



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

April 18, 2013

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

Dear Chair Shallenberger:

I join San Francisco Mayor Edwin Lee, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi, and the overwhelming majority of San Francisco's Board of Supervisors in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation. I believe the City and County of San Francisco has fully vetted the issues surrounding this project, as evidenced by the public hearings in front of the Planning Commission, Recreation and Park Commission, Board of Supervisors, and Board of Permit Appeals. Moreover, I believe this project will be of tremendous benefit to tens of thousands of children who will have improved access to an amazing facility in our treasured Golden Gate Park.

I urge you to support a finding of "No Substantial Issue" in your consideration of the project. Please feel free to contact my office at (415) 393-0707 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dianne Feinstein".

Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

NANCY PELOSI
12TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA
DEMOCRATIC LEADER

235 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0508
(202) 225-4965

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0508

DISTRICT OFFICE:
SAN FRANCISCO FEDERAL BUILDING
90-7TH STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103
(415) 556-4862
www.pelosi.house.gov

March 22, 2013

RECEIVED

MAR 27 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

Thank you for your leadership to protect, preserve and enhance California's coast and ocean. It is my privilege to support the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in Golden Gate Park. I urge the Coastal Commission to uphold the City's decision to renovate these sports fields for local youth and athletes.

The City Fields Foundation's Playfields Initiative, in partnership with the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, has renovated busy sports fields and reorganized the City's field permit system. This has added many hours of new playtime for thousands of local children. The Beach Chalet Fields currently serve more than 1,550 children and 600 adults each week, and their restoration will provide more opportunities for athletic and community engagement.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are not located on open space, and San Francisco's coast will not suffer any significant impacts due to this project. The project will include the planting of 200 new trees and 1,000 new plants; the field lightening will not stand out from the Great Highway, Oceans Beach or the beach promenade; and there will be no impact on current or potential commercial-recreation uses in these areas. Moreover, this project saves water, eliminates herbicide and pesticide usage on the Athletic Fields and turf manufacturers must provide an end-of-life recycling plan when they bid for the project. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields project is consistent with the Local Coastal Program and demonstrates San Francisco's long standing commitment to natural resource preservation and restoration.

The renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields is a vital step forward for the City's children, adults and park community. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact my District Office at (415) 556-4862.

Best Regards,


NANCY PELOSI
Democratic Leader



WASHINGTON, D.C.

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APR 17 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

JACKIE SPEIER
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
CALIFORNIA-12

April 12, 2013

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

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members:

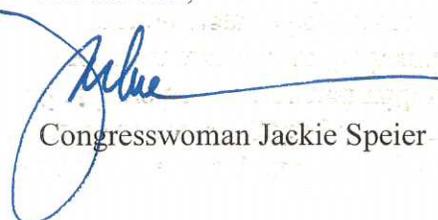
The Recreation and Parks Department has notified me of its proposal to renovate the Beach Chalet playing fields. I am writing to respectfully request that the project receive all appropriate consideration before the commission.

In my judgment, additional playing fields are needed in order to encourage children and adults to exercise more regularly. According to information provided to my office, there are many fields that have been renovated with the consequent result that thousands of additional playing hours have been created. In the heavily urbanized environment of San Francisco, it is important that appropriate venues be enhanced so as to encourage exercise and healthy living. The fields are part of a network of coastal resources that include the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA). The Beach Chalet fields probably take pressure off of the GGNRA to some extent as recreation activities that might otherwise spill over into less structured settings in the GGNRA are instead able to be scheduled more appropriately within the fields.

The Beach Chalet athletic fields serve my constituents because they serve all city residents. I know that the commission is concerned about preserving coastal access and the amenities that are contributing to the enjoyment of the coast. Investment in the fields will hopefully result in improved environmental outcomes.

Thank you for your consideration of this project and for your ongoing great work in ensuring that Californians are able to experience coastal assets to their fullest, consistent with the intent of the Coastal Act.

All the best,


Congresswoman Jackie Speier

Office of the Mayor
City & County of San Francisco



Edwin M. Lee

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MAR 27 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

March 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 the Coastal Commission,

I am writing to encourage a "No Substantial Issue" determination on the permit appeals that have been filed against the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation and to express my strong support of the Coastal Permit issued by the San Francisco Planning Commission for this project.

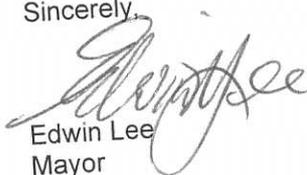
The City of San Francisco conducted a lengthy and exhaustive environmental review and project approval/appeal process for this project, including numerous public hearings resulting in the certification of the project's Environmental Impact Report and multiple determinations that the project adheres to the Local Coastal Program. These decisions were made during lengthy public hearings and based on clear, consistent interpretations of the Local Coastal Program and public access policies of the California Coastal Act.

- **May 24, 2012** - SF Planning Commission voted 4-1 to certify the Environmental Impact Report (EIR), and approve the General Plan Referral and the Local Coastal Zone 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

Regarding the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation, there was broad agreement at every step in the approval and appeal process that this project is critical for our youth, beneficial to our largest, most popular park, and a unique opportunity for our city. The Board of Supervisors' vote of 10-1 on this issue points to the broad support for a solid, balanced, thoughtful project, such as you are considering.

I urge you support a finding of "No Substantial Issue." Please feel free to contact my office if we can be of any assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,


Edwin Lee
Mayor

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 200, San Francisco, California 94102-4641
(415) 554-6141

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

DIRECT DIAL: (415) 553-1741



GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney

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MAR 27 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

March 15, 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 consider a "No Substantial Issue" determination when you vote on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation appeal.

As San Francisco's District Attorney, I deal everyday with crime and its impacts on our communities. I work closely with the San Francisco Police Department to prosecute criminals and improve safety in our communities. Our law enforcement officials understand that providing recreational opportunities for our youth and increasing activity in our public spaces are both effective ways to prevent crime.

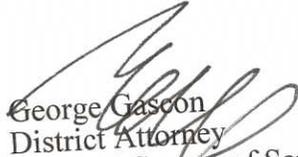
It is clear that the area around the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields would benefit greatly from this renovation project. There have been too many instances of crime at the western end of the park. The inactivity and darkness around the fields attracts drug users and we've seen multiple reports of violence on the site, including a murder last year. Other field renovation projects, like the Playfields Initiative's Crocker Amazon Soccer Fields improvements, brought increased vitality to surrounding neighborhoods and increased safety in the park.

The potential environmental impacts from this project have been studied again and again, at every level of San Francisco's exhaustive review process. This facility in Golden Gate Park is designated for recreational use and has been athletic fields for more than 80 years. This is an appropriate use for this space and the project fits into our Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Renovating these fields will simply improve the field's conditions and public access for neighbors and visitors alike.

Please support this project and help us decrease crime, expand recreational opportunities for our city's children, and make our fields safer for everyone.

Thank you for considering a "No Substantial Issue" finding when you make your decision on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation Coastal Permit appeal.

Sincerely,


George Gascon
District Attorney
City and County of San Francisco

850 BRYANT STREET, THIRD FLOOR • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94103
RECEPTION: (415) 553-1741 • FACSIMILE: (415) 553-1737



EDWIN M. LEE
MAYOR

**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

THOMAS J. CAHILL HALL OF JUSTICE
850 BRYANT STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94103-4603



GREGORY P. SUHR
CHIEF OF POLICE

March 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 writing in regards to the appeal of the Coastal Permit for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. Please vote "no substantial issue" and allow this critical project to move forward.

Despite the wonderful location in Golden Gate Park, these fields simply are not safe. Having been built on sand in a very moist marine climate, the grass fields are generally soggy and the grass turf struggles to survive. Grass out in these fields grow in clumps and is easily, inadvertently removed by even modest running and play. Injuries are frequent – sprained ankles, torn ACL's, broken feet. Having played at these fields many times as a kid, I have turned my ankles and twisted my knees in painful injuries several times on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Replacing the grass fields with synthetic turf would greatly reduce the number and severity of injuries suffered on those sports fields. Throughout San Francisco, we have seen the success of replacing battered, unsafe grass fields with synthetic turf. Why should the kids living around the Beach Chalet fields not get to enjoy the same quality of play as their friends in other neighborhoods? Why would we not want to activate a space that's closed and empty for most of each day?

I have seen how these kids play at Garfield, at Kimball, at Crocker and at the other parks with sports fields renovated with synthetic turf and lights. It is truly transformative for those kids to have regular access to a safe sports field.

The field lights are also an important part of this discussion because they extend play hours so the fields are active for later into the evening. As seen in other parks, simply illuminating the fields will drive away some of the illicit activities occurring in the bushes around the fields, whether its narcotics use, prostitution, camping, or auto burglaries. In my experience, increasing the opportunities for positive activities, like athletics, both discourages illegal activity and gives kids positive choices here in San Francisco. I believe that is a win-win situation for everyone.

Please vote "no substantial issue" on the appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation's Coastal Permit.

Sincerely,


GREGORY P. SUHR
Chief of Police

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 1
市參議員、第一區



City and County of San Francisco

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APR 16 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 15, 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 am contacting you to express my support for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. I believe the project's Coastal Permit was properly issued and urge you to make a "No Substantial Issue" determination on the permit appeals.

All of Golden Gate Park, including these dilapidated soccer fields, are located in my Supervisorial District and, over the past several years, I have gained extensive knowledge of the project, its environmental review, and the many benefits it will have on the Park and our city's children.

Having read and considered the Environmental Impact Report, the Western Shoreline Plan and the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, I believe that installing synthetic turf and lights on these fields is both environmentally responsible and totally appropriate for this location in a designated "major recreation 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."**

It's important to note that the Western Shoreline Plan not only pre-dates the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, the Shoreline Plan actually directs the City to create a master plan for the park. The City then drafted and approved the plan and has been implementing it for the past 15 years.

The Master Plan is a thoughtful planning tool but, at times, provides contradictory guidance. In one section, the Master Plan addresses potential conflicts between recreation and preservation and suggests a way to approach this issue, "The demands for recreation need to be balanced with the objectives of preserving the original intent and purpose of the park as "sylvan and pastoral" retreat. **Emphasis should be placed on improving and maintaining existing recreation facilities, rather than adding new ones."**

That is exactly what will be accomplished by this sports fields' renovation: an update of an existing recreation facility to meet the athletic needs of our city's children. I strongly request that you make a determination of "No Substantial Issue" and allow this important project to proceed.

Sincerely,



Eric Mar
Board of Supervisors, District 1
City of San Francisco

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 8



City and County of San Francisco

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MAR 27 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

SCOTT WIENER
威善高

March 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,

I write to encourage you to reject the appeal of the Coastal Permit for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation. This critical project – which will provide much-needed soccer-field access for both children and adults – has broad support and deserves to move forward.

During the project's lengthy local approval and appeal process, there were two items upon which everyone agreed: the need for more sports fields for children and a desire to preserve our existing natural open space. This field renovation does an excellent job balancing those two desires. The athletic fields will be modernized to meet today's youth recreation needs, the site will be made accessible with family-friendly amenities, and the surrounding park landscape will be enhanced with 200 new trees and more than 1,000 new plants.

There has been a lot of hyperbole about the impact the project will have on the natural feel and open space in the west end of Golden Gate Park. I do not agree with this perspective. This field renovation covers less than 1% of Golden Gate Park and is near several other lighted areas. The field is already fenced off and is anything but a natural area. The project will simply renovate and rehabilitate a facility identified as a "Major Recreation Area" in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, rather than introduce new structures and activities to virgin open space.

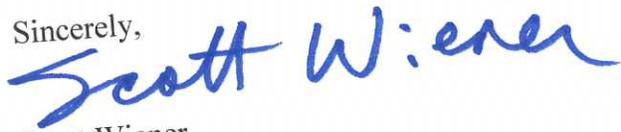
While I understand and respect the opposition to the Beach Chalet project, this project has been extensively reviewed, analyzed, and approved by every city body that has considered it, including a nearly unanimous vote at the Board of Supervisors. At some point, the opponents need to acknowledge that they have not prevailed through San Francisco's meticulous and extensive processes. Turning to the Coastal Commission to achieve what the opponents could not achieve through the city's agencies and its highest elected body, in my view, is not the right course.

City Hall • 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place • Room 244 • San Francisco, California 94102-4689 • (415) 554-6968
Fax (415) 554-6909 • TDD/TTY (415) 554-5227 • E-mail: Scott.Wiener@sfgov.org

Mary Shallenberger
March 25, 2013
Page 2

I urge you to make a finding of "No Substantial Issue" on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation Coastal Permit appeal. Please feel free to contact my office if we can be of any assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,



Scott Wiener
Supervisor, District 8

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 10



City and County of San Francisco

MALIA COHEN
馬莉亞郭嫻

RECEIVED

APR 02 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

March 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;

Like many San Franciscans, I enjoy the natural experience of walking through Golden Gate Park and appreciating the rare moments of solace found in this sanctuary. I did have concerns about the potential environmental impacts of the project. However, through an extensive public process, from my perspective these concerns have been adequately addressed. I am confident that the field renovations will enhance the naturalistic landscaped qualities of the western end of the park while improving the playing fields that have been there for more than 80 years.

The Supervisorial district I represent is among our City's most diverse and includes one of our highest percentages of children and families. Most of the families in my district are earning far less than the average San Franciscan household, and many are living below the poverty line. Access to recreation opportunities is critical to the safety and well-being for the kids in my district. There are far too many of these kids who have never been to Golden Gate Park, and improving the conditions of our fields is one way to change that.

As city leaders, we must strive to make our parks and open space accessible to everyone. For many, their first experience with Golden Gate Park comes from playing on our athletic fields. We owe it to our kids to ensure that we maximize the hours of play-time on our fields.

I would encourage you to come to the same conclusion that the Board of Supervisors did on this project and move forward the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation.

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Malia".

Malia Cohen
Member, Board of Supervisors

City Hall • 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place • Room 244 • San Francisco, California 94102-4689 • (415) 554-7670
Fax (415) 554-7674 • TDD/TTY (415) 554-5227 • E-mail: malia.cohen@sfgov.org

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 2



City and County of San Francisco

MARK E. FARRELL RECEIVED

March 20, 2013

Supervisor Mark Farrell
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

APR 02 2013

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APR 02 2013

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

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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 am writing to you as a member of San Francisco's Board of Supervisors. As a San Francisco native, I grew up playing soccer on these fields and hope that generations to come will have the same opportunity. I'd like to request that you find "no substantial issue" on the appeal of the Coastal Permit for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation.

This project has been designed to address the City's great need for sports fields that are safe for our children. The project has created a unique opportunity to use both public funds and substantial private donations to repair an 80-year-old public recreation facility, Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields aren't safe and haven't been for many years. During the Board of Supervisors' hearing on this project, we heard from many people who had suffered from broken ankles and torn ACLs while playing on these fields. While San Francisco has many wonderful attributes, the weather can be problematic. The year-round rain and fog is damaging to grass fields, creating an environment that is often unsafe and unsuitable for sports activities. Consequently, the fields are frequently closed, leaving many children without a place to participate in outdoor sports.

Last spring, I threw the first pitch for San Francisco Little League. At that time, I learned that many children who wanted to participate in Little League were turned away as a result of the diminishing number of athletic fields in the City. It is unfortunate that, in an illustrious city such as San Francisco, children are denied the opportunity to participate in community sports because of the dwindling quality of our athletic fields.

City Hall • 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place • Room 244 • San Francisco, California 94102-2489 • (415) 554-7752
Fax (415) 554-7843 • TDD/TTY (415) 554-5227 • E-mail: Mark.Farrell@sfgov.org

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 2



City and County of San Francisco

MARK E. FARRELL

The proposed renovation and addition of lights will improve safety and increase the number of usable recreation fields in the city. These upgrades will not negatively affect Golden Gate Park or views of Ocean Beach. Rather, the project will create safer public spaces for our citizens and will provide hundreds of children with the fundamental childhood experience of playing outdoor sports. I believe these plans fully comply with and advance the goals of San Francisco's Local Coastal Program. I ask that you please help us in achieving our objective by finding "no substantial issue" on the Coastal Permit appeal.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark E. Farrell".

Mark Farrell
Board of Supervisors, District 2
City of San Francisco

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 9



City and County of San Francisco

DAVID CAMPOS

March 15, 2013

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MAR 29 2013

**CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST**

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,

As you consider an appeal of the Coastal Permit for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields project in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, I ask that you to vote "No Substantial Issue."

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields project was intensely analyzed and scrutinized at every turn in San Francisco's legislative process. My staff and I spent dozens of hours reviewing the Planning Department's Environmental Impact Report. We looked at each of the issues raised by the project opponents, from the impact of lights to the safety of the synthetic turf. We also met with coaches, families and kids who use our fields across the city each week. When it was time to make a decision on the project last July, I concluded that the need for these fields outweighed the opponents' concerns.

The Supervisorial district that I represent includes the Mission district of San Francisco, the center of San Francisco's Latino community. Thousands of my district's residents are avid soccer players who use the Beach Chalet fields every weekend. Over 40% of the kids who use our athletic fields are from the Latino community. We continue to struggle with keeping families in our great city, and providing free and safe recreation opportunities for all of our children. When we deliberated the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields project, we were joined by hundreds of diverse community members, both kids and adults, who stressed the importance of this project. Their participation in the process and their enthusiasm for the project helped increase my understanding of the urgent need for this project.

I have seen the direct benefits of similar field renovations in my own district. Just last year, we reopened the newly renovated Mission Playground, which includes a state-of-the-art synthetic turf field similar to what's proposed at the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

City Hall • 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place • Room 244 • San Francisco, California 94102-4689
(415) 554-5144 • Fax (415) 554-6255 • TDD (415) 554-5227 • David.Campos@sfgov.org

Over the last several months, we have seen a substantial increase in the hours of play at Mission Playground. It has become one of our community's most important recreational facilities and I'm confident that the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation will have a similar impact in Golden Gate Park.

I believe that the questions around environmental impacts have been appropriately addressed through our city process. The Golden Gate Park Master Plan clearly designates this facility as a "major recreation area" and encourages more athletic play in this area of the park.

Thank you for considering a "No Substantial Issue" finding on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields project in San Francisco and helping us improve these fields for all of San Francisco's families, athletes and visitors.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Campos".

David Campos
Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco, District 9

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April 9, 2013

APR 10 2013

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

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

As President of the San Francisco Planning Commission, I would like to share my support for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco and to encourage you to make a "no substantial issue" finding on the appeal of the project's Coastal Zone Permit.

On May 24, 2012, the San Francisco Planning Commission held a public hearing to consider the project's Coastal Zone Permit, and other requisite permits and approvals. We found that the project's limited scope, major tree and shrub planting plan, and core goals achieved, on the whole, the goals, objectives and policies outlined in the Western Shoreline Plan, San Francisco's certified Local Coastal Program.

I also want to note that Golden Gate Park is a man-made wonder, it is not a native or preserved environment. Most of the native vegetation was removed during the park's development. It was built on sand dunes and has been modified numerous times to meet the "modern" interests of city residents. In fact, the park used to include a casino and a race track, and a steam train even ran on what's now a walking path near the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Today, the park includes: two multi-story museums, an underground parking garage, two community centers, concrete fly-casting ponds, the Conservatory of Flowers, a music concourse and bandshell, tennis courts, baseball diamonds, a golf course, an archery range, a Japanese tea garden, two restaurants, a football stadium, a log cabin, numerous offices, a plant nursery, and even a gas station. The famous buffaloes and many of the beautiful birds we see around the park are not native to San Francisco.

Golden Gate Park is a great place to visit, recreate and relax but it is not a nature preserve. Its purpose is to provide a haven for city dwellers, a place to unwind from metropolitan life. For many people, children especially, this means sports and athletic recreation. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields comprise less than 1% of the entire park. I believe Golden Gate Park is large enough to accommodate many differing uses without overly burdening or denying any group, and this project strikes a thoughtful balance between active and passive recreation and the park's environment.

Please consider a "no substantial issue" finding and allow this project to proceed.

Thank you,



Rodney Fong
SF Planning Commissioner

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APR 08 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 2, 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'm contacting you to request that you support a "no substantial issue" determination in regards to the Coastal Permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco. Having thoroughly reviewed the project and environmental report, I believe this project will address an important need in San Francisco – providing kids with ample safe and accessible sports fields – while reinvesting in Golden Gate Park's natural landscape.

Prior to this project being considered by San Francisco's Planning Commission, I had numerous questions and spoke at length with City staff and project sponsors to better understand the design, the potential impacts and how the project had been modified to address community concerns.

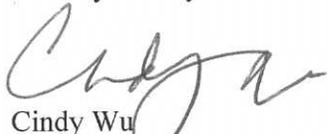
By my reading of the environmental impact report, there will be no spillover of light onto Ocean Beach. People standing on the beach will not perceive any change in light due to the new field lights on the soccer fields. The lighting caps being used on the fields lights were recommended by the National Parks Service to limit light spill and reduce any potential impacts on "dark skies" or wildlife.

I appreciated that the project was revised to further reduce the visibility of the light fixtures from elsewhere in the park, surrounding residential neighborhoods, Ocean Beach and the Ocean Beach promenade. Light poles were reduced from 80' to 60' and placed onto the fields, instead of on the edges as is the norm. The whole system is timed and automated, and light distribution on the field was engineered to provide consistent light across the field for safe play while minimizing the amount of light escaping the area of play. Plus, the field lights feature two settings: 30 foot candles for regular practices and games, and 50 foot candles for the occasional tournament.

It's also helpful to note that kids and players of all ages and colors will use these fields but the most visible benefit is the massive increase in play by sports leagues and clubs catering to disadvantaged kids. Thanks to the increase in ground sports field access due to synthetic turf and field light installations elsewhere in the City, the Police Activities League has been able to add 50 teams (approximately 600 kids) and America Scores Bay Area has doubled the number of kids they serve to 800 children each year in their literacy and soccer program. Both of these programs, and many more, will be able to serve more low-income kids if the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are renovated.

Please support a "no substantial issue" determination when the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation Coastal Permit appeal is heard by the Commission.

Thank you for your consideration,



Cindy Wu
SF Planning Commissioner

RECEIVED

APR 09 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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,

I'm writing in my personal capacity to encourage your support for a "no substantial issue" determination on the Coastal Permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco. I serve on the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Commission and therefore am very familiar with this project. I believe this project will bring vital improvements to not just the sports fields but also to the surrounding landscape and recreational resources, including Ocean Beach.

This area of Golden Gate Park needs help. As stated in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, the west end of the park largely lacks recreation facilities and enjoys fewer visitors than other areas. The facilities that are meant for active recreation – the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, the archery range, the golf course, and even the tulip garden – largely serve unique, activity-specific visitors. There is not much interaction between these facilities or their users and many of these visitors come to the park, participate in their activity, and leave without ever exploring the adjacent facilities and open space.

That feels like a missed opportunity for park visitors from near and far. For locals, it means that large swaths of our greatest park go unknown and unvisited by all but a few people.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation would change that. Some of the most exciting elements of the project will be the substantial increase in visitors to the west end of the Park, the creation of more welcoming amenities at the site, and the increase in connectivity between the facilities.

The athletic fields renovation is expected to triple the amount of play at the soccer facility. While a portion of those players already use the Beach Chalet sports fields, many more people will get to enjoy them once the play capacity is increased due to greater field access during the day and evening, the use of all four fields instead of just three (one of the grass fields is always kept in a state of rest to help preserve the facility's overall field condition), and the elimination of rain outs (synthetic turf is permeable and can be played upon in even the heaviest downpour).

As more people gain access to the site for athletics, they will enjoy a more welcoming facility. Spectator seating will be created on and off the fields (there is currently no seating of any kind at the facility), bathrooms will be modernized, a viewing plaza and play structure will encourage visitors to linger and enjoy the area, while picnic tables and barbecue pits will give folks a chance to cook and eat and relax over the course of the day. At the same time, the fields, bathrooms and entire facility will finally be made accessible to the disabled so all park visitors can enter and enjoy the sports fields and surrounding amenities.

The athletic fields renovation will also vastly improve access to the sports facility, the surrounding woodlands and the Beach Chalet restaurants and Golden Gate Park Visitors Center. Currently, most

field users travel to the site in cars and park in the parking lot or, if the lot is locked or fully, they park on JFK Drive, just outside the facility.

Unfortunately, the parking lot has no formal drop off zone, no sidewalk to provide safe pedestrian access, no bicycle parking, and no formal path to the fields, to the Great Highway or the Beach Chalet building itself.

The fields renovation would expand the size of the parking lot by 20 cars to account for 50% of the anticipated increase in field use. A sidewalk will traverse the parking lot between JFK Dr., the restroom, and a gently sloping path down to the fields. Another pathway will begin on JFK Dr. and wind its way through a brief stretch of woods, across the parking lot and onto a curvilinear pathway through the play structure area and down to the fields. There will be bike parking for 81 bicycles and new disability parking spots.

Once at field level, an accessible pathway made of "nature pave" will circumnavigate the fields just outside the fence and fork off to connect with the Beach Chalet restaurants and Golden Gate Park Visitors Center to the north. Another broad disability walkway will cross the middle of the field at a slight elevation to improve access and provide bench seating without the installation of bleachers in the center of the four field expanse. The center pathway will connect to the walkway outside the fence, and to an informal pathway connecting to the running path west of the fields and the Great Highway beyond that.

So for the first time, a person walking down JFK Drive will be able to take a meandering path through some trees and the existing parking lot, past a kids' play structure, down and across the athletic fields to a path that will take them to either the Beach Chalet or the Great Highway and Ocean Beach. People won't have to hike along park roads or slosh through muddy bogs around the sports fields and in the surrounding woods. These are important and long-overdue pedestrian connections for Golden Gate Park and National Park Service property.

This sports fields renovation would be a tremendous benefit to the park and its many visitors, from both near and far. It would improve access and safety and enhance the tenuous connections between park facilities and adjacent shoreline resources.

Please consider a "no substantial issue" determination when the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation Coastal Permit appeal is heard by the Commission in May.

Thank you,



Paige Arata

Member, San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission

RECEIVED

April 4, 2013

APR 08 2013

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

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I'm writing to you as the President of the San Francisco Unified School District Board of Education to ask that you find "no substantial issue" on the appeal of the Coastal Permit for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation Golden Gate Park. This critical project will provide needed sports facilities for our youth while improving the park's natural landscape.

As both a school board member and a mom, I'm very familiar with the needs of our city's youth, and the delicate balancing act that we, as a community, undertake to meet those needs in this busy, gritty, dense urban environment. The Playfields Initiative partnership between the Department of Recreation and Parks and the City Fields Foundation deserves your support and the proposal to renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields with synthetic turf and lights would be a terrific improvement for our park, our city and our kids.

By renovating sports fields in numerous other parks around the city, the Playfields Initiative has already helped increase access for the families, athletes and visitors who enjoy our athletic facilities. SFUSD is also doing our part to help make sure that City kids have safe, accessible places to play sports. Several years ago, we joined the Playfields Initiative partnership by working with Recreation and Parks and City Fields on a unique joint-use athletic field program to allow more community access to SFUSD fields. This program has been a tremendous success and is giving more kids more opportunities to play throughout San Francisco.

San Francisco simply doesn't have enough sports fields for all the kids who wish to play. The proposed renovation to Beach Chalet will bring more than 9,000 more hours of play for kids, for athletes and for park visitors. Our children deserve safer fields to play on, and the general public needs better lit fields to increase safety in the area.

Please help us give our kids a chance. This project has already been delayed for years. Many of the junior high school kids who first spoke in support of the project are now in high school and may never get a chance to play if this project is held up further. Please reject this baseless appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation's Coastal Permit by supporting a "no substantial issue" finding.

Thank you for your consideration,



Rachel Norton
President, SFUSD Board of Education

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2013

**CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST**

City and County of San Francisco
March 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,

As a newly elected member of the San Francisco Unified School District's Board of Education, I respectfully ask that you vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

I sought election to the San Francisco Board of Education last year because I believe that we can do more to reach educational excellence and keep our families in San Francisco. In my new position representing the tens of thousands of students, parents, teachers and administrators of San Francisco's public schools, I'm committed to standing up for the needs of our city's children, no matter how loud the voices of dissent may be.

Renovating the fields at the Beach Chalet soccer complex is clearly the right thing to do by our children. One of the most common challenges cited by our parents is the lack of athletic fields in our city. I've spoken to several parents who have to drive their kids all over the Bay Area to find a place to practice. In the course of the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and San Francisco's Recreation and Parks Department, we've seen over 76,000 hours of additional play on our fields. We can't stop there when the need persists.

The project opponents are presenting a false choice here. Renovating these fields will not harm our natural environment. The project renovation will actually substantially increase the number of trees in the area and the improvements clearly fit into the Golden Gate Park Master Plan.

Please support San Francisco's children and families by voting "No Substantial Issue" finding on the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields renovation appeal.

Sincerely,



Matt Haney
Board of Education Commissioner
San Francisco Unified School District



San Francisco Unified School District
KIM-SHREE MAUFAS
Commissioner, Board of Education

RECEIVED

APR 04 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

March 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,

I am writing to ask you to vote "No Substantial Issue" determination on the Coastal Permit appeal of the Beach Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

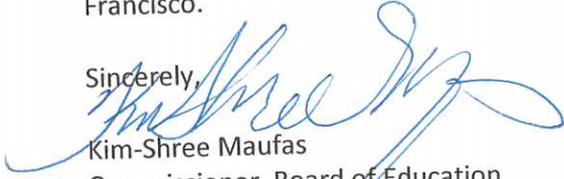
As a grandmother and mother struggling to have my family in San Francisco, I think every day about the challenges we face here - the skyrocketing cost of living, the rising costs of housing, and struggles of our working class neighbors and communities of color to simply stay in our great city. I want my granddaughter to enjoy the best of San Francisco as she grows up, including our great diversity, our beautiful surroundings, and our parks - and not as a visitor. Please see attached, my favorite picture of my daughter and granddaughter (Francesca and Marley), enjoying our neighborhood park.

I am proud of our San Francisco parks and what they can offer to residents and tourists alike. Golden Gate Park is a world-class park and there's no reason why it shouldn't offer the best recreational opportunities while also preserving the precious natural landscape. Renovating these fields will open up the park to our city's families and visitors and add an additional 9000 hours of critical playtime for youth and adult athletes.

