effective and leave funds over to fix up other facilities around the city.

My family chose to live where we do in large part due to the proximity of Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach. Both are an important part of our lives and something we value greatly. The proposed plan for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields is bad for the park and bad for San Francisco. I respectfully request that you reconsider moving forward with the plan as it stands.

Sincerely,

Ben Citron
1558 34th Ave, San Francisco, CA 94122

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge, 1243 42nd Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122

April 26, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2003

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, Ca

Dear Mrs. Shallenberger,

I want to protect Golden Gate Park from development of a soccer field. There must be other places that could be used for that purpose. Developing that place means putting down a surface that would be unnatural to the park and using bright lights which would interfere with sky viewing from such a pristine space. My son is an astronomer and uses the area nearby with his astronomy club.

I've lived in California for over 50 years and enjoyed Golden Gate Park as a place that has always been natural. Why is it necessary to develop it unless someone is making a profit from it? Soccer can be played in another place where bright lights won't interfere with the wildlife of the park. The impact of development would impinge on how the park has always been used.

Sincerely,

Lois Goggin

Lois Goggin
18836 Lenross Ct
Castro Valley, Ca 94546

Cc: Kevin Kahn, Costal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, Ca 94105-2219

Cc: SF Ocean Edge, 1243 42nd Ave, San Francisco, Ca. 94122

PERMIT NUMBER: A-2-SNF-12-020
ITEM NO: **Th15c**
Gene Thompson
Opposition to the Project

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APR 30 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

April 29, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I live in the neighborhood close to the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project. I am strongly opposed to this project . My opposition is both personal and objective.

Personally, I regret that a large part of the park that I love may soon be made even less accessible to members of the general public. I have lived three blocks away from this meadow for decades. I walk or ride my bicycle through this area almost daily and regard it as a refuge from the stress of city life. At one time the soccer fields themselves were open to all. When my daughter was young we used to walk through the fields and enjoy the beauty of the natural surroundings. My daughter used to go to that meadow with her school mates to play--sometimes soccer, sometimes just spontaneous Frisbee or other games. Of course it has long been fenced off, but at least we can still enjoy the area around the soccer fields. The peaceful, natural setting of this part of the park will be diminished, however, when grass, shrubs and trees are torn out in favor of acres of plastic and asphalt, with towers of glaring light blasting away the night sky.

Objectively, I am concerned about the environmental effects of this project. My greatest concern is with the crumb rubber used to cushion the plastic turf. At a public meeting I attended, a parent described how he and his children regularly tracked the crumbs in their cleats all the way from a soccer field to the floor of their house.

According to the EPA's website, tires contain the following compounds:

- acetone
- arsenic
- barium
- benzene
- cadmium
- chromium
- cobalt
- copper
- isoprene
- lead
- manganese
- mercury
- methyl ethyl ketone
- methyl isobutyl ketone
- naphthalene

- nickel
- phenol
- polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
- toluene -- and others

How much crumb rubber will accumulate in park soil over time, and how will that accumulation affect flora and fauna? Will animals directly consume the rubber? What are the potential effects as these compounds are broken down and absorbed into the ecosystem?

Proponents of this project have rightly claimed that recreation is important for our children. But it is also important that our children not be disengaged from Nature, and that we do not destroy Nature.

When my daughter was a child, there was nothing better than to lie in that meadow on a rare clear night and look up at the stars.

Sincerely,

Gene Thompson
1556 Great Hwy, apt 101
San Francisco, CA 94122

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122

April 29, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastle Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, Ca 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields

Dear Ms. Shallenberger

I am writing to you today to ask you to support the Hybrid Alternative / Natural Solutions to the soccer field in Golden Gate Park. I have enjoyed the natural setting in that area for over 35 years, I feel that it would be a win-win situation for all of us who love soccer and love nature. The area is so close to the ocean, a wildlife corridor. It does not need a loss of trees, more concrete, much more lighting. The area would not be served by astro turf & lack of natural drainage. The natural areas of the park need our help. Thank you

Mark Gould

MARK GOULD
432 BELVEDERE STREET
SF CA 94117

CC- KEVIN KAHN 45 FREMONT STREET STE 200 SF 94105-2219
COASTAL PLANNER, NORTH COAST DISTRICT
CC. SF OCEAN EDGE, 1423-42ND AVE. SF CA 94122

1621 Judah Street, San Francisco, CA 94122

Jean Palmeter

April 21, 2013

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APR 30 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I want to express my strong opposition to the soccer field planned for the area of the Beach Chalet. Such an anti-environmental project does not belong in a city and state on the forefront of conservation.

When I decided to move to San Francisco, I was lucky enough to have friends in Los Angeles who owned an apartment building by the park. I walked in the park every morning, enjoying the escape from the city noise and traffic. On those walks I ended up becoming friends with a woman who had me join in the study of Great Blue Herons nesting at Stow Lake for the SF Bay Bird Observatory. I worked on that study for two seasons and because of it have become an avid bird watcher.

The building was sold and I had to move but I knew that I wanted to live by Golden Gate Park; it had become my home, my place of peace, a good place to walk and a place to watch birds. Until recently when I could no longer afford all three, I was a member of the Botanical Gardens and the Deyoung: I am still a member of the CA Academy of Science. This place, this park has been my home now for over 15 years.

I enjoy seeing not just birds but other wildlife in my part of the city. Recently on a lands end walk, my visiting family and I saw a gray whale near mile rock. Watching the river otter at Sutro Baths was delightful, a close encounter with a coyote at Strawberry Hill on Stow Lake was awesome, seeing Great Horned owls so close you could practically reach out and touch them, or sitting at the buffalo paddock watching Western Bluebirds flying back and forth, probably feeding their babies – all these things make our part of the city special. Protecting this oasis from development and companies offering fake grass should be a priority. It is the Outer Lands – the place for natural adventures, a place within the city to bring us back to nature, our roots, it reminds us how important it is to protect the ocean and lakes and rivers. It is a place in the city, easy to get to, to educate children about nature not just a place to play.

The changes planned for the park would destroy the areas natural woodland feel that was the intent of the founders but not only that, the loss of trees and the night lighting would infringe on the historic context of the park. The lights of the city itself are hazardous to lots of migrating birds so these lights out near the end of the park and by the ocean will most certainly effect birds and wildlife.

If anyone thinks fake grass made from chemicals that heat up and emit gases is safe, or that just heats up in the sun to well over the air temperature, for anyone but especially young children playing soccer, well I would suspect that somebody is paying for some pretty good public relations and/or that someone or some very powerful people are behind changing our natural grass parks into fake chemical fume emitting crap. The run off from all these places will eventually wind up in our rivers and oceans. The runoff from this soccer field when it rains will probably directly impact Ocean Beach.

Please continue our commitment to this beautiful place we call home. In your decision I hope the Commission will be consider the impacts to the coast and the Park, the loss of access by the general public of the open space some of us value so deeply, the impact to wildlife from so much night activity and the night lighting and of course the concerns about what will leach into our waters. Chemical grass does not belong in Golden Gate Park or anywhere along our coast.

Sincerely,

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

Regional
Parks
Association
P.O. Box 5836
Berkeley CA 94705
Phone 925-376-6925

RPA Board Members
President Amelia Wilson, Vice president Joe Engbeck, Treasurer Pete Mason, Secretary Marina Martin
Judi Bank, Martha Brand, Tim Gordon, Jerry Kent, Kathleen Nim, Carroll Williams

Agenda Item # 15-C"

California Coastal Commission
Mary K. Shallenberger, Chair and
Dan Carl, Deputy Manager
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RECEIVED
MAY 02 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

May 1, 2013

Dear Coastal Commission members and staff:

As president of Regional Parks Association I wish to state our strong opposition to replacing the natural grass soccer fields at the Beach Chalet with artificial turf and 60-foot-tall lights. (Agenda Item # 15-C). We do support the alternative of adding soccer facilities off-site, while improving the grass fields and preserving wildlife habitat at Beach Chalet.

To lose the natural turf in this spot is bad enough, but the artificial lighting is a *really* bad idea. Although a relatively small project, our group understands how little projects here and there add up to large losses of natural turf. We count on your environmental ethic to find a much better solution than the project as presented.

Thank you for your consideration,

Amelia Wilson, President

Agenda/Item #: Th15c
Application/Permit # A-2-SNF-12-020
Name: Alexis Morris
Position: Strongly Opposed

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MAY 01 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

April 30, 2013

Attached is a copy of a letter that I submitted to you and Kevin Kahn last week regarding protecting the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park. I then received a letter about formatting letters for the Commission and so, am resubmitting the letter with those changes. I have also added a few additional comments and one of them is a request to be able to speak at the hearing in one of the allotted 5 minute slots if that is possible.

Thank you again,

Alexis Morris

Alexis Morris
1384 11th Avenue
San Francisco, Ca 94122
savethefield.org
amorris@gate.net

Agenda/Item #: Th15c
Application/Permit # A-2-SNF-12-020
Name: Alexis Morris
Position: Strongly Opposed

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MAY 01 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 30, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to ask you to please put an immediate stop to this plan to destroy the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in the western most end of Golden Gate Park. This is horrible and extremely destructive plan for San Francisco, for California, for many bird species, and for the entire coastal and park ecosystem. And I'm also requesting to please be able to speak in one of the 5 minute slots during the hearing.

I am a decades long environmentalist, have lived the Sunset district for 17 years, am a frequent park visitor and am also a member of different environmental groups including the California State Parks Foundation. Ever since I learned that Proposition B (2012) had the rather hidden intention of putting in an industrial astroturf soccer complex in Golden Gate Park, I've been working to talk with and inform people about what is happening. I have been going district by district speaking with people, having them sign postcards to the California Coastal Commission to protect the field, have volunteered with the Sierra Club, SF Ocean Edge as well as started my own group, Save The Field - all in order to build public awareness and support to try to stop this.

The vast majority of citizens and now business owners I speak with, 95% of them, did not know this plan was in even the works, are in shock about it and do not understand why the city is moving ahead with this. The continual and most common question I keep being asked is "Why is the city doing this?" People are disgusted, angry and confused about the entire project and have *many* questions.

I've also been contacting our Board of Supervisors and explaining why we need a new public hearing on the matter and have requested one. My idea for a new hearing came out of the frustration I and others kept feeling as we kept realizing how so many people were uninformed about this. Overall the BOS is showing very little interest in the fact that most of the city's residents don't know this is happening - and for the most part, they appear even less interested in a new hearing. They claim this is out the city's hands since the CCC is involved now. I have also emailed a legal aid from Supervisor Mar's office (District 1 where the soccer field in Golden Gate Park is) who emailed back with the Supervisor's official position which states (the emphases are mine) "I believe installing synthetic turf and lights on these fields is both *environmentally responsible* and *totally appropriate* for this location in a designated "major rec-

reation area" in Golden Gate Park. It will have ***no significant impact on sensitive wildlife or critical habitat*** and will achieve the primary goal of the Western Area Plan section of the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, ("increase *legitimate* activities and transform this part of the park.")" Saying and believing that this is environmentally responsible, saying it will have no significant impact on sensitive wildlife or critical habitat, and over-valuing certain activities as more "legitimate" than others that are currently taking place on the field is faulty and I will explain a little more about that in a moment.

As you know, the BOS had a seven hour hearing in July 2012 and in that hearing, with people and groups on both sides of the issue presenting their case, the BOS approved industrializing the field. This hearing was *before* the November 12 election. In other words, proponents and funders of Proposition B already knew *5 months before the election* that they now had their green light to put in their industrial soccer complex - with a green light, you're far more inclined to spend more money on a campaign. So having this knowledge beforehand, they surged an onslaught of money, spending an outrageously high amount of $4 per voter on that proposition alone in order to convince voters this was a "Beautify Our Parks" campaign as their slogan said and good for the city. To give you an idea of the contrast, groups in favor of protecting the park could only fund at 10c a voter. Their language in Probosition B talked about "restoring" old fields but did not say in their campaign ads nor in their writing in the ballot book "We will replace the natural soccer field in Golden Gate Park and put in a 7 acre astroturf soccer stadium, 60 ft tall, 150,000 watt lighting until 10pm every night of the year, an expanded parking lot, vendors, seating for 1000+ spectators, and more toxic chemicals." None of this is not what "Beautify Our Parks" means. So this was deceptive language, too much was omitted and that is the reason so many San Franciscans were - and remain - entirely unaware that this specific plan was/is even in the works.

I don't think Supervisor Mar perceives or perhaps believes the social and environmental impacts an industrial soccer stadium will have. Key environmentalists, including the executive director of the Audubon Society, have said this is a completely flawed plan at the environmental and wildlife level. There are so many ecological problems with this plan - and that stands whether or not the EIR was properly followed or not. There are also very real problems with changing the entire nature of this public park space and setting from a natural, *open space area and available for free use to all*, to this more exclusive, event-based set up. We cannot overtake these few remaining open spaces in the park for special interests that tend to cater and privilege certain interests and types of events over a more free-use model that the public parks *were designed for*. This is disrupting and limiting that relationship with the public down to a select few with special interests and the park simply cannot be reshaped and used to that kind of end. When the park's first superintendents William Hammond Hall and then John McLaren worked on the park, their entire vision was to create and maintain the western end of the park as a natural retreat *away from* the pressure, stress and commerce of the city, a primary and stated goal was to keep this as a natural oasis so San Franciscans could go be in nature *without having to leave the city*. It was an incredibly wise and rare gift they gave the city (not to mention visitors from all over the world) and one most cities don't have and it must remain protected.

I go down by that field on a regular basis and would like to return to this issue of "critical habitat". There are tons of species of birds in and right around that field: common birds, local birds, coastal birds migratory birds and endangered birds. If you walk along the current fence of the soccer field, you can hear all of them in the trees and shrubs that surround the field - some within 10 and 20 ft of the field. This field and the trees are a *perfect habitat and perfectly situated* for them. It has direct sunlight all day, open space for flying and foraging, is a natural food ecosystem source (the field itself), has a natural windbreaker from the line of large cypress and other trees (thereby also making it a refuge area during strong weather, especially right off the coast) and last but not least, it is far less populated with people and cars than almost any other area of the park. The natural wildlife and setting is all part of what the early founders were valuing and protecting. There is one cluster of about 5 trees there alone for example, where

dozens of hummingbirds live and feed. In fact, in contrast to the Supervisor's claims, I think a case could be made that this is arguably one of the more important environmental areas of the entire park - and that is without even going into any discussion of the concerns about chemicals from the asphalt and astroturf leaching into water table below overtime. Because this field is right between the rest of the park and the coast, it serves very important functions for many species that no other area there does in the same way - it is a kind of interstitial zone for them that they can actually thrive, breed and feed in.

The moment all the machines and trucks move in and start tearing out the field to put in the first layer of asphalt, the enormous sounds and exhaust/pollution from this alone will make all the birds *instantly* fly away. 100s of birds who have lived here and rely on this field either year round or as part of their migrations will suddenly have to "adapt". They will have to urgently flee and find other areas in the park to inhabit - but those areas already have birds in them so there will be this new and immediate problem impacting the entire ecosystem. *There are also* ***key natural areas*** *including a woodland and lake right beyond the field (right across the street on both sides of JFK Drive) where dozens of bird species already live or use during migrations. All these birds and areas will be directly impacted by the havoc of this development - the crowds, pollution, vendors and cars a new complex will cause.* Time and time again environmental studies show that when you radically transform a natural area through industrialization and development, ***species disappear and don't come back*** *- it is that simple.* And in addition to this, there is virtually no other area in the park as ideally suited for the survival of these birds than that area - because no other area there is this unpopulated (and dark at night) as this one, or has as much sunlight *but also* so many trees (for perching, hiding, nests etc) surrounding a direct food source like this. If you walk along the field, you can see the birds even have their own way of benefitting from the metal fence currently there. They use it as a perch to sight bugs flying above the grass, swoop down and eat them, then return to the fence to do it again. The field is a direct food source for them - *one that co-exists with the people who currently use the field for various sporting activities.* Chemical astroturf doesn't support worms and bugs so obviously they're not going to be able to do that if this soccer stadium is permitted.

I've been walking Golden Gate Park for years and can tell you unequivocally, the eastern end of the park - which has had a massive surge in privatization, buses coming through and new "recreation" gimmicks for tourists - has experienced a *dramatic* decline in the wildlife population there. As just one example of many: a tree lined road on the north eastern side of the park. These trees used to have hawks flying above, resting and nesting in them all the time, many times even just sitting on a branch 20 feet from the road. I'd see them all the time, especially during the later months of the year. But with each passing year now, hawk sightings in that area are more and more of a rare occurrence. What you do see however, are all kinds of buses and segway riding tourist groups coming down that road that have been in operation more and more frequently. These are very popular in the park.

We are destroying our "public" parks for the pursuit of businesses and other private interest groups making profits in and from the park and from treating it as one of the last "open" spaces this very small and highly populated city has left to "offer" - they do not seem to care too much about the natural and incredibly complex, distinct and rare ecosystem and wildlife that inhabit it, let alone the history and the continuity of the park itself *as an open, public space for all to share equally.* There are plenty of other areas they can pursue their games in - including Koret stadium three blocks from the park, or, as the Hybrid Alternative Win-Win Proposal offers, a new, and non-toxic soccer complex could be put in at the West Sunset Playfields. This field in the park is one of the last remaining areas in San Francisco that can support wildlife like this - and for that reason alone it makes the continued existence of the field all the more crucial, this very much is "critical habitat" for "sensitive wildlife". This city in particular, is also building new condos for an expected 40,000 new residents which makes protecting our last wildlife spaces here all the more critical. There are other *far more suitable* location options for their stadiums.

I am from Los Angeles originally and saw how rampant development there caused so much environmental destruction in so many different areas. The same thing is happening in San Francisco now, this latest move to take hold of this soccer field is another, very disturbing, "example" of the trend.

Please do all you can to put a halt to this ill-conceived plan. You will be helping not only California and public citizens, but you will also be helping protect our parks, the open space corridor along the coast, and the little remaining but still incredible biodiversity this last area in our urban setting has. I have a petition to save this field with 100s of people's signatures and have also recently begun going to San Francisco businesses in districts surrounding the park who are putting their business' names on this list as well. Because I've started asking for support from businesses more recently, I have 79 on the list so far. They sign on quickly because they feel strongly about this. I would say that out of every 10-20 who do sign on only one business declines. And I will continue to go to more businesses to gather more signatures and will keep going to them, in part, because these business owners and managers keep thanking me and encouraging me to. I have added that list of local businesses for you here and am also going to bring it to the hearing as it keeps growing.

Thank you very much for your strong consideration,

Alexis Morris
1384 11th Avenue
San Francisco, Ca 94122
savethefield.org
amorris@gate.net

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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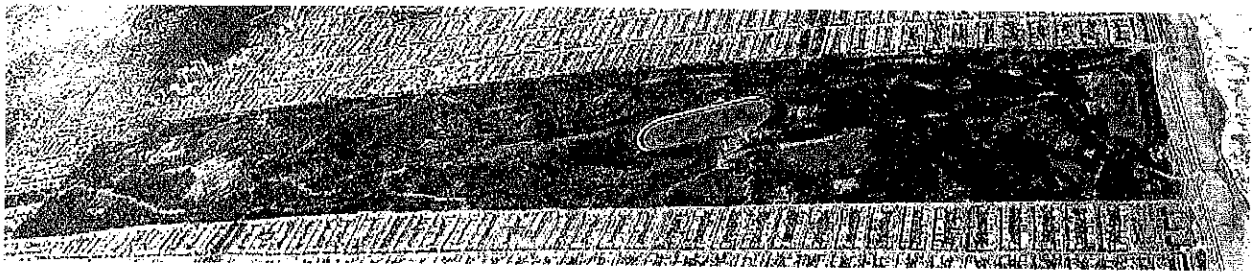
Agenda/Item #: Th15c
Application/Permit #: A-2-SNF-12-020
Alexis Morris
Position: Strongly Opposed



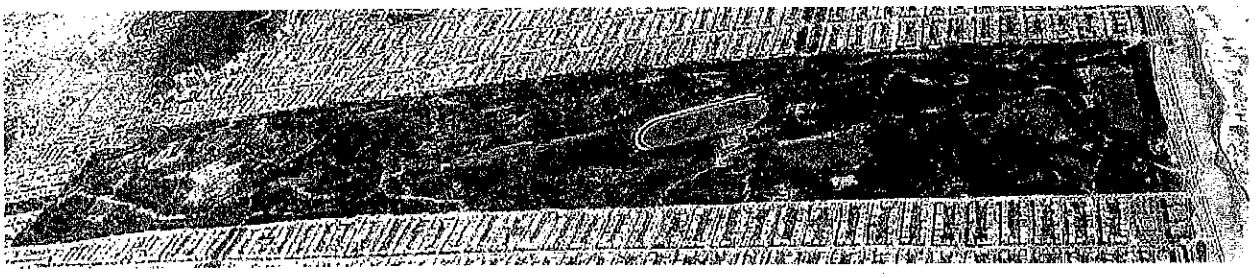
Save The Field

savethefield.org

Local Businesses

for Protecting Golden Gate Park's Beach Chalet Athletic Fields!!

Name	Email	Zip Code	District
American Cycling		94117	
B Wohl	bradley@americancycling.com		5
BANGKOK 900		94117	5
Sunny Country Food		94117	5
Tabouv		94117	5
WASH CLUB	WASHCLUB@YMAIL.COM	94117	5
cole valley salon		94117	5
THE ICE CREAM BAR	HELLO@THEICECREAMBAR.COM	94117	5
Tantrum		94117	5
Omegge Loved to Death		94117	5
El Faro Taqueria		94117	5
Shoe Repair	Haight Street	94117	5
Tibetan Gift Corner		94117	5



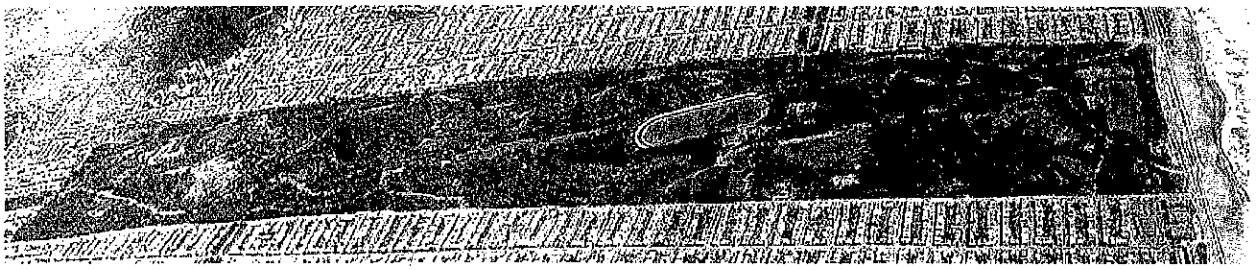
Save The Field

savethefield.org

Local Businesses

for Protecting Golden Gate Park's Beach Chalet Athletic Fields!!

Name	Email	Zip Code	District
Haight Ashbury Music center		94117	5
Burger Urge		94117	5
TIKKA MASALA		94117	5
CANTATA Coffee SHOP		94117	5
Sunshine Wine & LiQ		94117	5
STATIC VINTAGE	STATICVINTAGE.com	94117	5
PHOY 2		94117	5
ZONA ROSA		94117	5



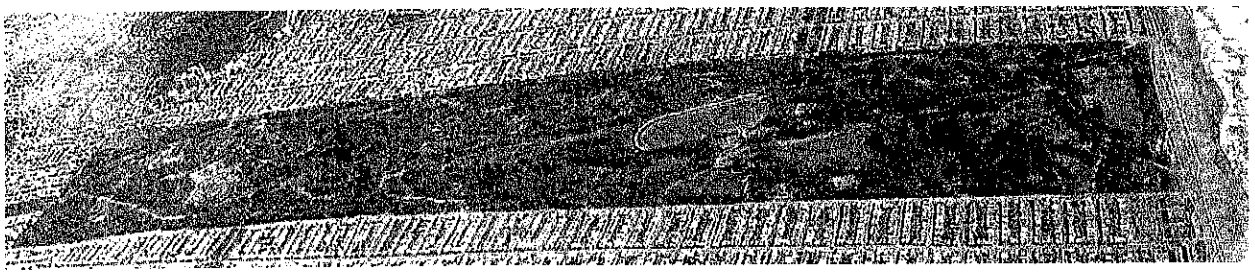
Save The Field

savethefield.org

Local Businesses

for Protecting Golden Gate Park's Beach Chalet Athletic Fields!!

Name	Email	Zip Code	District
Marfiels Coffee		94110	8
CAFFE FIORE		94110	8
The Scarlet Sage Herb Co.		94110	8/9
Love & Luxe		94110	8/9
EL VALENCIANO		94110	8/9
Garcon Bistro		94110	8/9
Yotopia Organic Frozen Yogurt		94110	8/9
HIMUG YERIN KEST		92110	8/9
Godofredo's Jewelry		94110	8/9
Sugai Sushi		94110	8
DOMA		94110	8
YANIRA CARCAMO		94110	8



Save The Field

Golden Gate Park

Action Committee

Help Save Golden Gate Park's West End Field!!

Name	Email	Zip Code	District
Evergreen MFG		94121	1
Francisco Velez	Dick's Barbershop	94121	1
Richmond Produce	Anthropos84@gmail.com	94121	1
Moscow of Tbilisi Bakery	lukandno@gmail.com	94121	1
Torgsyn Discount Pharmacy	torgsyn@torgsyph.com	94121	1
Fred Hill Ent. Inc.		94121	1
Turtle Tower		94121	1
Thoms Fresh Organics	ca94thoms@granolas.com	94121	1
Seafar Deli		94121	1
Gastronom Deli		94121	1
New World Nut	Newworld Market2@yahoo.com	94121	1

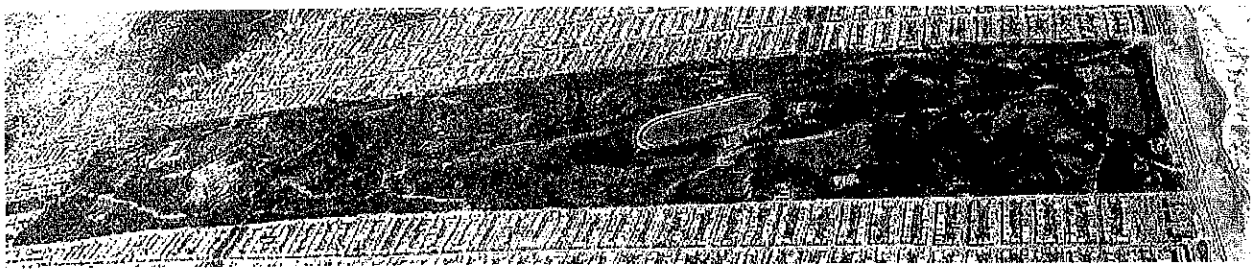
Save The Field

Golden Gate Park

Action Committee

Help Save Golden Gate Park's West End Field!!

Name	Email	Zip Code	District
Europa Express	[illegible]@FMAN2004AT[illegible].COM	94122	5
North Beach Pizza	NBPIZZA@GMAI.COM	94117	5
Green Paw 2	julianne@greenpaw2sf.com	94117	5
AVENUE CYCLERY	INFO@AVENUECYCLERY.COM	94117	5
Alessandra Bolger	alessandra.fgw@gmail.com	94117	5
Sarah Barca	sarah@funkydooryoga.com	94117	5
Ugyen Dolma (Tibet Styles)		94117	5
Alemán	Tina.LAPECORD@gmail.com	94117	5
Urban Mercantile	bradley@urbanmercantile	94117	5
ALPHA MKT		94117	5
Mad Kat		94117	5
Valdecole	—	94117	5
EV			
Roger Cook	Nomad Cyclery	94122	4
[illegible]	IRVING health food	94122	4
Emily Musson	Sunset Music Co	94122	4
ALICE EATIA	AMERICAN CHIROPRACTIC CENTER	94122	4
Metshen · corp		94122	4



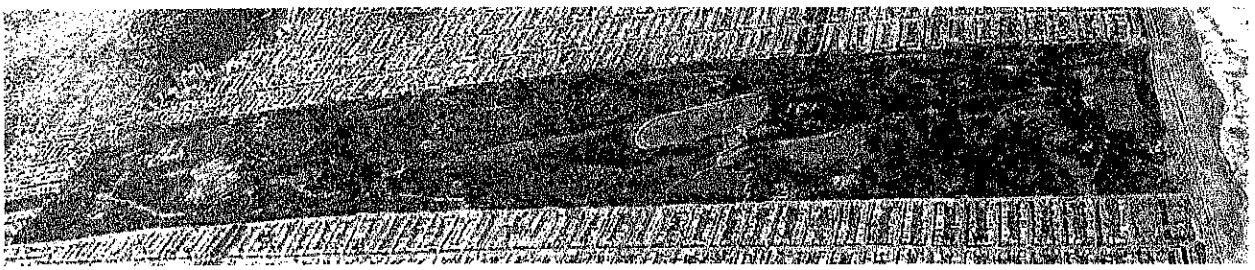
Save The Field

savethefield.org

Local Businesses

for Protecting Golden Gate Park's Beach Chalet Athletic Fields!!

Name	Email	Zip Code	District
IRVING HOUSEWARE		94122	4
SUNE, INC		94122	4
Sun Rise Deli		94122	4
22nd IRVING Produce		94122	4
MICADO 2126 IRVING ST	S.F. Ca. 94122		4
Sun Maxim	CA 94122		4
King Wontone Noodle 1936 RRVIN	CA 94	94122	4
ALEX VILKIS		94122	4
Major Music Patrick Stalter		94122	4
SUNSET AUTO John Ammenti		94122	4
Handy ~~Deli~~ ~~Wattle~~		94122	4
Frank's Floral Shop	Franksfloral@SBC Global.Net	94122	4



Save The Field

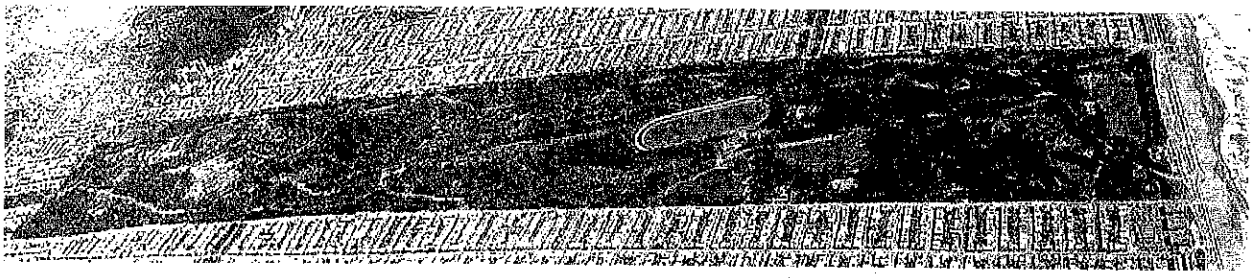
Golden Gate Park

Action Committee

Help Save Golden Gate Park's West End Field!!

Name	Email	Zip Code	District
Lucca food	Lucca food@yahoo.com	94122	#4
Shangri-La Vegetarian	wmsang@live.com	94122	#4
Quetzalcoatl tattoo	Quetzalcoatltattoo@yahoo.com	94110	#8
Campfire Gallery	info@campfiregallery.com	94110	#9
Paprika Rest.	Gabrielle Sacker	94110	#9
La Mejor Bakery.	Gonzalo Verdugo.	94110	#9

Agenda/Item#: Th15c
Application/Permit#: A-2-SNF-12-020
Alexis Monarrs
Position: Strongly Opposed



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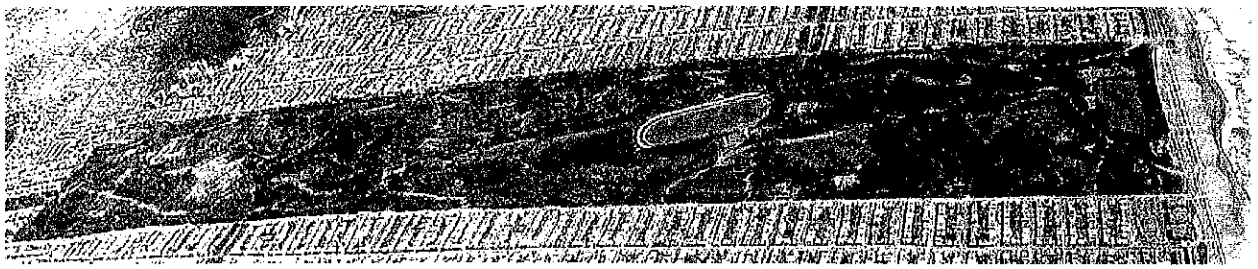
American Cycle		94117	
B Wash	bradley@americancycle.com		5
Bangkok 900		94117	5
Sunny Country Food		94117	5
Tabouli		94117	5
WASH CLUB	WASHCLUB@YMAIL.COM	94117	5
cole valley salon		94117	5
THE ICE CREAM BAR	HELLO@THEICECREAMBAR.COM	94117	5
Tantrum		94117	5
Omega Loved to Death		94117	5
El Faro Taqueria		94117	5
Shoe Repair	Haight Street	94117	5
Tibetan Gift Corner		94117	5



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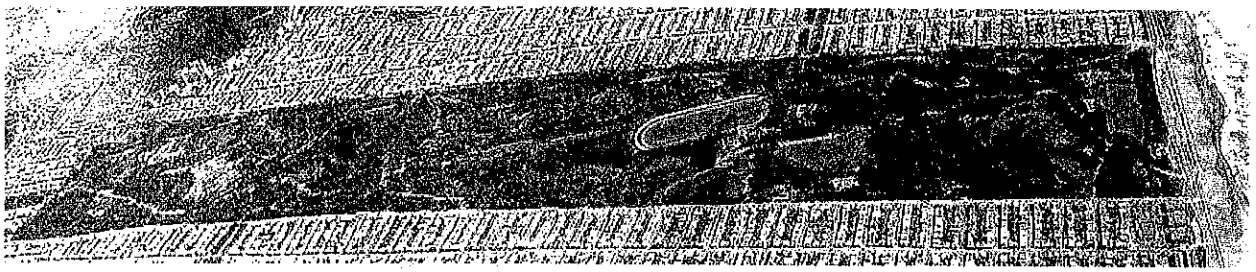
Name	Email	Zip Code	District
Haight Ashbury Music center		94117	5
Burger Urge		94117	5
TIKKA MASALA		94117	5
CANTATA Coffee SHOP		94117	5
Sunshine Wine & LiQ		94117	5
STATIC VINTAGE	STATICVINTAGE.Com	94117	5
Play 2		94117	5
Zona Rosa		94117	5



Save The Field

savethefield.org

Local Businesses

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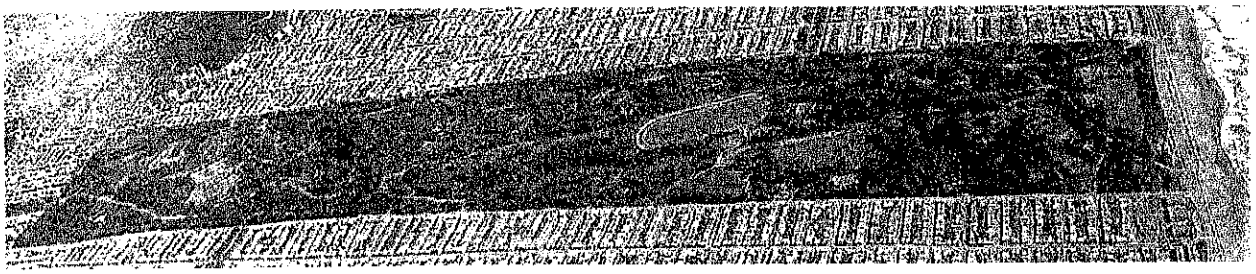
Name	Email	Zip Code	District
Mirofiels Coffee		94110	8
CAFFE FIORE		94110	8
The Scarlet Sage Herb Co.		94110	8/9
Love & Luxe		94110	8/9
EL VALENCIANO		94110	8/9
Garcon Bistro		94110	8/9
Yotopia Organic Frozen Yogurt		94110	8/9
LIVING YOGIN REST		92110	8/9
Godot's Jewelry		94110	8/9
Sugoi Sushi		94110	8
DOMA		94110	8
YANIRA CARCAMO		94110	8



Save The Field

Golden Gate Park

Action Committee

Help Save Golden Gate Park's West End Field!!

Name	Email	Zip Code	District
Evergreen MKT		94121	1
Francisco Velez	Dick's Barbershop	94121	1
Richmond Produce	ANthropos@gmail.com	94121	1
Moscow of Tbilisi Bakery	lukandro@gmail.com	94121	1
Torgsyn Discount Pharmacy	torgsyn@torgsyph.com	94121	1
Fred Hill Ent. Inc.		94121	1
Turtle Tower		94121	1
Thoms Fresh Organics	ca94thoms@granolas.com	94121	1
Seafar Deli		94121	1
Gastronom Deli		94121	1
New World Mkt	Newworld Market2 Yahoo.com	94121	1

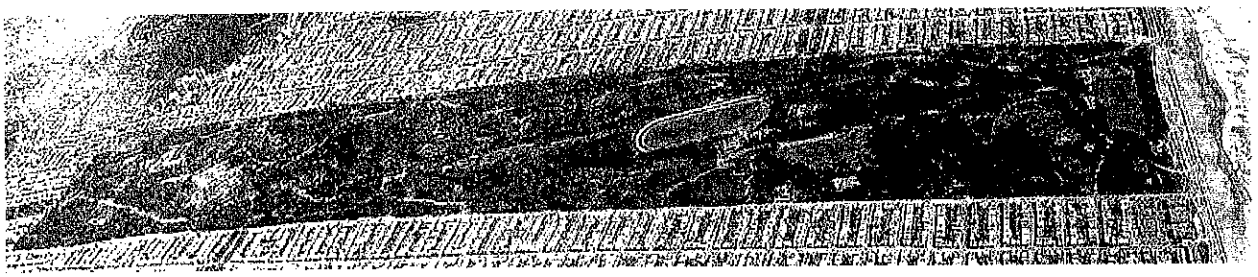
Save The Field

Golden Gate Park

Action Committee

Help Save Golden Gate Park's West End Field!!

Name	Email	Zip Code	District
Europa Express	[illegible]@FMAN2004AT[illegible]GAHOO.COM	94122	5
North Beach Pizza	NBPIZZA@GMAI.COM	94117	5
Green Paw 2	julianne@greenpaw2sf.com	94117	5
AVENUE CYCLERY	INFO@AVENUECYCLERY.COM	94117	5
Alessandra Bolger	alessandra.fgw@gmail.com	94117	5
Sarah Barca	sarah@funkydooryoga.com	94117	5
Ugyen Dolma (Tibet Styles)		94117	5
Aleman	Tina.LAPECORD@gmail.com	94117	5
Urban Mercantile	bradley@urbanmercantile	94117	5
ALPHA MKT.		94117	5
Mad Kat		94117	5
Valdecole	—	94117	5
EV			
Roger Cook	NOMAD CYCLERY	94122	4
[illegible]	IRVING health food	94122	4
Emily Musson	Sunset Music Co	94122	4
ALICE EATIA	AMERICAN CHIROPRACTIC CENTER	94122	4
Metshen · corp		94122	4



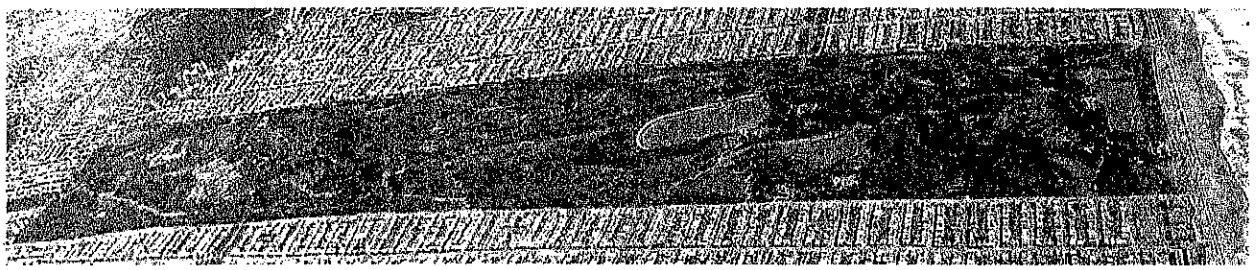
Save The Field

savethefield.org

Local Businesses

for Protecting Golden Gate Park's Beach Chalet Athletic Fields!!

Name	Email	Zip Code	District
IRVING HOUSEWARE		94122	4
SUNE, INC		94122	4
~~SunRise Deli~~		94122	4
22nd IRVING Produce		94122	4
MICADO 2126 IRVING ST	S.F. Ca. 94122		4
Sun Maxim	CA 94122		4
King Wontone Noodle 1936 RRVlk	CA 94	94122	4
ALEX VILKIS		94122	4
Major Music Patrick Stalter		94122	4
SUNSET AUTO John Ammenti		94122	4
Handy ~~Deli Wahle~~		94122	4
Frank's Floral Shop	Franksfloral@SBCGLobal.Net	94122	4



Save The Field

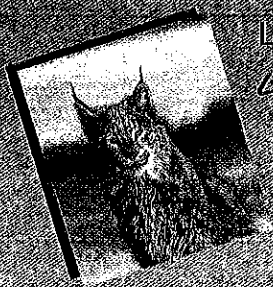
Golden Gate Park

Action Committee

Help Save Golden Gate Park's West End Field!!

Name	Email	Zip Code	District
Lucca food	Lucca food [illegible]	94102	#4
Shangri-La Vegetarian	wmsang@live.com	94122	#4
Quetzalcoatl tattoo	Quetzalcoatltattoo@yahoo.com	94110	#8
Campfire Gallery	mfo@campfiregallery.com	94110	#9
Paprika Rest.	Gabrielle Sackar	94110	#9
La Mejor Bakery.	Gonzalo Norwegs.	94110	#9

AGENDA ITEM #15-C



Lauren Friedman
LINDA RUDIN
5/1/13

RECEIVED
MAY 02 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

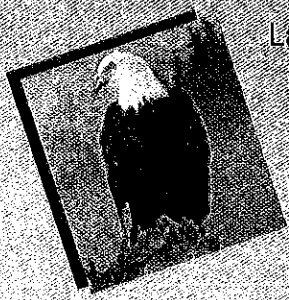
Dear Coastal Commission

It's ludicrous to install artificial turf and 60 ft. lights to destroy the natural, none developed area of western GSP. Have you no shame to destroy this remaining small

The Fund for Animals
we speak for those who can't

200 West 57th Street
New York, NY 10019
888-405-FUND
www.fundforanimals.org

Lauren Friedman



path of habitat and
bring hordes of SUV's,
litter, noise, crime, etc?
I cannot believe the
Coastal Commision would
stoop so low for this
land grab sell-out. I
am tempted to cancel
my Coastal Commision
licence plate. Please

200 West 57th Street
New York, NY 10019
888-405-FUND
www.fundforanimals.org

The Fund for Animals
we speak for those who can't

Lauren Friedman

reconsider this foolish
proposal. WHAT IS
the Coastal Commission
represented Coasts or
Soccer fields?

THANK you,
Linda Rubin
DALY CITY, CA

The Fund for Animals
we speak for those who can't

200 West 57th Street
New York, NY 10019
888-405-FUND
www.fundforanimals.org

Agenda Item #15-C
Gloria "Lyn" Stein

5/1/13

Dear Commisioners;

My name is Lyn Stein and I am a resident of San Francisco and a frequent visitor to Ocean Beach and the area just east of the beach.

I have known about the proposal to put a stadium size artificial turf soccer field near the Beach Chalet for some time. I think it's a terrible idea.

I've seen so many wild, migrating birds at Ocean Beach, and am aware that most of the migrating birds I've never seen. We're part of the Pacific Flyway. It's our honor, privelege and responsibility to protect those birds. Adding so much light pollution is irresponsible.

The western end of Golden Gate Park was designed and intended to be the wild part. Wildlife has precious little left after humans have taken what we want. Leave at least this for them.

And, by the way, leave a natural grassy field ~~for~~ as a place for children to just be children. Not

over-organized, minature adults. Let this stay a place where both children and grown-ups can ~~have~~ play casually, ~~be~~ run around in a natural setting, maybe find more creative ways to play soccer.

If we must have organized soccer-cages, there are other places to do this.

Although, must we? ~~there~~ A strong case can be made against ANY use of plastic grass, for one.