This project went through an incredibly exhaustive process at all levels of city government. The Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors heard countless hours of testimony from both sides. Hundreds of kids and their families showed up to speak about the urgent need for these fields. The environmental concerns have been addressed and mitigations are being made. The decision makers at every level have been convinced that the proposed location is the right one for this project. We are simply trying to make an existing soccer field a better one for our kids.

Please help us move this project forward. Please cast a vote in favor of "No Substantial Issue" for the Coastal permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project in San Francisco.

Sincerely,


Kim-Shree Maufas
Commissioner, Board of Education
kim-shreemaufas@sfusd.edu
www.sfusd.edu

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Cc: Executive Director 555 Franklin Street, Room 106, San Francisco, California 94102
Att: Photograph (415) 241-6427 FAX. (415) 241-6429







San Francisco Unified School District
HYDRA B. MENDOZA
Commissioner, Board of Education

RECEIVED

APR 18 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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,

As a member of the San Francisco Unified School District's Board of Education and the Mayor of San Francisco's education advisor, I respectfully ask for your support for a "No Substantial Issue" finding on the Coastal Permit appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate park.

On the Board of Education, I represent the interests of the students, parents, teachers and administrators of San Francisco's public schools, and know intimately of our community's desperate need for more and safer ball fields that allow our children to enjoy healthy, active lives in our highly-developed, dense city.

The fields at the Beach Chalet soccer complex are currently unsafe and unusable. Without proper lighting, the fields are useless in the evening, and without proper turf, the fields are riddled with gopher holes and unstable surfaces that frequently injure our children.

In a time where city resources are being cut, recreation and education are all too often first on the chopping block. The partnership between the City Fields Foundation and the Department of Recreation and Parks has proven to be immensely successful, and your leadership and direction of the Playfields Initiative has granted in excess of 76,000 additional hours of play on safer fields. In the absence of building new fields at new sites, the partnership proposes to keep the site's use the same and increase its efficiency by adding lights and synthetic turf, which they estimate will add 9,000 of hours of playing time to existing fields, and improve the quality of life for San Francisco's youth.

This project is a good, smart way to get more use out of existing recreation facilities while also investing in the surrounding park landscape.

San Francisco families deserve safe and useable parks and athletic fields, and I respectfully request a "No Substantial Issue" finding on the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields renovation appeal.

Sincerely,

Hydra B. Mendoza
Commissioner, Board of Education
San Francisco Unified School District

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
555 Franklin Street, Room 106, San Francisco, California 94102
(415) 241-6427 FAX. (415) 241-6429



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APR 17 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 15, 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" determination for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields project in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. As the former Supervisor representing the Sunset District, immediately south of the sports fields, I believe this project is in conformance with the Western Shoreline Plan, San Francisco's certified Local Coastal Program.

The City of San Francisco conducted a lengthy and exhaustive environmental review and project approval/appeal process for this project, including numerous public hearings resulting in the certification of the project's Environmental Impact Report and multiple determinations that the project adheres to the Local Coastal Program.

The appeals against this project simply do not rise to the level of substantial issue. The sports fields are designated as a Major Recreation Area in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, a document which encourages increasing athletic play and opportunities in this area of the Park.

When this project was first proposed, a number of public meetings were held in my district to discuss the project. The project would vastly expand athletic opportunities for my constituents while replanting and replacing the aging trees and landscape surrounding the fields.

Further, the project will not reduce the visitor experience at Ocean Beach. Thank you for considering a No Substantial Issue finding to allow this project to finally move forward. Please feel free to contact my office if we can be of any assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,



Carmen Chu
Assessor-Recorder, City and County of San Francisco
Former Member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, District 4

April 1, 2013

RECEIVED

APR 10 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:

I urge you to cast a "No Substantial Issue" vote as you consider the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation project in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

I am a Trustee for San Francisco City College, and more importantly, I am a young father. Our family lives in the Richmond, a short trip away from Golden Gate Park. I want to take my young daughter, and the second one who's on the way, into the park regularly to enjoy the natural landscape and the athletic fields. My wife and I have seen too many of our friends with kids leave San Francisco for the East Bay or other more family-friendly areas. We want to stay in San Francisco, and we want others to have that opportunity too. Offering more safe and accessible athletic playfields is a step in the right direction for our families, and will keep our city vibrant.

As you know, our job as public officials is to balance all of the community's needs and make the best decisions we can. At each level—the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Commission, Planning Commission, and Board of Supervisors—our elected and appointed city officials did just that in regards to this project. They heard countless hours of testimony on both sides of the issue and they read hundreds of pages of information on the potential environmental impacts and community benefits. At each turn, they concluded, usually in a unanimous fashion, that there will be no significant environmental impact and that our families need these fields. The public has witnessed an exhaustive and deliberative process, and for that, we can be proud. We can be even prouder when the project is complete.

Please respect all of the thorough analysis that has gone into this project and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

Yours sincerely,



Steve Ngo
Trustee
San Francisco Community College District

LISA &
DOUGLAS
GOLDMAN
FUND

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April 4, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 08 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of the Coastal Commission:

My name is Douglas Goldman. I am writing in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project. Specifically, I am requesting that you cast a "**No Substantial Issue**" vote when you consider the Coastal Permit Appeal for this project.

As a fifth-generation resident of San Francisco, I grew up playing sports in the City, including at our two neighborhood playgrounds. My three children, also born and raised in our City, continued that tradition. I know firsthand the positive and important role that sports plays in children's lives. As a parent and physician, I understand the significance of sports for the physical and mental development of youth. As the president of the Lisa and Douglas Goldman Fund, a private philanthropic foundation in San Francisco, I am committed to improving access to sports opportunities for our City's youth and families. In addition to helping youth stay healthy and fit, participating in sports helps kids develop a positive self-image, learn both the importance of teamwork and the value of hard work, and gain self-confidence. Along with their teammates, our kids learn to believe in themselves—a lesson they take with them off the field and carry throughout their lives.

Providing safe, well-maintained, and sustainable athletic fields for our youth is a responsibility for both our city and state. It should be a public-policy priority. Simply stated, we are in desperate need of more athletic fields in San Francisco—not fewer! Some athletic leagues are forced to turn kids away because the City does not have enough sports fields to meet the demand. The current fields at Beach Chalet are often muddy, filled with gopher holes, unsanitary, and, worst of all, dangerous. 50% of the time, City officials close the fields due to damage resulting from overuse and/or rain. These frequent cancellations of practice sessions and games cause further limitations on the opportunities for our City's kids to play and exercise.

As the guardians and protectors of our community's youth, we must do better for our kids! It is our obligation to create safer, more accessible venues for them to engage in recreation and play organized sports. To assist in the fulfillment of this important goal, the Lisa and Douglas Goldman Fund has provided significant financial support to City Fields to assist and encourage them in their admirable

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

March 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 the Coastal Commission,

My name is Lauren B. Dachs, and I am writing in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project.

San Francisco needs high-quality athletic fields. Safe, well-maintained, and sustainable athletic fields provide important playgrounds for our children and youth. Sports help children learn the importance of teamwork, the value of hard work, and confidence – in addition to helping them stay healthy and fit. Unfortunately, athletic leagues have to turn children away because the City simply does not have enough sports fields to meet the demand. The current fields at Beach Chalet are often muddy and dangerous, and even though the Golden Gate Park Master Plan designates the Beach Chalet fields as an “active recreation area”, the City must close the fields 50% of the time to let them rest from constant play or recover from the rain. This results in frequent game and practice cancellations and limits opportunities for children to play and exercise.

Our children deserve better. The partnership between the City Fields Foundation and San Francisco’s Recreation and Parks Department has proven to be an effective model for athletic fields. By working closely with San Francisco communities, these organizations have renovated fields in neighborhoods across San Francisco, resulting in 76,000 hours of additional playtime. This model can and should be applied to the Beach Chalet fields.

Sincerely,



Lauren B. Dachs
President



Giving Wings to Youth

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Dave Hultman

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524 Post Street
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RECEIVED

MAR 26 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

March 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 Dave Hultman 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.

The Olympic Club Foundation supports and encourages participation by Bay Area youth in amateur athletics. Our mission is to grant funds and support programs which share our belief that participation in organized athletics enriches young lives and develops future community leaders.

www.OlympicClubFoundation.org

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,



Dave Hultman
President



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

RECEIVED

MAR 06 2013

**CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION**

February 19, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St, 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,

As the SF Recreation and Parks Tree Topper Supervisor, I oversee and am directly responsible for the Golden Gate Park reforestation program. I have reviewed the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation plan, including project planting plan and reforestation plans.

I can unequivocally state that the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation reforestation plan will help SF Recreation and Parks continue to implement the long-term reforestation program in the western portion of Golden Gate Park.

By replacing 14 trees, many of which are aged or unhealthy, with 200 new trees, this project will further our ongoing efforts to maintain and enhance the existing park tree canopy and wind break. In fact, replacing and planting this many trees around the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields will be one of the largest, most beneficial reforestation efforts during my fifteen years on the department's forestry team. This tree replacement plan is very good for Golden Gate Park, the health of the park's woodlands, and western wind break.

I believe the plants and planting zones identified in the project's general planting plan are appropriate to the site and the west end of Golden Gate Park.

Thank you,

Kelly Cornell
Tree Topper Supervisor
San Francisco Recreation and Parks





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

RECEIVED

MAR 06 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

February 19, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St, 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,

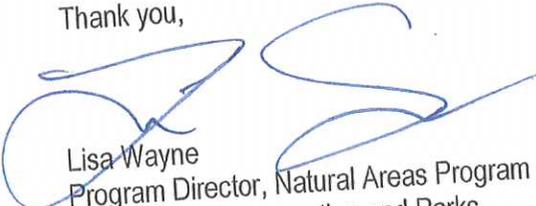
I am writing in regards to the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation planting plan. Along with site landscape and gardening staff, I have reviewed and analyzed the project's proposed planting plan and believe it does an excellent job emphasizing the naturalistic landscape qualities of the western end of the park for visitor use.

In my role as the Program Director for SF Recreation and Parks' Natural Areas Program, I joined Golden Gate Park Manager, Eric Anderson, and Park Section Supervisor, Davida Kapler, in providing comments and suggestions to the original plant palate for this project's landscaping plan. Each of us recommended modest changes to the plant palate to encourage the use of plants that have already proved successful in the West end of Golden Gate Park. Those suggestions have been incorporated into the current planting plan.

The identified planting zones and plant palate are appropriate for the landscaping and woodlands around the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields. The plants are a mix of native and non-native, non-invasive species that will thrive in the area's cool, coastal environment and survive constant human activity in and around the project site.

Though Golden Gate Park is a manmade park with no official Natural Areas in its western end, I believe the proposed planting plan for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation will emphasize the naturalistic landscape surrounding the fields to the betterment of the entire park.

Thank you,


Lisa Wayne
Program Director, Natural Areas Program
San Francisco Recreation and Parks

Capital Improvement Division | 30 Van Ness Ave. - 5th Fl. | San Francisco, CA 94102 | PH: 415.581.2559 | FAX: 415.581.2540 | www.parks.sfgov.org

March 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,

Upon thorough review of the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation project in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, I urge you to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the project.

As a former member of the San Francisco Board of Appeals, our role was to review all of the studies completed by city agencies to determine whether any important information was missing or any new facts had emerged in relation to this project. We examined how well the project aligned with the Planning Commission's Environmental Impact Report, the California Environmental Quality Act determination, and the San Francisco Local Coastal Program. At each turn, we found that the Planning Commission had done an exhaustive job examining the environmental impact of this project on the natural landscape.

I believe that projects near our coastline and in our most precious park deserve the upmost scrutiny. It was important and appropriate that the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors decided to conduct a full Environmental Impact Report for this project. I support the thorough city process that ended with our unanimous vote in support of the renovation on August 1st, 2012. It is time to move forward and begin to renovate this important facility for our families.

When you vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation project, you can trust that each public agency before you has studied this issue in the most thorough and comprehensive way. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Richard Hillis
Former Commissioner
San Francisco Board of Appeals



SAN FRANCISCO
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

RECEIVED

APR 12 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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

RECEIVED

APR 15 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 9, 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 Aidan Ryan and playing soccer is my favorite thing to do. I practice on the Beach Chalet fields, and I hate it when practices are cancelled because of rain which happens a lot. I went to the hearings last year and I'm really disappointed that the Beach Chalet project still hasn't been approved. My parents say it shows how sometimes the political system doesn't really work, because if a few people complain loudly enough, the rest of us lose out even if most people support this project, and it's the best thing for the environment and for the city.

There aren't enough good fields in the city, I really wish we had better fields so I could get to play more. I know it would be a great thing for me and all the other kids who loves to play soccer if the we had turf fields at beach Chalet.

Please vote to let the Beach Chalet Project move forward.

Thanks,



Aidan Ryan
SF United
San Francisco

RECEIVED

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

APR 15 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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 Claudine Ryan and I am a San Franciscan resident and parent of three soccer-loving children 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.

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.

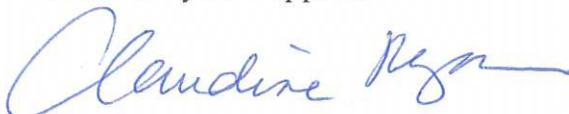
Renovating the Beach Chalet fields will also improve public safety in the area. The area surrounding the Beach Chalet fields has seen an increase in crime, including a murder last summer. Increasing the lighting and improving the facilities will help to alleviate these issues and make it safer for children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

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 (including my 12-year old son) 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.

Thanks for your support,



Claudine Ryan

RECEIVED

April 5, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

APR 12 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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,

Name Lia Kilgore
Age 13
Soccer Team

SF vikings Athena Red

RECEIVED

April 5, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

APR 12 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

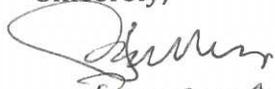
San Francisco desperately needs more athletic fields. On so many weekends, we've had to look in the eyes of our disappointed kids and explain why their games are cancelled when it's a perfectly sunny day. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are currently in such poor condition that they must close to let 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,


PATRICIA HIGA
38 INA COURT
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94112
ATHENA RED, SF Vikings

RECEIVED

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

APR 12 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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,



Mom of a Super Sonics soccer team player

April 9, 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.

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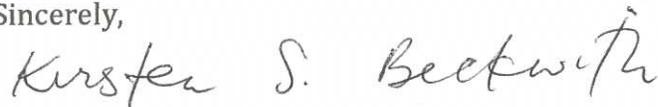
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Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,



Mom of a Super Sonics soccer team player

2496 Filbert St.
SF, CA 94123

April 8, 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 Eve Niquette and I am the parent of three children who play soccer in 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.

As a parent, over the last 10 years I have seen first-hand the ways that playing on a soccer team can help a child grow. Through being on a team, youth learn how to depend on others and the importance of cooperation and communication. They learn the value of hard work and what it means to make a commitment to a goal. Even more than that, my daughters have learned to believe in themselves and to celebrate their successes. I just wish that my children had more playfields available them. The demand is just not being met for our family and all of San Francisco's kids.

Our family has financially supported this project, as well as helped during the entitlement process. We believe in making the City a better place for families to live. Unfortunately, San Francisco does not always feel like a family-friendly city. Many of my friends with children have had to move due to the high cost of living, insufficient transportation, and lack of recreational facilities. Our families, including my own, need more accessible recreation fields in this part of town. By adding 9000 more hours of playtime, we can open up our fields to locals and tourists alike.

Renovating the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields is critical to improving the health and safety of our communities. The lighting and improved facilities will transform this part of Golden Gate Park into a safer place—a place I would feel more comfortable sending my child to play. The plan for renovation will not adversely affect the surrounding environment or compromise the character of the park.

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.

Sincerely,
Eve Niquette
SFFC Aftershocks98, SF Supersonics
San Francisco, CA

April 8, 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.

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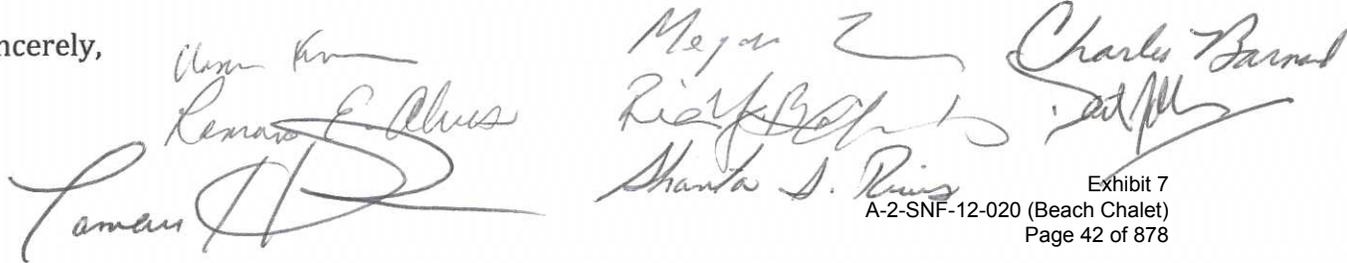
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My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions 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,



RECEIVED

April 11, 2013

APR 12 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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 8, 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,

We are some 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 us, and we love spending time with our team and friends. Rebuilding the fields is important to us because we want to make sure that our 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,

Members of the SFFC Aftershocks 98 U-14 Girls Soccer team

Charlotte Pohl

Lindsay Bach

Lucy Moore

Eliza Gislason

Vanessa Bernard

Bonnie Wong

Isabel Michaels

Biancha Coad

MAGGIE ALVES

RECEIVED

APR 12 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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)

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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,

Members of the SF Super Sonics U-10 Girls Soccer team

Sophira pohl

Vicky Zaroff

Mackensie Park

Natalia Hall

Cha-Cha Thompson

Eliza Zaroff

Robyn Wadsworth
Maddy Tunnell

Lily Beckwith
Maver Henderson

Rosanne Zaroff

California Coastal Commission
Re Proposed Golden Gate Park soccer fields

I am writing to you in support of the plan to build the new soccer fields at the west end of Golden Gate Park in San Francisco.

As a long-term member of the Sierra Club, I generally agree with the club's positions, but I do *not* agree with the Bay Chapter's opposition to the proposed soccer fields.

My wife and I live in the Excelsior District a few blocks from McLaren Park. A few years ago, when Rec&Park proposed several upgrades to Crocker-Amazon playing fields, including putting in new, artificial-turf soccer fields, there was loud opposition from some of our neighbors. The objections to the proposed soccer fields in GG Park are the same objections we heard to the fields in Crocker-Amazon, including the exposure of children to "toxic" artificial turf, destruction of the "historic", "natural" playing fields, too much bright light at night, etc.

Fortunately, cooler heads prevailed. The Crocker-Amazon soccer fields have been wildly successful, providing countless hours of healthy outdoor activity for thousands of youths and adults. Crocker-Amazon has greatly benefited from the renovations, and none of the dire predictions about the negative impacts of the upgrades have come true.

The Sierra Club's argument that children are going to be exposed to "potentially toxic" recycled automobile tires used in artificial turf is a tired argument that's been examined in detail and subsequently de-bunked during the course of many park renovation projects throughout the U.S.

The club's argument also implies that Golden Gate Park is a natural feature of the coast. The truth is that the park is hardly natural but rather an impressive example of creative terra-forming, a sylvan park built on top of ancient sand dunes.

Similarly, the club's argument against the soccer field project tries to imply that there's something "natural" about the "historic" ball fields themselves, but, again, this is hardly true: The fields have been made over countless times due both to normal wear and tear and to damage caused by gophers. That is, of course, one of the reasons Rec&Park prefers synthetic turf. It's more expensive to install, but cheaper to maintain over time as well as safer for players because it's free of gopher holes.

The Sierra Club's argument labels the project's impact as "devastating" on the "natural setting" of the west end of GG Park. But does that setting include the Great Highway, the Ocean Beach parking lots, the sea walls, the windmills, the park roadways and the Beach Chalet, not to mention the hundreds of housing units along each side of the park? The park is a man-made creation, built over the original, natural sand dunes, so the claim of devastation is a purely political opinion.

Similarly, the idea that shorebirds might be negatively impacted by the new soccer fields is pure conjecture. Again, what about the existing impact on wildlife of the highway, parking lots, etc., to say nothing of people and dogs on the beach and in the park?

Golden Gate Park is hardly a natural feature of the California Coast. The park is a multi-use, artificial environment and both children and adults would benefit by having new, attractive and safe recreational facilities near Ocean Beach.

Sincerely,



Mike Barnett
679 Madrid St.
San Francisco, CA 94112
mbarnett@sonic.net

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Sheryl Reuben
2930 Lake Street
San Francisco, CA 94121

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

March 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 Sheryl Reuben and I am writing in strong 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 our children should be a priority for our city and our state. As a city resident and a parent of three athletic children, I have seen the positive role that sports plays.

We are in desperate need of more athletic fields in San Francisco. We have traveled to Burlingame for practice and 90 miles north to play South Bay tournaments. 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 holds, 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 place 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 have added 76,000 hours of additional playtime for our kids. We need to do the same thing at the Beach Chalet fields.

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
March 25, 2013
Page 2

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,



Sheryl Reuben

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

March 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 Scott Setrakian 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.

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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.

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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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Setrakian', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

*Scott Setrakian
San Francisco, CA*

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

March 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 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.

I have 3 daughters who could have benefitted from these new fields and hope to help effect change for others.

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.

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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,



Linda Ach
San Francisco

RECEIVED

MAR 26 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

March 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 Judie Lucius 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,



Judith G. Lucius
Four Embarcadero Center, Suite 3330
San Francisco, CA

RECEIVED

March 23, 2013

MAR 25 2013

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

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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 Anthony Bernhardt 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A B L O".

Anthony Bernhardt
4 The Uplands
Berkeley, CA 94705

RECEIVED

MAR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

March 22, 2013

Peter C. Wendell
3550 Washington Street
San Francisco, CA 94118

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 Peter Wendell 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.

Along with my wife Lynn, we have lived in the City of San Francisco for 30 years and raised our six children here. While our children were growing up, they frequently had sports contests on the Beach Chalet fields.

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.

Playing in organized San Francisco sports leagues and on San Francisco school sports teams was an important part of our children's development and played an important role in their successful transition into young adults. They all used the fields at Beach Chalet for many of their sports games.

Both our daughters, Jenny and Carolyn, played soccer for numerous San Francisco teams, often as young girls at Beach Chalet, and both went onto to play varsity soccer in College – Jenny at the University of California – Berkeley and Carolyn at Dartmouth College. Similar our sons Brian and Patrick frequently played lacrosse at Beach Chalet for a variety of different teams and Brian went on to play varsity lacrosse at Harvard University and Patrick was co-captain of the Club Lacrosse program at Princeton University. Team sports have played an important role in our children's lives and development.

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.

Many families with young children often decide to leave San Francisco and move to the suburbs. This is not a good trend for our city. Our city will be safer and more vibrant with owner-occupied family housing.

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.

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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,



Peter C. Wendell
San Francisco, CA 94118

March 25, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

REC
RECEIVED
MAR 27 2013
MAR 27 2013
COASTAL
NORTH CENTRAL COAST
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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.

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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

ARTHUR ROCK & CO
SUITE 1220
ONE MARITIME PLAZA
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111
415-981-3921
(FAX) 415-981-3924

RECEIVED

MAR 27 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

March 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:

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.

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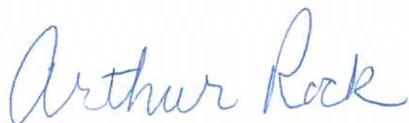
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Now it is in your hands. Please stand with San Franciscans and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,



Arthur Rock

RECEIVED

MAR 27 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL

March 26, 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 Nancy Field 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.

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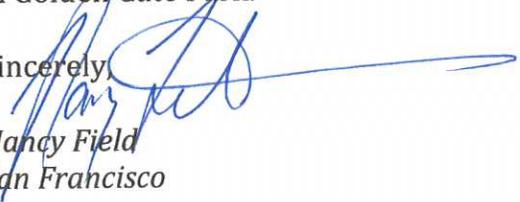
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Now it is in your hands. Please stand with San Franciscans and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,


Nancy Field
San Francisco

Andrew Solow
58 Lake Forest Court
San Francisco, CA 94131
Cell 415-722-3047
Phone 415-564-6045
Fax 415-564-6046
Email: asolow@mindspring.com

March 26, 2013

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

Via Email to: kevin.kahn@coastal.ca.gov

Attention: Mary Shallenberger, Chair Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner - 415-904-5200

Subject: (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)
Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation – **NO Substantial Issue**

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of the CA Coastal Commission,

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

Currently, the Beach Chalet soccer fields are not serving their purpose as a public space. The fields are in very poor, even dangerous condition. The fields are frequently closed due to gofer holes, standing water, and extremely muddy conditions due to poor drainage. The fields are also 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. The new improved Beach Chalet fields will provide at least twice as many playing hours as the existing fields because they will be all weather fields that can be played on year round and at night until a reasonable closing hour, i.e. 9 PM.

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 increasing playing time will increase human activity at the facility and help to alleviate these issues and make it safer for children who play there and neighbors who live nearby.

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 be planted around the perimeter of the new 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

Page 2 of 2

March 26, 2013

Subject: (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation – **NO Substantial Issue**

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 public good is at stake. Children need to be kept busy and involved in constructive, supervised activities. San Francisco has a perpetual shortage of athletic fields. A renovated Beach Chalet soccer complex would be a major step toward alleviating this field shortage.

NIMBYS like the people who are opposing this project don't care about the public good or the thousands of children who don't currently have a place to play soccer. The Beach Chalet Soccer Fields have occupied the same portion of Golden Gate Park for over 70 years. All this project does is eliminate gofers and gofer holes, dramatically improve drainage and surface condition and make the existing fields safer to play on with virtually no down time for maintenance or rain.

Youth soccer saves lives!

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let the children play soccer without fear of injury from gofer holes and mud bogs.

Yours truly,



Andrew Solow, Co-Founder

Mission Youth Soccer League, Inc. (MYSL)

RECEIVED

APR 02 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

March 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,

My name is Courtney Klinge 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.

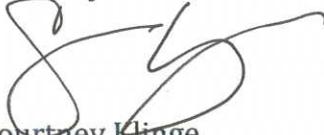
We must do better for our kids and create safer, more accessible places for them to play ball. Through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our city's Recreation & Parks Department we have made tremendous progress. We've renovated fields in neighborhoods across San Francisco and we've 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Courtney Klinge', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Courtney Klinge
9 Fallon Place
San Francisco, CA 94133

RECEIVED

March 27, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

APR 02 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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 Eric Prosnitz 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Prosnitz", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Eric Prosnitz
9 Fallon Place
San Francisco, CA 94133

Matthew Barger

REC

APR 02 2013

CAL
COASTAL
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 1, 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 Matthew Barger 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.

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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,



Matthew Barger
San Francisco

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

March 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 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.

I have been a San Francisco resident for nearly 20 years and have enjoyed watching my two children play soccer on the Beach Chalet fields numerous times. I also have friends who have participated in adult soccer leagues who have played on those fields. Because of these personal experiences, I also know first-hand the poor condition of these fields, how people risk their ankles stepping around the divots and gopher holes hoping not to be injured playing a game they love. I also have first-hand experience as a Youth soccer coach where our teams have had games and practices cancelled due to the closure of the fields because of rain or overuse.

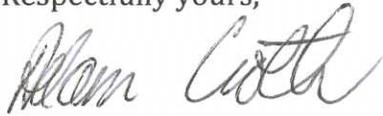
On the other hand, my children have benefited from being able to play on some of the soccer fields in San Francisco that have been improved through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our Recreation and Parks department. My daughter's high school team uses Crocker Amazon as its home field and also plays at Kimball and Silver Avenue. The excellent field quality, lighting, fencing and stands create an environment where players, coaches and fans feel welcome and comfortable. I have often thought how wonderful it would be if San Francisco children and adults enjoyed greater availability of soccer fields, without having to travel to Marin or to the East Bay clogging up highways and polluting the air with car exhaust.

The fields at Beach Chalet are already in place so it is hard to understand the opposition to making them safe and usable, a real resource for the citizens of San Francisco. Changing the existing fields to a surface that supports a greater number of users represents a positive development in the evolving movement toward greater health and wellness for the residents of San Francisco.

As a follower of the local news I know that the Beach Chalet fields project has been the subject of much debate already. The change to a safe sustainable playing surface carries the support of many people. The supporters have turned out in great numbers to express their wish to see this project be approved.

I ask that you and your fellow commissioners vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park. Please do the right thing for the residents of the city of San Francisco.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Adam Cloth".

Adam Cloth
San Francisco

Barbara B. Bechelli
3535 Webster Street
San Francisco CA 94123-1716
March 27, 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)

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2013

**CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST**

Dear Chair Shallenberger and Members of Coastal Commission:

My name is Barbara Bechelli 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 have seen the positive role that sports plays in the physical and mental development of youth in my community and throughout the City. In addition 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.

In this fair City of ours, San Francisco, we are in desperate need of more athletic fields. 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 to 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Barbara Bechelli". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial 'B'.

BARBARA BECHELLI
Resident, Marina District
San Francisco CA

cc: Mayor Ed Lee
District 2 Supervisor Mark Farrell

RECEIVED

MAR 29 2013

**CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST**

March 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,

My name is Aaron Schweifler 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.

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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,



*Aaron Schweifler
Sports Basement
San Francisco*

RECEIVED

APR 04 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 2 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 Beth Cobert 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. As the mother of two kids who grew up playing soccer in San Francisco, I can personally attest to the great value and need for this 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.

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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,



Beth Cobert

524 Euclid Avenue

San Francisco, CA 94118

GEORGE H. HUME
600 MONTGOMERY STREET, 28TH FLOOR
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111

RECEIVED

April 5, 2013

APR 08 2013

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

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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 George Hume 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.

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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,



RECEIVED

April 5, 2013

APR 08 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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 Paul Riehle. 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 San Francisco resident for 29 years and a father of two high school students, I've seen the positive role that sports plays in the physical and mental development of the youth in our 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. Many studies have shown a correlation with youth sports and a positive youth development to responsible adults.

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 half 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

Paul and Stephanie Riehle

2453 Filbert Street, San Francisco, CA 94122 / 415.346.7060

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
April 5, 2013
Page | 2

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 the vast majority of San Franciscans and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Paul Riehle
San Francisco, CA

Paul and Stephanie Riehle

2453 Filbert Street, San Francisco, CA 94122 / 415.346.7060

RECEIVED

April 4 , 2013

APR 08 2013

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

**CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST**

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 Rob Hurlbut 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, a parent, and a coach 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 community and create safer, more accessible places for them to recreate.

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.

On its own this is a great outcome – getting more people close to our coast so that they can understand the value of preserving and maintaining the resource will serve our long term interests.

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,



Robert Hurlbut
1526 Masonic Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94117

The Manning Family
118 Woodland Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94117
415.661.7440

April 5, 2013

RECEIVED

APR 08 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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,

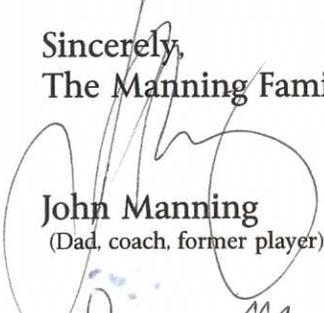
Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Like my children, I (John) grew up playing at the Beach Chalet soccer fields. The place has been a dump for 35 years!!!

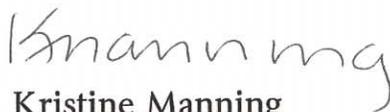
Families leave San Francisco for many reasons, but one of them is a lack of playing fields for youth sports. Turf fields ~~are~~ exist safely all over San Francisco and all over the world.

Please let the Beach Chalet project happen.

Sincerely,
The Manning Family


John Manning
(Dad, coach, former player)


Sean Manning
(player, U13 SFFC Earthquakes)


Kristine Manning
(Mom, team manager, former player)


Alexa Manning
(player, U12 Dynamite United)

RECEIVED

APR 09 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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,

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.

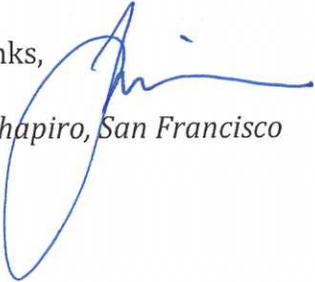
Renovating the Beach Chalet fields will also improve public safety in the area. The area surrounding the Beach Chalet fields has seen an increase in crime, including a murder last summer. Increasing the lighting and improving the facilities will help to alleviate these issues and make it safer for children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


Jim Shapiro, San Francisco

A B B E Y

RECEIVED

APR 09 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 4, 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 Doug Abbey 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.

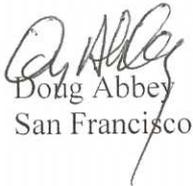
3020 Pacific Avenue San Francisco, California 94115
Telephone 415.771.2868 Fax 415.771.6136

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,



Dong Abbey
San Francisco

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

RECEIVED

APR 23 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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 Steven Courlang and I am a 25 year San Francisco Resident, Parent, Home-Owner, Nature Lover, volunteer soccer coach, and huge admirer and frequent user of Golden Gate Park.

Rather than write a form letter in support of building a much needed Soccer Facility in the dilapidated Beach Chalet Fields, I want to point out a few things:

- The current Beach Chalet Fields are borderline unsafe to play on, an eyesore, and perhaps the nastiest area in Golden Gate Park. (Just ask SF Police Chief Greg Suhr.)
- Crocker Amazon, SF's current Soccer Complex, turned a nasty and unsafe area into one of the kids' favorite and safest places to play in San Francisco. Let's do the same to the Beach Chalet Fields.
- I have been coaching soccer in SF for 6 years and am confident that 9 out of 10 kids prefer to play on turf fields because they are safer to play on (no ruts and gopher holes) and the ball moves much truer.
- At each voting level (Board of Supervisors, Committees, etc.) the vote has always been overwhelmingly in favor of building the Soccer Complex at the Beach Chalet Fields.
- The Beach Chalet Fields are not a meadow, as opponents have stated. They are soccer fields in longtime need of an update.
- SF has a huge demand for quality and safe soccer fields.
- The new Beach Chalet Soccer fields will have minimal negative impact on the environment, while creating a much safer part of Golden Gate Park. That part of the Park will finally get a fair amount of usage, creating many needed fields for our kids to play and for families to congregate.

Times have changed. Forty years ago, when I was a kid, at most one out of 20 kids played organized soccer. Now the number is closer to one out of 3. We need more quality fields to try to meet the demand.

SF Ocean's Edge, the Group that is fighting the building of the Soccer Complex at the Beach Chalet, is acting like a spoiled kid. It does not look at or care for others reasons and wants. When my team loses a game, we congratulate the other team. After losing appeal after appeal, all SF Ocean's Edge has done is complain, demand that they are right, and find another way to stretch out the process.

The choice seems rather simple. Do we allow the Plan that almost all the kids and parents want or do we succumb to a group of very nice group elderly citizens who never use the fields and are generally adverse to any change, no matter how much it is needed?

Thank you for working on this project and taking the time to read my thoughts.

Please contact me if you have any questions or want to discuss the situation.

Sincerely,


Steven Courlang
(415)513-7160

April 21, 2013

Dear Ms. Shallenbeger and the Commission:

I am an environmental activist (M.S. Environ Sci and Policy @ Stanford, former ^{full-time} Campaigner with Sea Turtle Restoration Project) and a

parent. In this case the need for fields clearly wins out.

RECEIVED

APR 23 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

G.G. Park is huge, with lots of habitat and with corridors for movement. The city has a dire shortage of fields:

- 5th grade ^{soccer} teams practicing on half a 1st grade field
- Baseball teams getting just 45 minutes per week to practice (whereas teams in neighboring towns get much more, e.g. 4 hours in Pacifica).

Please approve the turf fields, particularly because neighborhoods have consistently opposed them, making the park an excellent (+ unique) location.

Red 

Red Vanderbilt, 2639 42nd Ave, S.F. Exhibit 6

JAMES A. HEARD
433 39TH AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94121

TELEPHONE 415 / 386-7434
FACSIMILE 415 / 288-4010
EMAIL: JIMHEARD@COMCAST.NET

April 22, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 23 2013

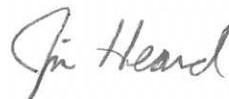
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Re: Beach Chalet soccer fields, San Francisco

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

As a committed environmentalist and long-time resident of the Outer Richmond District, I am writing to ask that you reject the baseless appeal of a few self-interested people and allow the badly needed upgrade of the Beach Chalet soccer fields to move forward. By expanding the capacity and improving the quality of the existing fields, this project will provide immediate and substantial benefits to thousands of San Francisco kids and their families who use this and other over-crowded soccer fields throughout the City. In contrast, the pseudo-environmental concerns of the appellants are just another example of the all-too common misuse of our environmental laws in pursuit of a narrow, NIMBY agenda. Please deny this frivolous appeal.

Very truly yours,



James A. Heard

April 25, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

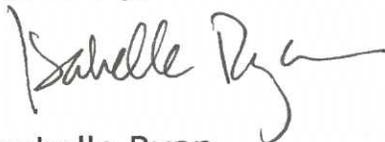
I would like to make a personal plea that the Beach Chalet project be approved without appeals.

As you are aware, the project has already received approval of four San Francisco civic boards -- the Rec & Park Commission, the Planning Commission, the Board of Supervisors, and the Board of Appeals. The families of San Francisco need more playing space and soccer fields for our children. Synthetic turf at the Beach Chalet fields will allow triple the playing time on those fields. Our children who play soccer do not have comparable playing/practice time as teams outside of San Francisco, and therefore our children loose out by not having the opportunities to be as competitive with their playing skills. For families with children who want to play on a more competitive level, they choose to play on teams outside of San Francisco (where there are more fields and community support).

My daughter has been playing on a soccer team since kindergarten, and now plays on a girls U15 travel team—they play against teams who practice 3-5X per week.... San Francisco children do not have these options because of limited field space.

Please help make San Francisco "family friendly" and support the Beach Chalet project, with no more appeals.

Sincerely,



Isabelle Ryan
1405 Douglass St
San Francisco, CA 94131

April 22, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation
Coastal Permit Appeal N. A-2-SNF 12-020

Dear Chair Schallenberger and members of the California Coastal Commission:

I am a long time San Francisco resident and 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 get to work fixing our decrepit fields.

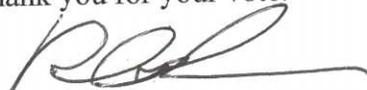
As a coach, I have had the sad experience many time of seeing one of my young athletes sprain an ankle, tear a knee ligament and break a leg because of the condition of the field at the Beach Chalet. The proposed turf field will prevent almost all of these kinds of injuries from happening.

Since the 1930's, the Beach Chalet fields have been exclusively used for field sports, primarily soccer. It is constantly being overused due to the lack of sport fields in the city. Consequently, teams get very little play and practice time on small parcels of a field. Inclement weather almost always caused the Rec & Park to close the fields, so even less time is available to the youth and adult teams to use the fields.

This project has passed the Rec & Park, the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Department almost unanimously. Most San Francisco residents approve of the project and want a modern, safe play space for our athletes.

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit so we can move forward as city.

Thank you for your vote.



Richard O. Cross
SF Resident for over 50 years

Dear Sir or Madam:

Turfing Beach Chalet is
a necessary project that has
endured significant review already.

Please stamp yes - so our
kids can get out and
play! Thank you!

Theresa Hales
San Francisco

RECEIVED

APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

RECEIVED

APR 22 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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.

Describe how the project will benefit you and the rest of the public. What is the current state of the fields and how will they be improved by the project? Are there safety issues that renovation will also fix?

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.

How will the project improve the character of Golden Gate Park in general? Consider the fact that the fields have been a part of the park since the 1930s.

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.

(over)

Please describe the public's involvement in support of the project. Consider including your own personal experiences.

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

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 1
市參議員、第一區



City and County of San Francisco

ERIC MAR
馬兆光

RECEIVED

APR 16 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

April 15, 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 am contacting you to express my support for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. I believe the project's Coastal Permit was properly issued and urge you to make a "No Substantial Issue" determination on the permit appeals.

All of Golden Gate Park, including these dilapidated soccer fields, are located in my Supervisorial District and, over the past several years, I have gained extensive knowledge of the project, its environmental review, and the many benefits it will have on the Park and our city's children.

Having read and considered the Environmental Impact Report, the Western Shoreline Plan and the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, I believe that installing synthetic turf and lights on these fields is both environmentally responsible and totally appropriate for this location in a designated "major recreation 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."**

It's important to note that the Western Shoreline Plan not only pre-dates the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, the Shoreline Plan actually directs the City to create a master plan for the park. The City then drafted and approved the plan and has been implementing it for the past 15 years.

The Master Plan is a thoughtful planning tool but, at times, provides contradictory guidance. In one section, the Master Plan addresses potential conflicts between recreation and preservation and suggests a way to approach this issue, "The demands for recreation need to be balanced with the objectives of preserving the original intent and purpose of the park as "sylvan and pastoral" retreat. **Emphasis should be placed on improving and maintaining existing recreation facilities, rather than adding new ones."**

City Hall • 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place • Room 244 • San Francisco, California 94102-4689
(415) 554-7410 • Fax (415) 554-7415 • TDD (415) 554-5227 • Eric.L.Mar@sfgov.org

That is exactly what will be accomplished by this sports fields' renovation: an update of an existing recreation facility to meet the athletic needs of our city's children. I strongly request that you make a determination of "No Substantial Issue" and allow this important project to proceed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Mar". The signature is stylized with several overlapping strokes.

Eric Mar
Board of Supervisors, District 1
City of San Francisco

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 2



City and County of San Francisco

MARK E. FARRELL

March 20, 2013

Supervisor Mark Farrell
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

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 am writing to you as a member of San Francisco's Board of Supervisors. As a San Francisco native, I grew up playing soccer on these fields and hope that generations to come will have the same opportunity. I'd like to request that you find "no substantial issue" on the appeal of the Coastal Permit for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation.

This project has been designed to address the City's great need for sports fields that are safe for our children. The project has created a unique opportunity to use both public funds and substantial private donations to repair an 80-year-old public recreation facility, Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields aren't safe and haven't been for many years. During the Board of Supervisors' hearing on this project, we heard from many people who had suffered from broken ankles and torn ACLs while playing on these fields. While San Francisco has many wonderful attributes, the weather can be problematic. The year-round rain and fog is damaging to grass fields, creating an environment that is often unsafe and unsuitable for sports activities. Consequently, the fields are frequently closed, leaving many children without a place to participate in outdoor sports.

Last spring, I threw the first pitch for San Francisco Little League. At that time, I learned that many children who wanted to participate in Little League were turned away as a result of the diminishing number of athletic fields in the City. It is unfortunate that, in an illustrious city such as San Francisco, children are denied the opportunity to participate in community sports because of the dwindling quality of our athletic fields.

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 2



City and County of San Francisco

MARK E. FARRELL

The proposed renovation and addition of lights will improve safety and increase the number of usable recreation fields in the city. These upgrades will not negatively affect Golden Gate Park or views of Ocean Beach. Rather, the project will create safer public spaces for our citizens and will provide hundreds of children with the fundamental childhood experience of playing outdoor sports. I believe these plans fully comply with and advance the goals of San Francisco's Local Coastal Program. I ask that you please help us in achieving our objective by finding "no substantial issue" on the Coastal Permit appeal.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark E. Farrell", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Farrell
Board of Supervisors, District 2
City of San Francisco

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 8



City and County of San Francisco

SCOTT WIENER
威善高

March 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,

I write to encourage you to reject the appeal of the Coastal Permit for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation. This critical project – which will provide much-needed soccer-field access for both children and adults – has broad support and deserves to move forward.

During the project's lengthy local approval and appeal process, there were two items upon which everyone agreed: the need for more sports fields for children and a desire to preserve our existing natural open space. This field renovation does an excellent job balancing those two desires. The athletic fields will be modernized to meet today's youth recreation needs, the site will be made accessible with family-friendly amenities, and the surrounding park landscape will be enhanced with 200 new trees and more than 1,000 new plants.

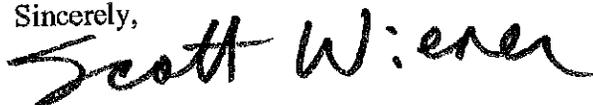
There has been a lot of hyperbole about the impact the project will have on the natural feel and open space in the west end of Golden Gate Park. I do not agree with this perspective. This field renovation covers less than 1% of Golden Gate Park and is near several other lighted areas. The field is already fenced off and is anything but a natural area. The project will simply renovate and rehabilitate a facility identified as a "Major Recreation Area" in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, rather than introduce new structures and activities to virgin open space.

While I understand and respect the opposition to the Beach Chalet project, this project has been extensively reviewed, analyzed, and approved by every city body that has considered it, including a nearly unanimous vote at the Board of Supervisors. At some point, the opponents need to acknowledge that they have not prevailed through San Francisco's meticulous and extensive processes. Turning to the Coastal Commission to achieve what the opponents could not achieve through the city's agencies and its highest elected body, in my view, is not the right course.

Mary Shallenberger
March 25, 2013
Page 2

I urge you to make a finding of "No Substantial Issue" on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation Coastal Permit appeal. Please feel free to contact my office if we can be of any assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,



Scott Wiener
Supervisor, District 8

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 9



City and County of San Francisco

DAVID CAMPOS

March 15, 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,

As you consider an appeal of the Coastal Permit for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields project in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, I ask that you to vote "No Substantial Issue."

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields project was intensely analyzed and scrutinized at every turn in San Francisco's legislative process. My staff and I spent dozens of hours reviewing the Planning Department's Environmental Impact Report. We looked at each of the issues raised by the project opponents, from the impact of lights to the safety of the synthetic turf. We also met with coaches, families and kids who use our fields across the city each week. When it was time to make a decision on the project last July, I concluded that the need for these fields outweighed the opponents' concerns.

The Supervisorial district that I represent includes the Mission district of San Francisco, the center of San Francisco's Latino community. Thousands of my district's residents are avid soccer players who use the Beach Chalet fields every weekend. Over 40% of the kids who use our athletic fields are from the Latino community. We continue to struggle with keeping families in our great city, and providing free and safe recreation opportunities for all of our children. When we deliberated the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields project, we were joined by hundreds of diverse community members, both kids and adults, who stressed the importance of this project. Their participation in the process and their enthusiasm for the project helped increase my understanding of the urgent need for this project.

I have seen the direct benefits of similar field renovations in my own district. Just last year, we reopened the newly renovated Mission Playground, which includes a state-of-the-art synthetic turf field similar to what's proposed at the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

City Hall • 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place • Room 244 • San Francisco, California 94102-4689
(415) 554-5144 • Fax (415) 554-6255 • TDD (415) 554-5227 • David.Campos@sfgov.org

Over the last several months, we have seen a substantial increase in the hours of play at Mission Playground. It has become one of our community's most important recreational facilities and I'm confident that the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation will have a similar impact in Golden Gate Park.

I believe that the questions around environmental impacts have been appropriately addressed through our city process. The Golden Gate Park Master Plan clearly designates this facility as a "major recreation area" and encourages more athletic play in this area of the park.

Thank you for considering a "No Substantial Issue" finding on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields project in San Francisco and helping us improve these fields for all of San Francisco's families, athletes and visitors.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Campos", written over a circular stamp or seal.

David Campos
Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco, District 9

Member, Board of Supervisors
District 10



City and County of San Francisco

MALIA COHEN
馬莉亞郭嫻

March 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;

Like many San Franciscans, I enjoy the natural experience of walking through Golden Gate Park and appreciating the rare moments of solace found in this sanctuary. I did have concerns about the potential environmental impacts of the project. However, through an extensive public process, from my perspective these concerns have been adequately addressed. I am confident that the field renovations will enhance the naturalistic landscaped qualities of the western end of the park while improving the playing fields that have been there for more than 80 years.

The Supervisorial district I represent is among our City's most diverse and includes one of our highest percentages of children and families. Most of the families in my district are earning far less than the average San Franciscan household, and many are living below the poverty line. Access to recreation opportunities is critical to the safety and well-being for the kids in my district. There are far too many of these kids who have never been to Golden Gate Park, and improving the conditions of our fields is one way to change that.

As city leaders, we must strive to make our parks and open space accessible to everyone. For many, their first experience with Golden Gate Park comes from playing on our athletic fields. We owe it to our kids to ensure that we maximize the hours of play-time on our fields.

I would encourage you to come to the same conclusion that the Board of Supervisors did on this project and move forward the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation.

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Malia".

Malia Cohen
Member, Board of Supervisors



GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney

DIRECT DIAL: (415) 553-1741

March 15, 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 consider a "No Substantial Issue" determination when you vote on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation appeal.

As San Francisco's District Attorney, I deal everyday with crime and its impacts on our communities. I work closely with the San Francisco Police Department to prosecute criminals and improve safety in our communities. Our law enforcement officials understand that providing recreational opportunities for our youth and increasing activity in our public spaces are both effective ways to prevent crime.

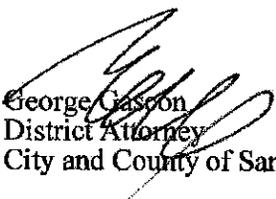
It is clear that the area around the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields would benefit greatly from this renovation project. There have been too many instances of crime at the western end of the park. The inactivity and darkness around the fields attracts drug users and we've seen multiple reports of violence on the site, including a murder last year. Other field renovation projects, like the Playfields Initiative's Crocker Amazon Soccer Fields improvements, brought increased vitality to surrounding neighborhoods and increased safety in the park.

The potential environmental impacts from this project have been studied again and again, at every level of San Francisco's exhaustive review process. This facility in Golden Gate Park is designated for recreational use and has been athletic fields for more than 80 years. This is an appropriate use for this space and the project fits into our Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Renovating these fields will simply improve the field's conditions and public access for neighbors and visitors alike.

Please support this project and help us decrease crime, expand recreational opportunities for our city's children, and make our fields safer for everyone.

Thank you for considering a "No Substantial Issue" finding when you make your decision on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation Coastal Permit appeal.

Sincerely,


George Gascon
District Attorney
City and County of San Francisco

850 BRYANT STREET, THIRD FLOOR • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94103
RECEPTION: (415) 553-1741 • FACSIMILE: (415) 553-1737



San Francisco Unified School District
KIM-SHREE MAUFAS
Commissioner, Board of Education

March 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,

I am writing to ask you to vote "No Substantial Issue" determination on the Coastal Permit appeal of the Beach Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

As a grandmother and mother struggling to have my family in San Francisco, I think every day about the challenges we face here - the skyrocketing cost of living, the rising costs of housing, and struggles of our working class neighbors and communities of color to simply stay in our great city. I want my granddaughter to enjoy the best of San Francisco as she grows up, including our great diversity, our beautiful surroundings, and our parks - and not as a visitor. Please see attached, my favorite picture of my daughter and granddaughter (Francesca and Marley), enjoying our neighborhood park.

I am proud of our San Francisco parks and what they can offer to residents and tourists alike. Golden Gate Park is a world-class park and there's no reason why it shouldn't offer the best recreational opportunities while also preserving the precious natural landscape. Renovating these fields will open up the park to our city's families and visitors and add an additional 9000 hours of critical playtime for youth and adult athletes.

This project went through an incredibly exhaustive process at all levels of city government. The Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors heard countless hours of testimony from both sides. Hundreds of kids and their families showed up to speak about the urgent need for these fields. The environmental concerns have been addressed and mitigations are being made. The decision makers at every level have been convinced that the proposed location is the right one for this project. We are simply trying to make an existing soccer field a better one for our kids.

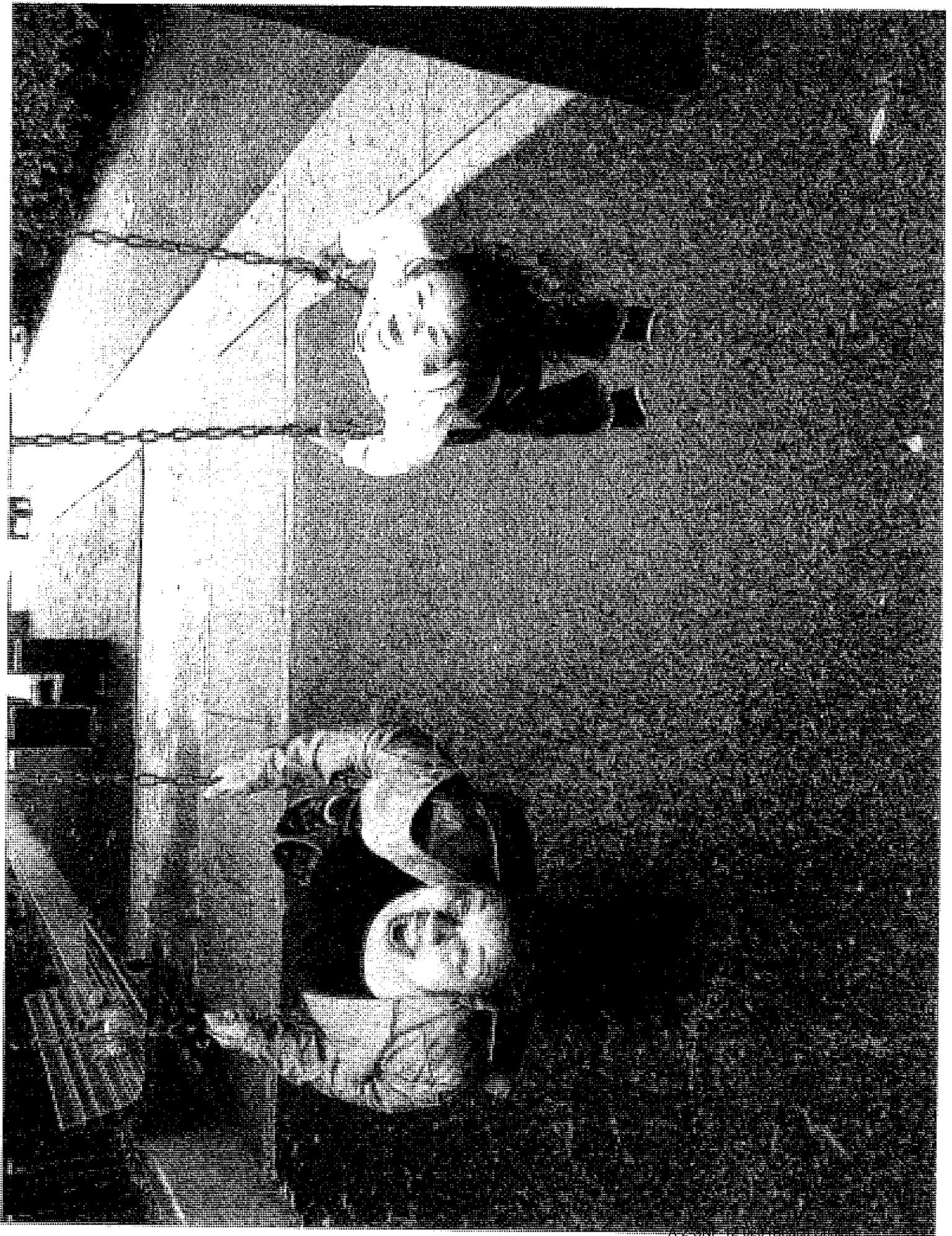
Please help us move this project forward. Please cast a vote in favor of "No Substantial Issue" for the Coastal permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project in San Francisco.

Sincerely,

Kim-Shree Maufas
Commissioner, Board of Education
kim-shreemaufas@sfsud.edu
www.sfsud.edu

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Cc: Executive Director 555 Franklin Street, Room 106, San Francisco, California 94102
Att: Photograph (415) 241-6427 FAX. (415) 241-6429

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER



City and County of San Francisco
March 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,

As a newly elected member of the San Francisco Unified School District's Board of Education, I respectfully ask that you vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

I sought election to the San Francisco Board of Education last year because I believe that we can do more to reach educational excellence and keep our families in San Francisco. In my new position representing the tens of thousands of students, parents, teachers and administrators of San Francisco's public schools, I'm committed to standing up for the needs of our city's children, no matter how loud the voices of dissent may be.

Renovating the fields at the Beach Chalet soccer complex is clearly the right thing to do by our children. One of the most common challenges cited by our parents is the lack of athletic fields in our city. I've spoken to several parents who have to drive their kids all over the Bay Area to find a place to practice. In the course of the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and San Francisco's Recreation and Parks Department, we've seen over 76,000 hours of additional play on our fields. We can't stop there when the need persists.

The project opponents are presenting a false choice here. Renovating these fields will not harm our natural environment. The project renovation will actually substantially increase the number of trees in the area and the improvements clearly fit into the Golden Gate Park Master Plan.

Please support San Francisco's children and families by voting "No Substantial Issue" finding on the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields renovation appeal.

Sincerely,



Matt Haney
Board of Education Commissioner
San Francisco Unified School District

April 4, 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'm writing to you as the President of the San Francisco Unified School District Board of Education to ask that you find "no substantial issue" on the appeal of the Coastal Permit for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation Golden Gate Park. This critical project will provide needed sports facilities for our youth while improving the park's natural landscape.

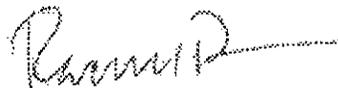
As both a school board member and a mom, I'm very familiar with the needs of our city's youth, and the delicate balancing act that we, as a community, undertake to meet those needs in this busy, gritty, dense urban environment. The Playfields Initiative partnership between the Department of Recreation and Parks and the City Fields Foundation deserves your support and the proposal to renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields with synthetic turf and lights would be a terrific improvement for our park, our city and our kids.

By renovating sports fields in numerous other parks around the city, the Playfields Initiative has already helped increase access for the families, athletes and visitors who enjoy our athletic facilities. SFUSD is also doing our part to help make sure that City kids have safe, accessible places to play sports. Several years ago, we joined the Playfields Initiative partnership by working with Recreation and Parks and City Fields on a unique joint-use athletic field program to allow more community access to SFUSD fields. This program has been a tremendous success and is giving more kids more opportunities to play throughout San Francisco.

San Francisco simply doesn't have enough sports fields for all the kids who wish to play. The proposed renovation to Beach Chalet will bring more than 9,000 more hours of play for kids, for athletes and for park visitors. Our children deserve safer fields to play on, and the general public needs better lit fields to increase safety in the area.

Please help us give our kids a chance. This project has already been delayed for years. Many of the junior high school kids who first spoke in support of the project are now in high school and may never get a chance to play if this project is held up further. Please reject this baseless appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation's Coastal Permit by supporting a "no substantial issue" finding.

Thank you for your consideration,



Rachel Norton
President, SFUSD Board of Education

April 2, 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'm contacting you to request that you support a "no substantial issue" determination in regards to the Coastal Permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco. Having thoroughly reviewed the project and environmental report, I believe this project will address an important need in San Francisco – providing kids with ample safe and accessible sports fields – while reinvesting in Golden Gate Park's natural landscape.

Prior to this project being considered by San Francisco's Planning Commission, I had numerous questions and spoke at length with City staff and project sponsors to better understand the design, the potential impacts and how the project had been modified to address community concerns.

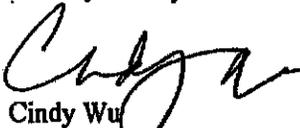
By my reading of the environmental impact report, there will be no spillover of light onto Ocean Beach. People standing on the beach will not perceive any change in light due to the new field lights on the soccer fields. The lighting caps being used on the fields lights were recommended by the National Parks Service to limit light spill and reduce any potential impacts on "dark skies" or wildlife.

I appreciated that the project was revised to further reduce the visibility of the light fixtures from elsewhere in the park, surrounding residential neighborhoods, Ocean Beach and the Ocean Beach promenade. Light poles were reduced from 80' to 60' and placed onto the fields, instead of on the edges as is the norm. The whole system is timed and automated, and light distribution on the field was engineered to provide consistent light across the field for safe play while minimizing the amount of light escaping the area of play. Plus, the field lights feature two settings: 30 foot candles for regular practices and games, and 50 foot candles for the occasional tournament.

It's also helpful to note that kids and players of all ages and colors will use these fields but the most visible benefit is the massive increase in play by sports leagues and clubs catering to disadvantaged kids. Thanks to the increase in ground sports field access due to synthetic turf and field light installations elsewhere in the City, the Police Activities League has been able to add 50 teams (approximately 600 kids) and America Scores Bay Area has doubled the number of kids they serve to 800 children each year in their literacy and soccer program. Both of these programs, and many more, will be able to serve more low-income kids if the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are renovated.

Please support a "no substantial issue" determination when the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation Coastal Permit appeal is heard by the Commission.