But, in any case, not near Ocean Beach. Please.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lyn Stein (aka Possum)

RECEIVED
MAY 02 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

RECEIVED
APR 29 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

April 26, 2013 Th15c

Dear Mr. Carl,

As a resident of San Francisco who cares about the environment in general and our beautiful city in particular I beg you to not put down artificial turf or put up the spotlights at the Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park.

The damage to the soil, the toxic material, of which artificial turf is made which will degrade and become airborne are so harmful to animals and humans.

And the shining night lights will so severely effect bird life.

Please think beyond the petty needs of today to the devastating impact those changes will have on the future.

We are stewards for generations to come and as such need to take the high road —

Do not allow artifical turf and sport lighting harm our future.

RECEIVED
APR 30 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

Thank you —

Ellen Price
111 Clifford Ter
San Francisco, CA 94117-4505

4/29/13

Dear CA Coastal Commission:

I hope the Commission will stop the attempt to radically alter the Golden Gate Park Soccer Fields and irrevocably degrade the historically natural character of the western end of the Park. There are better options for improved soccer play than this rash, destructive proposal.

Thank you very much.

Michael Brant

1739 45th Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94122

RECEIVED
MAY 02 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

From:	Ruben Shapiro
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 2:45:32 PM

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing

Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

Ruben Shapiro

Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

My name is Ruben Shapiro. I am a San Francisco resident . I am writing to let you know that I support the CCC staff report. Also, i oppose the artificial turf being put into our beloved golden gate park. Not only does this park bring me and all the SF residents joy in the state that it is currently in, but there are also countless other forms of life both plant and animal that will be adversely affected by the lights and turf. Please let's preserve this unique and awesome place.thank u!!! And have a lovely day.
Sincerely,
Ruben

From: kirk mccabe
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 2:52:04 PM

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing

Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

As a former resident of the area-Fulton and 46th(but a current park user-surfing/birding/hiking) I would like to express my opposition to the terrible astro turf/mega outdoor light etc. plan, that would essentially destroy the natural character of this area of Golden Gate Park, by transforming it into an industrial type facility. As a surfer I am concerned about chemicals/dioxins etc. leaching out of the synthetic turf and inevitably entering the ocean, as well as the harm off gassing etc. will inflict. Eliminating the grass which is a crucial part of the food chain for local and migrating wildlife/birds would be tragic. The massive stadium lighting system would create light pollution that will disturb local residents, as well as wildlife. I urge you to implement the Alternative Plan which involves planting real grass for kids to play soccer on, and not putting in stadium lighting, in order to preserve the natural character of the park.

Sincerely,

Kirk McCabe

25 Palm Ave

San Rafael Ca

94901

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

Click here to read the Appeal Notice.

From: Christopher Sproul
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet Artificial Turf Soccer Fields
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 11:55:28 AM

Agenda Item: Thursday, May 9, 15c

App. #A-2-SNF-12-020

California Coastal Commission
Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000415
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Hon. Shallenberger,

I am a long-time resident of San Francisco, parent of an 11-year-old child, frequent user of Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach and I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal to cover the natural grass Beach Chalet Soccer Fields in Golden Gate Park with artificial turf and install stadium lighting. Rather, I believe if the proponents of this project really want to do what is best for the City, its residents, and the legacy of Golden Gate Park, the Beach Chalet Fields should be rehabilitated with real turf and no lights, as the Coastal Commission staff also suggests, and the artificial turf project should be implemented at the West Sunset Playground fields.

I disagree with the apparent conclusion by the Planning Department and Rec and Park Board that covering the west end of Golden Gate Park with artificial turf is in any way consistent with the history or appropriate use of Golden Gate park, or any land near the Pacific Ocean. It is hard to believe the project was approved given the conclusion by Planning that the project would cause a substantial change to a

significant historical resource.

Thousands of people visit the West End of GG Park every day, residents and tourists alike. The view of the West End of the park from the Great Highway, Sutro Park, and other parts of the City will be negatively affected by stadium lighting towers. Thousands of volunteer hours and millions of donor dollars have been spent in the efforts to renovate and maintain the nearby windmills to restore the historic beauty and quality of Golden Gate Park, and now proponents want to cover acres of nearby grass--just hundreds of yards away from the windmills on one side and Ocean Beach on the other--with artificial turf and stadium lighting? Absurd.

Environmentally, removal of 9 acres of natural grass will destroy necessary habitat to birds, butterflies and other wildlife, and no mitigation is proposed. This boggles the mind in light of the ongoing efforts of the National Park Service to convert the Golden Gate National Recreation Area into a more protected National Park in which human and domestic animal use will be highly restricted in the adjacent Ocean Beach and Fort Funston areas. Installation of ten 60’ towers with stadium lighting that will remain on until 10:00 pm every night is completely contrary with not only the historic and wild nature of the West End of Golden Gate Park, but of Ocean Beach and the GGNRA.

The proponents of this project seem to be holding the City hostage. They seem to say "our way or the highway," as I have read reports that the offer to do the turfing project is only open as long as it is done at the Beach Chalet fields. This is also unacceptable. There is only one Golden Gate Park. There is only one Ocean Beach. There is no recycling of the artificial turf plastic and tire crumb rubber, and in 8-10 years 400 tons of debris will go to the landfill. We know fish and birds are dying from eating plastic pellet "nurdles" (http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/10/29/MNF91LNMLB.DTL), why wouldn't wildlife

that lives or migrates through GG Park also knowingly or unwittingly consume tire crumbs, to their certain detriment?

It is much healthier, less expensive and more environmentally sustainable for the City to restore the natural grass fields, and those fields can be maintained beautifully as has been shown by the newly refurbished Polo Fields. One can't play on them in the pouring rain or on a cold night, but is that such a bad thing?

In addition, I did not see anything in the EIR about the relative impact on the park and surrounding neighborhoods of thousands of additional people who will use the Beach Chalet soccer fields until 10 p.m. every night.

Project Alternative Number 2, renovating the West Sunset Fields with artificial turf, is a much better plan. There will be no adverse and significant negative historical impact. The neighborhood already has street lighting, and Saint Ignatius High School is nearby which also has athletic lighting in place. In addition to SI, Sunset Elementary and Giannini Middle School are nearby and their students could benefit from the use of turf fields during school-day hours. The West Sunset playground has already been renovated, so the costs associated with creating the proposed adjacent play/recreation area would be unnecessary. In addition, the branch library there has just been redone. While the long-term safety of tire crumb use is still debated, West Sunset Fields are not located in an environmentally sensitive area.

In addition, and importantly, any use of artificial turf fields at West Sunset rather than GG Park could involve not only the creation of more turf soccer fields, but also turf baseball fields. Demand is great for baseball fields in San Francisco. While I am not a proponent of playing through inclement weather, and am not a fan of artificial turf, it is unfortunate that after a Spring rainstorm, when the sun comes out and the kids are chomping at the bit to play baseball or soccer, fields can

remain closed for 24 or more hours after the last drop has fallen because of standing water and field saturation. West Sunset is less than 2 miles from the Beach Chalet, is not in an historically protected park, is not in an environmentally sensitive area, and would provide additional access not only to after-school and adult sports teams from all over San Francisco, but school kids from three immediately adjacent schools, a public library and playground.

I urge you to reject the proposal to cover the Beach Chalet soccer fields with artificial turf and install stadium lighting, and to recommend the alternative proposals that the Beach Chalet fields be rehabilitated with natural grass, no stadium lighting, and that artificial turf be installed at the West Sunset fields.

Thank you for consideration of this email.

-Chris Sproul

--
Christopher Sproul
Environmental Advocates
5135 Anza Street
San Francisco, California 94121
Phone: (415) 533-3376
Fax: (415) 358-5695
E-mail: csproul@enviroadvocates.com

From: George Consagra
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Opposition to Beach Chalet Artificial Turf Soccer Fields
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 11:28:38 AM

Agenda Item: Thursday, May 9, 15c
App. #A-2-SNF-12-020

California Coastal Commission
Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000415
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Hon. Shallenberger,

I am a resident of San Francisco, parent of a youth athlete, frequent user of Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach and San Francisco Little League and Vikings Soccer parent, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal to cover the natural grass Beach Chalet Soccer Fields in Golden Gate Park with artificial turf and install stadium lighting. Rather, I believe if the proponents of this project really want to do what is best for the City, its residents, and the legacy of Golden Gate Park, the Beach Chalet Fields should be rehabilitated with real turf and no lights, as the Coastal Commission staff also suggests, and the artificial turf project should be implemented at the West Sunset Playground fields.

I disagree with the apparent conclusion by the Planning Department and Rec and Park Board that covering the west end of Golden Gate Park with artificial turf is in any way consistent with the history or appropriate use of Golden Gate park, or any land near the Pacific Ocean. It is hard to believe the project was approved given the conclusion by Planning that the project would cause a substantial change to a significant historical resource.

Thousands of people visit the West End of GG Park every day, residents and tourists alike. The view of the West End of the park from

the Great Highway, Sutro Park, and other parts of the City will be negatively affected by stadium lighting towers. Thousands of volunteer hours and millions of donor dollars have been spent in the efforts to renovate and maintain the nearby windmills to restore the historic beauty and quality of Golden Gate Park, and now proponents want to cover acres of nearby grass--just hundreds of yards away from the windmills on one side and Ocean Beach on the other--with artificial turf and stadium lighting? Absurd.

Environmentally, removal of 9 acres of natural grass will destroy necessary habitat to birds, butterflies and other wildlife, and no mitigation is proposed. This boggles the mind in light of the ongoing efforts of the National Park Service to convert the Golden Gate National Recreation Area into a more protected National Park in which human and domestic animal use will be highly restricted in the adjacent Ocean Beach and Fort Funston areas. Installation of ten 60’ towers with stadium lighting that will remain on until 10:00 pm every night is completely contrary with not only the historic and wild nature of the West End of Golden Gate Park, but of Ocean Beach and the GGNRA.

The proponents of this project seem to be holding the City hostage. They seem to say "our way or the highway," as I have read reports that the offer to do the turfing project is only open as long as it is done at the Beach Chalet fields. This is also unacceptable. There is only one Golden Gate Park. There is only one Ocean Beach. There is no recycling of the artificial turf plastic and tire crumb rubber, and in 8-10 years 400 tons of debris will go to the landfill. In addition, from what I can tell by going to Crocker Amazon, I would be surprised if highly used artificial turf fields get the 10 year lifespan described in the EIR. The Crocker fields are already showing substantial wear, and during soccer games even two and three years ago my son's shoes would be filled with tire crumb bits after every soccer game or practice at Kimball and Crocker. We know fish and birds are dying from eating plastic pellet "nurdles" (http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/10/29/MNF91LNMLB.DTL), why wouldn't wildlife that lives or migrates through GG Park also knowingly or unwittingly consume tire crumbs, to their certain detriment?

It is much healthier, less expensive and more environmentally sustainable for the City to restore the natural grass fields, and those fields can be maintained beautifully as has been shown by the newly refurbished Polo Fields. One can't play on them in the pouring rain or on a cold night, but is that such a bad thing?

In addition, I did not see anything in the EIR about the relative impact on the park and surrounding neighborhoods of thousands of additional people who will use the Beach Chalet soccer fields until 10 p.m. every night.

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In addition, and importantly, any use of artificial turf fields at West Sunset rather than GG Park could involve not only the creation of more turf soccer fields, but also turf baseball fields. Demand is great for baseball fields in San Francisco. While I am not a proponent of playing through inclement weather, and am not a fan of artificial turf, it is unfortunate that after a Spring rainstorm, when the sun comes out and the kids are chomping at the bit to play baseball or soccer, fields can remain closed for 24 or more hours after the last drop has fallen because of standing water and field saturation. West Sunset is less than 2 miles from the Beach Chalet, is not in an historically protected park, is not in an environmentally sensitive area, and would provide additional access not only to after-school and adult sports teams from all over San Francisco, but school kids from three immediately adjacent schools, a public library and playground.

I urge you to reject the proposal to cover the Beach Chalet soccer fields with artificial turf and install stadium lighting, and to recommend the alternative proposals that the Beach Chalet fields be rehabilitated with natural grass, no stadium lighting, and that artificial turf be installed at the West Sunset fields.

Thank you for consideration of this email.
George Consagra
163 5th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94118

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Mark Di Giorgio
Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am a San Francisco homeowner with my residence at 38th Avenue between Cabrillo and Fulton Streets. I live one-half block from Golden Gate Park and I participate in many athletic activities in Golden Gate Park, from running the trails, playing golf, or playing flag football at the Polo Fields/Beach Chalet Fields. As a frequent user of the park, I am deeply troubled by the proposed changes to the Beach Chalet athletic fields. My concern is centered on retaining the natural beauty of the park:

- I do not support the removal of trees to accommodate field upgrades including spectator viewing. Why do we need such a large viewing area? One only needs to go 1 mile east to the Polo Fields, which is a much larger space for athletic events (at which I participate), to confirm that many seats are not needed for spectators - I never have seen spectator counts over 100 people. In fact, I feel the viewing area is not needed at all.
- I do not support the replacement of grass with synthetic grass/turf. Bacteria issues (and there are many) aside, I and others who participate in athletics greatly prefer natural grass.
- I do not support the installation of lights. In addition to being in a park, the fields are adjacent to the beach. Let's keep the park and beach natural and they way there were meant to be – without tall, obtrusive lighting structure. As someone who lives in the area, I would be perturbed if the night sky were illuminated until 10:00PM.

I am very pleased that the California Coastal Commission staff report rejects the Beach Chalet athletic field upgrades. And I support the CCC staff report findings and hope that the CCC continues to support the Beach Chalet field area as a natural park by rejecting the amputation of trees, the installation lights, and the removal of grass.

Sincerely,

Mark Di Giorgio

Mark Di Giorgio
819 38th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

From:	William Crowley
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject:	My comments on why the CCC should reject the proposed changes for the Beach Chalet soccer fields near Ocean Beach in San Francisco
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 3:50:51 PM

Dear Mr. Kahn and California Coastal Commissioners,

Hello. I strongly urge the California Coastal Commission (CCC) to rule that a plastic turf – rubber crumb soccer field (at the Beach Chalet soccer field in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco) that would be approximately 155 yds (465 feet) east of where the sand begins (in the west direction) at Ocean Beach is too close to Ocean Beach.

It is too close because of the probable contamination of Ocean Beach from the approximate 600,000 pounds of tiny toxic tire particles that will be there if that plastic turf – rubber crumb field is placed there.

There's a gradual downward slope of the ground from the west edge of the existing grass field to the beach and thus rain and gravity would bring these toxic rubber particles to the sand of Ocean Beach (and ultimately to the Pacific Ocean).

A report was submitted on March 28, 2006 by Ardea Consulting (Woodland, CA) to the Turfgrass Producers International (East Dundee, IL) that was titled, **An Assessment of Environmental Toxicity and Potential Contamination from Artificial Turf using Shredded or Crumb Rubber**.

This report discusses the toxicity of tire rubber and small rubber particles from tires.

It's a 43 page report that can be read here:
http://www.ardeacon.com/pdf/Assessment_Environmental_Toxicity_Report.pdf

Here's what the report says about the toxicity of tire and tire particles on aquatic organisms (page 17):

********* start of excerpt ********

Aquatic Toxicity
Laboratory research has been performed to determine whether substances toxic to aquatic organisms could be leached from tire rubber. Both whole tires were soaked in water, and tire pieces were used. Organisms were exposed to just the leachate, or were exposed to the water with the tire rubber present.

In one study, tires were cut into 5 to 10-cm pieces with a ratio of 200 g of tire material to 1 L of water. **Almost all rainbow trout fry exposed in this manner died in the first 24 hours and most of the remainder died within the following 24 hours. Water was replaced and same tire scraps were extracted over a 52-day period, leading to similar mortality throughout the entire period. When the tests were repeated with the same water, but the tire scraps removed, the water was still toxic to fish indicating the toxic substance from the tire was water soluble** (Goudey and Barton 1992).

In a related study, Daphnia and Ceriodaphnia, two species of freshwater invertebrates

commonly used for toxicity testing, were exposed in small containers with 1 scrap of tire and 10 mL of water. A single organism was exposed within each test vessel. Ceriodaphnia were highly sensitive with 100% mortality occurring within 24 hrs. Daphnia were not as sensitive, and showed different sensitivities to different brands of tires. Two tire types had no discernable effect, two other brands caused 100% mortality and an additional two brands produced 60 to 70% mortality after 48 hours. The results were the same whether or not the tire pieces remained within the test vessels (Goudey and Barton 1992).

A bioluminescent bacterium was exposed to the water from the rainbow trout or Daphnia tests because the bacteria could not be exposed directly to the tire scraps. **Water from both the trout and Daphnia tests suppressed the bioluminescence of the bacteria, indicating toxicity. The suppression did not increase with the duration of exposure, suggesting the toxicity was not caused by metals since exposure to metals usually will produced increased suppression of bioluminescence over time. The different brands of tires produced similar relative toxicity for the bacteria as they did for the Daphnia** (Goudey and Barton 1992).

********* end of excerpt *********

This terribly ill-conceived project that was pushed forward by the late billionaire, Donald Fisher (founder of The Gap clothing chain), did not consider the possible or probable environmental consequences of this project because the elderly Mr. Fisher knew how to run a clothing company, not the environmental effects of a technology (fields using a rubber crumb base) that was essentially almost brand new at the time he was pushing for the soccer fields in San Francisco to be changed from natural grass and soil to plastic turf and crumb rubber.

It so happened that Mr. Fisher was a political and financial supporter of Gavin Newsom, the mayor of San Francisco at the time, who decided to use the City's resources to help Mr. Fisher in his objective in replacing natural grass and soil in all of the soccer fields with plastic turf and crumb rubber.

Then-Mayor Gavin Newsom's Chief of Staff at the time, Phil Ginsburg, was appointed to head the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department despite no experience with that department or with any other organization related to parks.

Mr. Ginsburg then pushed for this ill-conceived project probably due to the strong backing of it by then-Mayor Gavin Newsom, the late Don Fisher, and the organization run by Mr. Fisher's three sons, the City Fields Foundation that was started at this time for the effort to change the fields of the soccer fields in San Francisco from natural grass to plastic turf and crumb rubber.

It is up to the CCC to correct a terrible, politically-based decision by a few people who were or are in San Francisco government. This correction is needed so that the environment of Ocean Beach, including the organisms that reside there, will not be terribly damaged from this unnecessary and not-well-thought-out plan.

Thank you,

William Crowley

From: Janet Tedsen
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing - Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 4:06:44 PM

May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing

Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

Janet Tedsen

Oppose Project and Support Staff Report

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

First of all, thank you for considering this project which I oppose. My belief is that it is very important to protect the park from artificial turf and the lights because it's an area where I've been able to walk and observe nature in a natural setting including sight of rabbits, song birds, shore birds and hawks. Migrating birds are amazing to see, and would definitely be disturbed. Those are very important to residents like myself. I've also used Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach to play sports like frisbee and volleyball regularly dating back to the 1980's. It's helped me to maintain good attitude and heart, as much as possible. From this, happiness in both the short term and the long term for both myself and others.

Sincerely,

Janet Tedsen

766 Kansas Street, Apt. 2

San Francisco, CA 94107

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

From: Stu Etzler
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: soccer field
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 4:10:42 PM

Dear Kevin, We do not need such an extravagant sports field. I grew up in the Sunset playing football, a lot of soccer, and some irish football at Beach Chalet. We all have very fond memories of this venue just the way it is. Focusing on the homeless in the park would be a much more rewarding endeavor. Thank You, Stu Etzler.

From:	Scott Miller
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	Scott Miller; Barbara Jeanne Conahan; SF Ocean Edge
Subject:	Reject Artificial Turf and Stadium Lights at SF Beach Chalet
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 4:41:35 PM

May 6, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I urge the members of the Commision to recommend a permeable landscaped (grass) soccer field without floodlights in Golden Gate Park. Water and air needs to penetrate the soil to reduce storm sewer flooding, filter rainwater, and produce oxygen. Natural lighting, versus floodlights, preserves the night sky for viewing the stars and planets so that the immense nature of the universe can be pondered and appreciated. It is documented that our youth are now increasingly alienated from nature (nature deficit disorder). Survival of our planet and future generations depends on appreciation, respect, and exposure to the natural world. The impact of animal habitats in the west end of the park need to be valued in your decision making as well.

Please consider all of the above criteria, there are other locations nearby that already have commercial and residential lighting and space. Please view a light pollution map of the earth to understand the importance of preserving dark space in San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Barbara Conahan

FYI:

My spouse and I met in GGP playing coed soccer in the 1970's!
I am a nurse practitioner and highly value and teach the importance of exercise, nutrition, and prevention of obesity/disease.
We have a child who grew up in SF and actively participated in organizes sports.
We value safe activity choices for youth, young acults and adults and seniors.
We are star gazers whenever possible in our foggy and brightly lit city.
We care deeply about people, nature, and the planet.

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

RECEIVED
MAY 06 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

1 May 2013
Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

AGENDA ITEM #: Th15c
PERMIT NUMBER: A-2-SNF-12-020
NAME: Michael Murphy
POSITION: Oppose the project

Honorable Chairperson::

I wish to express my opposition to the proposal under consideration for renovation of existing athletic fields in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park at 1500 John F. Kennedy Drive.

I am a gardener and landscaper with an educational background which includes courses of study in ecology, geography, and philosophy. I am a long-time resident of the Outer Sunset, a former collegiate football and club lacrosse player, and father. It is my informed opinion that the proposed project does not protect the "naturalistic quality" of the westernmost part of Golden Gate Park. Were it to be permitted, the stadium-style layout, stadium-style lighting (which would be visible above existing trees) and play surface comprised of plastic over chopped scrap tires would all but eliminate any natural elements from an area which is now 7 1/2 acres of natural turf.

I encourage you act as recommended in the Staff Report on this Appeal with respect to the Substantial Issue Determination. I would like to thank those who drafted the Report for their thoughtful consideration of the issues at hand. I would also like to thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this Appeal.

In addition, please consider the following as my testimony regarding issues which have been brought to light in the Appeal.

1) Replacement of Natural Turf with Synthetic Play Surface:

As proposed, were it to proceed, replacement of living turf grass growing on living soil with a plastic-fiber-over-scrap-tire play surface would be irresponsible. The proposed project would introduce potentially toxic material (polyethylene, styrene butadiene rubber with trace heavy metals) with a limited life span into a living system over an aquifer into which wells were drilled and which was used for irrigation (powered by windmills at the Park's inception). Producing, shipping, and installing this material represent unnecessary real and hidden (ecological) costs. How the material degrades over the course of its limited life span and its effects on the watershed are unknown. Its removal, should it be found that it is no longer serviceable or that its replacement is no longer cost effective, would represent additional costs both real and hidden. The distinct advantage of a healthy grass pitch is that it is renewable. Since the Great Sand Banks (as the area was once known) were transformed, generations of San Franciscans and visitors would testify to that fact. The fact that the fields in question have been ostensibly derelicted only points to the fact that they need to be renewed again, not replaced with a questionable synthetic surface.

Additionally, the living grass system which needs renewal approximates a meadow. It is a habitat--

forage and hunting grounds. The past few Annual Bird Counts have seen a noticeable decline in numbers of raptors in the Western Neighborhoods and San Francisco. Resident species such as American kestrel, Cooper's hawk, Red-tailed hawk, and Red-shouldered hawk can be seen in the Park and nearby, including those areas bordering the West Sunset Rec Fields (the hybrid-alternative location). Other species, once occasionally encountered, such as the Western Screech Owl, have disappeared due to habitat degradation. If further degradation occurs, our species may encounter them less frequently, or never again, in San Francisco in our part of the Pacific Flyway.

2) Stadium Lighting

In addition to aesthetic considerations (the tranquil darkness that shrouds and seems to quiet the neighborhoods near the Pacific) taken into consideration, stadium lighting (daylighting the fields of play until 10pm each night until adult competitors retire), will degrade the habitat of nocturnal animals and migratory birds. If we care to preserve the naturalistic character of the area of the proposed project, this type of field lighting or, indeed, lighting of any kind, should be avoided due to that fact.

3) Anecdotal evidence in support of Staff Recommendation to renew natural grass fields

I formerly participated in the sports of football and lacrosse at the collegiate level. I had the unfortunate experience of witnessing first hand the commonality of repetitive stress and acute injuries incurred on the artificial turf we practiced and played on. Turf toe, knee pain, shin splints, and, worse, ligament and muscle tears and sprains were all too common amongst members of the teams I played on. Such injuries were uncommon or far less common among those who practiced and competed more often on real grass. Given even the congruity of artificial surfaces and its effect on expectations regarding body mechanics and the ball in play, almost to a man, most advanced level athletes preferred to play on natural grass rather than to suffer such artificial turf related injuries.

I am the proud father of a 5 year old son. When he was an infant and, later, a toddler, we often took strolls on the western side of the Beach Chalet fields. He attempted to learn and imitate the songs and calls of birds along the trail there. He experienced bees at work and butterflies in flight for the first times there. Later, he took some of his initial wobbly strolls on the grass in that meadow-like field. He has grown into a perceptive Kindergartener with a special affinity for the natural world and participates in group sports such as baseball and basketball. Together, we play lacrosse. At the community garden where we frequently volunteer, he shows new gardeners which native plants are edible and calls them by name. The experience of nature in the "naturalistic setting" which would be diminished by the proposed removal of a natural system has a value that cannot be quantified. Similarly unquantified are the results of early development of the proprioceptive sense (the sense of how our limbs are oriented in space which predetermines our ability to learn new motor skills) on living grass. As a parent, I find it objectionable that at least one generation (the useful life of an unreplaced artificial playing field) of parents would not be allowed to afford their children the same quality of experience I have been fortunate to have had with my son. It is my justified belief that to allow the project as proposed to go forward would be a decision lacking aesthetic sense and, more importantly, common sense.

Thank you for your time and attention in the matter of this Appeal and to my testimony.

Sincerely,

Mike Murphy

Resident, 1511 44th Ave, Outer Sunset Neighborhood, San Francisco.

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, Ca 94122

BEACH CHALET SOCCER COMPLEX

RECEIVED
MAY 06 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

May 2, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I have been a homeowner and resident of San Francisco for over 43 years in Eureka Valley. I am active in my local neighborhood and am a Board Member of the Castro/ Eureka Valley Neighborhood Association. I am also a long-time, active member of the San Francisco Preservation Consortium.

Today I am writing to you as an individual out of my concern for the preservation of Golden Gate Park as a precious natural resource for all the residents of the City. I live in a neighborhood that is saturated with people and automobiles. Over the years GGPark has afforded me access to spacious nature for walking, watching birds, learning about plant life, and getting reminded of our essential natural environment that all depends on.

I ask the Coastal Commission to use whatever powers you may have to disallow the proposed athletic field in Golden Gate Park with artificial turf, stadium seating for some 1000 persons, and intense lighting at night. Recreation is certainly important in the City but so is the beauty and peacefulness of nature for all to enjoy.

As the City becomes more and more dense in population and built environment, the preservation of Golden Gate Park as a large natural oasis takes on urgent importance. Surely there are alternate ways of providing recreational facilities without degrading an environment rich in birds and other wildlife and plants and without the loss of natural open space that connects all of us urban dwellers with our own underlying original habitat.

I am concerned not only about the loss of a large meadow but also the toxic effects of the proposed use of astro-turf and what might leach into the ground and the ground water. I understand that because of the uncertainty about this, the run-off from rain water falling on fields will need to be piped to sewage plants for treatment. This will be a maintenance cost. Why not simply plant grass and let the rain water restore the aquafer naturally? Grass of course has to be maintained, too, but has a cost comparison been done? Have the benefits of grass been considered? And doesn't astroturf have to be replaced every so often? Another cost to the City without the benefit of enhancing the natural environment of the park.

The proposed intense night lighting is especially objectionable, as it will ruin the ambience of the park at night and will disturb the peaceful enjoyment of their homes for nearby residents. I also believe that the light poles will be visible at a distance, creating a visible eyesore.

Stadium seating for 1000 persons suggests planning for an inappropriate over-use of the area for passive spectating rather than active recreation. Encouraging large crowds to congregate, bringing cars, noise and trash, is an offensive treatment for our precious park. Organized sports are a public delight and necessity, but they belong in arenas away from protected nature.

Golden Gate Park is one of the great treasures of San Francisco. Let us not chip away at it with uses that are incompatible and destructive to the nature that it preserves. Please help us save it.

Sincerely,

Judith Hoyem

Judith Hoyem
4042 17th Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, Ca 94122

Re: Beach Chalet Soccer Fields
Augusta Talbot

Opposed

ITEM NO: TH 15c

RECEIVED
MAY 06 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Augusta Talbot
1055 Church Street
San Francisco, California, 94114

From:	Katy Warner
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject:	Beach Chalet Soccer Field
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 7:30:48 PM

Dear Kevin Kahn,

I am a long time resident of the Sunset District in San Francisco. I own a home and live one block from Ocean Beach.I enjoy walking at sunset and seeing stars at night over the ocean. I also appreciate the natural look and feel of the western edge of San Francisco's ocean beach.
As a mother and grandmother I would like to share my love of nature and the oceanside with my daughter and granddaughter.
Please stop the plan to use artificial turf and bright lighting at the Beach Chalet Soccer Field. Keep the area's grass, trees and natural moon and starlight for the enjoyment of my generation of ocean beach lovers and future generations.

Thank you,
Katy Warner
1646 46th Ave
SF, Ca. 94122
415 504-6957

From:	Mary Keitelman
To:	Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Cc:	SFoceanedge.org stopBeachChalet
Subject:	RE: Coastal Commission
Date:	Monday, May 06, 2013 8:45:28 PM

resending as this bounced

From: mkeitelman@hotmail.com
To: kevin.kahn@coastal.ca.gov
CC: sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Coastal Commission
Date: Sun, 5 May 2013 22:21:30 +0000

EMAIL TO COASTAL COMMISSION: Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov;
COPY: sfoceanedge@earthlink.net

May 5, 2013

Dear Kevin Kahn, Coastal Commissioners, Coastal Commission Staff:

This is a letter in support of Coastal Commission Staff Report for Coastal Commission item 15c, Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020 (San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, San Francisco Co.) scheduled for May 9, 2013.

The proposed soccer fields, with over 9 acres of cement, plastic turf and night lighting present an insupportable health hazard to children and a deadly cost to wildlife. It's no surprise to learn that the proposal is inconsistent with the City's own master plan for Golden Gate Park.

1. Chemicals and lead in plastic turf are deadly for children, and for all living things. It is unacceptable to expose children to any of these chemicals. They are all unacceptable, but lead in particular, stands out as something to which we must not expose young people.
   Some details here: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lead_poisoning#Effects_on_children

2. This project also effectively removes a little over 9 acres of habitat for residential and migrating birds on the Pacific flyway by
   - Removing grass which supports insect and other wildlife
   - Adding lights at night which makes it impossible for birds to tolerate nesting
   - Adding cement which also does not support insect or other wildlife

Wild birds need habitat to survive; they can not select another migration route or decide to move if there's no food and rest along the way. If the habitat is gone, more of the migrating and resident birds will simply fail to survive.

I urge you, support the Staff Report for item 15c, which is harmful to children and wildlife, and contrary to the master plan for Golden Gate Park.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this vital issue.

Sincerely,

Mary Keitelman
7 Acacia Court
Pacifica, CA 94044

1 May 2013
California Coastal Commission
Central Coast and North Central Coast District Offices
725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060:

RECEIVED
MAY 07 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

RECEIVED
MAY 07 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

AGENDA ITEM #: Th15c
PERMIT NUMBER: A-2-SNF-12-020
NAME: Michael Murphy
POSITION: Oppose the project

Esteemed Coastal Commissioners:

I wish to express my opposition to the proposal under consideration for renovation of existing athletic fields in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park at 1500 John F. Kennedy Drive.

I am a gardener and landscaper with an educational background which includes courses of study in ecology, geography, and philosophy. I am a long-time resident of the Outer Sunset, a former collegiate football and club lacrosse player, and father. It is my informed opinion that the proposed project does not protect the "naturalistic quality" of the westernmost part of Golden Gate Park. Were it to be permitted, the stadium-style layout, stadium-style lighting (which would be visible above existing trees), and play surface comprised of plastic over chopped scrap tires would all but eliminate any natural elements from an area which is now 7 1/2 acres of natural turf.

I encourage you act as recommended in the Staff Report on this Appeal with respect to the Substantial Issue Determination. I would like to thank those who drafted the Report for their thoughtful consideration of the issues at hand. I would also like to thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this Appeal.

In addition, please consider the following as my testimony regarding issues which have been brought to light in the Appeal.

1) Replacement of Natural Turf with Synthetic Play Surface:

As proposed, were it to proceed, replacement of living turf grass growing on living soil with a plastic-fiber-over-scrap-tire play surface would be irresponsible. The proposed project would introduce potentially toxic material (polyethylene, styrene butadiene rubber with trace heavy metals) with a limited life span into a living system over an aquifer into which wells were drilled and which was used for irrigation (powered by windmills at the Park's inception). Producing, shipping, and installing this material represent unnecessary real and hidden (ecological) costs. How the material degrades over the course of its limited life span and its effects on the watershed are unknown. Its removal, should it be found that it is no longer serviceable or that its replacement is no longer cost effective, would represent additional costs both real and hidden. The distinct advantage of a healthy grass pitch is that it is renewable. Since the Great Sand Banks (as the area was once known) were transformed, generations of San Franciscans and visitors would testify to that fact. The fact that the fields in question have been ostensibly derelicted only points to the fact that they need to be renewed again, not replaced with a questionable synthetic surface.

Additionally, the living grass system which needs renewal approximates a meadow. It is a habitat--forage and hunting grounds. The past few Annual Bird Counts have seen a noticeable decline in numbers of raptors in the Western Neighborhoods and San Francisco. Resident species such as American kestrel, Cooper's

hawk, Red-tailed hawk, and Red-shouldered hawk can be seen in the Park and nearby, including those areas bordering the West Sunset Rec Fields (the hybrid-alternative location). Other species, once occasionally encountered, such as the Western Screech Owl, have disappeared due to habitat degradation. If further degradation occurs, our species may encounter them less frequently, or never again, in San Francisco in our part of the Pacific Flyway.

2) Stadium Lighting

In addition to aesthetic considerations (the tranquil darkness that shrouds and seems to quiet the neighborhoods near the Pacific) taken into consideration, stadium lighting (daylighting the fields of play until 10pm each night until adult competitors retire), will degrade the habitat of nocturnal animals and migratory birds. If we care to preserve the naturalistic character of the area of the proposed project, this type of field lighting or, indeed, lighting of any kind, should be avoided due to that fact.

3) Anecdotal evidence in support of Staff Recommendation to renew natural grass fields

I formerly participated in the sports of football and lacrosse at the collegiate level. I had the unfortunate experience of witnessing first hand the commonality of repetitive stress and acute injuries incurred on the artificial turf we practiced and played on. Turf toe, knee pain, shin splints, and, worse, ligament and muscle tears and sprains were all too common amongst members of the teams I played on. Such injuries were uncommon or far less common among those who practiced and competed more often on real grass. Given even the congruity of artificial surfaces and its effect on expectations regarding body mechanics and the ball in play, almost to a man, most advanced level athletes preferred to play on natural grass rather than to suffer such artificial turf related injuries.

I am the proud father of a 5 year old son. When he was an infant and, later, a toddler, we often took strolls on the western side of the Beach Chalet fields. He attempted to learn and imitate the songs and calls of birds along the trail there. He experienced bees at work and butterflies in flight for the first times there. Later, he took some of his initial wobbly strolls on the grass in that meadow-like field. He has grown into a perceptive Kindergartener with a special affinity for the natural world, participates in group sports such as baseball and basketball. Together, we play lacrosse. At the community garden where we frequently volunteer, he shows new gardeners which native plants are edible and calls them by name. The experience of nature in the "naturalistic setting" which would be diminished by the proposed removal of a natural system has a value that cannot be quantified. Similarly unquantified are the results of early development of the proprioceptive sense (the sense of how our limbs are oriented in space which predetermines our ability to learn new motor skills) on living grass. As a parent, I find it objectionable that at least one generation (the useful life of an unreplaced artificial playing field) of parents would not be allowed to afford their children the same quality of experience I have been fortunate to have had with my son. It is my justified belief that to allow the project as proposed to go forward would be a decision lacking aesthetic sense and, more importantly, common sense.

Thank you for your time and attention in the matter of this Appeal and to my testimony.

Sincerely,

Mike Murphy

Resident, 1511 44th Ave, Outer Sunset Neighborhood, San Francisco.

Th15d

SHUTE, MIHALY & WEINBERGER LLP

396 HAYES STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102
T: 415 552-7272 F: 415 552-5816
www.smwlaw.com

FRAN M. LAYTON
Attorney
layton@smwlaw.com

May 2, 2013

Via FedEx and Hand Delivery

California Coastal Commission
North Central Coast Area
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 945105

Re: Appeal A-2-HMB-13-001, Agenda Item No. Th15d
Opposition to Staff Recommendation of No Substantial Issue

Dear Commissioners:

This firm represents Appellants Marc and Monica Rosoff, Teresa McWhirt, Ken Kennedy, and Patrick and Amy Wooliever ("Appellants") in regard to the Coastal Commission's review of the coastal development permit ("CDP") that the City of Half Moon Bay issued to Ailanto Properties, Inc. ("Ailanto") for the construction of a fence in the Highland residential neighborhood ("Project"). The Project will effectively eliminate a pathway that has been used for decades by numerous students and residents to reach Half Moon Bay High School and downtown Half Moon Bay, and to access the coast. As set forth in this letter and Appellants' Rebuttal Statement responding to the Staff Report's factual inaccuracies (Exhibit A attached hereto), this Appeal presents a substantial issue regarding the Project's conformity to relevant provisions of Half Moon Bay's certified Local Coastal Program ("LCP"). Accordingly, the Commission should conduct a *de novo* hearing on the Project.

A. Ailanto's Application to Construct a Fence Amends its Pacific Ridge CDP.

The 2008 permit amendment approving development of the Pacific Ridge residential subdivision ("2008 CDP") did not include construction of a hog wire fence on the Ailanto property. Special Condition 1.B. of the 2008 CDP provides that "[n]o proposed changes to the approved final plans shall occur without a Commission

amendment to this coastal development permit unless the Executive Director determines that no amendment is required." The Project unquestionably is a change requiring an amendment of the 2008 CDP, rather than a new permit. Contrary to staff's contention, this is a substantive concern that affects the determination as to whether the Project raises a substantial issue of LCP conformity. Staff Report at 11.

The 2008 CDP found that the addition of 63 homes would "contribute significant new traffic to the already-congested Highways 1 and 92, which are the only regional highways connecting the access and recreational resources of Half Moon Bay to the larger Bay Area . . . [A]bsent the [proposed] mitigation measures,. . . the project would result in significant adverse cumulative effects to this highway congestion, thus adversely affecting the ability of the general public to reach the shoreline for recreational purposes." 2008 CDP at 2.

The environmental review for the 2008 CDP did not consider the significant adverse cumulative impacts that the Project will contribute "to the already-congested" Highway 1. *See* Appellants' substantial evidence of the Project's added vehicle trips to Highway 1 and access routes to area beaches, all as set forth in Exhibits B, C and D attached hereto. If the Project had been processed as an amendment to the 2008 CDP, it would have been obvious that the traffic analysis from the 2008 CDP had to be updated to determine the Project's impacts on public access to the coast and the appropriate mitigation for those impacts. [1] The Commission should find that the Appeal raises a substantial issue and require the applicant to provide a traffic study that assesses the cumulative effect of the Pacific Ridge development and the Project on coastal access. In the alternative, the hearing should be continued until this critical information is presented to the Commission.

B. There is a Substantial Issue as to the Project's Consistency with the LCP.

Staff's recommendation notes repeatedly that the path is located on private property. *See* Staff Report at 2, 8, 10, 11. While it is true that the path is on private property until such time as the offer of dedication for the 1.9 acre park parcel is accepted,

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[1] There is no support in the record for Staff's claim that the traffic analysis for the 2008 CDP did not consider closure of the path "because the public was not authorized to use the path" Staff Report at 11. Rather, the record for the 2008 CDP is entirely devoid of any discussion of the path despite its intensive use and its location on the future park site.

this does not excuse the Commission from determining the Project's consistency with the LCP. The record before the Commission contains substantial evidence that the Project will limit access to the coast and result in additional vehicle trips on Highway 1, thereby adversely affecting the Level of Service on this critical coastal access road *See* attached Exhibits A, B, and C.[2] These are the very impacts that led the Commission to impose a number of special conditions on the 2008 CDP to address inconsistencies between the Pacific Ridge development proposal and the LCP. (*See* 2008 CDP at 30. Cumulative traffic impacts of proposed development "would significantly interfere with the public's ability to access the coast" in conflict with cited Coastal Act Policies and City-specific policies of the LCP.) The Project's documented traffic impacts likewise implicate the Project's consistency with the LCP and require the Commission to address these conflicts, irrespective of whether the Project is, like most projects before the Commission, located on private property.

C. The Commission Should Find that the Appeal Raises a Substantial Issue or Postpone a Decision on the Appeal.

The Appeal Staff Report cites liability and security concerns as the reason for the Project although there is no evidence of any injury to persons or property during decades of extensive public use of the path. *See* Appellants' Rebuttal Statement (Exhibit A). On the other hand, construction of the fence could result in serious injury to those individuals whose only means of accessing the high school, downtown Half Moon Bay, or the coast is to walk on the narrow shoulder on the east side of Highway 1. *See* photos in attached Exhibit E showing condition of Highway One in Project vicinity. Appellants are actively pursuing a solution that will allow the pathway to remain accessible to the public while identifying an entity that will accept the offer of dedication for the 1.9 acre parcel on which the path is located. *See* Exhibit F (powerpoint presentation to Half Moon Bay City Council describing stakeholders required for solution to keeping the path open).

The Staff Report further notes that the applicant has agreed to remove the fence when the offer of dedication is accepted. Staff Report at 5, 11. At a minimum, the property owner's removal of the fence as soon as the park parcel is accepted should be a condition of any Project approval so as to bind not only the current property owner but

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[2] For example, Appellants have documented that the path is used by the community, not just Half Moon Bay High School students, and that the community's extensive use of the path occurs during peak recreational traffic as well as peak commute hours. *See* Exhibit C.

future owners because there is no way to know when an entity will agree to accept the dedication offer.

In view of the absence of factual support for the City's decision to approve the Project as well as the substantial evidence submitted by Appellants that the Project will have significant adverse impacts on public access and thus is inconsistent with the LCP, Appellants request that the Commission find that their appeal raises a substantial issue and set a *de novo* hearing on the Project. In the alternative, Appellants request that the Commission postpone the hearing until August and require the applicant to submit an amendment to its 2008 LCP for construction of the hog wire fence and provide a traffic study that assesses the cumulative effect of the Pacific Ridge development and the Project on coastal access. In the interim, Appellants will continue to explore a solution that will allow the existing path to remain accessible to the public.

Very truly yours,

SHUTE, MIHALY & WEINBERGER LLP

Fran M. Layton

Fran M. Layton

Attachments:

Exhibit A	Appellants' Rebuttal Statement
Exhibit B	Summary of Signatures Collected on Petition to Keep Path Open
Exhibit C	Conversion of Weekend Pedestrian and Bicycle Trips to Vehicle Trips
Exhibit D	Access Routes to Area Beaches Via Foot or Bike
Exhibit E	Photos of Highway One in Project Vicinity
Exhibit F	Appellants' Presentation to Half Moon Bay City Council

476375.2

Exhibit A

Dear Coastal Commission:

We the appellants for appeal A-2-HMB-13-001 (Ailanto Properties Fence) disagree with the Staff Report published on 4/26/2013 in preparation for the California Coastal Commission meeting on 5/9/2013. Prior to release of the staff recommendation, we provided staff data that rebuts some of the most relevant findings in the summary of the staff recommendation.

Specifically, we have provided data that is in disagreement with the following statements found in the Staff Recommendation- "*(7) there is no evidence of a significant impact on either traffic or the public's ability to access the coast because many of the footpath users access the Highland Park neighborhood by car (either by way of driving and parking there or by being dropped off there) and then walk to the high school, and therefore they are already accessing the area by Highway 1 and closing the footpath would not change that and (8) the vehicle trips at issue would occur during school start and dismissal times, not during peak recreational traffic.*" ((http://goo.gl/p58yh) , pg. 2)

- Exhibit 6: Correspondence Page 22 summarizes the signatures, obtained between March 26 – 28, from students using the path to arrive or depart from Half Moon Bay High School (HMBHS). Out of 66 unique signatures collected 46 were walkers and 20 were driven to the trail which is in stark contrast to the assertion that most path users are driven to the trail. The actual signatures can be found in Exhibit 6: Correspondence Page 25-38. Converting these walkers to individuals who are driven will increase traffic.