Thank you for your consideration,



Cindy Wu
SF Planning Commissioner



SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
CIF SAN FRANCISCO SECTION

ATHLETIC OFFICE
555 Portola Dr., Rm. 250
San Francisco, CA 94131

DONALD C. COLLINS
COMMISSIONER OF ATHLETICS
Office: (415) 920-5185
Fax: (415) 920-5189
Email: collinsdl@sfusd.edu
Web: www.cifsf.org

March 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 The Coastal Commission:

My name is Donald Collins. I am the Athletic Commissioner for the San Francisco Unified School District. I write today to 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. My own league puts an incredible strain on our City's fields. We have 22 middle schools and 12 high schools playing boys and girls' soccer. Next year, we'll have 15 high schools. We and much of the City's user base is growing, and we desperately need sufficient fields to sustain the increased demand.

The current fields at Beach Chalet cannot sustain the present use – and they certainly can't sustain increased use. Beach Chalet is a muddy, rutted field filled with gopher holes. It is frequently shut down for recovery, which further limits the 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,



Donald C. Collins, Commissioner
SFUSD Athletics/CIF San Francisco Section

April 4, 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 Alyce Werdel 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 and a parent of three children, 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.

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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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alyce Werdel".

Alyce Werdel
San Francisco

March 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 Anthony Scuderi 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,



Anthony C. Scuderi
San Francisco

March 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:

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,

Arthur Rock

March 23, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94103-2219

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 Anthony Bernhardt 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.

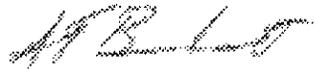
We must do better for our kids and create safer, more accessible places for them to play ball. Through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our city's Recreation & Parks Department we have made tremendous progress. We've renovated fields in neighborhoods across San Francisco and we've added 76,000 hours of additional playtime for our kids. We need to do the same thing at the Beach Chalet fields.

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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,



Anthony Bernhardt
4 The Uplands
Berkeley, CA 94705

April 9, 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,

As President of the San Francisco Planning Commission, I would like to share my support for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco and to encourage you to make a "no substantial issue" finding on the appeal of the project's Coastal Zone Permit.

On May 24, 2012, the San Francisco Planning Commission held a public hearing to consider the project's Coastal Zone Permit and other requisite permits and approvals. We found that the project's limited scope, major tree and shrub planting plan, and core goals achieved, on the whole, the goals, objectives and policies outlined in the Western Shoreline Plan, San Francisco's certified Local Coastal Program.

I also want to note that Golden Gate Park is a man-made wonder, it is not a native or preserved environment. Most of the native vegetation was removed during the park's development. It was built on sand dunes and has been modified numerous times to meet the "modern" interests of city residents. In fact, the park used to include a casino and a race track, and a steam train even ran on what's now a walking path near the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Today, the park includes: two multi-story museums, an underground parking garage, two community centers, concrete fly-casting ponds, the Conservatory of Flowers, a music concourse and bandshell, tennis courts, baseball diamonds, a golf course, an archery range, a Japanese tea garden, two restaurants, a football stadium, a log cabin, numerous offices, a plant nursery, and even a gas station. The famous buffaloes and many of the beautiful birds we see around the park are not native to San Francisco.

Golden Gate Park is a great place to visit, recreate and relax but it is not a nature preserve. Its purpose is to provide a haven for city dwellers, a place to unwind from metropolitan life. For many people, children especially, this means sports and athletic recreation. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields comprise less than 1% of the entire park. I believe Golden Gate Park is large enough to accommodate many differing uses without overly burdening or denying any group, and this project strikes a thoughtful balance between active and passive recreation and the park's environment.

Please consider a "no substantial issue" finding and allow this project to proceed.

Thank you,



Rodney Fong
SF Planning Commissioner



March 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 the Coastal Commission,

I am writing to encourage a "No Substantial Issue" determination on the permit appeals that have been filed against the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation and to express my strong support of the Coastal Permit issued by the San Francisco Planning Commission for this project.

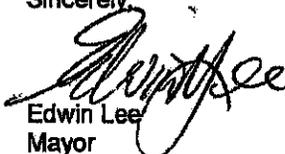
The City of San Francisco conducted a lengthy and exhaustive environmental review and project approval/appeal process for this project, including numerous public hearings resulting in the certification of the project's Environmental Impact Report and multiple determinations that the project adheres to the Local Coastal Program. These decisions were made during lengthy public hearings and based on clear, consistent interpretations of the Local Coastal Program and public access policies of the California Coastal Act.

- **May 24, 2012** - SF Planning Commission voted 4-1 to certify the Environmental Impact Report (EIR), and approve the General Plan Referral and the Local Coastal Zone 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

Regarding the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation, there was broad agreement at every step in the approval and appeal process that this project is critical for our youth, beneficial to our largest, most popular park, and a unique opportunity for our city. The Board of Supervisors' vote of 10-1 on this issue points to the broad support for a solid, balanced, thoughtful project, such as you are considering.

I urge you support a finding of "No Substantial Issue." Please feel free to contact my office if we can be of any assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,


Edwin Lee
Mayor



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

February 19, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St, 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 in regards to the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation planting plan. Along with site landscape and gardening staff, I have reviewed and analyzed the project's proposed planting plan and believe it does an excellent job emphasizing the naturalistic landscape qualities of the western end of the park for visitor use.

In my role as the Program Director for SF Recreation and Parks' Natural Areas Program, I joined Golden Gate Park Manager, Eric Anderson, and Park Section Supervisor, Davida Kapler, in providing comments and suggestions to the original plant palate for this project's landscaping plan. Each of us recommended modest changes to the plant palate to encourage the use of plants that have already proved successful in the West end of Golden Gate Park. Those suggestions have been incorporated into the current planting plan.

The identified planting zones and plant palate are appropriate for the landscaping and woodlands around the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields. The plants are a mix of native and non-native, non-invasive species that will thrive in the area's cool, coastal environment and survive constant human activity in and around the project site.

Though Golden Gate Park is a manmade park with no official Natural Areas in its western end, I believe the proposed planting plan for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation will emphasize the naturalistic landscape surrounding the fields to the betterment of the entire park.

Thank you,


Lisa Wayne
Program Director, Natural Areas Program
San Francisco Recreation and Parks



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

February 19, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St, 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,

As the SF Recreation and Parks Tree Topper Supervisor, I oversee and am directly responsible for the Golden Gate Park reforestation program. I have reviewed the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation plan, including project planting plan and reforestation plans.

I can unequivocally state that the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation reforestation plan will help SF Recreation and Parks continue to implement the long-term reforestation program in the western portion of Golden Gate Park.

By replacing 14 trees, many of which are aged or unhealthy, with 200 new trees, this project will further our ongoing efforts to maintain and enhance the existing park tree canopy and wind break. In fact, replacing and planting this many trees around the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields will be one of the largest, most beneficial reforestation efforts during my fifteen years on the department's forestry team. This tree replacement plan is very good for Golden Gate Park, the health of the park's woodlands, and western wind break.

I believe the plants and planting zones identified in the project's general planting plan are appropriate to the site and the west end of Golden Gate Park.

Thank you,

Kelly Cornell
Tree Topper Supervisor
San Francisco Recreation and Parks

NANCY PELOSI
12TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA
DEMOCRATIC LEADER

235 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0508
(202) 225-4965

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0508

DISTRICT OFFICE:
SAN FRANCISCO FEDERAL BUILDING
90-7TH STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103
(415) 556-4862
www.pelosi.house.gov

March 22, 2013

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

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

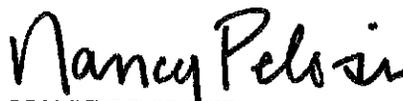
Thank you for your leadership to protect, preserve and enhance California's coast and ocean. It is my privilege to support the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in Golden Gate Park. I urge the Coastal Commission to uphold the City's decision to renovate these sports fields for local youth and athletes.

The City Fields Foundation's Playfields Initiative, in partnership with the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, has renovated busy sports fields and reorganized the City's field permit system. This has added many hours of new playtime for thousands of local children. The Beach Chalet Fields currently serve more than 1,550 children and 600 adults each week, and their restoration will provide more opportunities for athletic and community engagement.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are not located on open space, and San Francisco's coast will not suffer any significant impacts due to this project. The project will include the planting of 200 new trees and 1,000 new plants; the field lightening will not stand out from the Great Highway, Oceans Beach or the beach promenade; and there will be no impact on current or potential commercial-recreation uses in these areas. Moreover, this project saves water, eliminates herbicide and pesticide usage on the Athletic Fields and turf manufacturers must provide an end-of-life recycling plan when they bid for the project. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields project is consistent with the Local Coastal Program and demonstrates San Francisco's long standing commitment to natural resource preservation and restoration.

The renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields is a vital step forward for the City's children, adults and park community. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact my District Office at (415) 556-4862.

Best Regards,


NANCY PELOSI
Democratic Leader

April 1, 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 urge you to cast a "No Substantial Issue" vote as you consider the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation project in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

I am a Trustee for San Francisco City College, and more importantly, I am a young father. Our family lives in the Richmond, a short trip away from Golden Gate Park. I want to take my young daughter, and the second one who's on the way, into the park regularly to enjoy the natural landscape and the athletic fields. My wife and I have seen too many of our friends with kids leave San Francisco for the East Bay or other more family-friendly areas. We want to stay in San Francisco, and we want others to have that opportunity too. Offering more safe and accessible athletic playfields is a step in the right direction for our families, and will keep our city vibrant.

As you know, our job as public officials is to balance all of the community's needs and make the best decisions we can. At each level—the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Commission, Planning Commission, and Board of Supervisors—our elected and appointed city officials did just that in regards to this project. They heard countless hours of testimony on both sides of the issue and they read hundreds of pages of information on the potential environmental impacts and community benefits. At each turn, they concluded, usually in a unanimous fashion, that there will be no significant environmental impact and that our families need these fields. The public has witnessed an exhaustive and deliberative process, and for that, we can be proud. We can be even prouder when the project is complete.

Please respect all of the thorough analysis that has gone into this project and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

Yours sincerely,



Steve Ngo
Trustee
San Francisco Community College District



EDWIN M. LEE
MAYOR

**POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO**

THOMAS J. CAHILL HALL OF JUSTICE
850 DRYANT STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94103-4803



GREGORY P. SUHR
CHIEF OF POLICE

March 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 writing in regards to the appeal of the Coastal Permit for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park. Please vote "no substantial issue" and allow this critical project to move forward.

Despite the wonderful location in Golden Gate Park, these fields simply are not safe. Having been built on sand in a very moist marine climate, the grass fields are generally soggy and the grass turf struggles to survive. Grass out in these fields grow in clumps and is easily, inadvertently removed by even modest running and play. Injuries are frequent – sprained ankles, torn ACL's, broken feet. Having played at these fields many times as a kid, I have turned my ankles and twisted my knees in painful injuries several times on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Replacing the grass fields with synthetic turf would greatly reduce the number and severity of injuries suffered on those sports fields. Throughout San Francisco, we have seen the success of replacing battered, unsafe grass fields with synthetic turf. Why should the kids living around the Beach Chalet fields not get to enjoy the same quality of play as their friends in other neighborhoods? Why would we not want to activate a space that's closed and empty for most of each day?

I have seen how these kids play at Garfield, at Kimball, at Crocker and at the other parks with sports fields renovated with synthetic turf and lights. It is truly transformative for those kids to have regular access to a safe sports field.

The field lights are also an important part of this discussion because they extend play hours so the fields are active for later into the evening. As seen in other parks, simply illuminating the fields will drive away some of the illicit activities occurring in the bushes around the fields, whether its narcotics use, prostitution, camping, or auto burglaries. In my experience, increasing the opportunities for positive activities, like athletics, both discourages illegal activity and gives kids positive choices here in San Francisco. I believe that is a win-win situation for everyone.

Please vote "no substantial issue" on the appeal of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation's Coastal Permit.

Sincerely,


GREGORY P. SUHR
Chief of Police

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 Bob Emery 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.

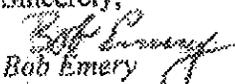
Golden Gate Park has been home to the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields for over 75 years. The proposed plan does not call for constructing entirely new fields, rather it simply improves the existing fields, adding 9,000 hours of playtime each year. The Golden Gate Park Master Plan designates the Beach Chalet 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,


Bob Emery
San Francisco

March 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 Judie Lucius 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.

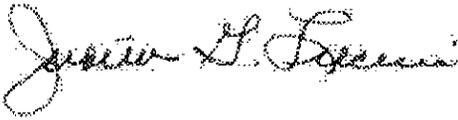
We must do better for our kids and create safer, more accessible places for them to play ball. Through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our city's Recreation & Parks Department we have made tremendous progress. We've renovated fields in neighborhoods across San Francisco and we've 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Judith G. Lucius".

Judith G. Lucius
Four Embarcadero Center, Suite 3330
San Francisco, CA

Matthew Barger

April 1, 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 Matthew Barger 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,



Matthew Barger
San Francisco



Giving Wings to Youth

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VICE PRESIDENT
G. Bradford Sobel

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524 Post Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 345-5230

Tax I.D. #94 5160462

March 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 Dave Hultman 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.

The Olympic Club Foundation supports and encourages participation by Bay Area youth in amateur athletics. Our mission is to grant funds and support programs which share our belief that participation in organized athletics enriches young lives and develops future community leaders.

www.OlympicClubFoundation.org

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.

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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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Hultman". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Dave Hultman
President

Peter C. Wendell
3550 Washington Street
San Francisco, CA 94118

March 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:

My name is Peter Wendell 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.

Along with my wife Lynn, we have lived in the City of San Francisco for 30 years and raised our six children here. While our children were growing up, they frequently had sports contests on the Beach Chalet fields.

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.

Playing in organized San Francisco sports leagues and on San Francisco school sports teams was an important part of our children's development and played an important role in their successful transition into young adults. They all used the fields at Beach Chalet for many of their sports games.

Both our daughters, Jenny and Carolyn, played soccer for numerous San Francisco teams, often as young girls at Beach Chalet, and both went onto to play varsity soccer in College – Jenny at the University of California – Berkeley and Carolyn at Dartmouth College. Similar our sons Brian and Patrick frequently played lacrosse at Beach Chalet for a variety of different teams and Brian went on to play varsity lacrosse at Harvard University and Patrick was co-captain of the Club Lacrosse program at Princeton University. Team sports have played an important role in our children's lives and development.

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.

Many families with young children often decide to leave San Francisco and move to the suburbs. This is not a good trend for our city. Our city will be safer and more vibrant with owner-occupied family housing.

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,

Peter C. Wendell
San Francisco, CA 94118

April 4, 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 Jane Cote'-Cook 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.

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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,

Jane Cote'-Cook
San Francisco

March 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,

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 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,

ANITA SHLIPIAK
L1625

March 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,

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,

Abby
Abigail Peña-Sanchez 5 yrs old.

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
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Thanks,

Alec H.

11

April 6, 2013
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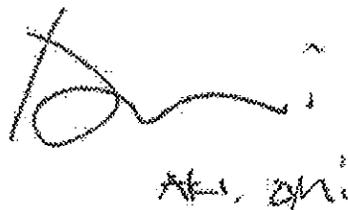
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My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions 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,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "A. M.", written over a faint, illegible printed name.

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Thanks,


Alyson Verzhbitsky

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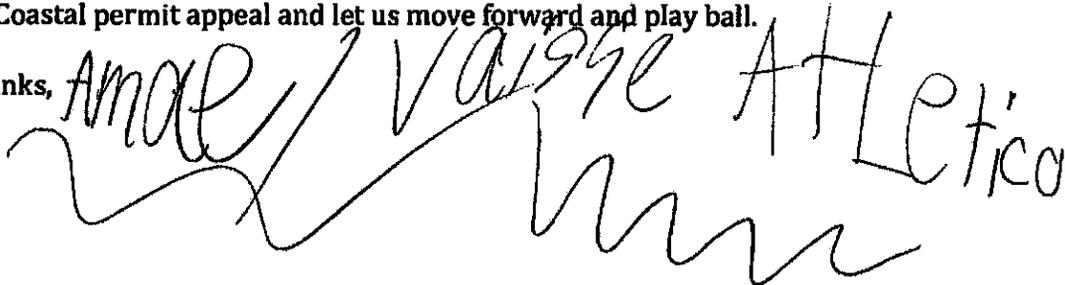
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Amar Vaisse ATHLETIC


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Sincerely,


Anda Kus

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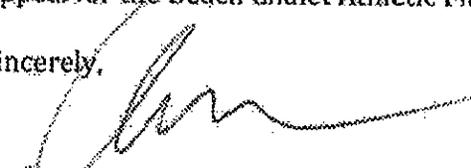
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Andrew Moore
Mad Dogs United

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Sincerely,

Anne Marie Kelly
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The Glens - OPink

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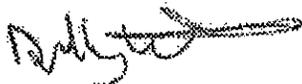
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ANTHONY WINTERS

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Sincerely,



APRIL DURRETT
FAIS BLUE JAGS

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Thanks, Arthur

March 23, 2013
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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 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 to California's youth 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 has to close the fields to let them rest, and we lose even more of the limited practice and game space.

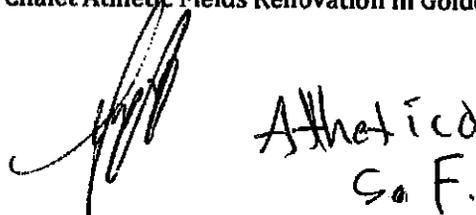
We must do better for our kids and create safer and more accessible places for them to play ball. Through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our city's Recreation & Parks Department, we have made tremendous progress. We've renovated fields in several neighborhoods across San Francisco 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, rather it simply improves the existing fields to add 9000 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 in 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by the text "Athletic S.F." written in a similar cursive style.

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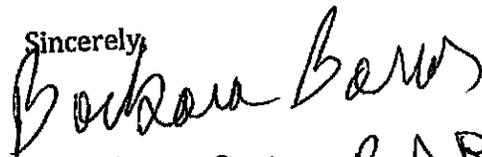
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BARBARA BARROS
Fire dragon

April 6, 2013
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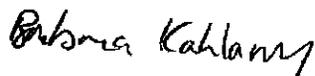
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Sincerely,


Athletics VII

Bennett Hong

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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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

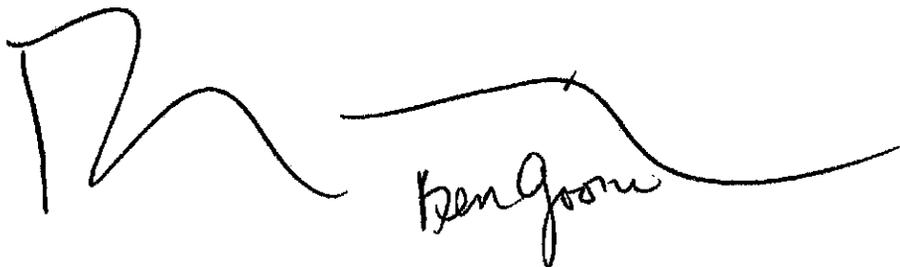
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My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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,

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.

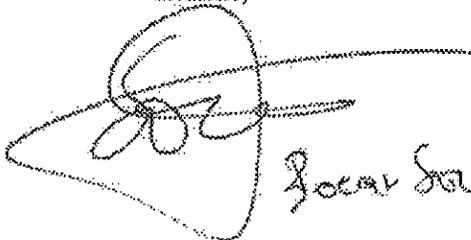
Playing at the fields in Golden Gate Park means a lot to me, and I love spending time with my team and friends. Rebuilding the fields is important to me because I want to make sure that my team and other kids like us can continue to play soccer in the city.

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,



Jocelyn Snow
Mission SF, CA

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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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,


Cool kids

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Camille Gorman

Berzema soccer team

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)

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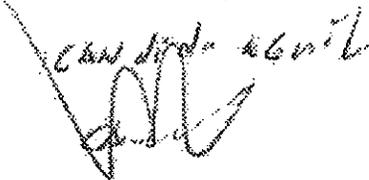
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Sincerely,

 Chris Larson
V9 Cool Cats

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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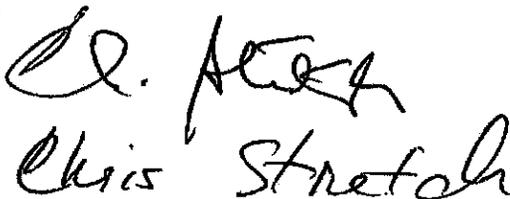
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Sincerely,


Chris Stretch

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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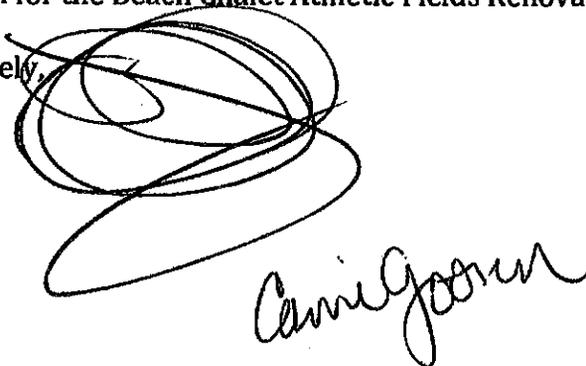
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Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Annie Gorman". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

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,

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.

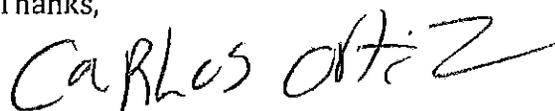
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The project is in line with the intended use of the space. It has been used as a soccer field since the 1930s, and this is a project that the majority of San Franciscans want. Last May, 300 kids and 100 adults testified at a hearing in support of this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

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

Thanks,



April 4, 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 Christopher Cook 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,

Christopher Cook
San Francisco

March 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)

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Christopher Fraser Vikings u9 + u12

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,


Cristina Artana Clark
Team: LIONS

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)

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Thanks,

Concepcion Lozano

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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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,

Colin Gursky
Giants/Glens S.C.

March 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)

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Sincerely,



Christopher Rankin III
son plays on SF Vikings U-11 Boys

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,

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

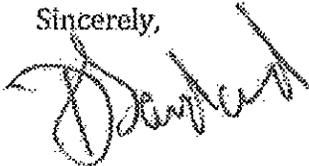
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April 6, 2013
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Dan Roam

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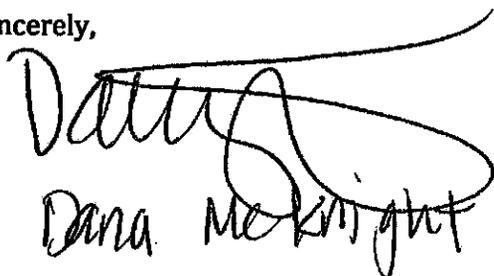
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Dana McKnight

April 6, 2013

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Thanks,

Daniela Rodriguez

March 23, 2013
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Sincerely,

David Florn
Imperial Fire Dragons

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Decker McAllister Fighting Sea Monkeys

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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.

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,

Declan Palankar
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SF Glen VII Upperhouse

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Deepak & Seana Patankar
SF Glens - U11 & U9

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Diego Peña - Sanchez age 10

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DIEGO RAMIREZ M.

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Edith Garcia
SF Real

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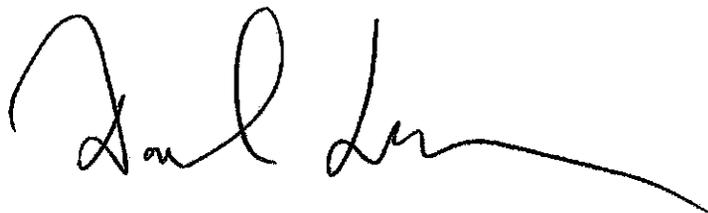
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Paul Lee

FAIS JW

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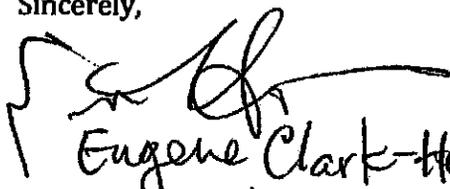
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Eugene Clark-Herrera
Lions

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Ganga Josee Blair



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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,



GARICK DAMIR

March 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,

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Sincerely,

Johanne Portales Nam
Viking UB SFUnited FC

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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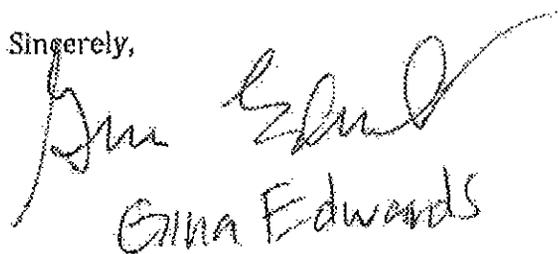
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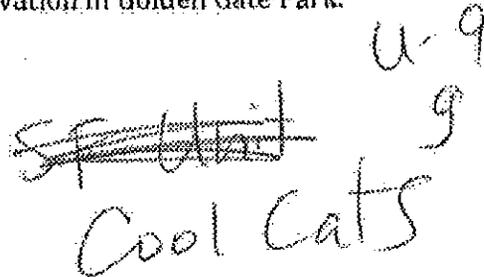
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Sincerely,


Gina Edwards


Cool Cats

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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GEORGE A. ARRIOLA

March 23, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Driffin

Fighting

Sea Monkeys

March 23, 2013

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

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Sincerely,

Haldeman Steads
MA

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,



HANNAH FREEMAN - COOL CATS GIRLS U9

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,

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,


Heidi Kilgore

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Henry Bonomo, age 11

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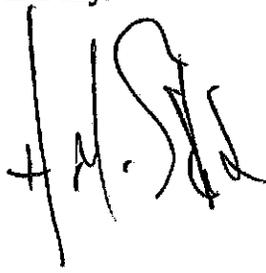
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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Herman E Clark
HERMAN E CLARK
WIONS

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California Coastal Commission
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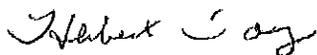
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Herbert Coy
Sr. Vikings

April 5, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Inez

Inez Cannon

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Ivan Gutierrez

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California Coastal Commission
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Isabelle SALVADORI

March 23, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Jane Moran
SF United - Viking M14

April 4, 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 Sarah Cook 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,

Sarah Cook
San Francisco

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,

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 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.

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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.

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Sincerely,



Jamie Deiner

March 23, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
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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,

James Allen

Fighting Sea monkeys

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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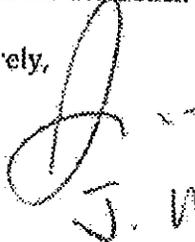
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Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,


J. Wesley Durrell, SF
PAL BLUE JAYS

April 6, 2013
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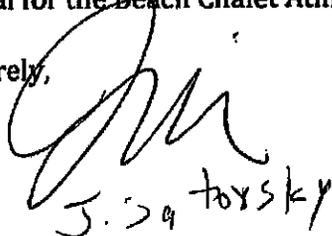
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J. S. Torsky

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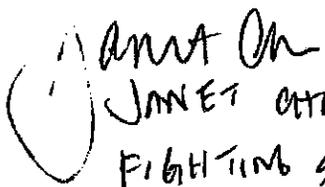
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JANET CHAN
FIGHTING SEA MONKEYS

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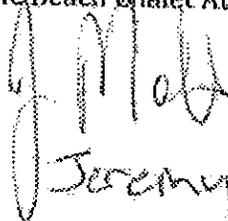
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Sincerely,


Jeremy Molt
Mad Dogs United

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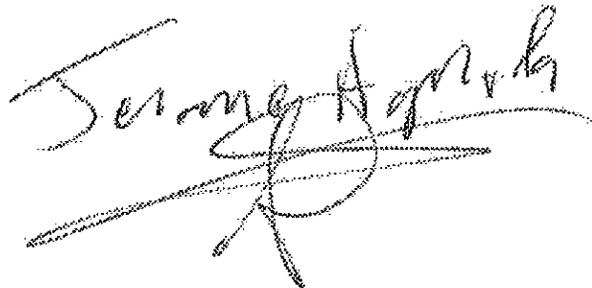
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Va Lycee
Bentzen

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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,


Jason Lindley

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely, *Jarrett Tamayen.*



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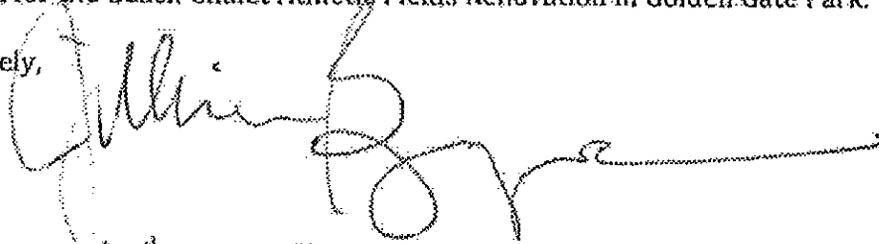
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Jillian Bergeron

Vikings
BIVE Leadership
VJI

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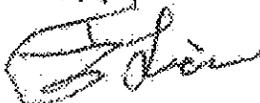
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Jing Liu Jose Beck


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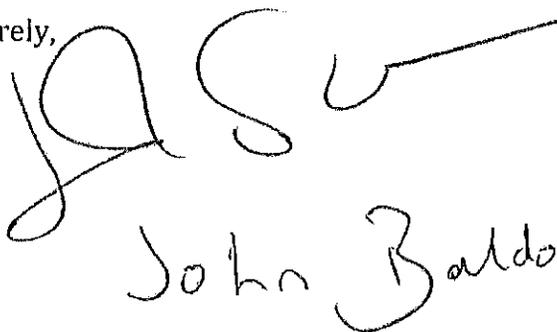
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Sincerely,


John Baldo

Proud parent of
John H 25 - Viking

April 6, 2013
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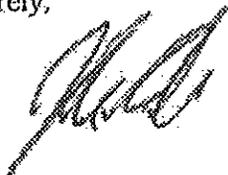
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Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

I am 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.

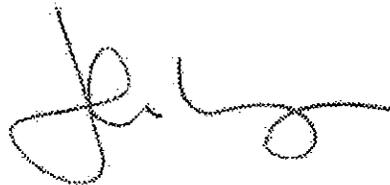
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The project is in line with the intended use of the space. It has been used as a soccer field since the 1930s, and this is a project that the majority of San Franciscans want. Last May, 300 kids and 100 adults testified at a hearing in support of this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

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

Thanks,

John S. ACEZ



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,

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,

JONAH GAVIA

March 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,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I 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 to California's youth 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 has to close the fields to let them rest, and we lose even more of the limited practice and game space.