- The statement from the staff report does not address the traffic impact of converting the use of the path by Highland Park Residents to access the Coastal Trail or for recreational use at HMBHS. Exhibit 6: Correspondence Page 39-41 summarizes letters (Exhibit 6: Correspondence Page 42-88) sent to staff. Sixteen families with multiple family members utilize the path during recreation times when HMBHS is not in session. The path is used to safely access the Coastal Trail, the various facilities at HMBHS (swimming pool, running track, tennis courts, batting cages, basketball courts) and downtown Half Moon Bay. Forcing residents to drive instead of walking will impact traffic and coastal access for everyone during peak recreation time. Sixteen families is equivalent to 25% of the new houses scheduled for the Pacific Ridge development. The original traffic study does not take into account this large increase in vehicular traffic during peak recreation times therefore brings into question the current validity of the original CDP based on the traffic study performed at that time.

Additionally, pg. 9 paragraph 2 in the Staff Report describe an alternative means for accessing the coastal trail - *"walking or biking south on Highway 1 from the terminus of Silver Avenue on the east side of Highway 1 to the cross walk 0.2 miles away at Main Street to cross to the west side of Highway 1"*. This is absolutely not a safe way to access the coastal trail as we have described pictorially (Exhibit 6: Correspondence Page 1-20). There is a narrow shoulder with no sidewalk with cars travelling 40 - 60 mph on Highway 1 and merging from two to one lane at Terrace. While the City "has plans to improve Highway 1" at intersection with Terrace Avenue and Ailanto contributed funds toward cost or the improvements (page 9 paragraph 3), nothing

has been done to date that will impact neighborhoods on the *East* side of Highway1. Current activity is limited to extension of the bike path on the *West* side of Highway 1. There is no timeline or guarantee that a traffic light with crosswalk will be installed at the Terrace – Highway 1 intersection.

Countering Misinformation:

There has also been a great deal of misinformation communicated to the HMB City Council and the Coastal Commission by some of our neighbors who are proponents of the fence. As opposed to the appellants' information, much of the fence proponents claims are unsubstantiated and in direct conflict with the quantitative data the appellants have provided. A cursory list of inaccuracies follows:

1. Once the path is closed, Traffic on Highway 1 will not increase during rush hour at all since most of the path users are driven there so are already on Highway 1 (Exhibit 6: Correspondence Page 138+156). One major bottleneck of Highway 1 travelling south is at the intersection of the main street extension. Cars turning left frequently exceed the space allowed in the left hand turn lane thus blocking the left through lane. The right lane heading North at this intersection also backs up from cars on the main street extension waiting to turn left onto Lewis Foster Drive. Adding any cars to the left hand turn lane coming from the North or the Right hand lane from the South will further clog this already busy intersection.

2. The number of documented current Highland Park Residents High Schools students who use the path on a daily basis is 17 with a projection of 22 for next year (Exhibit 6: Correspondence Page 32+33) not the 5 or less reported, without documentation, in letters sent to staff (Exhibit 6: Correspondence Page 134, 136, 138). The same letters allege that HMB City Council member John Mueller was present monitoring the path from 6:15 AM and 8:00 AM for two weeks before the City Council meeting regarding the appeal. The appellants Rosoff did not observe his presence during this entire time even though we are adjacent to the property.

3. The appellants have been accused of providing inaccurate polling information regarding the number of proponents vs. opponents of the Ailanto Fence. Although not all the residents we polled agreed to provide signatures, we have signatures from a large number of residents who support our appeal (Exhibit 6: Correspondence Page 63, 99,100).

4. The proponents for fencing off the path have also referenced the opinion of several third parties, Sheriff's department, ex Fire Chief, Dykstra Ranch manager (Exhibit 6: Correspondence Page 157, 158, 182) in support of the fence but have not produced any documentation to support such claims.

5. The claims that the ditch adjacent to the path has been a site for multiple homeless encampments, frequent drug use and drug deals, high school students "hanging out", and excessive fire danger due to cigarette use are greatly exaggerated. Marc Rosoff's office overlooks the path and adjacent ditch. He works out of his house and is frequently home 2 - 3 days a week and has not observed behavior to support such claims. Since the Rosoff's property is directly adjacent to the path they are the most vulnerable to any potential fire or vandalism damage. If this risk was truly significant they would certainly be in agreement with closing off the pathway.

6. The proponents of the fence have claimed that all recent neighborhood incidents are directly caused by the existence of the path is inaccurate and has no data in support. The same types of incidents can be found in many neighborhoods in Half Moon Bay and cannot be directly attributed to the pathway.

7. The tree-house pictured in the report (Exhibit 6: Correspondence Page 126-130) is not located adjacent to the High School or the Rosoff property. It is actually located north of the Terrace Ave. terminus as described in the pictures found attached to this document.

1

Tree House

Tree Line

Exhibit B

HMBHS Petition Summary

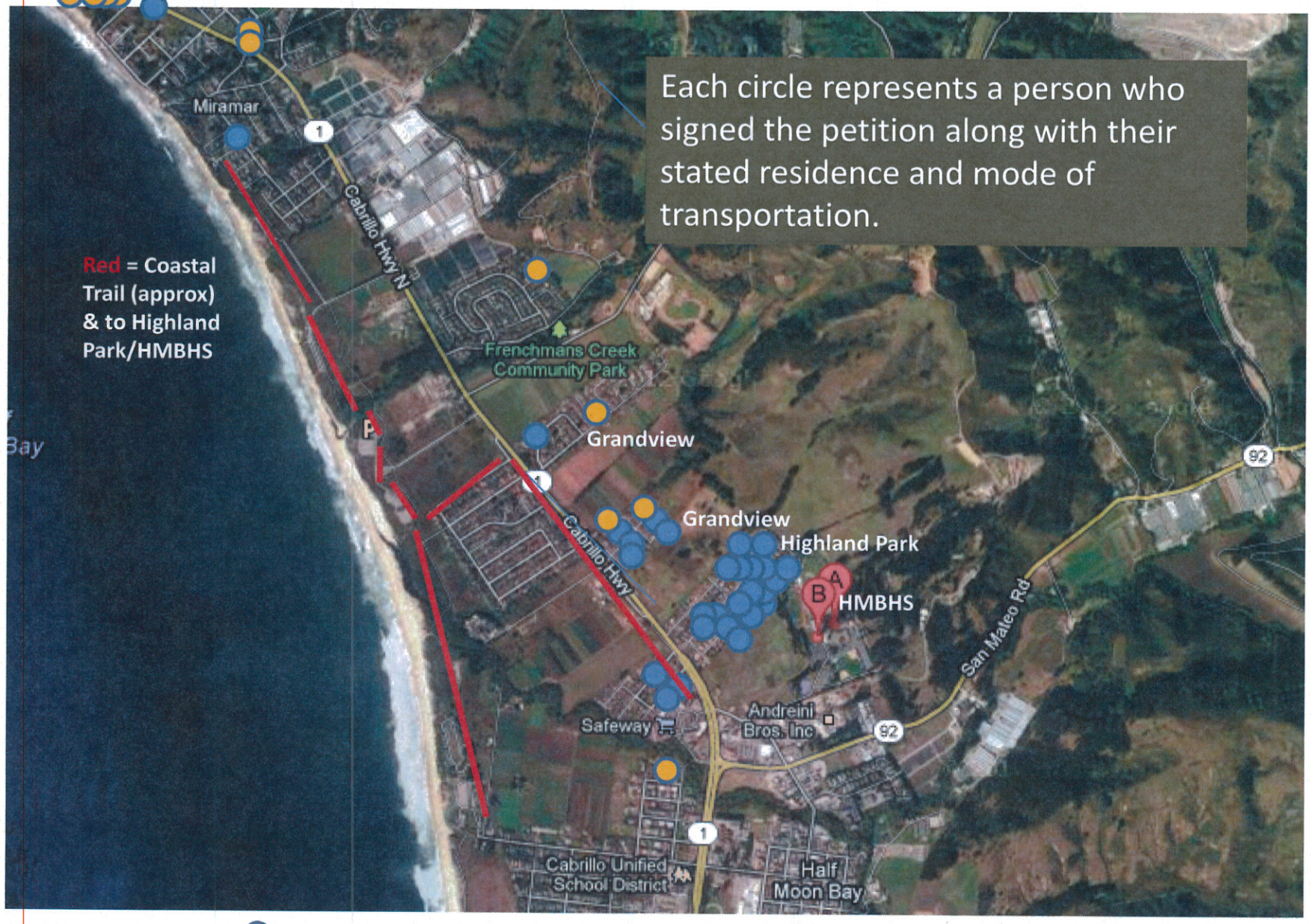
Signatures Supporting Appeal to
Keep Foot Path Open

Collected March 26-28

Summary

- 66 Signatures collected (excludes duplicates)
- 46 walkers to trail, 20 driven to trail
- Foot Traffic from East-side "island" neighborhoods: 23
  - Highland Park (<1 mile walk): 17 regulars
    - *Expected to increase to 22 regulars in Fall 2013; see slide 4*
  - Grandview, Spindrift (<2 mile walk): 5
- Foot Traffic from West-side HMB neighborhoods: 6
  - <1 mile – 1.5 mile walk
- Foot Traffic From the North: 14
  - Miramar (<3 miles, via bus or Coastal Trail): 1
  - El Granada (4 miles, via bus or Coastal Trail): 6
  - Moss Beach, Montara (6.5-7.5 miles, likely via bus): 7
- Foot Traffic From the South: 1

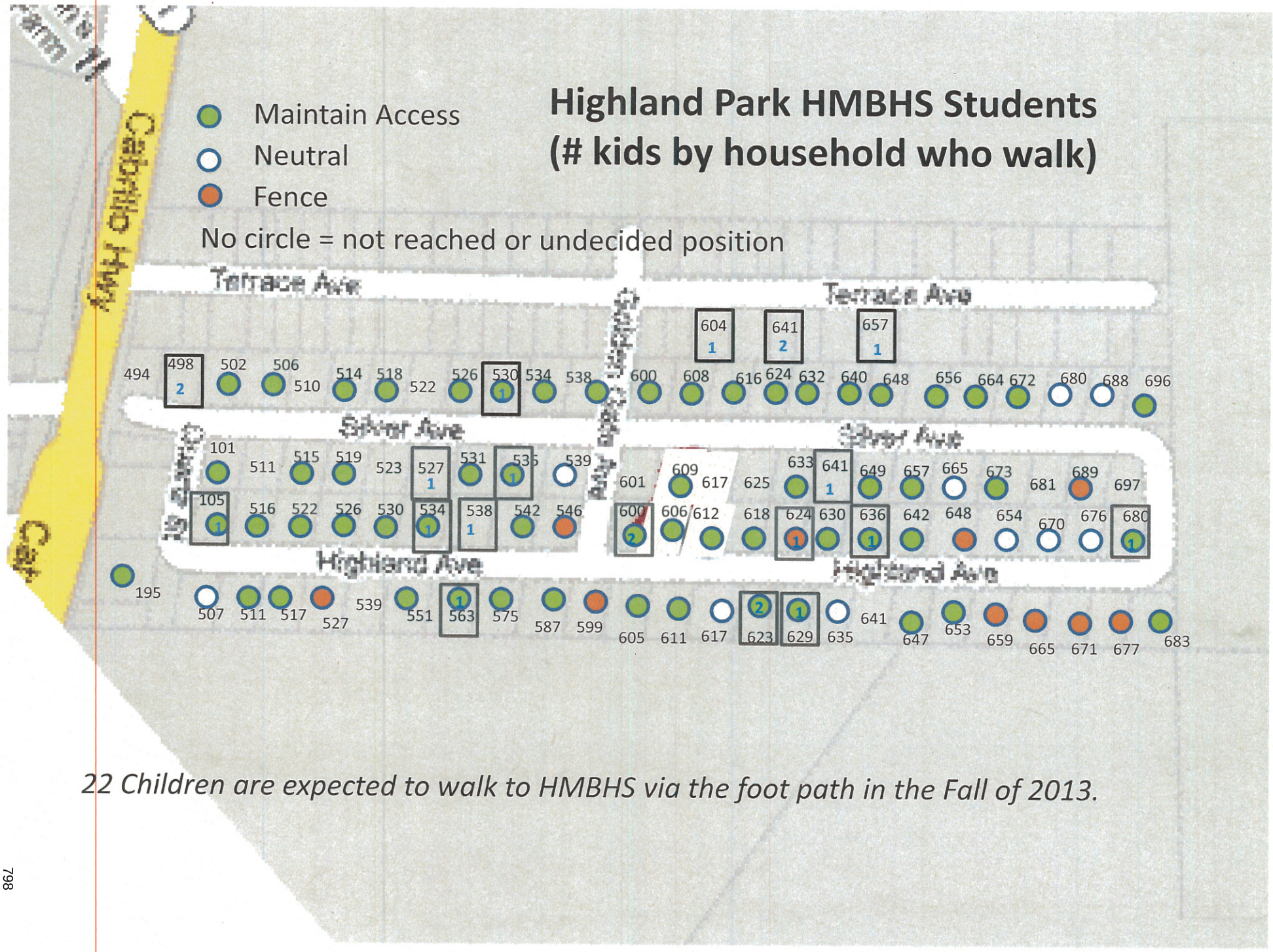
From North: El Granada, Moss Beach, Montara



Walked to Trail

Driven to Trail

From South: Downtwn & Hwy1



22 Children are expected to walk to HMBHS via the foot path in the Fall of 2013.

Exhibit C

Conversion of Highland Park Pedestrian and Bicycle Trips to Driving Trips on Weekends

4/10/13, compiled by Monica Rosoff in support of Regarding Appeal A-2-HMB-13-001

Highland Park families use the foot path to the Half Moon Bay High School and beyond on the weekends. We have summarized these trips below, and have estimated the number of converted pedestrian and bike to car trips that would result from the closure of the path. *These additional car trips would enter Hwy 1 at the intersection of Hwy 1 and Terrace, which currently has level F service, and which experiences stop and go conditions on the weekends due to visitor traffic.*

Family Who Wrote Letter	**Activity**	**Estimated *Weekend* Trip Conversions Should Path be Closed**
Dupree	Open Swim, Go to Church in Downtown HMB	Est. 2-4 round trips
Kennedy-McWhirt	Basketball, Baseball, Go to Coastal Trail, attend events at HMBHS	Est. 4-6 round trips
Blais	Baseball, swimming, track, attend events at HMBHS	Est. 2-4 round trips
Garcia	Baseball, football, softball	Est. 4-6 round trips
Howard	Track, tennis, pool	Est. 1-2 round trips
King	Track	Est. 1-2 round trips
Olivero	Track, pool, attend events at HMBHS	Est. 2-4 round trips
Rosoff	Track, Baseball, Tennis, Pool, Go to Coastal Trail	Est. 4-6 round trips
Zanger-Williams	Tennis	Unknown
Rogren	Track	Est. 2 round trips
Connell	Use open space and go to town or coastal trail	Est. 2-4 round trips
Giacotto	Basketball, track, tennis, pool, access town and coastal trail	Est. 4-6 round trips
Keaney/O'Brien	Pool, track, attend HMBHS events, go to town and coastal trail	Est. 1-2 round trips
Rupert	Volleyball, track, baseball, basketball, attend HMBHS events, go to town	Est. 4-6 round trips
Sullivan	Tennis, attend HMBHS events, go to coastal trail	Est. 1-2 round trips
Wooliever	Go to coastal trail and town, attend HMBHS events	Est. 8-10 round trips
		Total driving trips converted from weekend walking and biking trips: 42-66 incremental car round trips per weekend

Club/Non-school Related Activities

Sport	Description	Saturday Use	Sunday Use	Highland Park Neighborhood Involvement with Use of Foot Path
Pop Warner Football	Daily practices as of Aug. 1st. 2 practices per week in evenings as of start of school year.	Games all day Saturday for 11 weeks.		Yes-kid participation and spectators
Pop Warner Cheer	2 practices per week in evenings as of start of school year.	Cheers at football games all day Saturday for 11 weeks.		Yes-kid participation
Soccer (various organizations)	Tournaments	2 soccer tournaments	2 soccer tournaments	Spectators
Soccer (various organizations)	AYSO summer camp for 10 days			Unknown
Soccer (various organizations)	Men's league (10 events total)	League play	League play	Yes-adult participation
Tennis Club	Weekly club lessons	Lessons from 9-2pm and community use of courts	Community Use of Courts	Yes-kid and adult participation
Running/Track	Early am and evening use week days	All day community use	All day community use	Yes-adult participation
Maverick's Swimming	Early am (5-6:30am) and evening (6-7pm) lap swim and Master's practices week days. Mavericks Club practices 4:45-6pm weekdays.	Maverick's Adult Lap Swim 10am-1pm. Mini-Mavericks practice 1-2pm.	Youth club water polo 1-3pm.	Yes-kid and adult participation
Community Open Swim	Summertime open swim weekdays	1-4pm in Summer	Est. 10am-3pm	Yes-kid and adult participation
Roller Hockey	Youth Practice weekday evenings		League games	Unknown
Baseball	Weekday evening	Season games and	Season games and	Yes-kid

	practices and games	occasional tournament games	occasional tournament games	participation
Softball	Weekday evening practices and games	Season games and occasional tournament games	Season games and occasional tournament games	Yes-kid participation
Basketball	Evening community play on outdoor courts	All day sporadic community play, especially evenings	All day sporadic community play, especially evenings	Yes-kid and adult participation
Bicycling	Evening community cycling on high school blacktop	All day sporadic community play, especially evenings	All day sporadic community play, especially evenings	Yes-kid participation

470106.1

Exhibit D

Access Routes to Beaches

From Highland Park Path to North and South Access Points

On Foot or on Bike

Pedestrian and Bicycle Route from Highland Park to North Beach Access (est. 1.3mi)

This is the only Point where Highland Park Residents are able to access a crosswalk at Hwy 1. Also the only way to access the southbound bus route

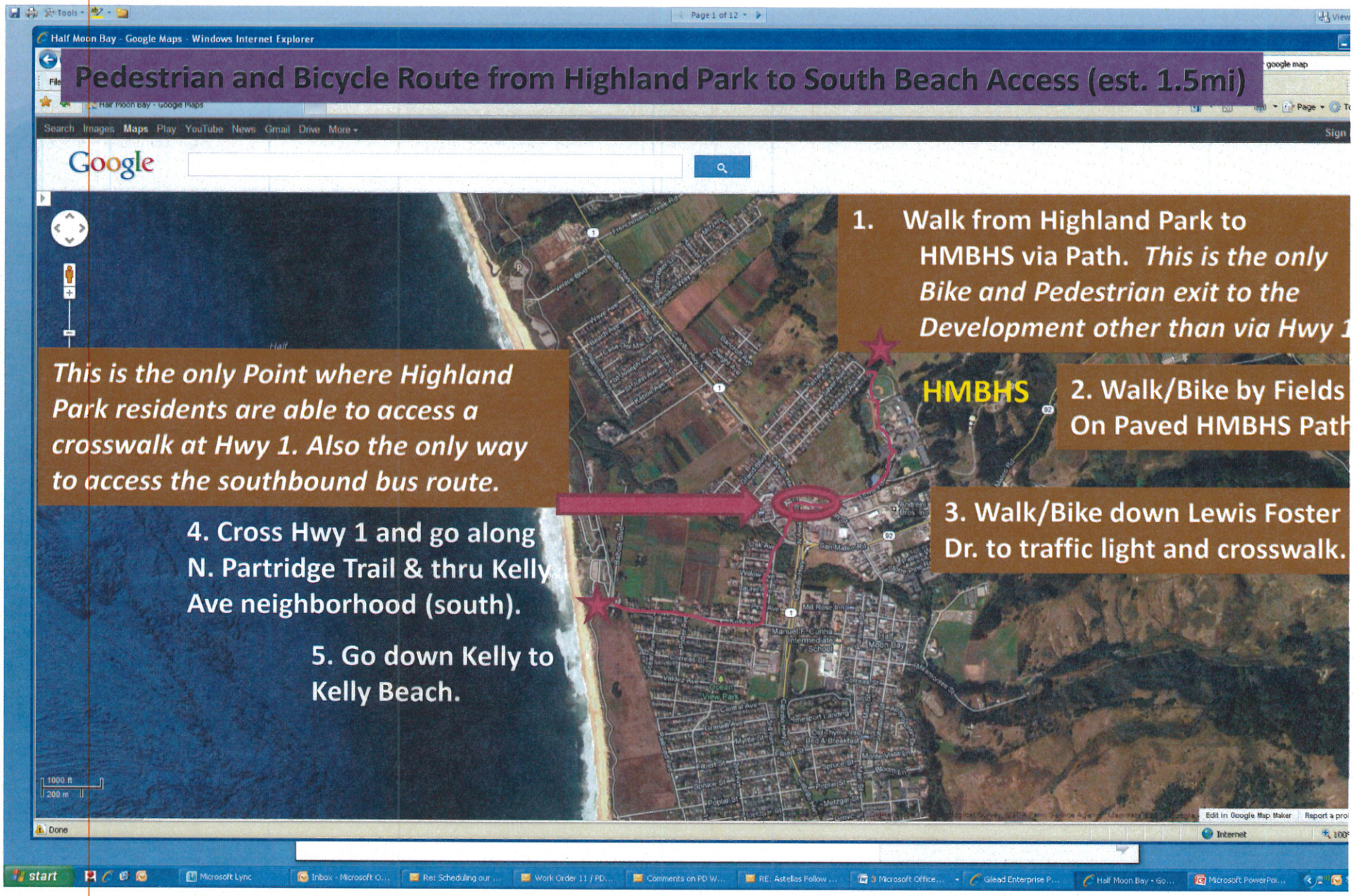
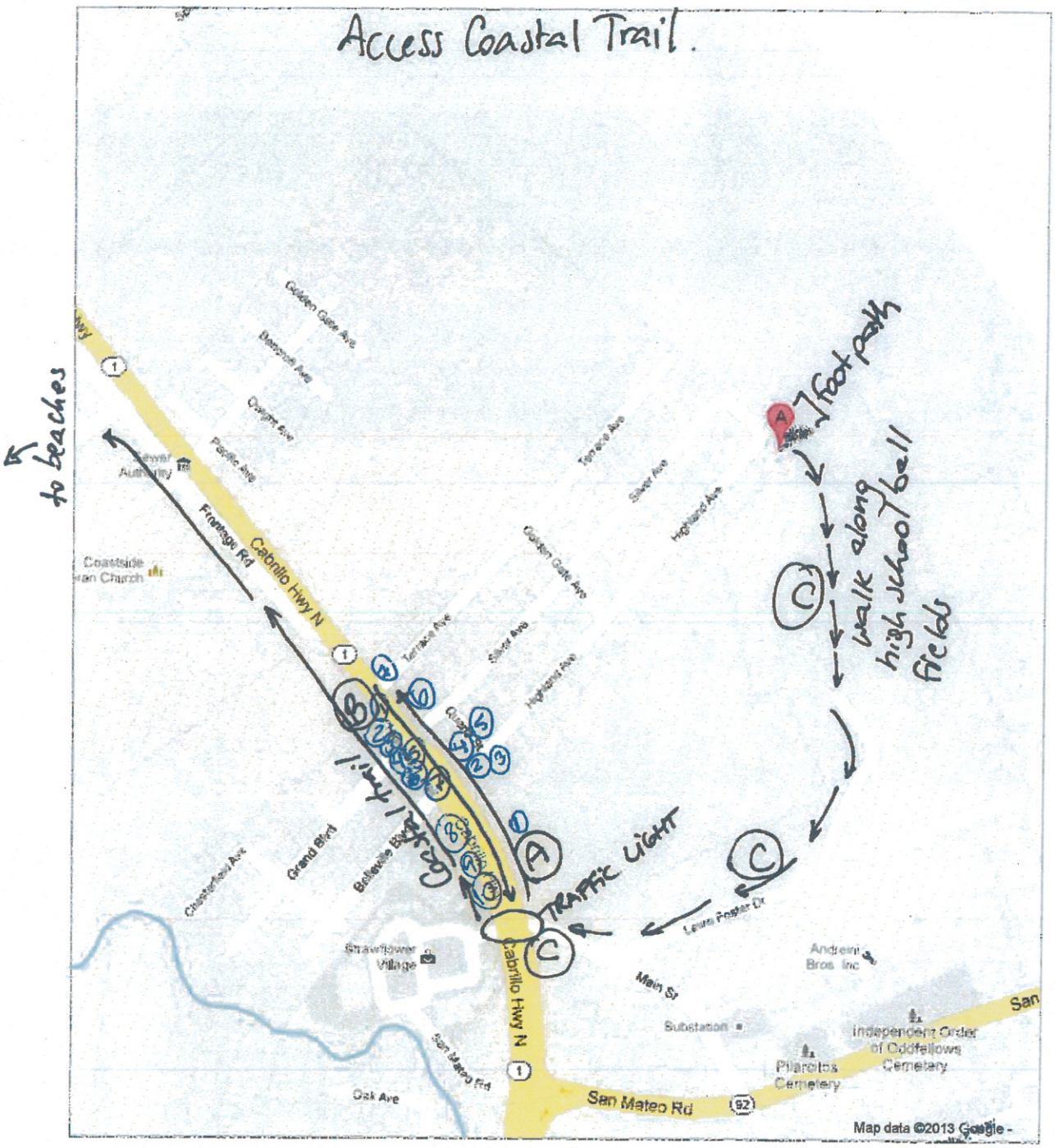

Half Moon Bay - Google Maps - Windows Internet Explorer
Pedestrian and Bicycle Route from Highland Park to South Beach Access (est. 1.5mi)
Google
1. Walk from Highland Park to HMBHS via Path. This is the only Bike and Pedestrian exit to the Development other than via Hwy 1
HMBHS
2. Walk/Bike by Fields On Paved HMBHS Path
This is the only Point where Highland Park residents are able to access a crosswalk at Hwy 1. Also the only way to access the southbound bus route.
3. Walk/Bike down Lewis Foster Dr. to traffic light and crosswalk.
4. Cross Hwy 1 and go along N. Partridge Trail & thru Kelly Ave neighborhood (south).
5. Go down Kelly to Kelly Beach.

Exhibit E

A= Walking North Along Hwy 1
B= " South " "

To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the Print link next to the map.

Google C= Current Pedestrian & Bicycle Route to Access Coastal Trail.



To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the Print link next to the map.

#1

* Walking along Hwy 1 heading North
  - this would be way back home from high school in pm should path be closed for neighborhood kids -

* A1 location on map.

* These pictures were taken on 3/29/13 @ 10:30 am to avoid rush hour traffic for safety reasons.

#2

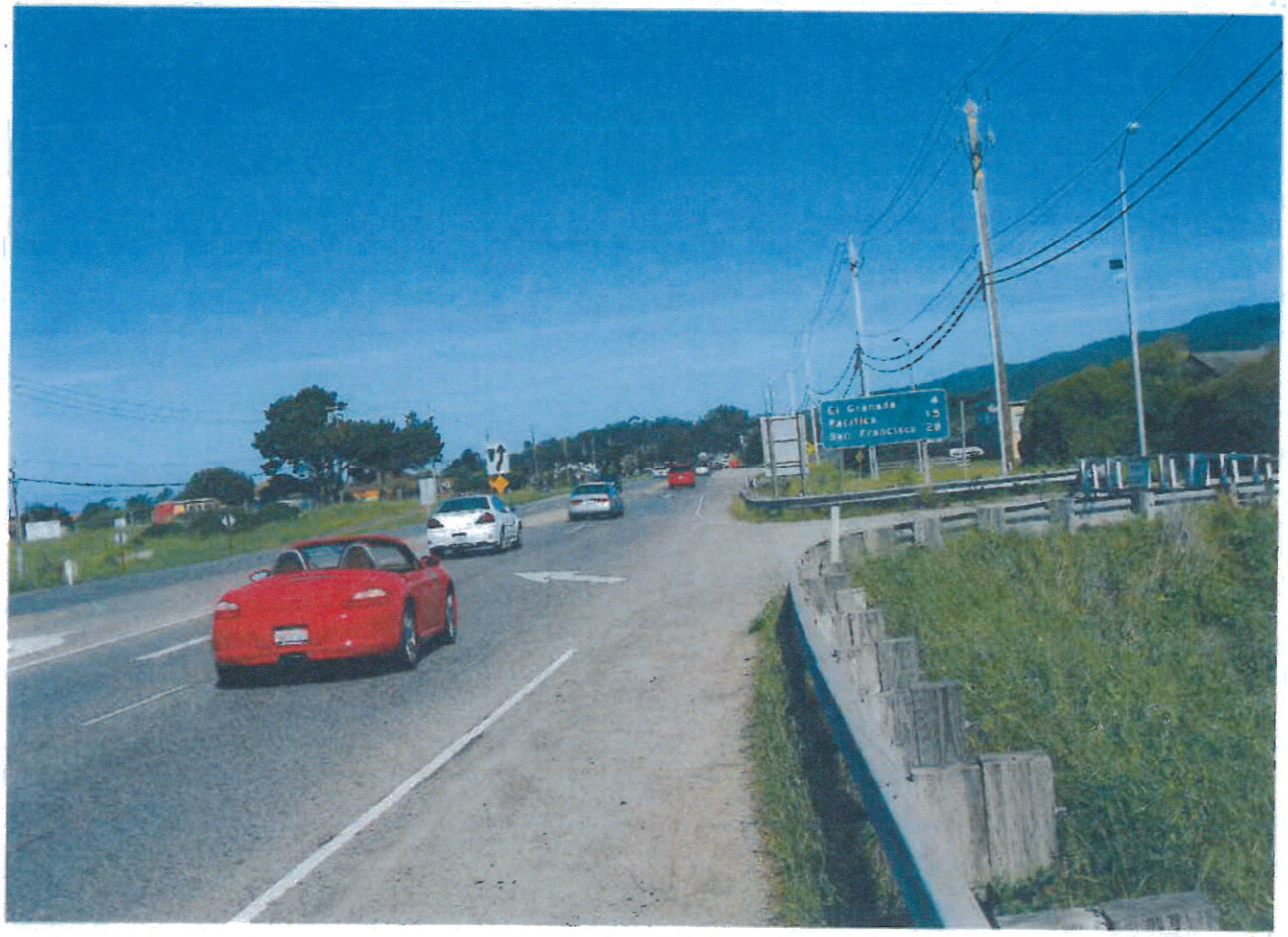
A 2 - location on map

2 lanes of Hwy 1 merge into 1 lane.

less than 3 feet of shoulder

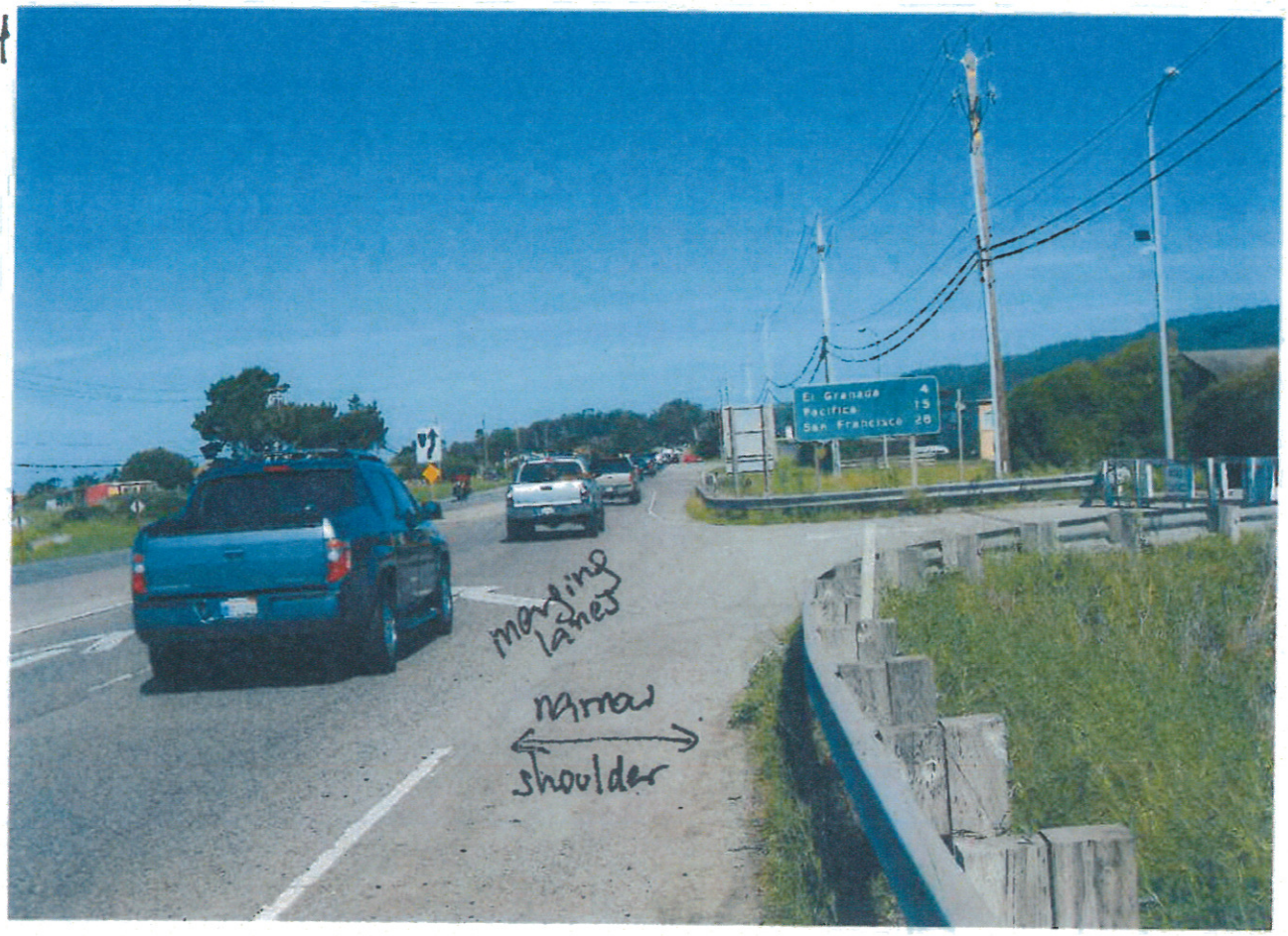
Constant heavy traffic.

#3



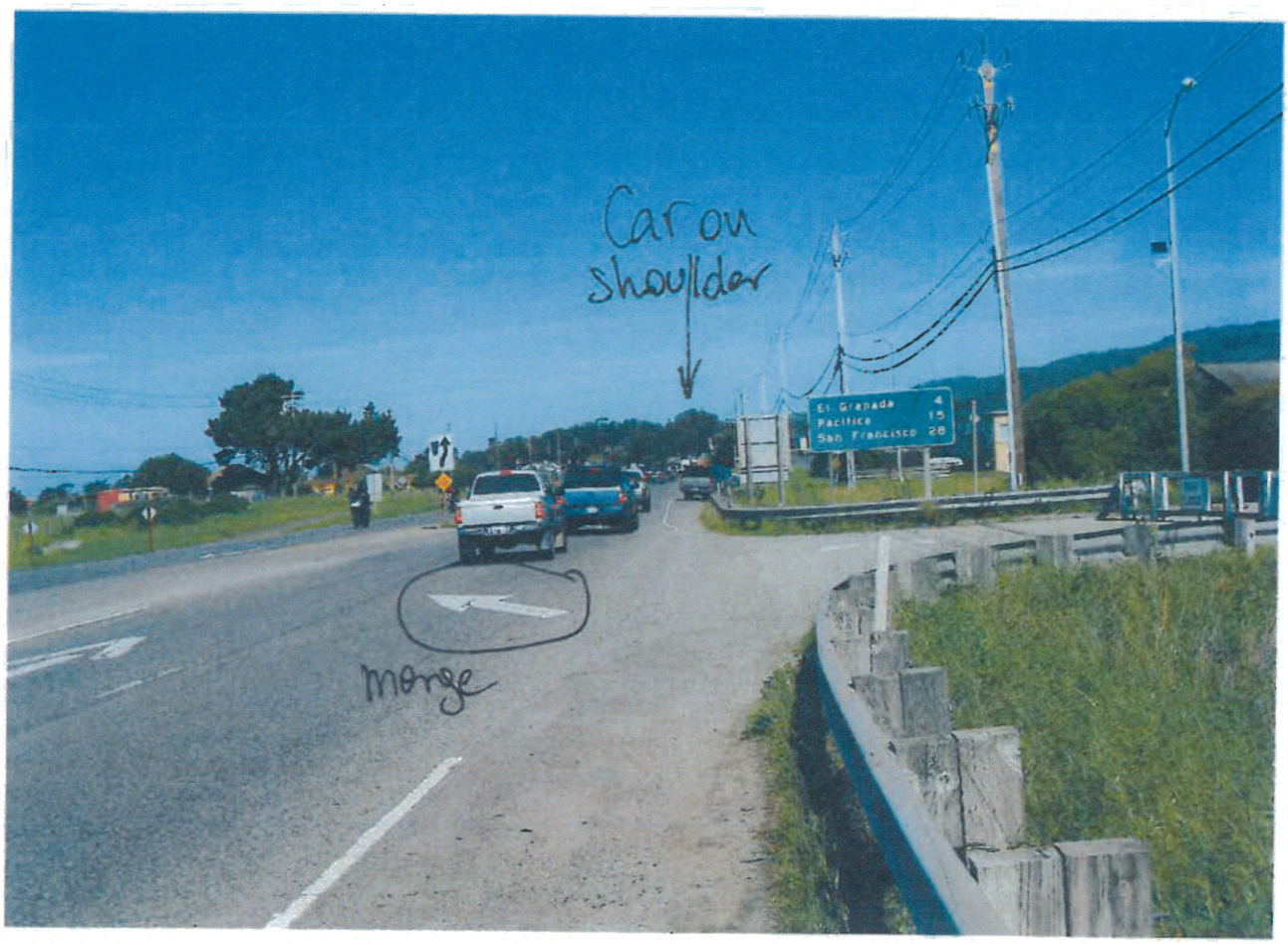
A3 location on map.

#4



A-4 Location on map.

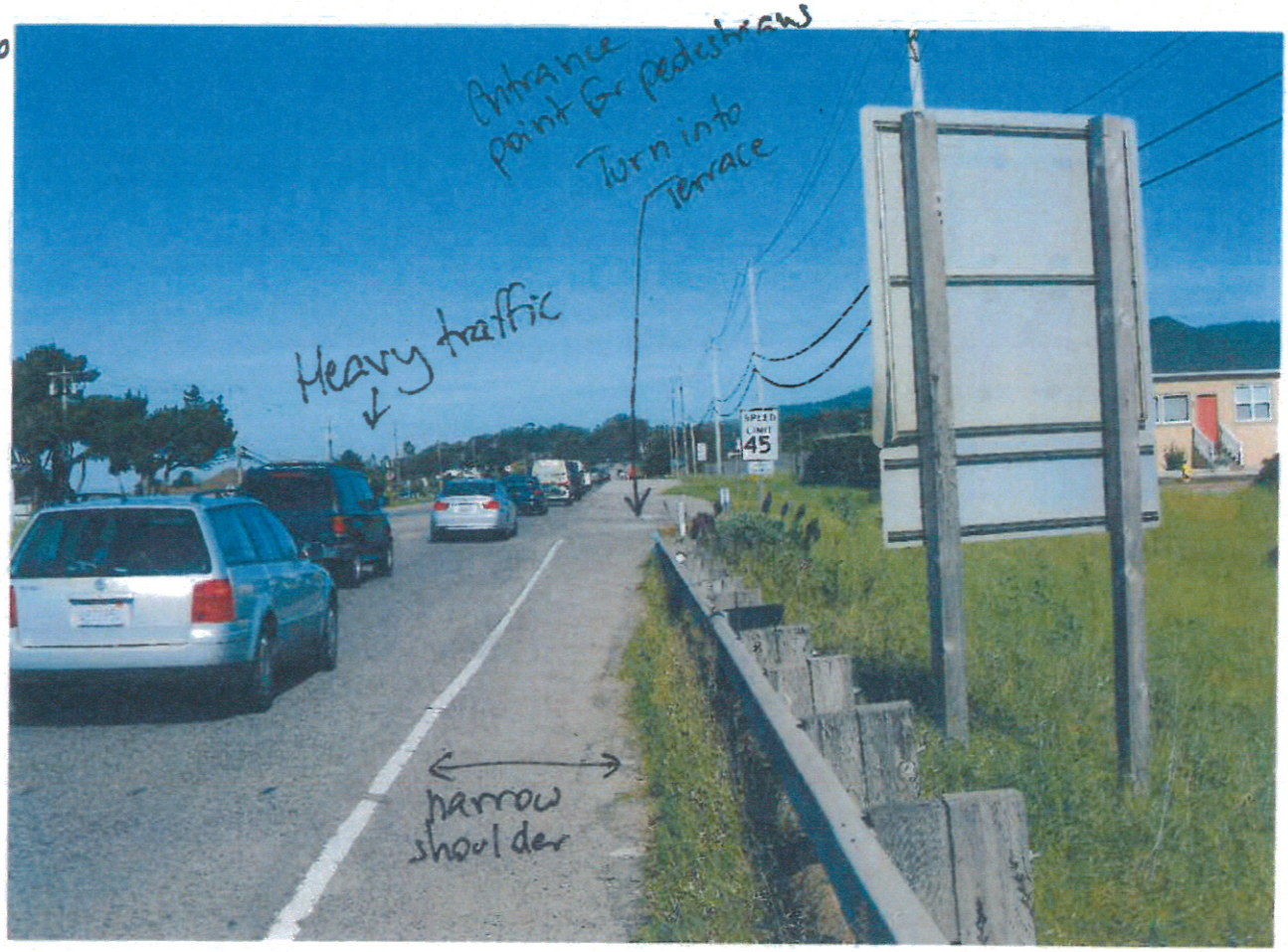
#5



A-5 Location on map

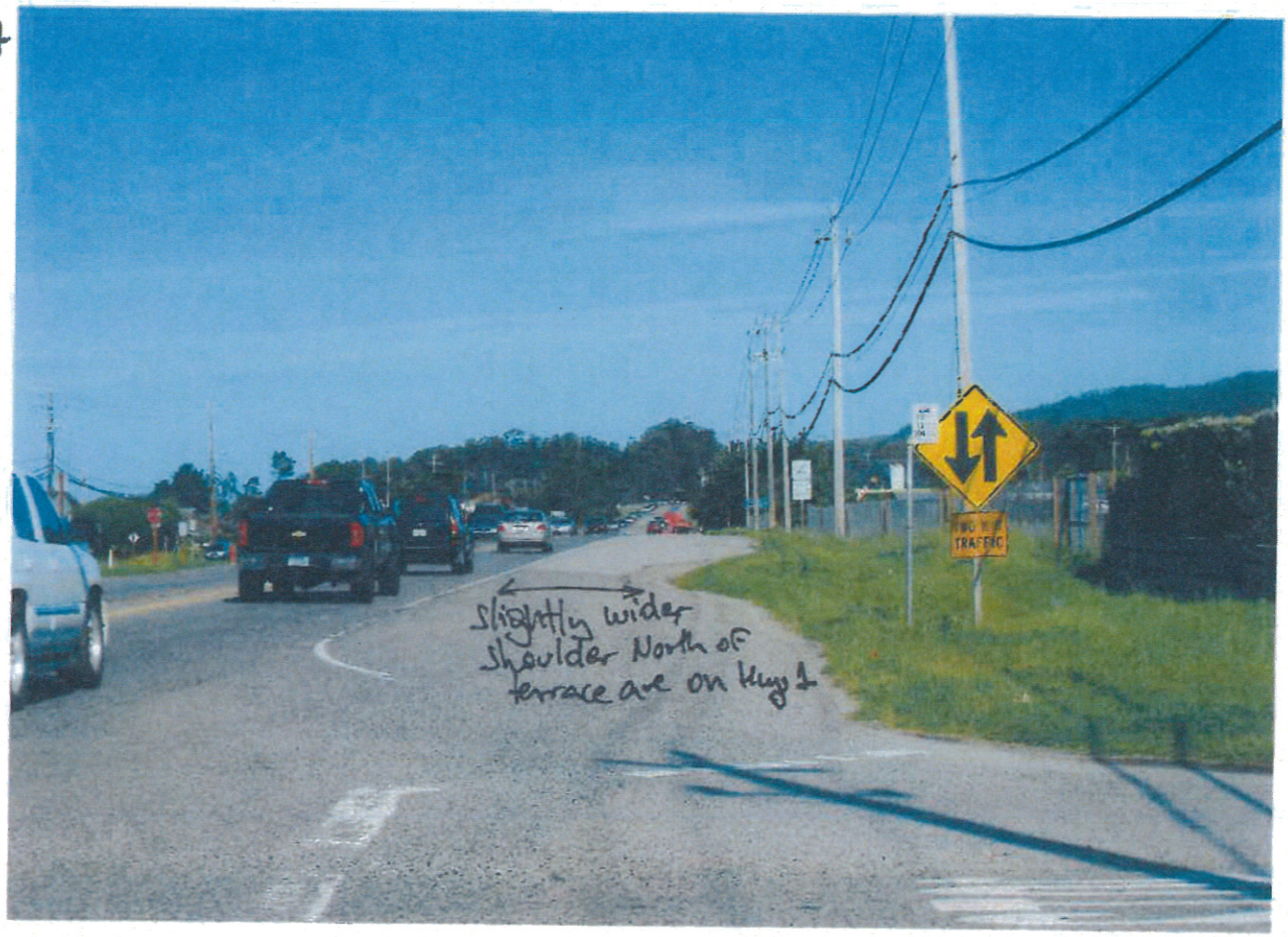
Cars often drive on shoulder to turn onto Terrace ave.