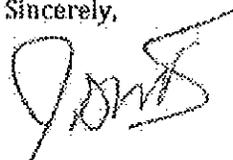
We must do better for our kids and create safer and more accessible places for them to play ball. Through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our city's Recreation & Parks Department, we have made tremendous progress. We've renovated fields in several neighborhoods across San Francisco 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, rather it simply improves the existing fields to add 9000 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 in 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,

 John Wallace
U9 Boys Red Dragons

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,

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 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,

Jonathan Terdman
J TERDMAN

April 4, 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 Jordan Cook 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,

Jordan Cook
San Francisco

March 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,

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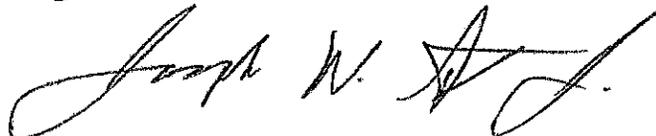
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My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions 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,

Joseph W. Stelle Jr.



PAZ - Hawks

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)

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

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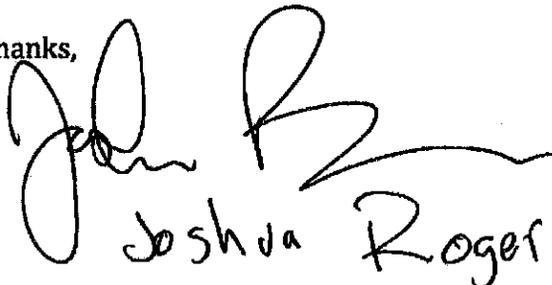
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The project is in line with the intended use of the space. It has been used as a soccer field since the 1930s, and this is a project that the majority of San Franciscans want. Last May, 300 kids and 100 adults testified at a hearing in support of this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

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

Thanks,


Joshua Roger

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,


Kim K. Payne

March 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)

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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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

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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,



Kevin Kirk

Danay 210

March 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)

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Sincerely,

Ken Jones Ah

KEVIN J ACCISON

~~THE~~ FIGHTING SEA MONKEYS

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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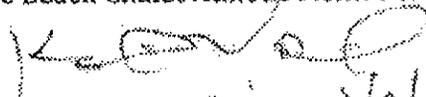
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Sincerely,


Katherine Valentine

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)

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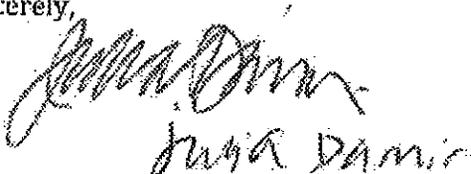
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Sincerely,



Julia Damin

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,

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,



Julio C. Piro

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,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I'm 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 to California's youth 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 has 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.

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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,



Julie Jackson

March 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)

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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,



JP CONTE
LIONS

March 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,

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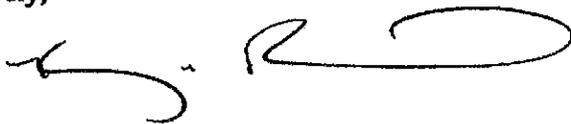
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Sincerely,



*We need fields with more hours to play on!
My 49 has to practice in the outfield of
a baseball field while baseballs are
flying at them!!*

*Kinsley Binard
Mother of
James Allison -
SFC MARAUDERS U15
- AND - ARTHUR ALLISON
FIGHTING SEA MONKEYS
49*

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,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I 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 to California's youth 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 has 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, rather it simply improves the existing fields to add 9000 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 in 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,

Krista N. Jenkins
Krista N. Jenkins

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,

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.

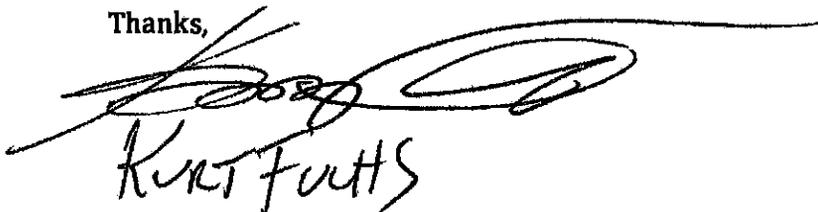
Renovating the Beach Chalet fields will also improve public safety in the area. The area surrounding the Beach Chalet fields has seen an increase in crime, including a murder last summer. Increasing the lighting and improving the facilities will help to alleviate these issues and make it safer for children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



KURT FUHS

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Kurt Kilgore

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,



L. Nathaniel

U9 Benzema

U13 Zidans

April 5, 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,


Lara Camon

March 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,

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Sincerely,



LINA BRENNER

March 23, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Lidia Sanchez
Lidia Sanchez SF Athletics U10
Good Samaritan
SF Real U9

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Layla DeLis

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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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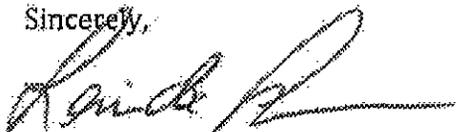
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Sincerely,

Laura Rodil
Laura Rodil

April 6, 2013
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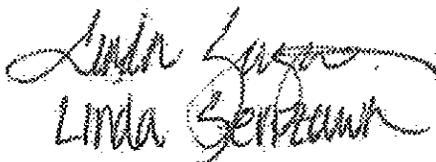
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Linda Gertrank

March 23, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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LINH YEN

AFY Red Dragons

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Sara M. Pando
girls under 10 Park@Rec 87067

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,

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

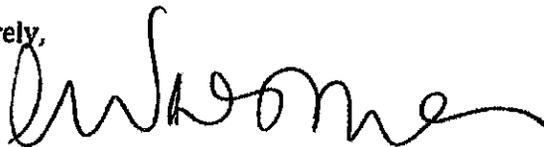
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Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,



MADHULIKA VARMA

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Marina E. Garcia
Marina Garcia
Vega 2002

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Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Shallenberger', written over a horizontal line.

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,

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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,


Malachy Costigan

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
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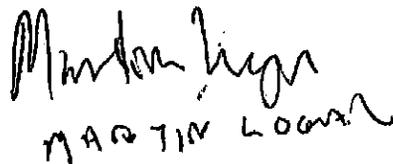
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MARTIN LYNN

April 6, 2013
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Mark Verzhbinsky

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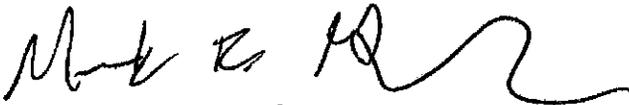
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Mark R. GOLDBERG

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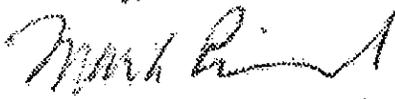
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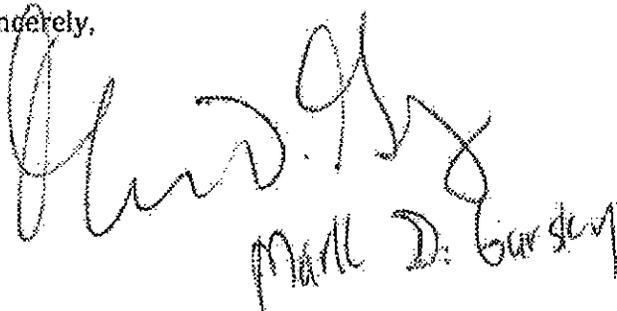
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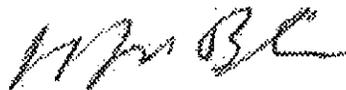
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Marissa Cohen

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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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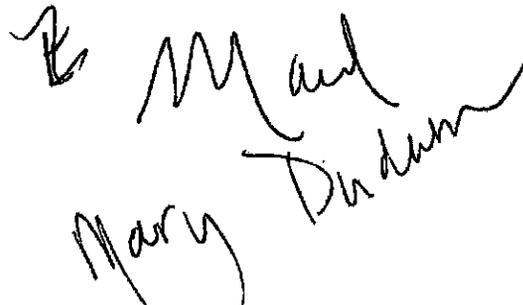
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Mary Duddum

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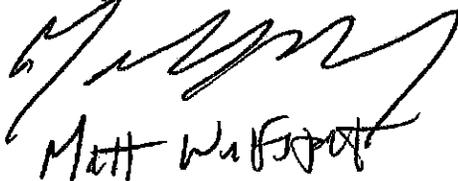
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Matt Walford

April 6, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
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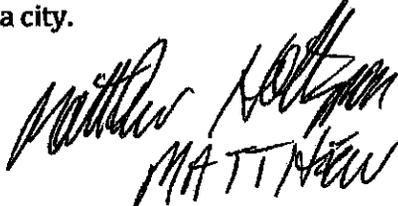
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Thanks,


MATTHEW HOLTZMAN

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,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I 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 to California's youth 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.

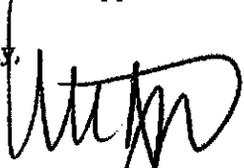
We are in desperate need of more athletic fields in San Francisco. Some athletic leagues have to turn away kids because we simply do not have enough space to handle the demand. The current fields at Beach Chalet are often muddy, filled with gopher holes and dangerous. The City has to close the fields 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, rather it simply improves the existing fields to add 9000 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 in 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,

Michael DeVivo

March 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,

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 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,



Michael Shlapak
Boro Lions

March 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)

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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,

Michelle Levin

Michelle Levin

BHDS Lions Team Member

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,

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.

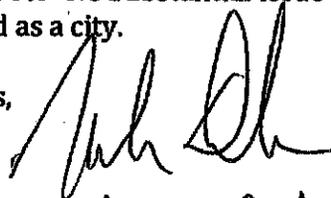
Renovating the Beach Chalet fields will also improve public safety in the area. The area surrounding the Beach Chalet fields has seen an increase in crime, including a murder last summer. Increasing the lighting and improving the facilities will help to alleviate these issues and make it safer for children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


Mike Dudum

March 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,

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 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.

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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,



Miranda Mengis

(School is Chinese American
International)

March 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,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I 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 to California's youth 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 has 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, rather it simply improves the existing fields to add 9000 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 in 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,

 Matt
IMPERIAL FIRE DRAGONS

March 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,

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.

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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,


Nicolas Figman
225 Cobrillo Ct CA 94118
FAIS Jags

March 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,

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.

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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,



NORMAN WINK
FRED DRAGON

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,

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.

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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,

Oscar Barajas

April 4, 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 Owen Cook 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,

Owen Cook
San Francisco

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,

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.

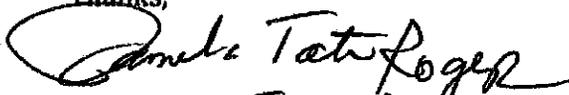
Renovating the Beach Chalet fields will also improve public safety in the area. The area surrounding the Beach Chalet fields has seen an increase in crime, including a murder last summer. Increasing the lighting and improving the facilities will help to alleviate these issues and make it safer for children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


Pamela Tate-Roger

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,

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

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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,



PATRICK COSTIGAN

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,

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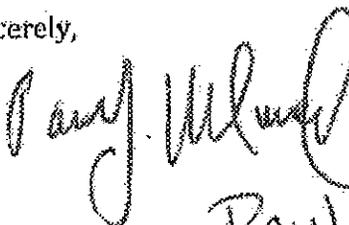
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Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,


Paul Melmed

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,

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.

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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.

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

Thanks,


Percy Cannon

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,

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

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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,


Pete Schmitt

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,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I 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 to California's youth 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 has 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, rather it simply improves the existing fields to add 9000 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 in 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,



Philippe Chouffils

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,

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 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.

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Sincerely,



Ramei Harbamus

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,



Regina TARDY

Bergema Team

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)

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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.

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Thanks,

Rogelio Benuto
ROGELIO BENUTO

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Roni Melmed
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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)

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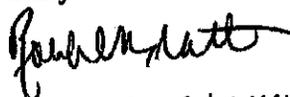
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Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,


ROUEL BLACKETT

March 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)

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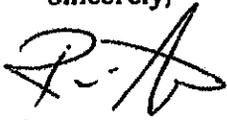
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Sincerely,


SF Glens Pink

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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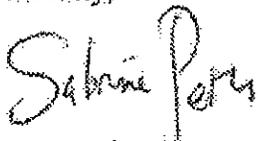
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SF Real Red Good Sam

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,


Samantha Weinberg

Vikings - Red Dragons
U9

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,

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

Thanks,



SANDRA CHEN

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)

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Thanks,


Sandra Miller

March 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)

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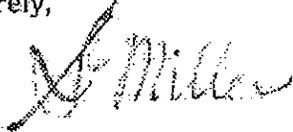
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Sincerely,


Sarah Miller
San Francisco, CA

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Wilkinson". The signature is enclosed within a hand-drawn, irregular rectangular border.

March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sam Sauer

VIA GRS V10 5/15

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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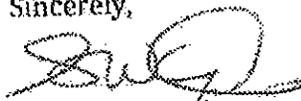
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Sincerely,


SEAN W CRAWFORD

March 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,

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SEANA PATANKAR
SF GLANS

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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Shaban Shakoori

PAL Blue Jags

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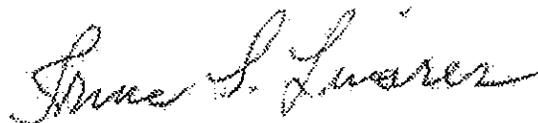
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April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
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Sincerely,

Sophie Legendre
BENZEMA Team


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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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Sincerely,


STAN ADES

FAMILY OF 5!
3 PLAYERS
2 COACHES

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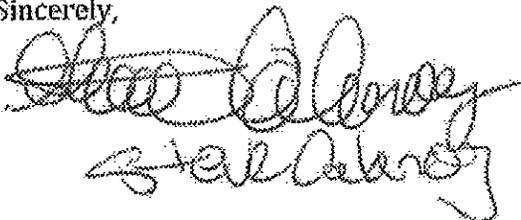
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Stephen P. Schacht

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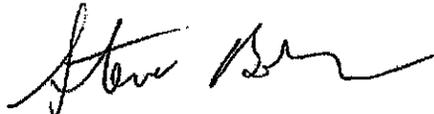
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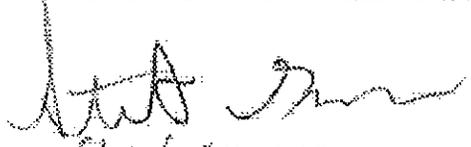
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Stu Grossman
Vikings Lions

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Suzie Larsen
FAIS Jap

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,

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,



Terrance Lee

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,

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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.

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,



March 23, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation (Coastal Permit Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020)

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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 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,

Thomas McVey

THOMAS McVEY

PARENT, ALEX FOR THE DRAGONS

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,

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

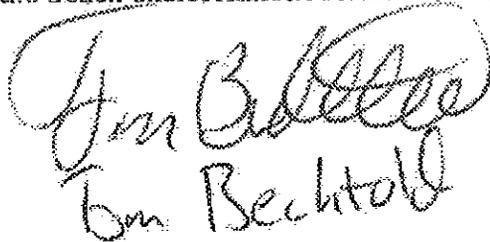
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Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,



Tom Bechtold

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,

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.

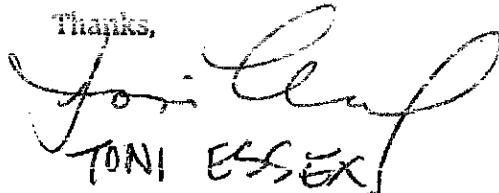
Currently, the Beach Chalet fields are not serving their purpose as a public space. The fields are in awful, even dangerous condition, and they are closed to the public except by paid reservation. It is in the interest of the public good to make these fields available to everyone. The new improved Beach 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 4000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 7 million 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 1970s, and this is a project that the majority of San Franciscans want. Last May, 200 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.

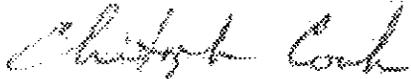
Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,

TONI ESSEX

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 Francisco and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christopher Cook".

*Name: Christopher Cook
City: San Francisco*

March 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,

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,



Fighting
Sea monkeys

March 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,

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 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,

VINCENT DELAMARRE



BENZE MA
SOCCER
TEAM

March 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,

My name is Eric Prosnitz 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.

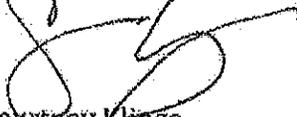
We must do better for our kids and create safer, more accessible places for them to play ball. Through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our city's Recreation & Parks Department we have made tremendous progress. We've renovated fields in neighborhoods across San Francisco and we've 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Courtney Klinge', written over a horizontal line.

Courtney Klinge
9 Fallon Place
San Francisco, CA 94133

March 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 the Coastal Commission,

My name is Lauren B. Dachs, and I am writing in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project.

San Francisco needs high-quality athletic fields. Safe, well-maintained, and sustainable athletic fields provide important playgrounds for our children and youth. Sports help children learn the importance of teamwork, the value of hard work, and confidence – in addition to helping them stay healthy and fit. Unfortunately, athletic leagues have to turn children away because the City simply does not have enough sports fields to meet the demand. The current fields at Beach Chalet are often muddy and dangerous, and even though the Golden Gate Park Master Plan designates the Beach Chalet fields as an “active recreation area”, the City must close the fields 50% of the time to let them rest from constant play or recover from the rain. This results in frequent game and practice cancellations and limits opportunities for children to play and exercise.

Our children deserve better. The partnership between the City Fields Foundation and San Francisco’s Recreation and Parks Department has proven to be an effective model for athletic fields. By working closely with San Francisco communities, these organizations have renovated fields in neighborhoods across San Francisco, resulting in 76,000 hours of additional playtime. This model can and should be applied to the Beach Chalet fields.

Sincerely,

Lauren B. Dachs
President

March 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 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.

I have been a San Francisco resident for nearly 20 years and have enjoyed watching my two children play soccer on the Beach Chalet fields numerous times. I also have friends who have participated in adult soccer leagues who have played on those fields. Because of these personal experiences, I also know first-hand the poor condition of these fields, how people risk their ankles stepping around the divots and gopher holes hoping not to be injured playing a game they love. I also have first-hand experience as a Youth soccer coach where our teams have had games and practices cancelled due to the closure of the fields because of rain or overuse.

On the other hand, my children have benefited from being able to play on some of the soccer fields in San Francisco that have been improved through the partnership between the City Fields Foundation and our Recreation and Parks department. My daughter's high school team uses Crocker Amazon as its home field and also plays at Kimball and Silver Avenue. The excellent field quality, lighting, fencing and stands create an environment where players, coaches and fans feel welcome and comfortable. I have often thought how wonderful it would be if San Francisco children and adults enjoyed greater availability of soccer fields, without having to travel to Marin or to the East Bay clogging up highways and polluting the air with car exhaust.

The fields at Beach Chalet are already in place so it is hard to understand the opposition to making them safe and usable, a real resource for the citizens of San Francisco. Changing the existing fields to a surface that supports a greater number of users represents a positive development in the evolving movement toward greater health and wellness for the residents of San Francisco.

As a follower of the local news I know that the Beach Chalet fields project has been the subject of much debate already. The change to a safe sustainable playing surface carries the support of many people. The supporters have turned out in great numbers to express their wish to see this project be approved.

I ask that you and your fellow commissioners vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park. Please do the right thing for the residents of the city of San Francisco.

Respectfully yours,

Adam Cloth
San Francisco

March 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,

My name is Aaron Schweifler 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.

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 Coastal Commission,

My name is Suzanne Sande Mrlik and I am writing on behalf of my husband Richard and three sons 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 and parent of three boys who have used city fields over the last twenty years, 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.

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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,
Suzanne and Richard Mrlik
2213 Broderick Street
San Francisco, CA 94115

March 24, 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,

Our names are Su-Moon Paik and Robert Brown, and we are 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 city residents, we've seen the positive role that sports play in the physical and mental development of youth in our 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.

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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,

Su-Moon Paik and Robert Brown
San Francisco, CA

SF needs more all-weather fields!
Allow the "final" decision to stand
on the Beach Chalet renovation so
SF Kids have more places to play!
Eliminate homeless encampments, drug use
at Beach Chalet by allowing project to
go forward!

RECEIVED

Pamela Ripright
245 Moncada Way
SF 94127-2705

APR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Dear MS. Shallenberger,
Please vote to approve the Beach
Chalet fields. I love soccer and we
need more and better fields.

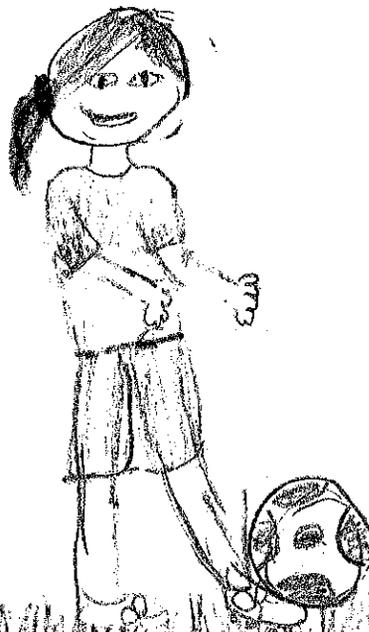
I am always sad when practice or
games are cancelled.

I hope we can put
turf at the Beach chalet! ! !

RECEIVED

APR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION



SF

Exhibit 7

12-SNF-12-020 (Beach Chalet)

Page 3 of 878

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

Please vote to approve the beach Chalet
Field renovations.

I would love to have a safe field without
pot holes. With the renovation more teams can
practice and less games rained out.

I hope you vote yes!!!

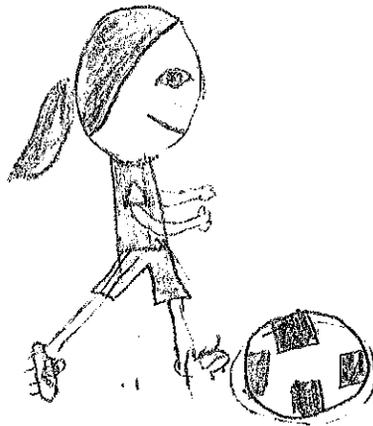
Thank you,

Madison Kjeldgaard
Age 11
San Francisco
California

RECEIVED

APR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION



RECEIVED

APR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

April 8-2013

Dear Chair Schallenberger and
members of Coastal Commission

My name is Lisa Katz and I'm
the parent of a child who plays with
Viking soccer in San Francisco. I am
writing to support the Beach Chalet
Athletic Fields renovation project
and ask that you cast a "NO" Substantial
issue" vote when you consider the Coastal
Permitt Appeal for the project.

As a parent I have witnessed how
playing on a soccer team has been invaluable
for all 3 of my kids development. They
learn life lessons of teamwork, perseverance,
comraderie, winning and losing with
grace, friendship, and self-esteem. We
don't have enough playing fields in San
Francisco to accomodate all the players.
This field is crucial if we are to continue

OFFICE

NO. 12

7000 HILL
H. 028100010000

support of youth soccer.

Thank you for your
consideration on this
every important matter,

Sincerely,

Mike Katz

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

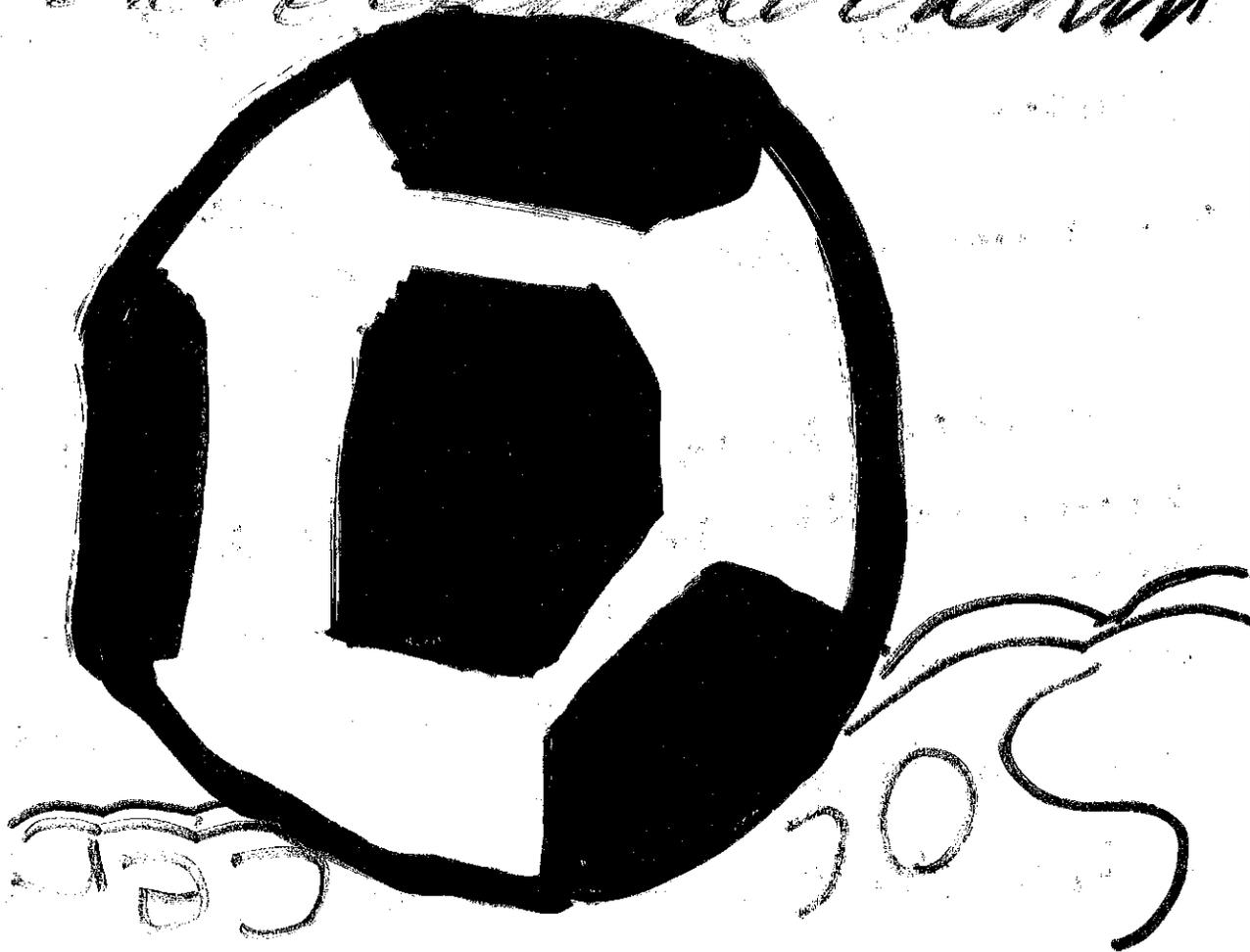
RECEIVED
APR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

My name is Amelia Skarpis; and I play on one of San Francisco's youth soccer teams, the Aftershocks. Please vote to let us renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic fields in Golden Gate Park because we need more safe places to play. I enjoy soccer because I  love getting out on the field and dribbling and scoring. Doing soccer with all my friends is a lot of fun!! Please make sure this project moves forward and vote "No Substantial Issue" on coastal permit appeal for Beach Chalet Athletic Renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

Thanks so much,
Amelia Skarpis
Age 11

Viking League, San Francisco



RECEIVED

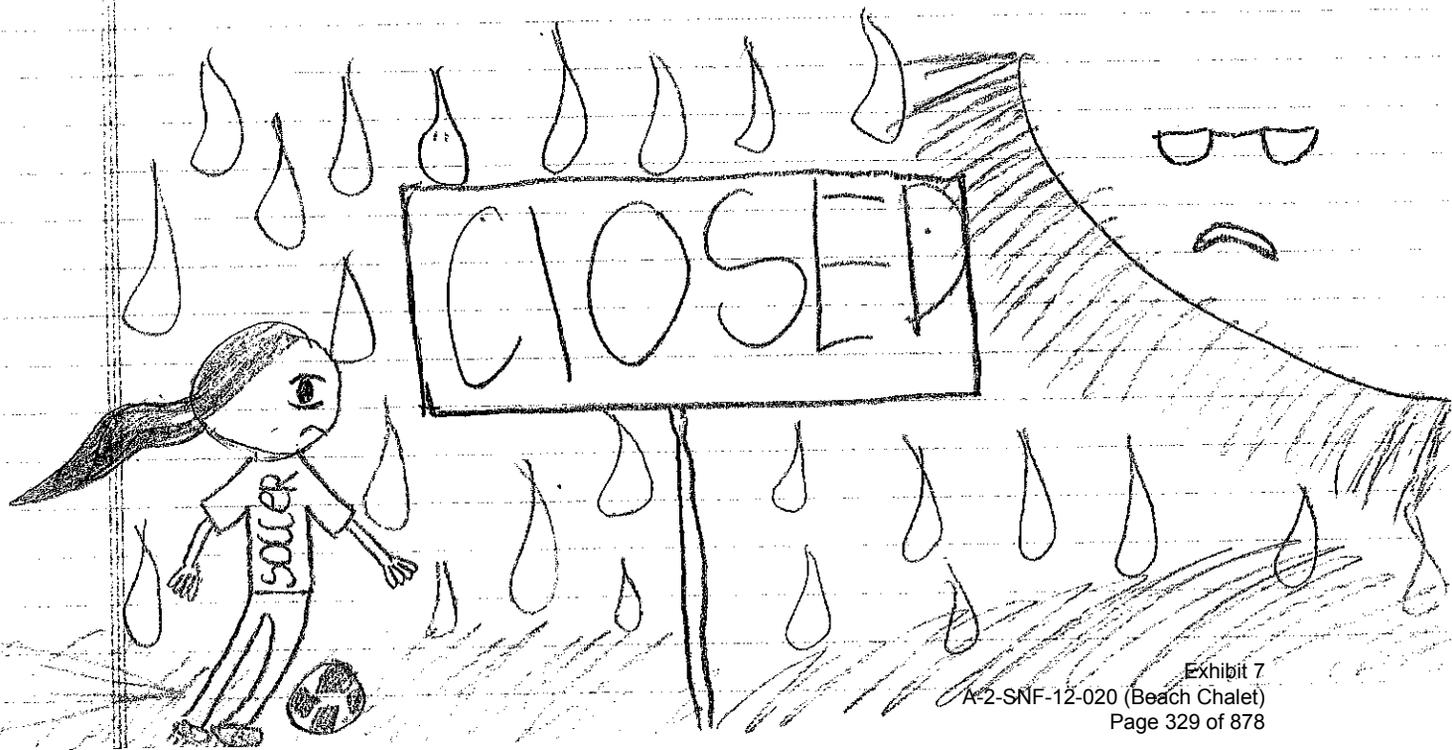
April 8th, 2013

APR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Dear Ms chair Shallen barger and members
OF Coastal commission,

My name Lucy and I play on one of
the San Francisco's youth soccer
teams, the astor shocks and the killer
bees. please vote to let us renovate
the Beach Chalet Athletic fields in
Golden Gate park because we
need more safe places to play soccer.
I really love soccer because I love hanging
out with my friend and getting a fun
and good exercise. Me and my team think
it is really important because we all need
places to play soccer so if you choose to
not renovate the soccer fields, that creates
one last field that we can play on and
have fun on and I love my team
so I would hate for all teams to split apart.



RECEIVED

APR 8 1994

STATE COMMISSION
T. J. WILSON

PLEASE KEEP

the soccer fields

April 5, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RECEIVED

APR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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 Angela Young and I am the parent of a child who plays soccer in 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.

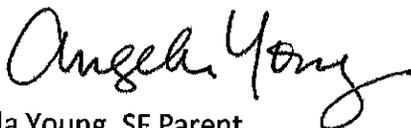
As a parent, I have seen first-hand the ways that playing on a soccer team can help a child grow. Through being on a team, youth learn how to depend on others and the importance of cooperation and communication. They learn the value of hard work and what it means to make a commitment to a goal. Even more than that, my two girls learned to believe in themselves and to celebrate their own successes. I just wish that my child had more playfields available in SF. The demand is just not being met for our family and all of San Francisco's kids.

Our families, including my own, need more accessible recreation fields in this part of town. By adding 9,000 more hours of playtime, we can open up our fields to locals and tourists alike.

Renovating the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields is critical to improving the health and safety of our communities. The lighting and improved facilities will transform this part of Golden Gate Park into a safer place—a place I would feel more comfortable sending my child to play. The plan for renovation will not adversely affect the surrounding environment or compromise the character of the park.

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.

Sincerely,



Angela Young, SF Parent
Aftershocks Soccer Team
San Francisco

April 5, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RECEIVED

APR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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 Catherine and I play on one of the San Francisco's youth soccer teams, the SF Aftershocks.

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 soccer because I can have fun with my friends while practicing and working hard. My team and I are very close, and we spend long hours practicing to become better players.

We like the turf fields because they are never closed and we can always count on playing our games.

As kids, we have spoken out about this project. Last year, over 300 kids went to City Hall to show support, so we need to save the fields. We need to make sure that every kid who wants to get the chance to play soccer in the city. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields could be really great if they were renovated. We need your help to make that happen.

Please make sure this project moves forward and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

Thanks so much,

Catherine

Catherine Young
8.5 years old
Soccer Team: SF Aftershocks, San Francisco

RECEIVED

APR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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,

My name is Morgan Hudson and I am the parent of 2 daughters who play soccer in 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.

Although I didn't grow up in San Francisco, I've played soccer since I could walk. As a player, coach and parent, I have seen first-hand the ways that playing on a soccer team can help a child grow. By functioning as part of a team, kids learn how to depend on others and the importance of cooperation and communication. They learn the value of hard work and what it means to make a commitment to a goal. I just wish that my child had more playfields available to him/her. The demand is just not being met for our family and all of San Francisco's kids.

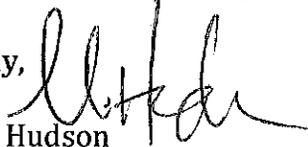
The Beach Chalet Soccer fields have existed as a part of Golden Gate Park for over 80 years. Using the western portion of the park for increased recreational use is a central goal laid out in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan.

Unfortunately, San Francisco does always seem to embrace family values. Many of my friends with children have had to move due lack of recreational facilities. Our families need more accessible recreation fields in this part of town. By adding 9,000 more hours of playtime, we can open up our fields to locals and tourists alike.

Renovating the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields is critical to improving the health and safety of our communities. The lighting and improved facilities will transform this part of Golden Gate Park into a safer place—a place I would feel more comfortable sending my child to play. The plan for renovation will not adversely affect the surrounding environment or compromise the character of the park.

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.

Sincerely,



Morgan Hudson
San Francisco/Aftershocks/Girls Under 9

April 5, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RECEIVED

APR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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 Chloe Hudson and I play on one of the San Francisco's youth soccer teams, the Aftershocks (Girls Under 9).

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 soccer. My dad and I have played together since I could walk. I also like it because I can have fun with my friends while practicing and working hard. My team and I are very close, and we spend long hours practicing to become better players. We are all good friends and hang out even when we're not playing soccer. I hope to play soccer for a long time.

Lots of times we have to cancel our games or practice because the fields were wet or muddy. This is especially the case in the spring when it rains more in San Francisco.

I like playing on the field turf fields because I don't sprain my ankles as much or get my shoes all wet.

The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields could be really great if they were renovated. We need your help to make that happen.

Please make sure this project moves forward and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

Thanks,

Chloe Hudson
Age 8
Aftershocks/San Francisco

RECEIVED

APR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

April 8, 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.

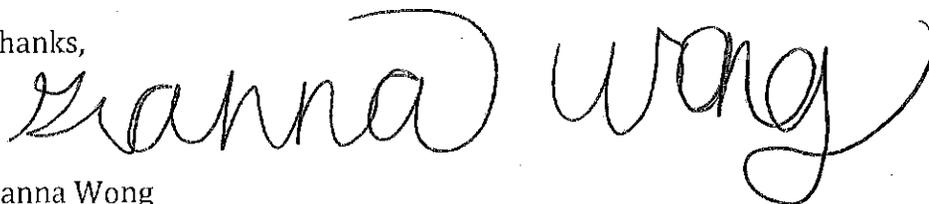
Playing at the fields in Golden Gate Park means a lot to me, and I love spending time with my team and friends. Rebuilding the fields is important to me because I want to make sure that my team and other kids like us can continue to play soccer in the city.

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,



Gianna Wong
8 years old
SFFC Aftershocks

April 8, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RECEIVED

APR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

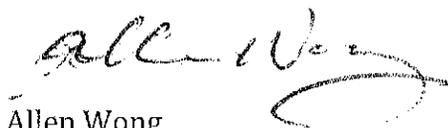
San Francisco desperately needs more athletic fields. On so many weekends, we've had to look in the eyes of our disappointed kids and explain why their games are cancelled when it's a perfectly sunny day. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are currently in such poor condition that they must close to let 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,



Allen Wong
SFCC Aftershocks 18 (U09 Girls)
San Francisco

March 19, 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 John Zwolinski and I am the parent of two sons who play soccer in 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 two young sons, 8 and 10, have played soccer here in SF since they were four or five. Currently, one plays for the Glens, and for one for Sunset Elementary. The experience for both has been...I struggle for the right word... *elemental*...and, no doubt, transformative. The early experience of being on, and contributing to, a team; the mental and physical discipline of attending and putting one's all-out in practice and games; the experience of enduring and learning from defeats, and celebrating, in a sportsmanlike manner, victories -- heck, this is the *essence* of growing up well. And all of this is being played out before loving and supportive parents, and has fostered a really wonderful community of families. That said, the fly in the ointment has been the unavailability of playing fields: We live in the Outer Sunset but invariably must drive across town to Garfield Park in the Mission to play our games. Why? The Beach Chalet Soccer Fields next door are perennially in such a poor state of repair that they are closed most of the time and a hazard to play on the rest. And though CityFields has offered to renovate the fields, as they have in several other places in SF, a small but very vocal group of neighbors has been inveighing against the project, claiming, nonsensically, that renovated fields would compromise the "sylvan" quality of this "wildlife preserve." For cryingoutload! It's *not* wilderness. It's a corner of a man-made urban park that has been for at least seventy years dedicated soccer fields, currently all-but unusable because of gophers and weather, and surrounded by neglected trails and woods that most of us avoid because of illegal and sketchy activity going on there 24/7.

We've been going 'round and 'round with opponents of the project for literally years now. I have lost track of the number of meetings and hearings my wife, sons and I have attended in support of the renovation. Time after time, supporters of the renovation have turned out in force before various boards and commissions, who, after careful deliberation, have invariably green-lighted the renovations. Yet again and again, this small group of well-organized opponents have contrived to block the project anew, resorting to dissembling disinformation campaigns when all else has failed. They have asked for and received a costly and lengthy EIR, for example, but, unsatisfied with the conclusions, now challenge its validity.

Frankly, we enthusiastic supporters of the renovations are fed up with the obstructionist, undemocratic maneuverings of the opponents. Asking the Coastal Commission to weigh in is just the latest in a series of increasingly unreasonable attempts to derail this worthy project. When this debate began, my sons

were four and eight; they are now eight and ten, and the project has yet to break ground. If opponents of this *much-needed* renovation have their way, the fields and the surrounding woods will remain a neglected, decrepit, seedy and even dangerous environ, and my kids and hundreds of others will never have the opportunity to play on the safe and clean fields CityFields wishes to grant to the City.

Renovating the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields is critical to improving the health and safety of our communities. The lighting and improved facilities will transform this part of Golden Gate Park into a safer place—a place I would feel more comfortable sending my sons to play. The plan for renovation will ABSOLUTELY not adversely affect the surrounding environment or compromise the character of the park.

Please, 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.

Sincerely,



John Zwolinski

Glens/ Sunset Stars Soccer Dad

San Francisco, CA

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,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I 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 to California's youth 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 has 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, rather it simply improves the existing fields to add 9000 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 in 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,



Alexander T. Clark

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,

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,


Alice Nikoff

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,

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 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,


Alla NIKOFF

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,

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

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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,



Print Name: Allen Wong
SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks GOO
San Francisco, CA

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,

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

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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,

Print Name: *Amanda Richard*
SFVSC Athena Red G98
San Francisco, CA

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,

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.

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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,



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,

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,




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)

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

Thanks,


Ariel Esqueda

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,

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 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,

Beth Mitchner

Beth Mitchner
SF Friends School Quakes

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
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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 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,

Print Name: Cameron Burns

Age: 12

SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00

Cameron Burns

April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Candido Aguirre


April 20, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
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CARLOS MONFIGLIO

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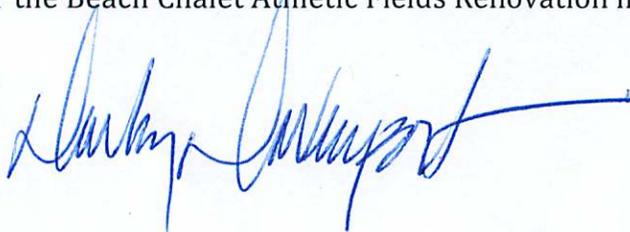
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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mary Shallenberger", written over a horizontal line.

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Thanks,



Charmaine Rodrigues

April 20, 2013
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Thanks,

Chris Moore


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Sincerely,

Chris Queen & Mariceli Paklo

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Thanks,

Print Name: _____

Claire Deutsch

Age: _____

12

SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00

Claire Deutsch

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Clara Lucana.

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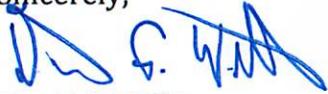


Daniel Spiran

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,



David F. Wilkinson
Executive Director, Project Vega
San Francisco

March 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,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I 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 to California's youth 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 has 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, rather it simply improves the existing fields to add 9000 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 in 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

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David Abrego

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April 5, 2013

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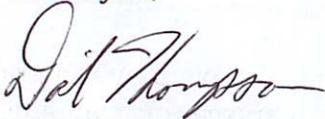
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This renovation is also the right choice for the environment. The Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing 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.

Thank you,



David Thompson
920 Diamond Street
San Francisco, CA 94114
(415) 999-9636

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,

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,

Davis Roberts 10

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,

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

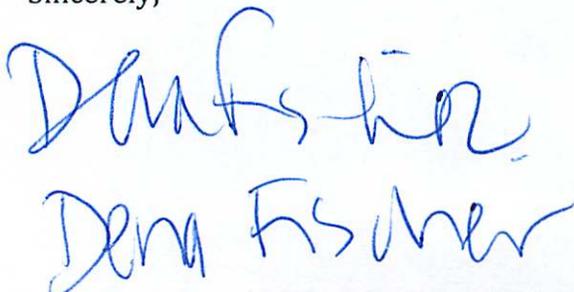
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The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are the right place for this project. This region of Golden Gate Park has been used as an athletic field for over 75 years. This project is the right choice environmentally as well. The Recreation and Parks Department 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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Sincerely,


Dena Fischer

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)

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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Edith Esperez

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)

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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,

Print Name: Athena Sabily-Orellana
SFVSC Athena Red G98
San Francisco, CA

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,

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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,

Print Name: Elle Boyden

Age: 12
SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00



Faint, illegible text at the top of the page, possibly a header or introductory paragraph.

Main body of faint, illegible text, appearing to be several paragraphs of a document.

Bottom section of faint, illegible text, possibly a conclusion or a separate paragraph.

March 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 Emily Rupright and I play on one of the San Francisco's youth lacrosse teams, the SF Riptide (girls U13B Gray team).

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 lacrosse because I can have fun with my friends while practicing and working hard. My team and I are very close, and we spend as much time as we can practicing to become better players. Some of the other teams in places like Marin can practice more often than us because they have more fields.

I really hope I can play lacrosse in high school but I'm worried that the school I choose won't be able to have a team because they don't have a field to practice on.

Lots of times we can't practice on a beautiful sunny day because it rained the day before and the fields are too muddy and wet so they are closed. I like the turf fields because they are never closed and we can always count on practicing and playing our games. Also they are more even and we trip and fall a lot less.

Please make sure this project moves forward and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

Thanks so much,

Emily Rupright
Lacrosse Player, SF Riptide
(and Viking Soccer)



March 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,

My name is Eric Hansen and I am the parent of two boys (aged 7 and 15) who are passionate soccer players in San Francisco. Our family lives one block away from the beach in the Sunset District and we are also active in surfing and other beach activities. 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.

As a child I was very active in sports and now as a parent I have seen what a positive impact sports like soccer have had on the lives of my children. Our kids spend too much time indoors in front of electronic screens so it is critical that we get them engaged on the sports field where they can focus on hard work, cooperation, and team involvement. Soccer has helped increase their confidence by giving them pride in accomplishing goals while working with others.

The approval process for this project has lasted several years and has had a high degree of community involvement. When plans for the project were first announced, I attended community meetings for the project in both the Sunset and Richmond districts. I attended several administrative hearings where project opponents asked that the project sponsors complete a full EIR for the project. The project sponsors did agree to go through the lengthy EIR process which has delayed the project even further. After the EIR was completed I attended and spoke at several hearings such as the San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission, Planning Commission, Rec and Park Commission, and Board of Supervisors. The project was eventually approved after all the hearings and due process required by the City and County of San Francisco. Community involvement in these hearings has been very high, even by San Francisco standards. It is fairly common to have vocal opposition to any development project but I have been impressed by how the children and families of San Francisco have rallied behind this project to speak about how important this project is for their lives. These children have shown incredible resolve, sitting through long hearings in City Hall often until late into the evening on school nights.

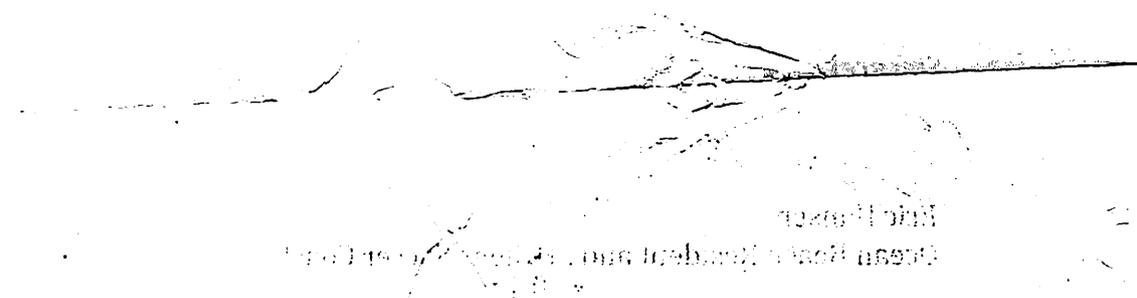
The Beach Chalet Soccer fields have existed as a part of Golden Gate Park since the 1930's. Using the western portion of the park for increased recreational use is a central

The undersigned hereby certifies that the above is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the records of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara, California.

Witness my hand and the seal of said County at San Jose, California, this _____ day of _____, 19____.

County Clerk

Notary Public



goal laid out in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. This project is basically the renovation of an existing soccer field that lies on the opposite side of the highway from the beach. The project sponsors have made a number of adjustments to the project design throughout the lengthy approval process to blend in with the surrounding area as much as possible.

Unfortunately, San Francisco does not always feel like a family-friendly city and the lack of adequate recreational facilities is one of the main reasons. This field is an important resource for our community but in its current state it is severely under-utilized. The maintenance of the existing grass field requires that it is completely shut down from late-Fall through Spring and even when it is open the individual fields need to be rotated so that one field is offline and resting at all times. Our families, including my own, need more accessible recreation fields in this part of town. The completion of this project will add 9000 more hours of playtime, so we can open up our fields to locals and tourists alike.

Renovating the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields is critical to improving the health and safety of our communities. The lighting and improved facilities will transform this part of Golden Gate Park into a safer place—a place I would feel more comfortable sending my child to play. The plan for renovation will not adversely affect the surrounding environment or compromise the character of the park.

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.

Sincerely,



Eric Hansen
Ocean Beach Resident and SF Glens Soccer Coach

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,

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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.

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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,

Eric Roberts 10

April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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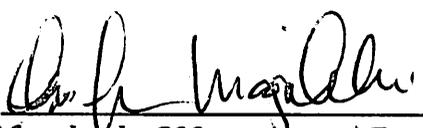
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Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Print Name: 
SFVSL SFCC Aftershocks GOO
San Francisco, CA

Evelyn V. Magaleci

April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Fabiola Lara

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)

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Thanks,

GABRIEL PEREZ



April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,


Gabriela Rodriguez

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)

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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,



GREG JANZA

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,

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.

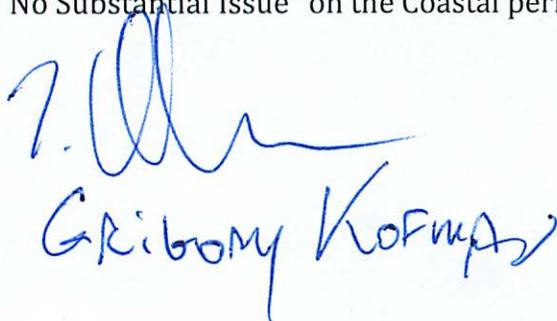
Renovating the Beach Chalet fields will also improve public safety in the area. The area surrounding the Beach Chalet fields has seen an increase in crime, including a murder last summer. Increasing the lighting and improving the facilities will help to alleviate these issues and make it safer for children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



Gregory Kofman

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)

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

Thanks,



Hallie Ness

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)

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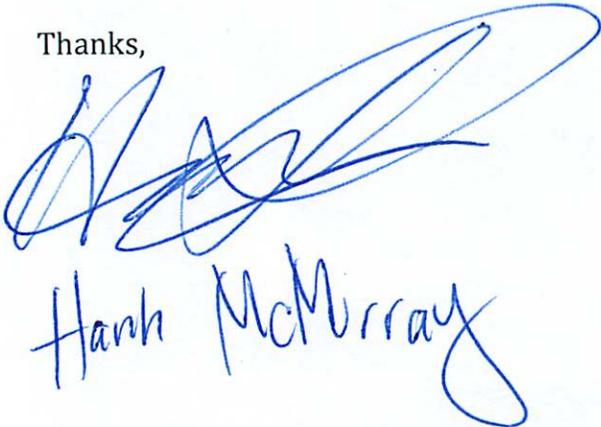
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Thanks,



Hank McMurray

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)

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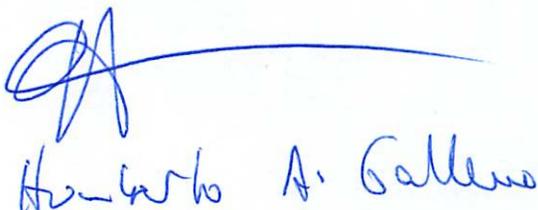
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Thanks,



Humberto A. Gallardo

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,

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 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.

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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,



Jan Furdich Simons

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,

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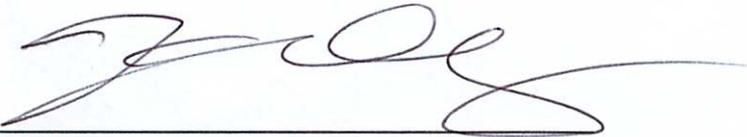
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Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Print Name: 
SFVSC Athena Red G98
San Francisco, CA

March 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,

My name is Jacob Wilson-Gates. I am 15 years old and I attend Sacred Heart High School in San Francisco. I have been playing soccer for the San Francisco Vikings league and club since I was 5.

Please vote to let us renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park because we need more fields in San Francisco, especially ones with synthetic grass and lights that can provide a lot of playing time.

I love soccer because I can have fun with my friends while practicing and working hard. My team and I are very close, and we spend a lot of time practicing to become better players. We are all good friends and hang out even when we're not playing soccer. I have met a lot of cool kids from other parts of the city that I would not have met if I wasn't playing soccer.

When I was younger I used to get upset when our practices or games at Beach Chalet were closed because of rain. Now that I am older and in high school I realize how much we could be utilizing this field if the renovation had been completed by now. My high school is only about 10-15 minutes away from the Beach Chalet field but we are bussed to practices at a field 20-30 minutes away that has synthetic grass and lights. Our high school season is during the Winter so the fields with synthetic grass and lights are really the only fields we can rely on during our season. Almost all of the high schools in San Francisco have the same problem fighting for limited fields and many have to travel long distances to an available field. We like the turf fields because they are never closed and we can always count on playing. It is sad to think that I might never get to use the renovated Beach Chalet field before I leave San Francisco to go to college.

Please make sure this project moves forward and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

Thanks so much,



Jacob Wilson Gates
Sacred Heart High and SF Vikings Soccer Player

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,

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.

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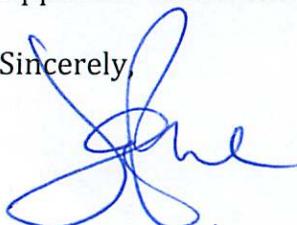
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Sincerely,



Jason E. Pearl

March 19, 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 Jasper and I play on one of the San Francisco's youth soccer teams, the Glens.

Please vote to let us renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park because we need more safe places to play.

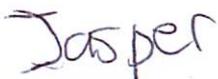
I love soccer because my friends and I work very, very hard to be a good team. We work together and we have learned a lot. Our parents are proud of us and we are proud of ourselves.

But we can almost never play on the Beach Chalet fields. The gate is always locked. When we do play there, the field is full of gopher holes.

My brother and I and our friends went to City Hall to support the project. We want a safe and clean place to play soccer. But the fields are dirty and dangerous and that part of the park is not a nice place to visit. Please help us make the fields a nice place to use.

Please make sure this project moves forward and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

Thanks so much,



Jasper Zwolinski
Age 8
The Glens, San Francisco

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,

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 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.

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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,

JEFFREY LEAVITT


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)

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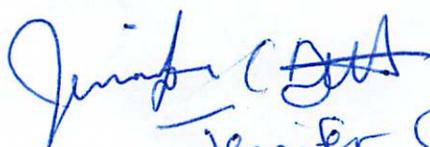
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Sincerely,


Jennifer C. Betti

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April 8, 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 Jessica Roybal and I am a parent of a youth who plays U13 girls soccer in San Francisco. 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.

My grandfather, Keith Eickman, was the Parks & Recreation Commissioner for many years in San Francisco and I know if he was alive today, he would be a huge supporter of this initiative not only because his only great-grandchild will benefit but because all the children of San Francisco will benefit.

Raising a child in San Francisco can be very difficult especially as a single parent. Due to the high cost of living, insufficient transportation and lack of recreational facilities, I have seen many of our friends and neighbors with kids leaving our great city. I want to stay in San Francisco and am committed to making our city more family friendly.

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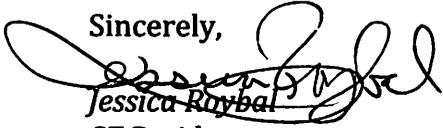
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica Roybal", written over a printed name.

Jessica Roybal

SF Resident

Parent to Ninarose Roybal

SF Seals Red Soccer Team

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)

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Sincerely, *JESUS Salmeron*
Galant

April 10, 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,

Name

Joanna Karger



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,

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 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Johanne Roben". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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,

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,

Print Name: *Joelyn Wong*

Age: 11

SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00

Joelyn Wong

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,

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

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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,



John Ness

April 20, 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,



John Rumsey



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Main body of faint, illegible text, appearing as several paragraphs of a document.



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**SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
ATHLETIC OFFICE**

JOHN ZLATUNICH
ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR

DIRECT DIAL: 415.920.5185
FAX: 415.920.5189
EMAIL: zlatunichj@sfnusd.edu
WEB: www.cifsf.org

555 PORTOLA DRIVE, ROOM 250
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94131

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,

My name is John Zlatunich, and I am the Athletic Activities Coordinator for the San Francisco Unified School District. I am writing in support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation and to urge you to vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal.

During my tenure with the SFUSD, I have seen the ways that organized sports can positively impact a child's life. Students who participate in athletics often have better grades and are more motivated to succeed. Athletics can also provide a pathway to college through scholarship opportunities that would not otherwise be available.

As a native San Franciscan, I am aware that schools, both public and private, were designed to rely on public sports fields for athletic programs. On any given weekday, thousands of school kids, as well as adult athletes, use the city's playfields for an array of athletics. Unfortunately, there is simply not enough space to accommodate everyone. San Francisco is in desperate need of more athletic fields.

The Beach Chalet fields have the potential to increase capacity, but that is currently not possible now due to their very poor condition. They are closed many months out of the year to let the grass rest and also during periods of inclement weather. The renovation and installation of artificial turf would add thousands of hours per year for school teams, youth and adult recreational teams, and the general public to play in all weather conditions.

For many of our public school student athletes, these are the last years they will be able to play team sports. I want to make sure they have the ability to do so.

Please don't let our kids miss out on the chance to play sports and all of the opportunities that come with being an athlete. Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

March 19, 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 Jonah and I play on one of the San Francisco's youth soccer teams, the Sunset Stars.

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 soccer because my friends and I work very, very hard to be a good team. We work together and we have learned a lot. Our parents are proud of us and we are proud of ourselves.

But we can almost never play on the Beach Chalet fields. The gate is always locked. When we do play there, the field is full of gopher holes.

My brother and I and our friends went to City Hall to support the project. We want a safe and clean place to play soccer. But the fields are dirty and dangerous and that part of the park is not a nice place to visit. Please help us make the fields a nice place to use.

Please make sure this project moves forward and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

Thanks so much,

Jonah

Jonah Zwolinski
Age 10
The Sunset Stars, San Francisco

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,

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

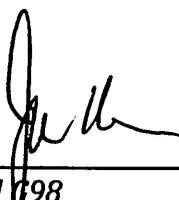
San Francisco desperately needs more athletic fields. On so many weekends, we've had to look in the eyes of our disappointed kids and explain why their games are cancelled when it's a perfectly sunny day. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are currently in such poor condition that they must close to let 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,


Print Name: _____
SFVSC Athena Red 098
San Francisco, CA

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)

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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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alexa" or similar, written in a cursive style.

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,

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

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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,



Julio Sanchez

April 15, 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,

Name KAMBACKSH CHARALAGHA



10/10/2012

11/10/2012

12/10/2012

13/10/2012

14/10/2012

15/10/2012

16/10/2012

17/10/2012

18/10/2012

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06/11/2012

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08/11/2012

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10/11/2012

11/11/2012

12/11/2012

13/11/2012

14/11/2012

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,

My name is Karen Perlman. I am a native San Franciscan who chose to stay in the city to raise my children, and 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 (including me and my daughters) 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.

Thank you!


Karen Perlman

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,

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,

Kathryn Chu

Print Name: _____

Age: 12

SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00

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,

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

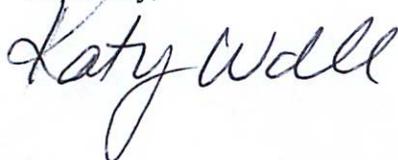
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April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Kelly McKane

SF Friends School Quakes

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)

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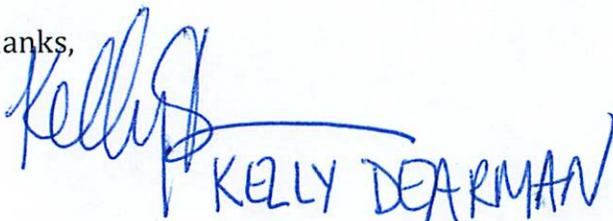
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Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city.

Thanks,


KELLY DEARMAN

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)

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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,

Kelly Wall

11

San Francisco Aftershocks

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelly Wall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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,

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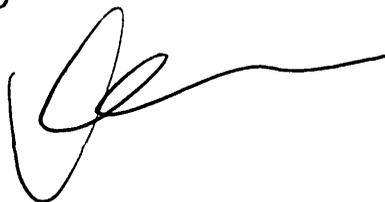
Please listen to our kids' voices and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal Permit Appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Print Name: _____

Ken Chu

SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks GOO
San Francisco, CA



April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,



Kim Drew
SF Friends Quakes Bug

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)

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Thanks,

Print Name: Kylani Uagalelei

Age: 12

SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00

Kylani Uagalelei

April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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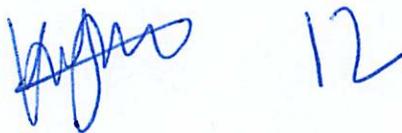
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Thanks,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, followed by the number '12' written in blue ink.