#6



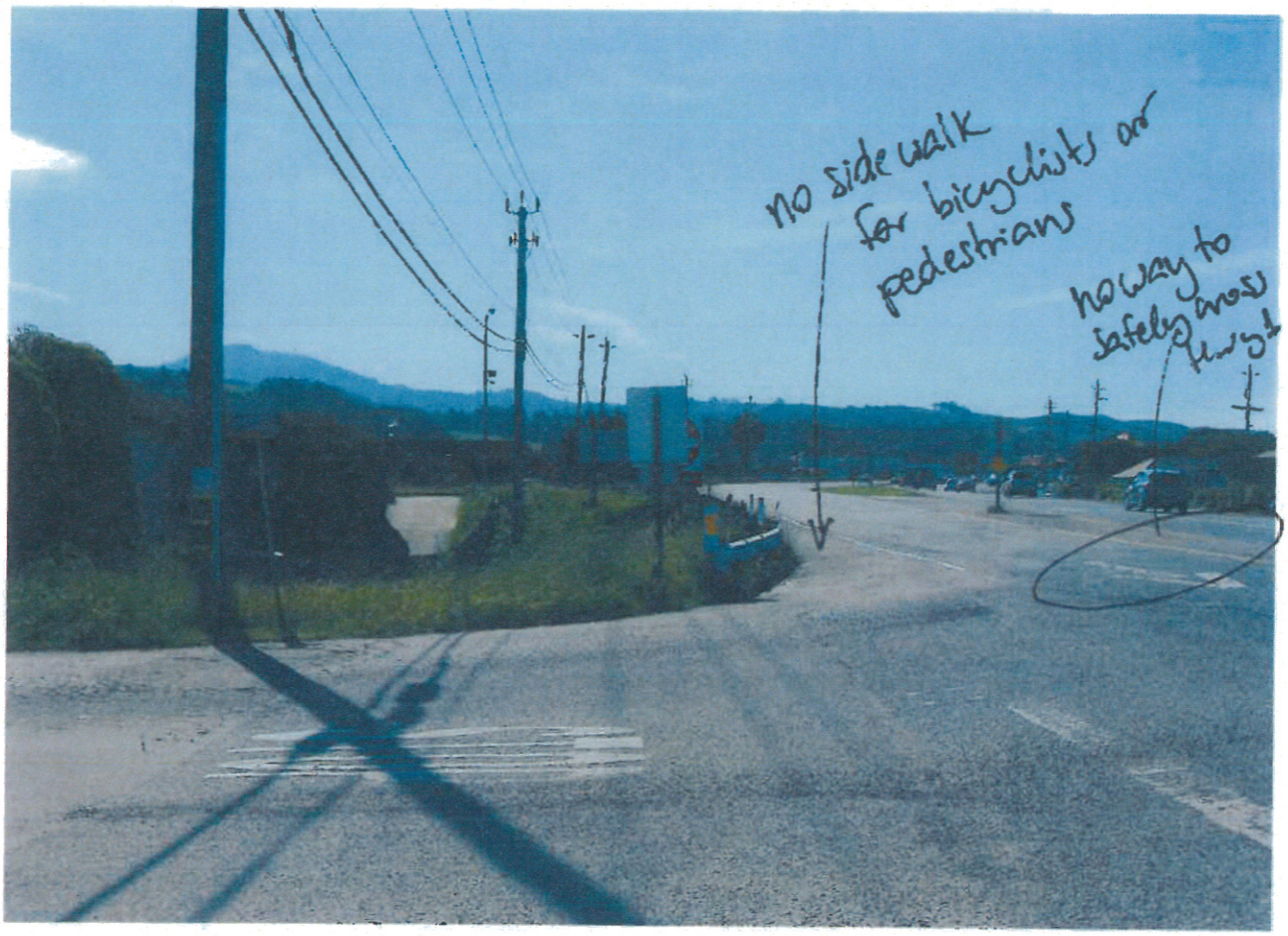
A-6 location on map.

#7



A-7 Location on map.

#8



B-1 Entrance of Terrace Ave. onto Hwy 1.

Walking South on Hwy 1

Photos taken @ 10:30 am 3/29/13.

#9

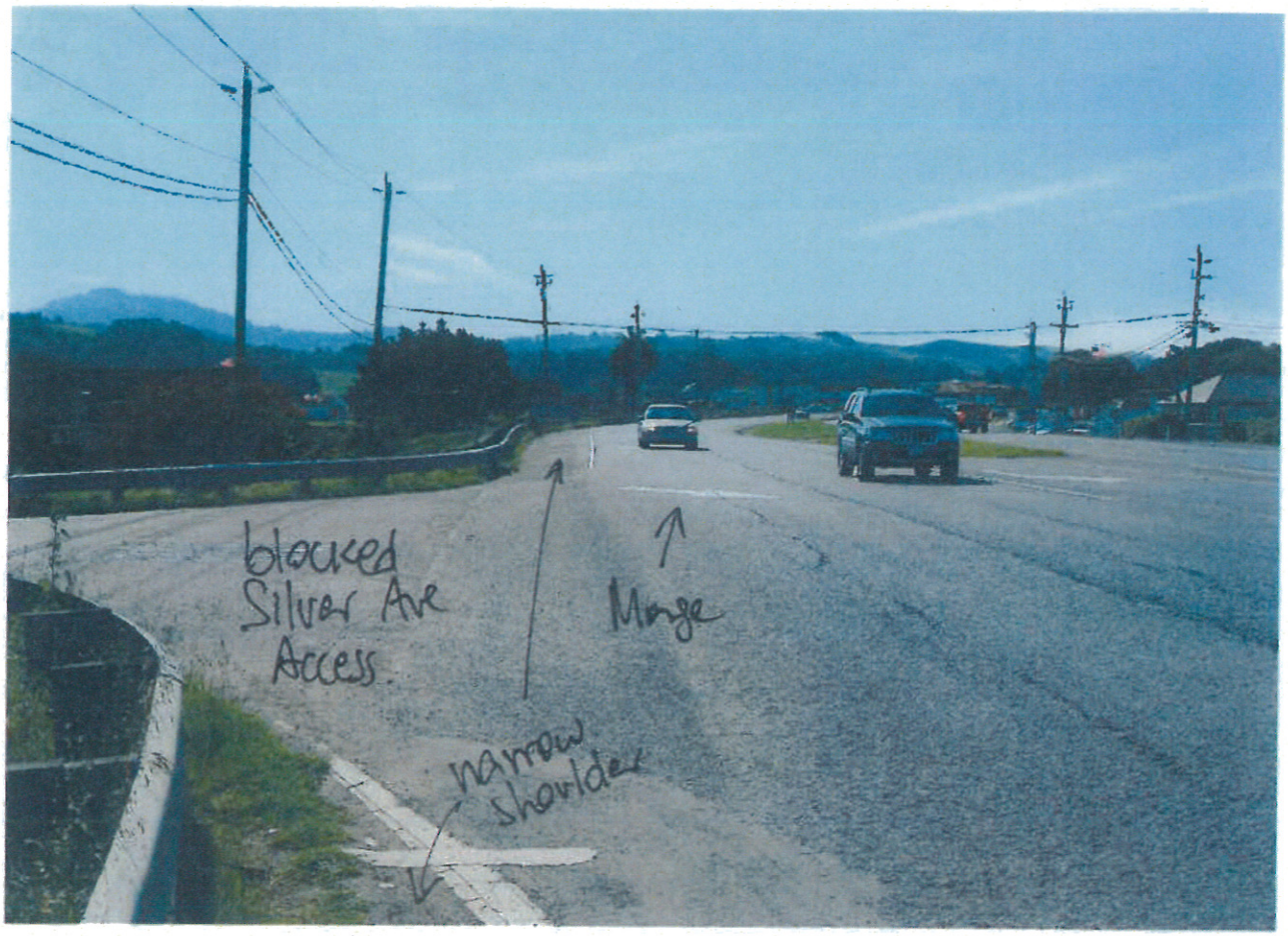
pedestrians would walk along shoulder to get to high school, town or coastal trail if path closed.

B-2 location on map

#10

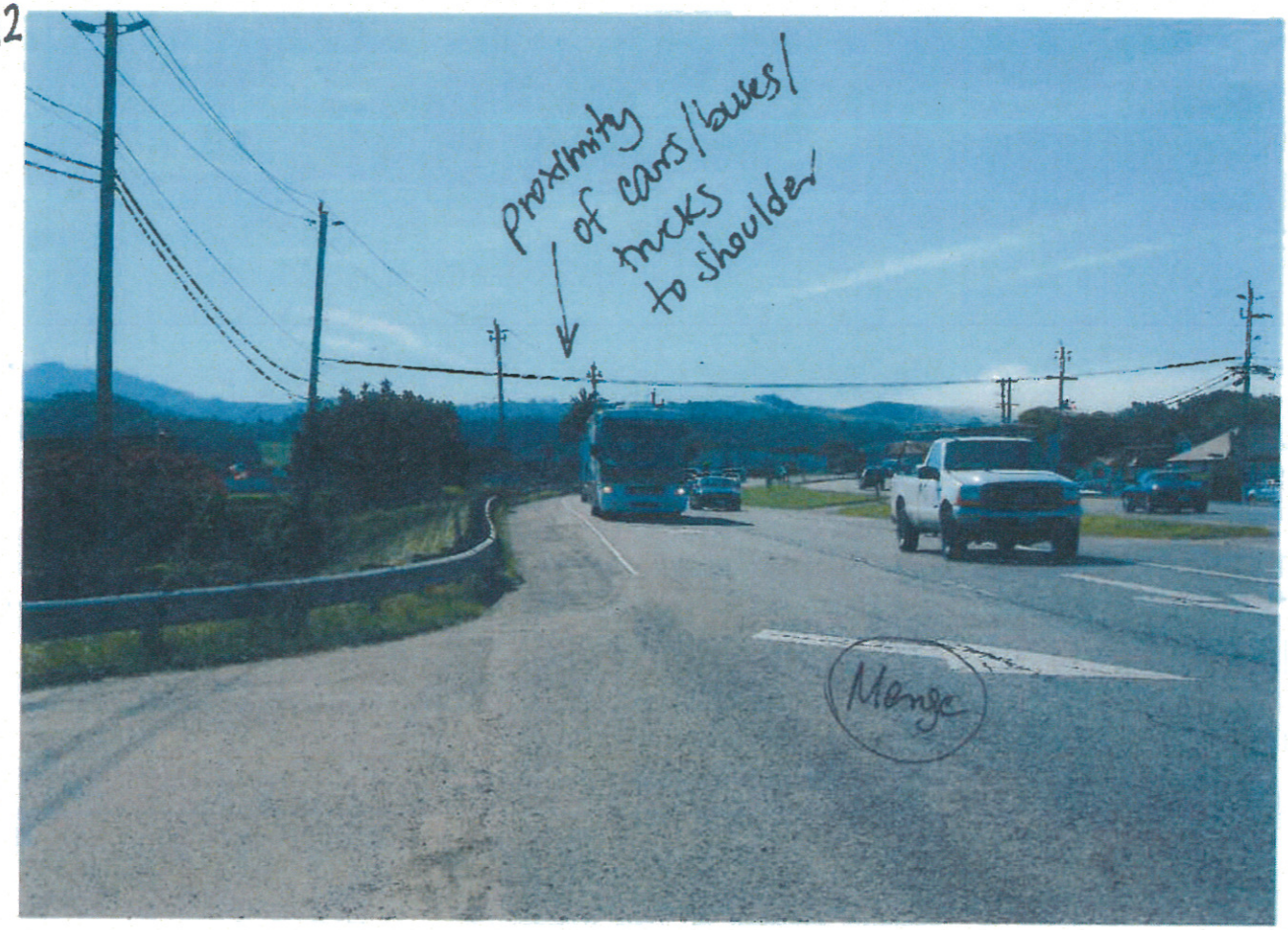
B-3 location on map

#11



B-4 location on map

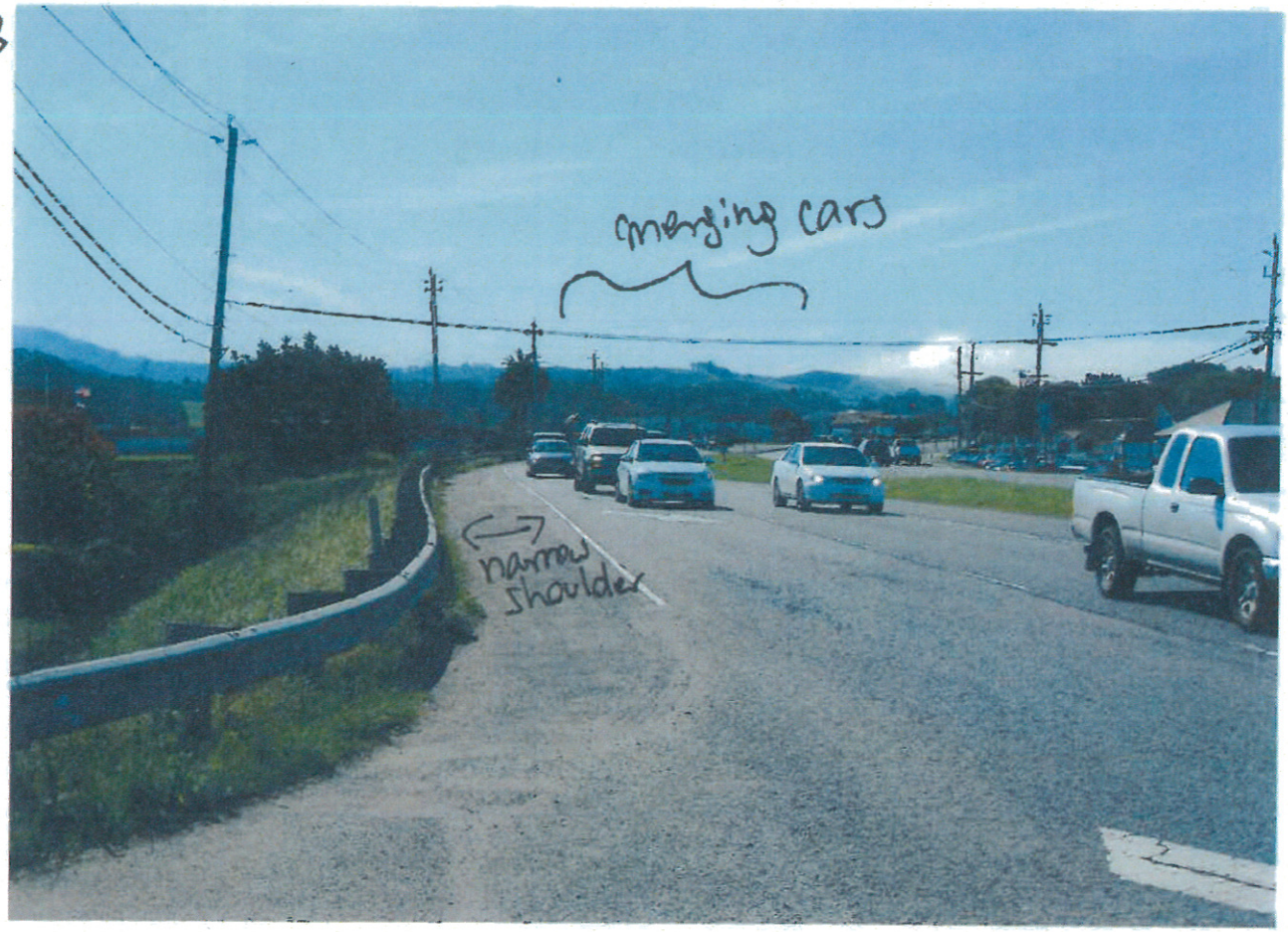
#12



B-5 Location on map.

(*) Very difficult area of Hwy to cross without a light. Very dangerous.

#13



B-6 Location on map.

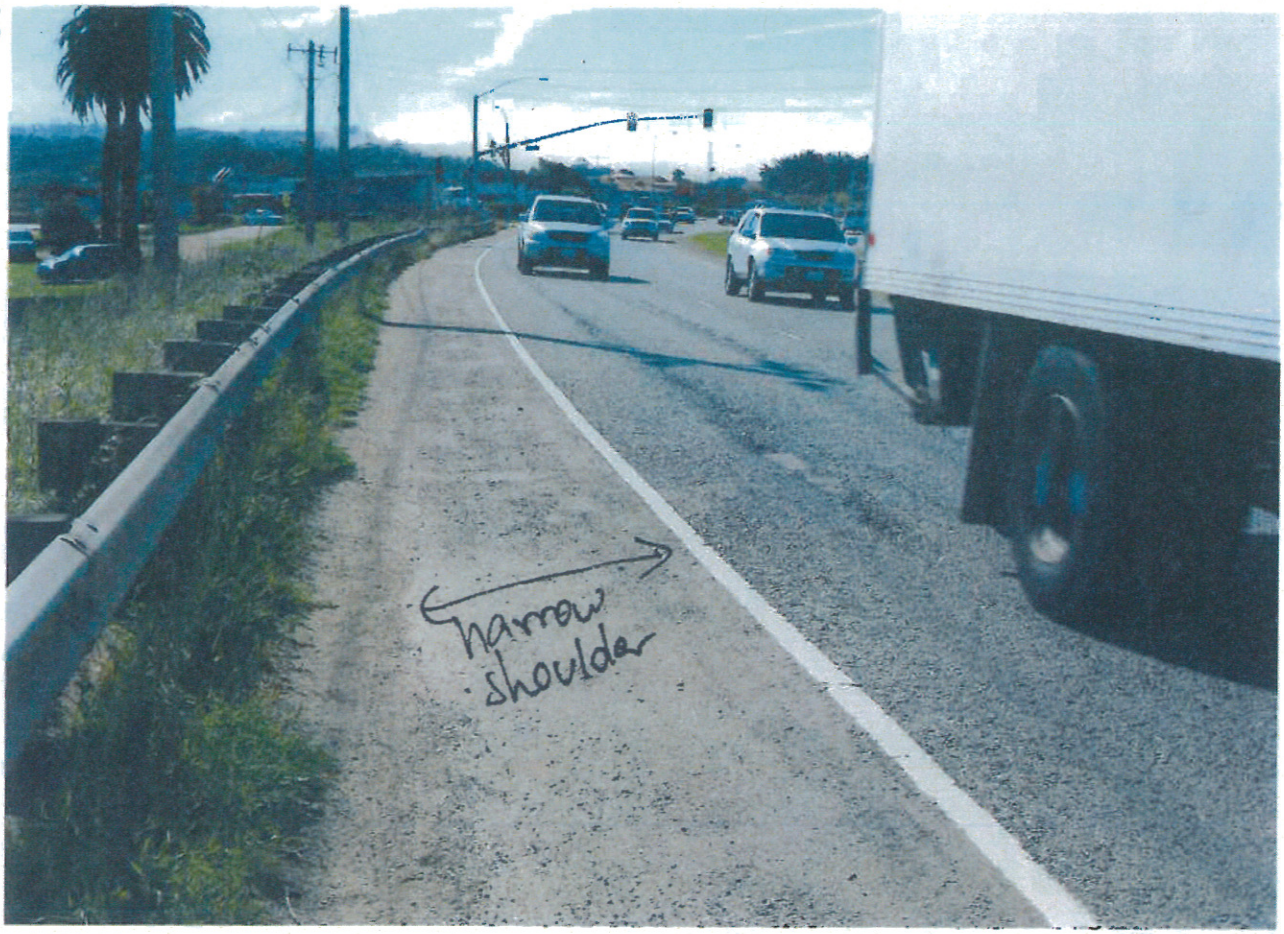
Cars Merge into 1 lane @ high speeds.

#14

↑ trash on shoulder

B-7 location on map.

#15



B-8 location on the map.

Very close proximity of vehicles for pedestrians & bicyclists.

#16

B-8 location on map.

⊛ = Crosswalk to access downtown & Coastal trail.

Note proximity of large trucks.

Note that Highway barrier is bent from recent accident where car crashed into barrier.

#17

B-9 location on map.

Note very busy intersection, even during non-rush hour (10:30 am). Bumper-to-bumper traffic during rush hour & on weekends.

#18

B-10 location on map.

Exhibit F

Highland Footpath to HMBHS

- Walking path to HMBHS for students.
- Pedestrian access to downtown HMB, beaches and recreation.
- Reduces peak traffic on Hwy 1.
- Preserves emergency access to and from HMBHS.