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)

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Sincerely,

Print Name: _____
SFVSC Athena Red G98
San Francisco, CA



April 6, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,



Print Name: Lauren Chu

Age: 13

SFVSC Athena Red G00

April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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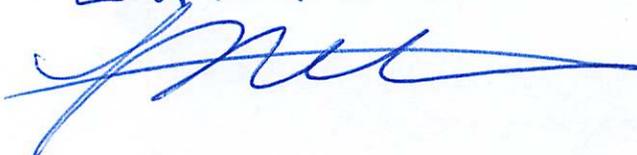
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Sincerely,

Leara Vestel


April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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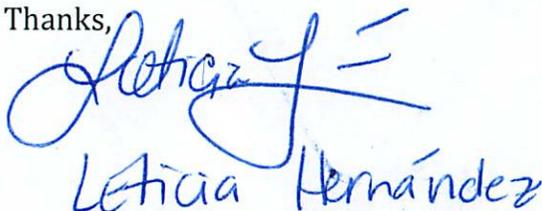
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The project is in line with the intended use of the space. It has been used as a soccer field since the 1930s, and this is a project that the majority of San Franciscans want. Last May, 300 kids and 100 adults testified at a hearing in support of this 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,



Leticia Hernández

April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,



Liam
BLACKWELL

April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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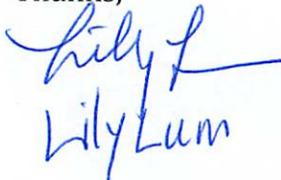
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Lily Lum

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Lisa Hord

April 6, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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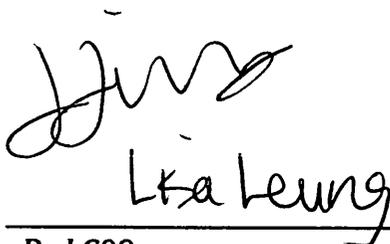
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Sincerely,



Print Name: _____
SFVSC Athena Red G98
San Francisco, CA

April 6, 2013
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Print Name: Lizzy Reardon

Age: 12

SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00

Lizzy Reardon

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,
Lyla Sax

Print Name: Lyla Sax

Age: 14
SFVSC Athena Red G00

April 6, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Print Name: Madison Kjeldgaard

Age: 11
SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00

Madison Kjeldgaard

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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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,



Print Name: Madoka Ayaka Hokamura
SFVSL SFCC Aftershocks G00
San Francisco, CA

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,

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,

Marc Roschky
Marc Roschky

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,

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 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, 

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,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I 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 to California's youth 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 has 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, rather it simply improves the existing fields to add 9000 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 in 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,

 MARCO A. CARACENO

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,

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,

Mari Tilos
Mari Tilos

April 3, 2013
Mayor Stella Benson, Chair
San Francisco Coastal Commission
475 Franklin Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94102-3219

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

Dear Mayor Benson and members of the Coastal Commission:

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

The renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields is a critical issue for the community and the city of San Francisco.

Currently, the Beach Chalet Athletic 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 renovated Beach Chalet Athletic Fields will have a "play" hours so that everyone can use this space, not just those who can pay for it.

Renovating the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields will also improve public safety in the area. The area surrounding the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields has seen an increase in crime, including a murder last summer. Increasing the lighting and improving the facilities will help to address 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 renovation will replace the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an aggressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 5.7 million gallons of water each year.

The renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields is a project that the majority of San Franciscans support. The project will create 300 jobs and 100 jobs created as a result of this project. It will do a lot for a small but vocal minority hold the project back when the good of the city is at stake.

Thank you for your support of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project. I am sure that you will find a way to support this project.

Thank you,
Mark J. Spitzer

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,

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,


Maria R. Espiritu

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,

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,

Print Name: Mariko Hokamura

Age: 11
SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00

Mariko Hokamura

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,

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mara J", is written below the text "Thanks,".

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April 14, 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 Mary Nakamura 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.

Currently, the Beach Chalet fields are not serving their purpose as a public space. There are inadequate fields in the city for children to play on, and many like the Beach Chalet fields are in awful, even dangerous condition, and they are closed to the public except by paid reservation. When there is even light rain, the fields must be closed so the fields are not further damaged. It is in the interest of the public good to make these fields open more often and 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. Increased lighting and improved facilities will also make it safer for children who play there and improve public safety in the area for tourists and neighbors. The area surrounding the Beach Chalet fields has seen an increase in crime, including a murder last summer.

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

Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move forward as a city. 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 so much that can be accomplished for the good of the city is at stake.

Thanks for your consideration,



Mary Nakamura MD
565 Eureka St.
San Francisco, CA 94114

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,

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 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,

Mauricio M. Salgado



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,

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,

MAYA LOBO 10

MAYA LOBO

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,

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,

Mayra Gutierrez

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,

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

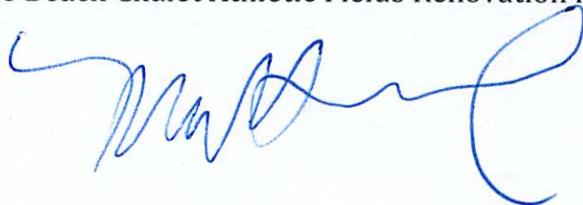
San Francisco desperately needs more athletic fields. On so many weekends, we've had to look in the eyes of our disappointed kids and explain why their games are cancelled when it's a perfectly sunny day. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are currently in such poor condition that they must close to let 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,



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,

I coach youth soccer players in San Francisco and I 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 to California's youth 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 has 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, rather it simply improves the existing fields to add 9000 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 in 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,


415-317-8557 Michael Northover 12

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,

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 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.

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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,



March 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,

My name is Michelle Hansen and I am the parent of two boys that play soccer in 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.

As a parent, I have seen how much that playing team sports like soccer has helped my kids grow. They have learned how to depend on others and the importance of cooperation and communication – skills that will be valuable when they enter the workplace some day. They have learned the value of hard work and what it means to make a commitment to a goal. They have also learned to believe in themselves - I just wish that my kids had more playfields available to them. The demand is just not being met for our family and all of San Francisco's kids. It does irritate me that I have to shuttle them all over the city to whatever field space is available while we have the Beach Chalet field close to our house that is shut down for much of the year. The Beach Chalet field renovation project would bring some much-needed additional play hours to our side of town and would hopefully spare us so many long car trips.

While I have not attended as many hearings as my husband, I did attend several hearings in support of the Beach Chalet Field project along with our kids. Last year, over 300 youth players showed up to attend a Planning Commission meeting in City Hall to show their support for and dedication to the project. My kids have waited for hours to testify in front of city officials and they have grown up tremendously since debate began on this project four years ago. I have lost hope that our oldest son will be able to use the Beach Chalet field in its renovated state before he goes away to college. During this lengthy process, I have felt like many of the project opponents that are trying to stop the renovation of the Beach Chalet field do not even use the field in its current state.

The Beach Chalet Soccer fields have existed as a part of Golden Gate Park since the 1930's. Using the western portion of the park for increased recreational use is a central goal laid out in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Unfortunately these fields in their current state are locked for much of the year and we are unable to even use them.

Renovating the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields is critical to improving the health and safety of our communities. The lighting and improved facilities will transform this part of Golden Gate Park into a safer place—a place I would feel more comfortable sending my child to play and a place that I can visualize our family spending many hours in. The plan for renovation will not adversely affect the surrounding environment or compromise the character of the park. I know this because I live a few blocks away.

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.

Sincerely,



Michelle Hansen
Ocean Beach Resident and Soccer Mom

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,

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,



Michelle Sullivan

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)

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

Thanks,

Name

Mike Schulte 

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)

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

Thanks,



NEERAJ CHAWLA

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,

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 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,



1/11/02

Frank

Dear Sirs,

I have had the pleasure of reading your letter of the 27th and I am glad to hear that

you are still active

There is no doubt that you will be very interested in the project which is the focus of
this letter. The project is a project which is the focus of this letter. The project is a project which is the focus of this letter. The project is a project which is the focus of this letter.

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Very truly yours,

I believe these things will be of interest to you. I believe these things will be of interest to you. I believe these things will be of interest to you. I believe these things will be of interest to you.

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Yours

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I am one of the thousands of San Franciscans who support the renovation of the

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15-030

RE: Beach Chalet Historic Landmark Association (Contact Person: Wilson No. 415-241-1111)

San Francisco CA 94102-3310

12 Fremont Street Suite 2000

San Francisco, California

415-241-1111

Wilson No. 415-241-1111

April 15, 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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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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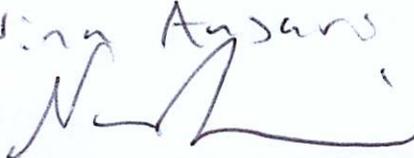
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The project is in line with the intended use of the space. It has been used as a soccer field since the 1930s, and this is a project that the majority of San Franciscans want. Last May, 300 kids and 100 adults testified at a hearing in support of this project. Please do not let a small but vocal minority hold this project back when the good of the city is at stake.

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

Thanks,

Name

Ning Anderson


April 8, 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,



Ninarose Roybal

12 yrs old

SF Seals Red

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)

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

Thanks,


Naomi Barajas

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,

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,

Print Name: Olivia Schirle

Age: 11
SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00

Olivia Schirle

March 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 Pamela Rupright and I am the parent of two children who play lacrosse in 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.

As a parent, I have seen first-hand the ways that playing on a lacrosse team can help a child grow. Through being on a team, youth learn how to depend on others and the importance of cooperation and communication. They learn the value of hard work and what it means to make a commitment to a goal. Even more than that, my children have learned to believe in themselves and to celebrate their successes. I just wish that my children had more playfields available to them. The demand is just not being met for our family and all of San Francisco's kids.

My son is now in high school and my daughter will enter high school in the fall of 2014. For both, lacrosse is their favorite sport. Unfortunately only a few high schools in San Francisco offer a girls' lacrosse team. This is not because of lack of interest, but primarily due to a lack of field space for potential new teams to practice and play games on. The proposed renovation of the Beach Chalet fields would open up a world of opportunity for girls lacrosse in San Francisco – several girls on my daughter's youth team play only lacrosse and no other sport. I worry about the activity level of those girls if/when they arrive in a high school that is simply unable to offer a lacrosse team for lack of fields.

As President of the San Francisco Lacrosse Club (the "Riptide"), I have dealt for the last five years with lack of fields as the only impediment to growth of the sport. Lacrosse is the fastest growing sport for girls in the country. Our club has grown from one girls team to five in the past three years, yet I have been told that we may not add more teams (despite interest) because there are not enough fields.

Along with hundreds (perhaps thousands?) of other parents, coaches and players, I have written letters, met with city officials, and attended hearings in support of the Beach Chalet Field project. I personally have attended at least four several hours long hearings before various San Francisco Commissions. Last year, over 300 youth players showed up to attend a Planning Commission meeting in City Hall to show their support for and dedication to the project. I used to look forward to my

children playing on the new fields at Beach Chalet. Now I just hope that their young cousin (1st grade) will someday enjoy that space. In the meantime, I hope that my children and their teammates will not trip in one of the many gopher holes on the existing grass fields and break a bone.

The Beach Chalet Soccer fields have existed as a part of Golden Gate Park since the 1930's. Using the western portion of the park for increased recreational use is a central goal laid out in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. There is no "meadow" as often claimed by the project's opponents. There are several homeless people encamped at the Beach Chalet fields which makes children and parents extremely nervous. The limited lighting proposed and use into the evening would help immensely with that problem.

Unfortunately, San Francisco does not always feel like a family-friendly city. Many of my friends with children have had to move due to the high cost of living, insufficient transportation, and lack of recreational facilities. Our families, including my own, need more accessible recreation fields in this part of town. By adding 9000 more hours of playtime, we can open up our fields to locals and tourists alike. Even families who stay in the city often drive their children to Marin County to play in the many family-friendly parks and fields there.

Renovating the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields is critical to improving the health and safety of our communities. The lighting and improved facilities will transform this part of Golden Gate Park into a safer place—a place I would feel more comfortable sending my child to play. The plan for renovation will not adversely affect the surrounding environment or compromise the character of the park.

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.

Sincerely,



Pamela Rupright

Parent and President of the San Francisco Lacrosse Club ("the Riptide")

(and resident of the Sunset neighborhood)

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,

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 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.

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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,

Patricia Schmidt
Patricia Schmidt

April 20, 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,

 Pedro Ferreira

April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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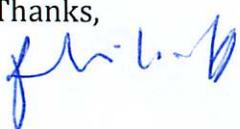
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Thanks,

 Philip W. Reiff

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)

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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,

Pranjali Laba

9

April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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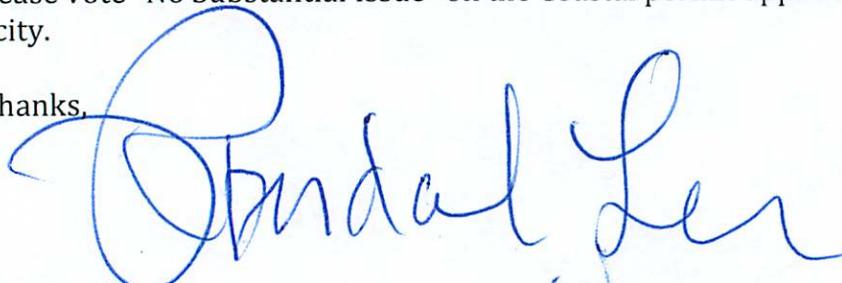
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The project is in line with the intended use of the space. It has been used as a soccer field since the 1930s, and this is a project that the majority of San Franciscans want. Last May, 300 kids and 100 adults testified at a hearing in support of this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

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

Thanks,


RANDAL LEE

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,

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

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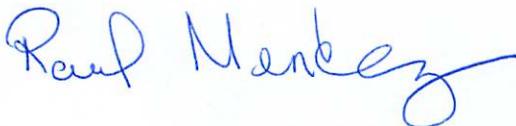
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Thanks,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Reef Menke". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,

Rebecca Ravel
Rebecca Ravel

April 20, 2013
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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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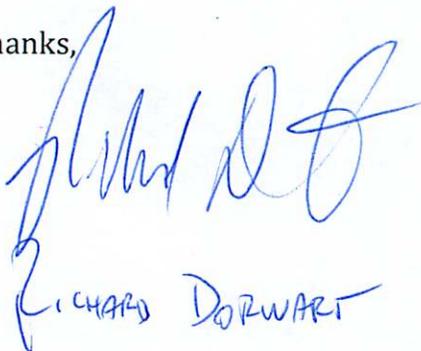
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Thanks,



RICHARD DORWART

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)

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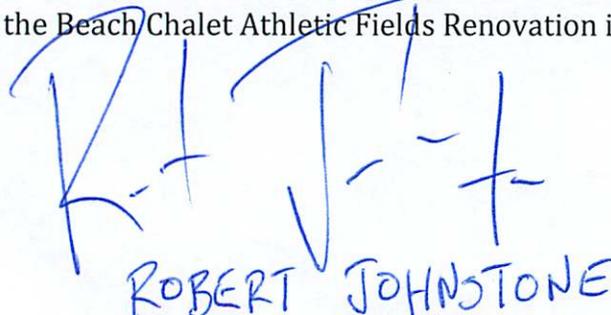
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Sincerely,



ROBERT JOHNSTONE

April 20, 2013

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

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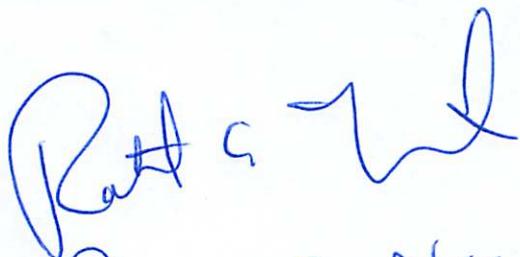
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Thanks,



ROBERT C. NESMITH
COOL CATS

April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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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,

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,

Print Name: Sam Thompson

Age: 10

SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00



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)

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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,



Sara Leash



Bill Ford

10301 12-020 (Beach Chalet)

Beach Chalet

April 8, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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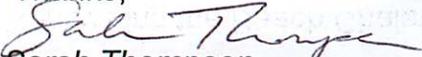
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Thanks,


Sarah Thompson

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)

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Sincerely,



Print Name: SWITHY KUBER
SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00
San Francisco, CA

April 20, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Sincerely,



Print Name: SHAWN SAX
SFVSC Athena Red G98
San Francisco, CA

10/10/10

Dear Sir,

Reference is made to your letter of 10/10/10.

As you are aware, the proposed development is subject to a planning application and you are invited to comment on the proposal.

The following information is provided for your information:

The proposed development consists of a new building to be used as a community centre. The building will be situated on a plot of land which is currently used as a car park. The proposed building will be a two storey building with a total floor area of approximately 1,000 square metres. The proposed building will be used for a variety of community activities including meetings, classes and events.

The proposed development is subject to a planning application and you are invited to comment on the proposal. The proposed development is subject to a planning application and you are invited to comment on the proposal. The proposed development is subject to a planning application and you are invited to comment on the proposal.

Yours faithfully,

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April 15, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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Thanks,

Name SHAYAN CHARALAGHI
Shayan Charalaghi

April 6, 2013
Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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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,



Print Name: Shelli Manghetti
SFVSC Athena Red G98
San Francisco, CA

April 1, 2013
Mary Shallenbarger Chair
California Coastal Commission
42 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94102-2119

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

Dear Chair Shallenbarger 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 move forward as a city.~~

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 location and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 15 trees and 64 plants being removed with an impressive 300 trees and 1000 additional plants. Additionally, installing synthetic turf will save about 2.7 million 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.

Thank you,

None

April 15, 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,

Name Shireen CHARALAGHI
Shireen charalaghi

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,

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,

Print Name: Sofia Montiglio

Age: 12

SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00



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,

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 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.

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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,



Print Name: STEVE CAMARILLO
SFVSC Athena Red G98
San Francisco, CA

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,

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.

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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,



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[Handwritten signature]

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April 4, 2013

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

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

Dear Chair Shallenberger and members of Coastal Commission,

Along with thousands of San Franciscans, I support the renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields. Over the last ten years, I've spent many hours on the sidelines at Beach Chalet, as my kids played soccer, worrying about injury due to poor field conditions. I've also been a member of the Sierra Club for over 30 years and *strongly* disagree with the Bay Area Chapter's costly, time consuming opposition to this project; their efforts would be better spent on projects that will preserve actual Bay Area open space and wildlife habitat rather than poorly maintained playing fields in Golden Gate Park.

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

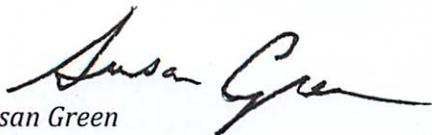
The Beach Chalet fields are not currently serving their intended purpose. They have been used as playing fields since the 1930s. Field conditions are dangerous to players, hours are limited, they are periodically closed to the public to prevent over-use (in the absence of adequate public funds to maintain the grass) and they are not available 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 be open year round and have "open play" hours so that everyone can use this space, not just those who can pay.

This renovation is the right choice for the environment. Rec and Parks will replace the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 plants. Additionally, it will save about 5.7 million gallons of water each year.

Renovating these fields will improve public safety in the area. The area surrounding the Beach Chalet fields has seen an increase in crime, including a murder last summer. Better lighting and improved facilities will make the area safer.

Please do not let a small, vocal minority hold this project back.

Thank you for your consideration,



Susan Green
920 Diamond St.
San Francisco, 94114

Cc: Michelle Myers, Chapter Director, San Francisco Bay Chapter Sierra Club
2530 San Pablo Ave. Suite I, Berkeley, CA 94702-2000

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,

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.

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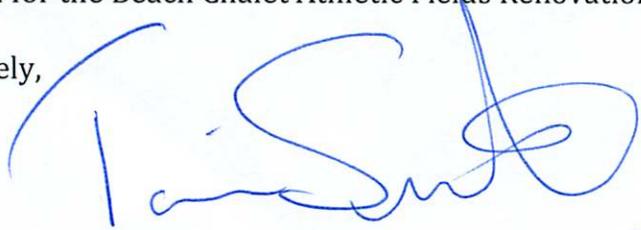
San Francisco desperately needs more athletic fields. On so many weekends, we've had to look in the eyes of our disappointed kids and explain why their games are cancelled when it's a perfectly sunny day. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are currently in such poor condition that they must close to let 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.

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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,



Tamsin Smith

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,

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,

Theresa Blackwell
12

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,

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 are committed to making our city more family friendly.

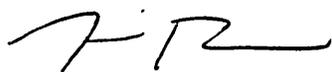
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My child has grown up tremendously during the time this project has been debated. We have testified at hearing after hearing, and our kids have waited for hours to speak about their own experiences on these fields. San Francisco takes development decisions 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,



Print Name: Tim Reardon
SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00
San Francisco, CA

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,

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.

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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,

Tony Perez.

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,

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.

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

Thanks,



Trine C. Abildgren,

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,

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.

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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,



Print Name: William Hooker

SFVSL SFFC Aftershocks G00
San Francisco, CA

March 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,

My name is Wyatt Hansen and I play on one of San Francisco's youth soccer teams, the San Francisco Glens. I feel lucky to live a block away from Ocean Beach. I like to walk my dog, go surfing, and play soccer on the beach in front of my house. I go to school at Sunset Elementary a few blocks away from my house.

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 soccer because I can have fun with my friends while practicing and working hard. I look forward to playing soccer and my time on the fields is when I'm happiest. Last Fall it was a nice day and I was hanging out near the Beach Chalet with my mom and my brother. I wanted to go kick the ball on the field but we couldn't even do that because the field was closed. I like the turf fields because they are never closed and we can always count on playing. It is also not as easy to get hurt on the turf fields because there are not so many holes like grass fields.

As kids, we have spoken out about this project. Last year I stayed late and sat through a boring meeting so I could say something. We need to make sure that every kid who wants to gets the chance to play soccer in the city. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields could be really great if they were renovated. We need your help.

Please make sure this project moves forward and vote "No Substantial Issue" on the coastal permit appeal for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

Thanks so much,



Wyatt Hansen
Age 7
SF Glens Champions

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,

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.

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

Thanks,



Ximena Delgado

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,

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

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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,

Zachary 10

Note: Representative email from 546 individuals

Kahn, Kevin@Coastal

From: form_engine@www.formsite.com on behalf of aostein@attglobal.net
<form_engine@www.formsite.com>
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2013 11:18 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.

-: Albert Stein
-: 1901 Wawona St
-: San Francisco, CA 94116



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March 29, 2013

(Copy of letter and CV have been sent to Staff)

Re: Beach Chalet Soccer Fields - Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach, San Francisco, CA

Dear Commissioner Belinda Faustinos,

Enclosed please find a letter written by Mr. Milford W. Donaldson, regarding the negative impact of the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project on San Francisco's Ocean Beach and Golden Gate Park.

Also enclosed is a summary of his experience. In addition to the positions that are listed, in 2010 Mr. Donaldson was appointed the Chairman of the United States Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) by President Obama. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation promotes the preservation, enhancement, and sustainable use of our nation's diverse historic resources, and advises the President and the Congress on national historic preservation policy

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine Howard
Member, Steering Committee

Attachments: Letter from M.W. Donaldson re: Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Proposal, 2-14-13
Summary of Experience for MW Donaldson

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

sfoceanedge@earthlink.net

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APR 02 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT
SF Ocean Edge Facebook

ARCHITECT MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON FAIA

February 14, 2013

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

The Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Proposal

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4100 FOLSOM BLVD Unit 5D, SACRAMENTO, CA 95819 mwdonaldson13@yahoo.com 916 532 8004

ARCHITECT MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON FAIA

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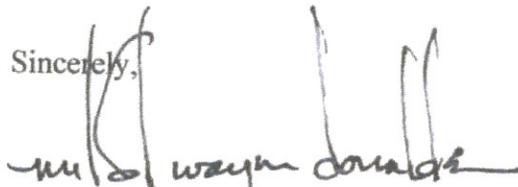
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Milford Wayne Donaldson FAIA

MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON, FAIA

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March 29, 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION (Copy of letter and CV have been sent to Staff)
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Re: Beach Chalet Soccer Fields - Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach, San Francisco, CA

Dear Commissioner Brian Brennan,

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Member, Steering Committee

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Summary of Experience for MW Donaldson

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

ARCHITECT MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON FAIA

February 14, 2013

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

The Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Proposal

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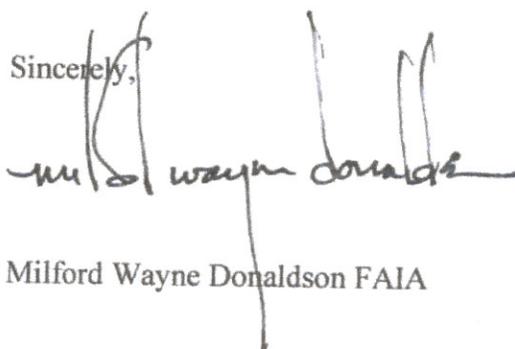
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Milford Wayne Donaldson". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script. A vertical line extends downwards from the end of the signature, possibly indicating a point of attachment or a specific mark.

Milford Wayne Donaldson FAIA

MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON, FAIA

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APR 02 2013

March 29, 2013

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cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

ARCHITECT MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON FAIA

February 14, 2013

California Coastal Commission
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March 8, 2013

Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner
North Central Coast District
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RECEIVED

MAR 08 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Hi Kevin,

Attached is a write-up we did for members of the public who are interested in the negative impacts that the Beach Chalet project would have on the historic and naturalistic character of Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach. In addition to providing background, it also picks out a few of the many inconsistencies in the FEIR and the C&R.

You have probably already heard of Mr. Donaldson, the architect whose letter you received recently, but here is his mini-bio from Wikipedia:

Milford Wayne Donaldson; (born August 13, 1943) is the Chairman of the United States Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and a noted preservation architect licensed to practice in three states. Over 35 years, Donaldson has worked in historic preservation and the adaptive reuse of existing historic structures.

In June 2010 President Barack Obama appointed Donaldson to be Chairman of the ACHP, the U.S.'s lead agency on historic preservation. Donaldson was the first architect to serve as California's State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) from April 2004 until September 2012.

I am, as always, available to answer any questions.


Kathy

Katherine Howard,
Member, Steering Committee
415-710-2402



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www.sfoceanedge.org

"Destroy a public building and it can be rebuilt in a year; destroy a city woodland park and all the people living at the time will have passed away before its restoration can be effected."

William Hammond Hall, Surveyor
First Superintendent of Golden Gate Park. 1872

January 4, 2013

BEACH CHALET SOCCER COMPLEX - ITS IMPACT ON THE HISTORIC AND NATURALISTIC CHARACTER OF GOLDEN GATE PARK AND OCEAN BEACH

INTRODUCTION

Golden Gate Park, San Francisco's premier park, was established over 140 years ago. It was designed in the picturesque landscape style. According to the National Register of Historic Places, *"Golden Gate Park was conceived as a naturalistic pleasure ground park to provide a sylvan retreat from urban pressures for all citizens, rich and poor. . . . With development spurred on by the park, the city grew up around the park and it is now a green oasis in a sea of urbanization."*¹

However, through the years this historic parkland has often been viewed as open space ripe for development that would destroy the landscape quality of the park; for example, the plan to build the 1915 World's Fair in the Park and the early 1950's plans to run freeways through the park. Therefore, In 1998, after a 10-year community process, the Golden Gate Park Master Plan was completed.² Its goal was to prevent further degradation of this historic resource. As stated in the introduction, *" . . . The plan is a preservationist plan, and proposed changes respect the historic context of the park."*³

Today, there is a new threat to the integrity of the parkland and the long-term beauty of not only the Park but also the neighboring Ocean Beach. The proposed Beach Chalet Athletics Field soccer complex runs counter to the National Register designation and also violates the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Many local citizens and historical, environmental, and neighborhood organizations have been fighting this project but with limited success within the current local political structure. The project is forging ahead, despite violating many other City planning documents, and despite the fact that there is a viable alternative just a few blocks away at West Sunset Playground.

As a result of the disregard of the value of this cultural landscape by the San Francisco city government, over 200 citizens and organizations have appealed the project to the California Coastal Commission.

¹ "National Register of Historic Places, Golden Gate Park," US Department of the Interior, certified 08-24-04. Section 7, page 1.

² "Golden Gate Park Master Plan, " San Francisco Recreation and Park Department with Royston, Hanamoto, Alley, and Abey, 1998, available online at <http://216.121.125.82/GGPMasterPlan.aspx>

³ "Golden Gate Park Master Plan, " San Francisco Recreation and Park Department with Royston, Hanamoto, Alley, and Abey, 1998, page 1 - 6.

BACKGROUND

The historic value of Golden Gate Park

Golden Gate Park is a landscape park that consists of a series of designed, naturalistic outdoor space, connected by winding paths that guide the visitor along meadows, lakes, groves of trees, and waterfalls. The historic and aesthetic character of the Park has been maintained since its creation over 140 years ago and, as such, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. According to the National Register, *"It is designed as a picturesque park landscape that was influenced by the work of Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. Many of the original features and elements from the period of significance are still present and the park maintains a high degree of integrity."*⁴

According to the Golden Gate Park Master Plan Mission Statement, *"The purpose of Golden Gate Park is to serve as an open space preserve in the midst of San Francisco. This historic park is a cultivated pastoral and sylvan landscape, defined by an abundant evergreen woodland."*⁵ Golden Gate Park has more than local significance; it is recognized as an important American cultural resource. The Park draws over 10 million visitors a year from all over the world and is the fifth most visited park in the United States.⁶

Golden Gate Park has maintained its design integrity over the years, *"The major design feature of Golden Gate Park and the framework within which all park activities occur is its pastoral and sylvan landscape. The integrity of the pastoral and sylvan landscape must be maintained and remain unaltered."*⁷ It also provides wildlife habitat for a City that will only become denser in terms of human population. *"The eastern park is more actively used, while the western part is more naturalistic and densely wooded. Maintaining this distinction goes a long way towards maintaining wildlife habitat in the park."*⁸

East - West Division of the Park

Park Surveyor and Superintendent William Hammond Hall envisioned the park as divided conceptually into two different regions. The parkland east of Strawberry Hill was to include a variety of intensively cultivated areas and developed facilities while the land to the west was to be a pastoral and woodland landscape with open meadows defined by stands of trees and enhanced by lakes.⁹ Today, the Park follows this vision -- the eastern end of the Park contains many buildings, organized activities, and even a formal landscaped space - for example, the museums and the Music Concourse. However, as one travels west through the park, the naturalistic, sylvan character of the park predominates. The culmination of the park design and experience is the wildness and beauty of Ocean Beach and the Pacific Ocean.

⁴ "National Register of Historic Places, Golden Gate Park," US Department of the Interior, certified 08-24-04. Section 7, page 1.

⁵ "Golden Gate Park Master Plan," San Francisco Recreation and Park Department with Royston, Hanamoto, Alley, and Abey, 1998, page3-2.

⁶ Brewster, Bradley, and Pollock, "Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation, Historic Resources Evaluation Report," ESA, July 2011, page 4.

⁷ "Golden Gate Park Master Plan," San Francisco Recreation and Park Department with Royston, Hanamoto, Alley, and Abey, 1998, Policy A.2, page3-9,

⁸ "Golden Gate Park Master Plan," San Francisco Recreation and Park Department with Royston, Hanamoto, Alley, and Abey, 1998, page 4-25.

⁹ "National Register of Historic Places, Golden Gate Park," US Department of the Interior, certified 08-24-04. Section 7, Page 7.