Our efforts are NOT about…

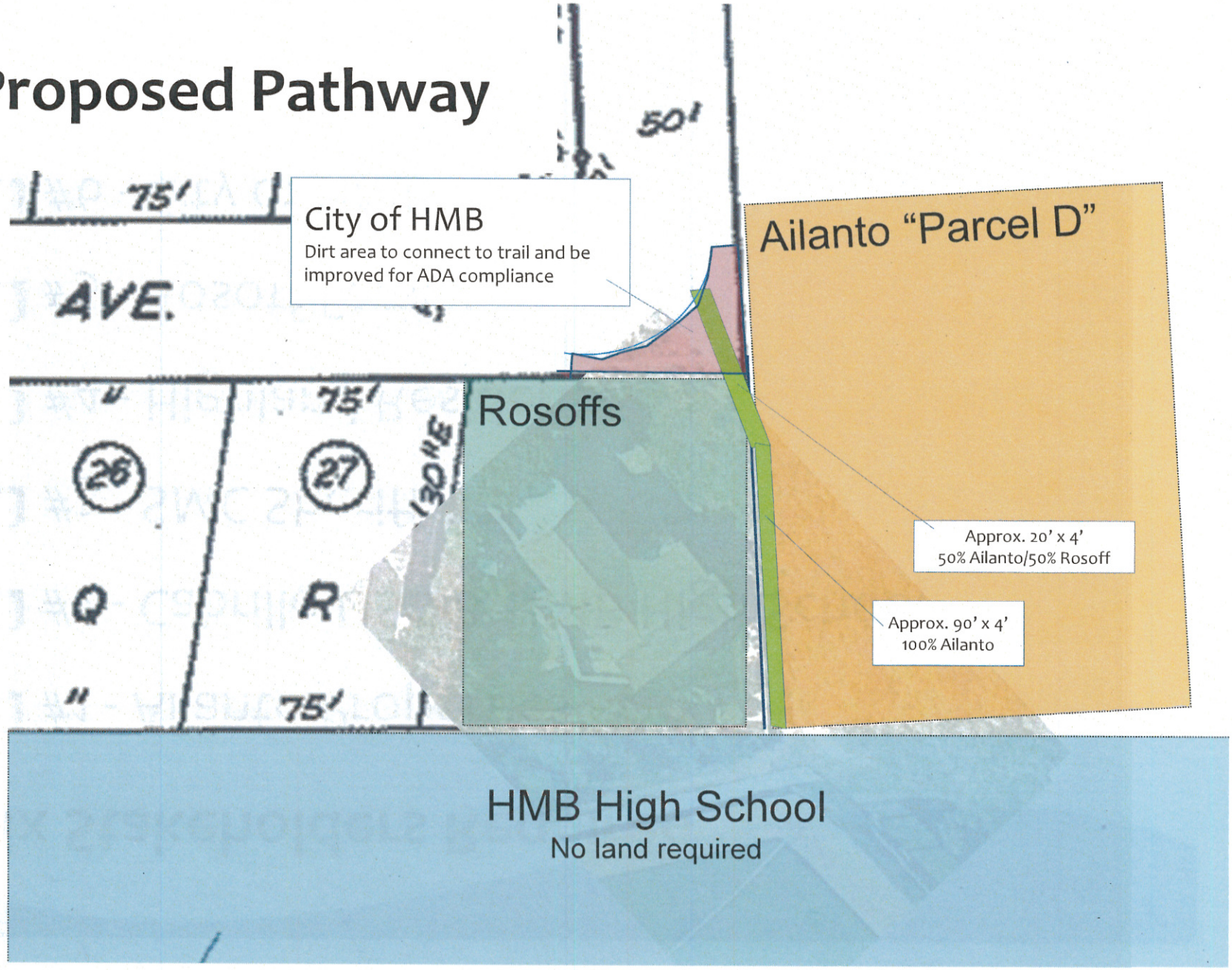
- Property Rights – We support Ailanto's efforts to protect their liability.
- Pacific Ridge – The development has been approved and should not be impacted by this effort.

What We Are Asking from the City

- Accept and execute property donations from Ailanto and Rosoffs
- Review and approve pathway design
- Sponsor pathway CDP

Currently: Students and residents walk by the Rosoff property and onto Ailanto's property between the trees and the Rosoff fence to reach the HMBHS property.

Proposed Pathway



Six Stakeholders Required

- ❑ #1 - Ailanto Properties
- ❑ #2 - Cabrillo USD & HMB High School
- ❑ #3 - SMC Sheriff
- ❑ #4 - Highland Residents
- ❑ #5 - Rosoff Family
- ❑ #6 - City of HMB

Stakeholder #1

☑ Ailanto Properties

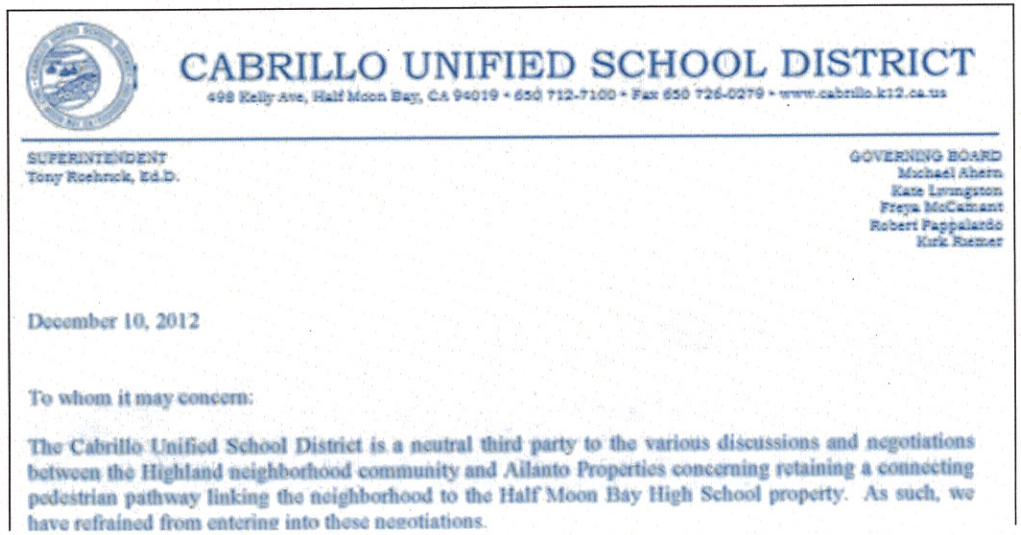
Offering to donate land required to build the pathway:

- Requires subdivision of Pacific Ridge "Parcel D"
- Cannot affect Pacific Ridge permit

Stakeholder #2

☑ Cabrillo USD & HMB High School

- Supports establishing a safe pathway from Highland to HMBHS
- Believes City should own and maintain
- Will partner if needed



CABRILLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

498 Kelly Ave, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019 • 650 712-7100 • Fax 650 726-0279 • www.cabrillo.k12.ca.us

SUPERINTENDENT
Tony Roehrck, Ed.D.

GOVERNING BOARD
Michael Ahern
Kate Livingston
Freya McCammant
Robert Pappalardo
Kirk Riemer

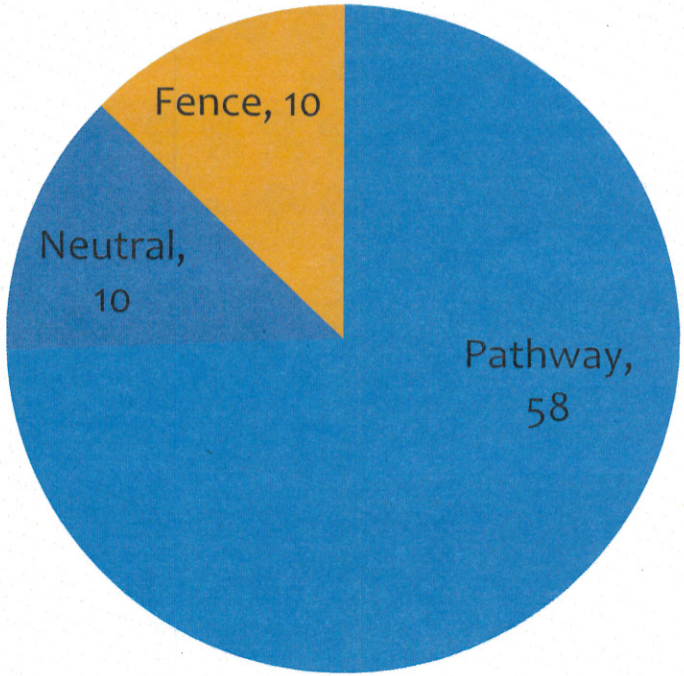
December 10, 2012

To whom it may concern:

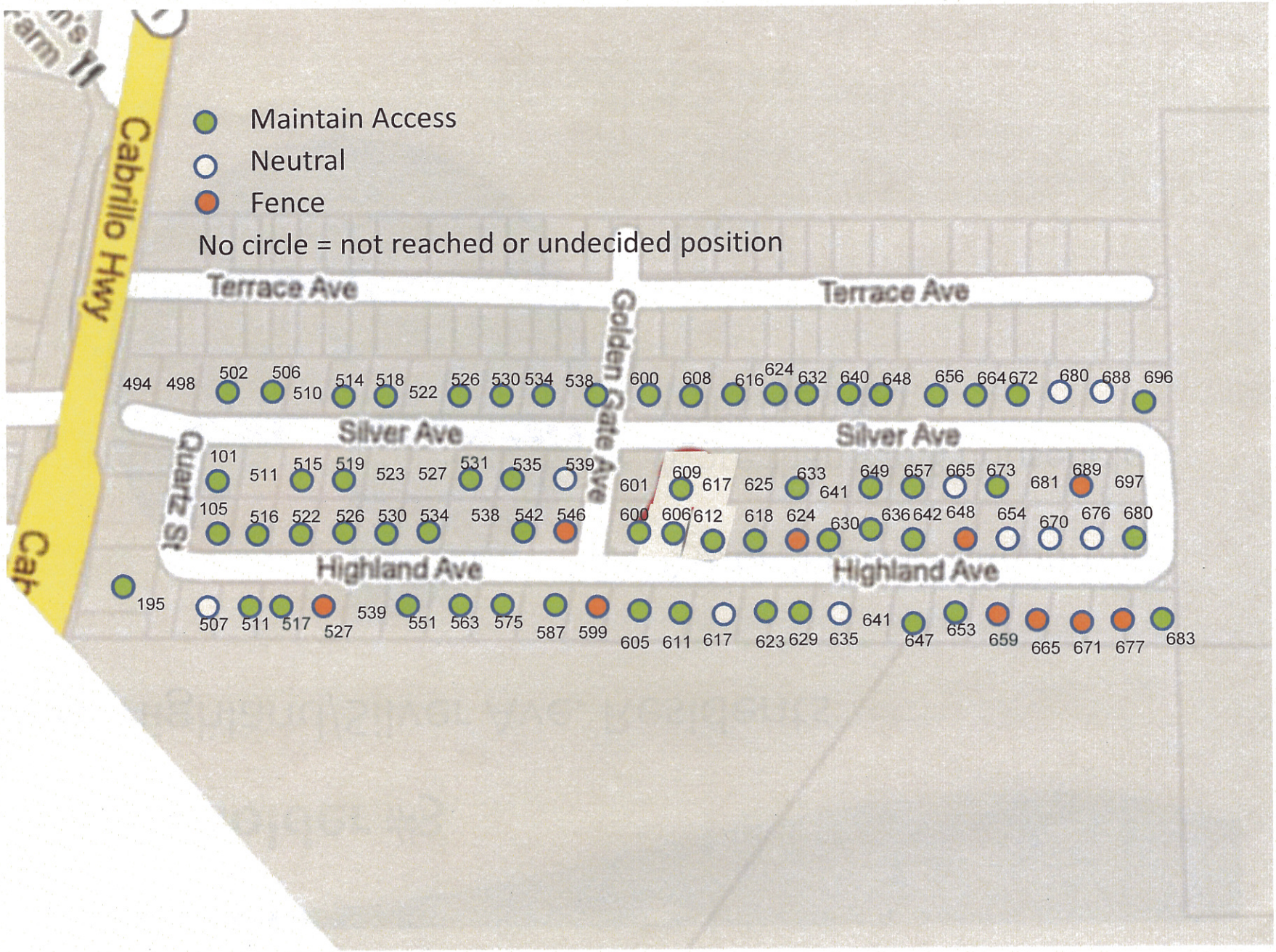
The Cabrillo Unified School District is a neutral third party to the various discussions and negotiations between the Highland neighborhood community and Ailanto Properties concerning retaining a connecting pedestrian pathway linking the neighborhood to the Half Moon Bay High School property. As such, we have refrained from entering into these negotiations.

Stakeholder #3

☑ Highland/Silver Ave. Residents



- 83% of "Precincts Reporting"
- More than 7 in 8 households want pathway


Maintain Access
Neutral
Fence
No circle = not reached or undecided position
Cabrillo Hwy
Terrace Ave
Terrace Ave
Golden Gate Ave
Silver Ave
Silver Ave
Quartz St
Highland Ave
Highland Ave
494 498 502 506 510 514 518 522 526 530 534 538 600 608 616 624 632 640 648 656 664 672 680 688 696
101 511 515 519 523 527 531 535 539 601 609 617 625 633 641 649 657 665 673 681 689 697
105 516 522 526 530 534 538 542 546 600 606 612 618 624 630 636 642 648 654 670 676 680
195 507 511 517 527 539 551 563 575 587 599 605 611 617 623 629 635 641 647 653 659 665 671 677 683

Stakeholder #4

☑ SMC Sheriff

- Last 6 months have increased patrol in response to complaints and made stops
- No parking violations (5 to 7 students park vehicles at the top of Highland during school hours)
- Continuing efforts

Stakeholder #5

☑ Rosoff Family

- Most affected stakeholder
- Willing to donate corner of property for pathway

Stakeholder #6

- City of HMB
- Accept and execute property donations from Ailanto and Rosoffs
- Review and approve pathway design
- Sponsor pathway CDP

What's Required?

1. Remove concrete slag & several trees
2. Move section of fence at Rosoff residence
3. Minor grading
4. Install wheelchair ramp at Highland terminus
5. Install 4-foot wide paved pathway
6. Install handrail adjacent ditch if needed

- Less than $25,000 for construction

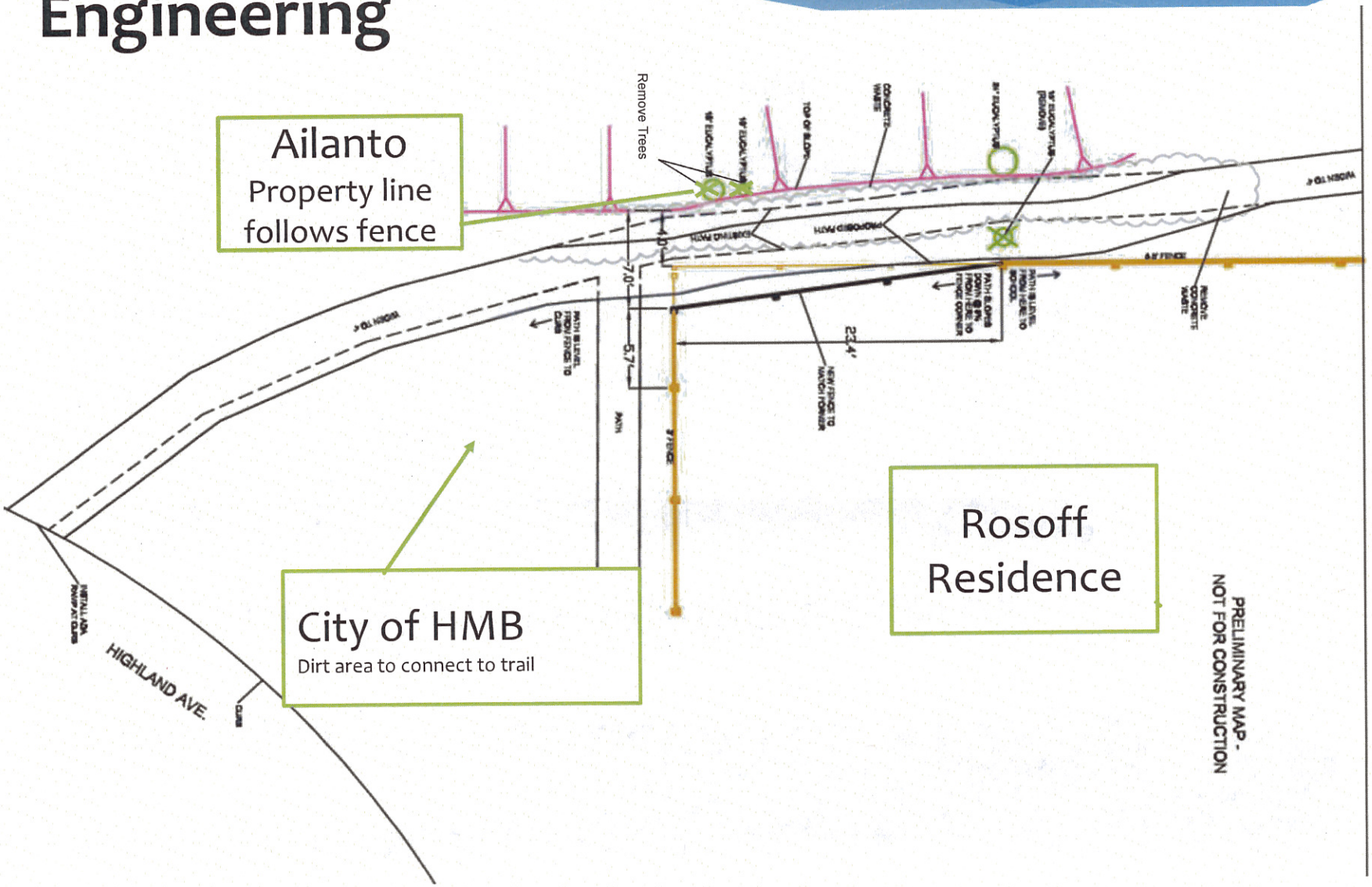
Preliminary Construction Cost Estimate*

HMB Grading & Paving, Andreini Bros

Task	Cost
Remove concrete and trees	<$1,750
Move/and Replace Rosoff Fences	<$750
Install wheelchair ramp at Highland	<$2,000
Construct pathway (grade, pave)	<$20,000
Install handrail as needed	<$500
Total	**<$25,000**

* Initial attempts at obtaining financing are positive

Engineering



HMB Circulation Plan of General Plan

Element: "Encourage alternative modes of transportation"

"The city will encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation such as walking, biking and public transit to reduce single occupancy vehicular traffic, minimize environmental impact and improve personal health and recreational enjoyment."

Benefits to City of HMB and Residents?

- Retain access to schools and recreation
- More non-vehicle travel
- Less traffic on Highway 1 especially at peak
- Safer healthier citizens
- Cooperative solution

The City of HMB can make it all come together.

Th15d

From: doreen23@comcast.net [mailto:doreen23@comcast.net]
Sent: Saturday, May 04, 2013 8:51 PM
To: Rexing, Stephanie@Coastal
Subject: Fwd: Highland Park pathway to high school

Hi Stephanie,

Mr. Haberman, a neighbor on Highland Avenue, sent us this email on April 13th. We did not know until today that he did not have your email address and, therefore, had not sent it to you. We told Mr. Haberman that we would forward it to you. Please include this in the Staff Report and packet for the Commissioners.

Thanks,
Frank and Doreen Gerrity

From: "Joey"
To: doreen23@comcast.net
Sent: Saturday, April 13, 2013 7:45:40 PM
Subject: Highland Park pathway to high school

Dear Ms Rexing,

I know that their is a petition circulating to keep open the easement and allow students access to the high school at the top of Highland Avenue. I have lived on the coast for 33 years and in Highland Park for the last 7 plus years. I am not in favor of this easement as I'm not happy about the significant amount of traffic we are seeing. In addition, this will, in my opinion, reduce the value of our homes. My wife and I bought a home in Highland Park because we wanted to raise our child with wide streets and few cars. One of the most attractive features of our neighborhood was the wide streets and few cars. I have personally witnessed cars speeding down the two large hills (Silver Ave and Highland Ave). I walk with my daughter and dogs daily around the neighborhood and have seen this happen several times. Both Highland and Silver Avenues have large hills. The cars can't help but to speed unless they live in the neighborhood and have to face their neighbors. It doesn't make sense to increase traffic in a residential neighborhood that has large hills like Highland Park. Half Moon Bay has enough traffic to contend with on a daily basis. Please don't make this true for Highland Park. Thank you very much for your time.

Joey Haberman
Sent from my iPad

Th15d

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

May 7, 2013

Pier 3, The Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94111

Mary Shallenberger, Chairperson
California Coastal Commission, and
Members, California Coastal Commission
c/o Stephanie Rexing
Staff Analyst
California Coastal Commission
725 Front Street, Suite 300
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Re: Ailanto Properties: Appeal No. A-2-HMB-13-001

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

We very much appreciate the staff's recommendation of "no substantial issue" on this appeal. I'm writing as legal counsel for Ailanto Properties, the permit applicant, with respect to several brief points.

First, Ailanto's only purpose in seeking the fence permit has been to eliminate its potential liability for injuries or accidents to those illegally trespassing on Ailanto's property and using the footpath. We have long been concerned about accidents to the children using the path, and the real possibility of intentional harm to them by others in the area. If something occurs, Ailanto would likely be liable for damages, even though it has already made an irrevocable offer to dedicate the park parcel on which the pathway is located.

As your staff report correctly notes, the Coastal Act protects access to the coast. This pathway is more than 1000 yards inland, and has no connection to coastal access: it is used only as an illegal shortcut to access the High School. Indeed, the Appellants essentially are arguing that the Coastal Act protects illegal trespassing on such a distant pathway, and that surely is not what the Act was ever intended to do.

Second, we have consistently worked with neighbors to reach a common solution. In particular, we agreed in the very first hearing of the permit application on November 12, 2012, before the Half Moon Bay Planning Commission to postpone construction of the fence for 120 days, so that the neighbors could seek to have the park parcel offer to dedicate accepted by an appropriate entity, or develop a mechanism by which they could take title and liability to the pathway alone. That same offer was reiterated in the proceedings on the appeal to the Half Moon Bay City Council. Almost six months have now passed and the neighbors *still* have not made any significant progress towards achieving that goal.

Finally, your staff report correctly notes that Ailanto has committed to removing the fence if and when the offer is accepted to dedicate the park area: by this letter we reiterate that commitment, and we view that commitment essentially as part and parcel of the fence project. If at some point in the future the neighbors come up with a complete and final solution that puts legal responsibility for only the pathway and its liabilities on another party, we will immediately remove the fence at that time too.

The Commission should therefore determine that the appeal raises no substantial issue, and allow Ailanto to proceed to protect its property rights and eliminate any liability from the illegal trespassing.

Yours very truly,

RICHARD C. JACOBS

Cc: Fran Layton, Esq.