Visitors to Ocean Beach enjoy not only gazing at the waves and the beach, but they can look back to the east and view the edge of the parkland. The stands of trees that are the outermost defense for the Park against the strong ocean winds, form a solid line from north to south -- interrupted only by the historic Beach Chalet building.¹⁰ The western end of the park is also bracketed by the renovated, historic windmills,¹¹ which peer over the tops of the trees, imparting a feeling of bygone times.

The overall impression one gets while standing at Ocean Beach and looking back at the Park, is that of being on the edge of a forest, with unlimited, undeveloped, pastoral parkland beyond. Whether walking on the Promenade along the seawall, strolling on the beach at Sunset, gazing up at the stars, or sitting by a fire ring in the dark, the feeling is that of being able to experience nature directly. It is one of the truly non-urban parts of San Francisco, where local residents can get off of a City bus, and in a few minutes, feel that they have returned to the natural world, complimented by historic features which recall a quieter and more bucolic era.

THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Negative Impacts of the proposed soccer complex on the historic, naturalistic design

The proposed soccer complex is described by the project sponsor as a "renovation," however, it would so materially change the western end of Golden Gate Park that it should more accurately be regarded a new construction project which introduces jarring, rectilinear, man-made elements into an area that is currently naturalistic. As Jim Chappell stated in his DEIR comment letter, "*The proposed project is not a simple renovation but rather a complete remake of the site into a semi-professional sports complex made of modern non-natural materials.*"¹² The Beach Chalet soccer complex would substantially degrade the existing visual character and historic context of the Beach Chalet site, its surroundings, and the connection between Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach

The current athletic fields were created in the 1930's, when some of the western park vegetation was removed to provide more opportunities for active recreation. However, the area has maintained its character as a grassy meadow within the forest, and has been open to the general public not only for organized sports but also for other activities such as dog-running, kite-flying, and even a concert.

The construction plans include removing over 7 acres of grass and replacing it with artificial turf, consisting of a gravel base, a plastic carpet, and infill of ground-up old tires (SBR rubber). The project would remove over 55 trees that act as a screen and windbreak and contribute to the pastoral beauty of the area. Although many of these trees are mislabeled in project reports as "tall shrubs," they are in actuality trees and perform an important function not only as a windbreak, but also to define the naturalistic character of the area. The City has promised to replant, but the trees are being removed to allow for expansion of the fields -- replanting would have to take place in another area of the park, if at all. The loss of the trees emphasizes the change from a soft-edged naturalistic space to a hard-edge, rectilinear design -- rectangular fields surrounded by rectilinear 8 to 10 foot wide concrete paths and further bisected by a 30 foot wide concrete sidewalk.

Charles Birnbaum (TCLF) states in his comments on the DEIR: "*...The existing historic design of the park encourages passive, informal uses in this area, as suggested by the naturalistic edges and open*

¹⁰ Beach Chalet (1925), City Landmark # 179

¹¹ Dutch Windmill (1903), City Landmark #147 and Murphy Windmill (1907), City Landmark #210.

¹² Chappell, James, "Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation, comments on DEIR," 12-10-11, page 1. NOTE: James Chappell is the former Executive Director of SPUR, San Francisco Planning and Urban Research as well as an instructor for over 20 years in the history of landscape design at the UC Berkeley Extension Certificate Program in Landscape Architecture.

space. Alternatives that change the character of this section of the park significantly by establishing it as a heavy use, structured sports area would not be consistent with the historic design." ¹³

Impact of introducing sports lighting and other lighting to an area that is currently dark

The soccer complex would bring in other modern features that would clash with the naturalistic landscape. The ten proposed sports light fixtures are state of the art, contemporary, sports lights. The addition of these 60-foot tall light standards with multiple banked fixtures, to what is now a flat, open meadow, will completely change the character of the open meadow. Instead of a peaceful, grassy area, there will be multiple poles sticking up to interrupt the view. In addition, 60 more pole lights will be added to this area, in the parking lot, surrounding the fields, and along nearby paths. All of these light poles and fixtures, even during the day, will destroy any semblance of meadow or pastoral parkland. In fact, this project is more suited to a suburban parking lot than to Golden Gate Park.

At night, these fixtures will be even more prominent. There is no way that a visitor could imagine that they are in naturalistic parkland with 150,000 watts of sports lighting shining on them. According to the National Park Service, the proposed lighting system would be bright enough to be sufficient for televised NCAA events. ¹⁴ The light standards are 60 feet tall, while the trees that currently screen the Beach Chalet fields from Ocean Beach are only 25 to 35 feet tall; these trees are unlikely to grow taller, due to the strong winds that blow in from the ocean. Therefore, these light fixtures will be visible from outside the Park and will impair the scenic qualities of this coastal area.

The EIR states that the Beach Chalet is listed in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan as a night-use area that can be lighted; this is incorrect. ¹⁵ The Master Plan lists only the Beach Chalet building as a night-use area for the purpose of park lighting. In fact, the Master Plan states that "*Lighting is for safety purposes and is not intended to increase night use.*" ¹⁶

The foggy climate and typical marine layer at the western edge of the City scatters and reflects light. The project proponents have claimed 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, as the sky appears similar above the athletic field lights as above other areas with no athletic field lights. Specifically, under foggy conditions, the lighting would be more diffused. . .*" ¹⁷ ¹⁸ However, according to European lighting expert Henk Spoelstra, "*These are questionable and qualitative statements. During foggy conditions the whole sporting field will be like a glowing bright cloud and the surroundings will be brightly lit up to a factor 10 to 20 times brighter than under clear sky conditions. . . So during a number of these occasions the*

¹³ Birnbaum, Charles A. FASLA, FAAR, "CASE No. 2010.0016E - Comment on Draft Environmental Impact Report, 12-08-11", The Cultural Landscape Foundation, correspondence, page 1.

¹⁴ Dean, Frank, "National Park Service Scoping Comments for the NOP of an EIR for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation, Case No. 2010.0016E," 03-04-11, page 3.

¹⁵ "Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation, Draft EIR," EP Case No. 2010.0016E, City and Country of San Francisco, San Francisco Planning Department, October 2011, page IV. B-15 NOTE: The full EIR is available online at: <http://www.sf-planning.org/index.aspx?page=1828>

¹⁶ "Golden Gate Park Master Plan, " San Francisco Recreation and Park Department with Royston, Hanamoto, Alley, and Abey, 1998, page 9-5.

¹⁷ "Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation, Draft EIR," EP Case No. 2010.0016E, City and Country of San Francisco, San Francisco Planning Department, October 2011, page IV. B-34

¹⁸ NOTE: the EIR lighting studies were performed by Musco Lighting, the manufacturer that is also selling the lights to the City for this project and from whom the City has purchased lights for other City sports fields.

proposed lighting is likely to spill over the site's boundaries substantially enough and will affect the surrounding neighborhood (so complete opposite of the statement in the EIR). " ¹⁹

About 25% of the light would be reflected upwards, into the sky. On clear nights this reflected light would cause sky glow and degrade the dark sky resources in the northwest coast of San Francisco. Not only does this have an impact on the characteristic darkness of the area and the habitat value, but it will also have an impact on the enjoyment of Ocean Beach. Ocean Beach is used by San Franciscans and visitors for viewing the sunset, for star-gazing, and for enjoying the fire rings in the darkness along the beach.

The Project lights would also have an impact on a greater area than just the immediate location, detracting from the historic views of the Park from Sutro Heights Park, from the Cliff House, and from the 49 Mile Scenic Drive.

In fact, the Department of the Interior (National Park Service, Golden Gate National Recreation Area) has asked that the lighting be modified; however, the City has refused to make the modifications requested, choosing instead to follow the United States Soccer Foundation standards. ²⁰ Plans are to use the area for adult league games at night, and for championship games at various times during the year.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT - CULTURAL IMPACTS SECTION

As a result of this project, the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields would no longer be listed as a historic resource in the National Register for Golden Gate Park.

In addition to the lighting, negative impacts would result from installing seating for over 1,000 visitors, installing additional paving in the form of concrete paths up to 30 feet wide - totaling almost 1 acre new impervious surface ²¹- and enlarging the existing parking lot by 33% - in a City that is supposed to be transit- first. In fact, the EIR for the project states that everyone will drive to this area - increasing traffic and cars both in the Park and at Ocean Beach.

In the background report written by ESA for the EIR, ESA states that the spatial organization, the change from real to artificial turf, the lighting, the introduction of the spectator seating, and the introduction of new, paved circulation paths do not comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standard and that the impacts of *each one of the components* would be considered significant and unavoidable. ²²

The EIR itself combines impacts from the various proposed changes, for example, the Spectator seating installation "*combined with other proposed elements . . . would collectively result in a significant impact to a historical resource.*" ²³

The Environmental Impact Report concludes that "*the Beach Chalet Athletic Field Renovation Project would materially impair in an adverse manner many of the character defining features of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, a contributor to the Golden Gate Park National Historic district . . . As the*

¹⁹ Spoelstra, Henk, "Expert Comments on the DEIR for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation," 12-10-11, Lumineux Consult, page 6.

²⁰ "Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation, Responses to Comments," EP Case No. 2010.0016E, City and Country of San Francisco, San Francisco Planning Department, May 2012, page X.H-57.

²¹ Brewster, Bradley, and Pollock, "Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation, Historic Resources Evaluation Report" ESA, July 2011, p. 56

²² Brewster, Bradley, and Pollock, "Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation, Historic Resources Evaluation Report" ESA, July 2011, pp. 47, 49, 53.

²³ "Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation, Draft EIR," EP Case No. 2010.0016E, City and Country of San Francisco, San Francisco Planning Department, October 2011, page IV.C-20.

*installation of spectator seating, synthetic turf, and field lights are crucial to the implementation of the proposed project, there are no mitigation measures for these elements that would reduce the level of impact to the less-than-significant level while continuing to meet the objectives of the project. As such, the impact is considered significant and unavoidable."*²⁴

In a comment letter written by the San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), Commission President Charles Chase writes: "The HPC agrees with the finding that the proposed project will cause a significant impact to historic resources and spatial organization of the western end of Golden Gate Park..." Also, the HPC..."believes there will be a big change to the aesthetics of the park... and that "the mitigation measures should clearly state that the park should be designed to be as naturalistic as possible and to match the semi-wild feeling that currently exists in this part of the park."²⁵

LACK OF SENSITIVITY TO HISTORIC PROPERTIES BY THE SF RECREATION AND PARK DEPARTMENT

It is unfortunate that the current administration of the Recreation and Park properties does not appear to be sensitive to the value of the historic properties over which it holds sway. In 2003, preliminary plans for the new underground garage in the Music Concourse in Golden Gate Park included cutting down all of the 100-year-old, pollarded trees in front of the Bandshell. It took three years of considerable public input and new landmark legislation to protect these trees from destruction.²⁶ Two years ago the SF PUC proposed building a 40,000 square foot, above-ground, water treatment plant in Golden Gate Park, despite this very idea being proposed and rejected by the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. The Recreation and Park Department actively supported this project in public meetings and in offering the land to the SF PUC. It was citizen activism and a willingness by SF PUC to work with the public, that enabled finding a better location for this industrial facility, outside of Golden Gate Park.²⁷

Just last year, a ballot measure was passed by San Franciscans, asking that the Recreation and Park Department improve its stewardship of Coit Tower and its PWA murals.²⁸ And, sadly, after years of neglect, the Fleishhacker Pool House has just burned down. The Pool House was ignored for years by the Department. The building could have been restored and made an outstanding addition to the area overlooking the beach as well as providing a historic destination point for the hikers and bikers along the Great Highway. With its loss, all that is left is a parking lot where the magnificent Fleishhacker pool was once located. It is difficult to recreate a sense of history from a parking lot.

Seeking new sources of revenue, the Department has started to charge higher fees for many historic properties. A Recreation and Park Commissioner, who is a retired real-estate developer, has labeled this trend the search for "site specific revenue generation." The Japanese Tea Garden was free for years but now it requires a fee for even residents to enter. The Strybing Arboretum charges a fee for non-residents, but it is expected that residents will soon be charged. The need to either pay or show proof of residency has resulted in the Arboretum becoming essentially a 'ghost-garden,' rarely used by either locals or guests. The fight over Coit Tower was related to vendors and permit-holders not taking care of the areas they were leasing.

The Beach Chalet soccer fields project is also part of the revenue-generating trend. Adult soccer leagues, which come from outside of San Francisco, will have to pay a higher fee to use the artificial turf

²⁴ "Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation, Draft EIR," EP Case No. 2010.0016E, City and Country of San Francisco, San Francisco Planning Department, October 2011, page IV.C-27.

²⁵ Chase, Charles Edwin, President, Historic Preservation Commission, correspondence, to Mr. Bill Wycko, ERO, SF Planning Department, 12-1-11, page 1.

²⁶ Friends of the Music Concourse, www.musicconcourse.org.

²⁷ Golden Gate Park Preservation Alliance, www.goldengateparkpreservation.org.

²⁸ Protect Coit Tower, www.protectcoittower.org.

fields. Since the adult soccer leagues play at night, the fields have to be lighted for them. Although the project is often portrayed as "for the kids," the benefit to the youth leagues is minor in comparison to the projected use by adult leagues. Adult recreation is important, but it is short-sighted to sacrifice parkland that should be open to all to one part of the population -- especially when an alternative is available.

While it is recognized that revenue to support the Department is important, it is also important to look at these proposals in light of the long-term loss of our historic heritage for short-term gain.

OTHER ISSUES TO CONSIDER

Project proponents have stated that this soccer complex takes less than 1% of the land area of Golden Gate Park and that it impacts only 1 of 137 contributing resources to the Historic District. These efforts to downgrade the impact of the project on the historic character of Golden Gate Park ignore these important points:

- A great deal of Golden Gate Park is already taken up with roads, buildings, and infrastructure such as construction yards; in fact, there are few large meadows in the Park. Golden Gate Park may include over 1,000 acres, but this area includes the Panhandle and some 15 miles of roads as well as a multitude of buildings and the paved areas. Golden Gate Park has only 130 acres of meadow, fields, and open spaces.²⁹ The Beach Chalet fields alone are over 7 acres, and the area around them that will be impacted is much larger. The meadow character is a vital part of the historic character of the Park.
- The 137 contributing resources include every statue and restroom in the park -- it is arguable that the loss of a statue or a restroom would not have the same impact on the overall parkland as the loss of a 7 acre meadow.
- The Beach Chalet fields are located at a crucial junction of beach and park. The built project would erect a barrier - both physical and psychological - between the two major park areas in our city and preclude a natural, flowing connection between them that is envisioned in many planning documents.
- The Beach Chalet fields are also proximate to most of the historic City Landmarks located within Golden Gate Park - the Beach Chalet, the two windmills, and the millwright's house. All have been carefully renovated to preserve their historic character. Placing the modern sports complex in the middle of this area would detract from the historic context for all of these buildings.
- The views from the historic Cliff House, from Sutro Heights Park, and from the 49 Mile Scenic Drive will also be degraded by this project.
- Chris Patillo (HALS) wrote: *"First, the DEIR fails to analyze the impacts of the proposed changes in the context of the entire park. Instead, the impacts analysis focuses exclusively on the western portion of the park. In fact, I was unable to find a single exhibit within the bound portion of the DEIR that shows the entire park. It is essential that the entire park be included in the analysis. Golden Gate Park was designed as a single unit and needs to be consistently viewed in that context. For example, imagine that a museum curator decided it would be a good idea to alter the painting of the Mona Lisa - possibly adding a bright and dazzling ring. Would such a change have a profound effect on the*

²⁹ "Golden Gate Park Master Plan," San Francisco Recreation and Park Department with Royston, Hanamoto, Alley, and Abey, 1998, page 1-12

entire painting? I dare say yes. Similarly, by adding artificial turf and 70 new light standards to the Chalet Fields the character of the entire park would be impacted . . . " ³⁰

- The importance of preserving as much of the historic character of Golden Gate Park as possible is best expressed in the National Register application: " Although the park contains the individual resources listed here, it is important to view Golden Gate Park as a whole. Golden Gate park was developed over many years, but it was conceived as a single creation that we now consider an historic designed landscape." ³¹

WHAT OTHER PLANNING DOCUMENTS SAY ABOUT PROTECTING THIS AREA

Recreation and Open Space Element (ROSE)

According to Jim Chappell's comment letter on the DEIR: "The DEIR also ignores the adopted Recreation and Open Space Element of the General Plan (1986, City Planning Department) . . . The ROSE states, ". . . The overall goal of the Golden Gate Park Master Plan should seek to retain the integrity of the park's original design while having sufficient flexibility to accommodate society's evolving needs. In 1979, the Recreation and Park Commission, adopted "Master Plan Objectives and Policies for Golden Gate Park," to guide any necessary changes, act as a blueprint to guide maintenance of the park's rich landscape, and steward Golden Gate Park through the next century. The objectives are to:

1. Acknowledge Golden Gate Park's contribution to the diversity of cultural and recreational activities available to residents of San Francisco and the Bay region; recognize the park's importance as an American cultural resource.
2. **Provide for the protection and renewal of the park landscape.**
3. **Preserve the open space of Golden Gate Park.**
4. Create and maintain a park-wide system of recreation roadways, pathways and trails. Minimize vehicular traffic.
5. Foster appropriate use of park recreation resources." ³²

The San Francisco General Plan – Western Shoreline Area Plan

The Western Shoreline Area Plan ³³ policies for land use in the western end of Golden Gate Park includes the following policies:

POLICY 3.1 Strengthen the visual 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.

³⁰ Patillo, Chris, "Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation," correspondence regarding the Beach Chalet DEIR, PGA Design Group, 12-08-11, pages 1 and 2. NOTE: Ms. Patillo is a founding member of Northern California Chapter of the Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS).

³¹ "National Register of Historic Places Application Form, Golden Gate Park," Section 7, certified August 24, 2004, page 2.

³² Chappell, James, "Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation, comments on DEIR," 12-10-11, correspondence, page 1.

³³ "San Francisco General Plan, Western Shoreline Area Plan" http://www.sf-planning.org/ftp/general_plan/Western_Shoreline.htm#WES_GHW

The California Coastal Act

The project is located adjacent to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and within the Local Coastal Zone. The California Coastal Act states:

"The scenic and visual qualities of coastal areas shall be considered and protected as a resource of public importance. Permitted development shall be sited and designed to protect views to and along the ocean and scenic coastal areas, to minimize the alteration of natural landforms, to be visually compatible with the character of surrounding areas, and, where feasible, to restore and enhance visual quality in visually degraded areas." ³⁴

The Ocean Beach Master Plan

The 2012 Ocean Beach Master Plan is a collaborative effort of state and local agencies, organizations, neighborhoods, and individuals, coordinated by the planning organization, SPUR. The Plan talks about retaining the natural character of Ocean Beach and the natural connections to Golden Gate Park:

Focus Area 1 - Ecology

"Aspiration - Restore and establish conditions that support thriving biological communities . . . Although Ocean Beach is very much a managed landscape . . . important biological communities make their homes there. The beach and dune system provide a corridor of scarce habitat for numerous species, link habitat in adjacent parklands."

Focus Area 4 - Image and Character

"Ocean Beach has a wild, rugged character and a unique culture and history. Once home to destinations like Sutro Baths, Playland and Fleishhacker Pool, today the beach draws users who find the elemental beauty of its wind, waves and fog a scenic respite from the city. Improvements should retain and draw upon these qualities." ³⁵

A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE IS AVAILABLE THAT AVOIDS NEGATIVE CULTURAL IMPACTS

There is a viable alternative. The Hybrid Alternative is a combination of the EIR alternatives; it moves this soccer complex out of Golden Gate Park and further southeast to West Sunset Playground. The Hybrid Alternative basically swaps the materials planned for the two fields -- it places artificial turf and the night lights at West Sunset Playground and renovates the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no lights.

West Sunset Playground is located outside the Coastal Zone, and 1/2 mile from the beach. It is already a developed sports center with playing fields, restrooms, bleachers, some night lighting, and a children's playground. It is not a place where people go for "a walk in the park." The West Sunset Playground has been allocated \$13.2mm in funding for renovation of over 9 acres of grass fields in the 2012 Parks Bond. The Beach Chalet project improvement could be built at West Sunset with artificial turf and a safe infill material. Lighting could be installed that is appropriate for this community, providing hours of play in the evenings for kids in the winter and for adult leagues at all times.

The grass fields at Beach Chalet have not been renovated for over 10 years and need to be upgraded. The soil is compacted, the drainage has always been poor, and there are numerous gophers.

³⁴ "California Coastal Act," Section 30251 <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=prc&group=30001-31000&file=30250-30255>

³⁵ "Ocean Beach Master Plan, May 2012," Page 2 <http://www.spur.org/climate-change/2012-06-26/ocean-beach-master-plan-final-document>

These fields would benefit from a renovation that would install sub-surface drainage, gopher controls, state-of-the-art irrigation, a new soil mix, and new sod. Providing this renovation would give the kids a first-rate grass playing field; professional soccer players prefer real grass, and there should be at least one great grass field in San Francisco on which kids can learn to play professional-level soccer. ³⁶

The Hybrid Alternative is supported by many groups, including the San Francisco Historic Preservation Commission (HPC). The HPC DEIR comment letter states, ". . . the HPC believes the best preservation alternative is a combination of parts of preservation alternatives no. 2, 3, and 4 which is to improve the soccer fields at Beach Chalet as well as to seek an off-site alternative. The proposed off-site alternative holds real potential . . ." ³⁷

In its DEIR comment letter, the California Preservation Foundation stated, "Public agencies must 'deny approval of a project with significant adverse effects when feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures can substantially lessen such effects.' *Sierra Club v. Gilroy City Council (1990) 222 Cal.App.3d 40, 41; see also Public Resources Code § 21002, 21002.1. In the DEIR three additional alternatives and the No Project Alternative were analyzed. Of these alternatives, all three alternatives would decrease the impact to the cultural resource. These alternatives however only took out one aspect of the project and did not explore minimizing the overall impact to the site by reduction of use. We believe that another hybrid alternative could meet most of the project objectives. This would include renovating the existing fields with natural turf and limited to no lighting and renovating fields at West Sunset Park.*" ³⁸

The City has rejected this alternative, despite the fact that the Hybrid Alternative would provide more time for people to play soccer while preserving the historic character of the western end of Golden Gate Park.

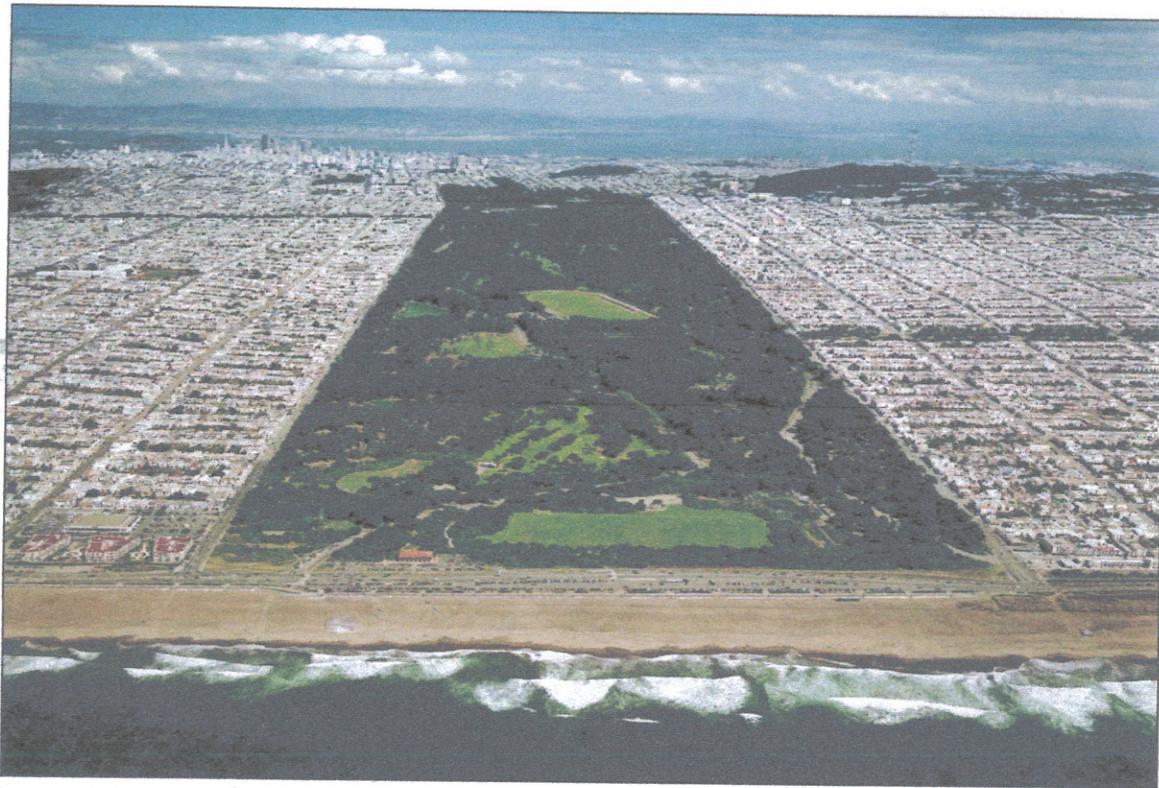
THE VALUE OF PROTECTING THE NATURALISTIC BEAUTY AND HISTORIC INTEGRITY OF GOLDEN GATE PARK AND OCEAN BEACH

There are always development pressures on open space -- and even more so, in a City of 800,000 people. An individual project may be very worthy in and of itself, but the worth of any project should be tempered by the impact it has on the character of the open space where it is located. For example, no one doubts the need for more housing in San Francisco, but on the other hand, no one has proposed covering our parkland with apartments. The soccer complex provides a benefit that would, in and of itself, be advantageous to a limited number of city dwellers. However, the proposed location in Golden Gate Park will deprive the majority of city dwellers of the opportunity to experience nature and historic parkland without the overwhelming intrusion of man-made, built elements. Open space provides the greater good for the greater number of people and makes the city more livable. Cultural landscapes further increase the meaning and the value of the space to the public for now and for future generations and should be preserved.

³⁶ Kozakiewicz, Paul, "Soccer fields should be grass," Editorial, *Richmond Review and Sunset Beacon*, March, 2012.

³⁷ Chase, Charles Edwin, President, Historic Preservation Commission, correspondence to Mr. Bill Wycko, Environmental Review Officer, SF Planning Department, December 1, 2011. page 2

³⁸ Gates, Jennifer, M., AICP, Field Services Director, California Preservation Foundation, correspondence to Mr. Bill Wycko, Environmental Review Officer, 12-08-11, page 2.



Beach Chalet soccer fields are the large grassy area in the foreground, next to Ocean Beach and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.



*"The major design feature of Golden Gate Park and the framework within which all park activities occur is its pastoral and sylvan landscape."
GGP Master Plan.*

"The purpose of Golden Gate Park is to serve as an open space preserve in the midst of San Francisco. This historic park is a cultivated pastoral and sylvan landscape, defined by an abundant evergreen woodland."

GGP Master Plan



The Beach Chalet fields today - a practice field that sports fans, wildlife, and a variety of park goers of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities can enjoy both for sports and as parkland.



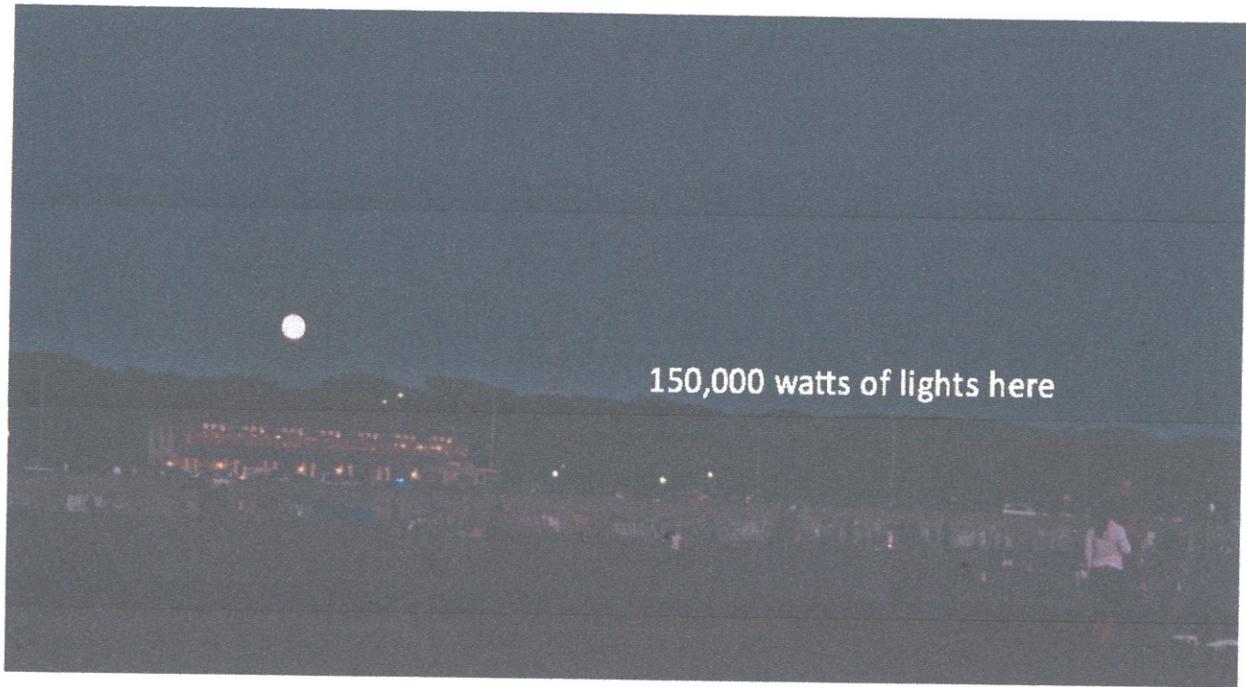
Meadow and the Dutch Windmill in the fog at Beach Chalet – a classic view of Golden Gate Park as a landscape that is used for recreation part of the day, but when the players are not present, it returns to parkland and habitat that can be enjoyed by hikers and wildlife alike.



Proposed project: The project design imposes a severely rectilinear design on the area and destroys the naturalistic feeling of parkland. Note that the concrete pathway through the center of the fields is 30 feet wide. Other walkways bordering the fields are 8 and 10 feet wide, and further emphasize the hard edges of the design.



Proposed lighting fixtures - a drastic change from parkland to developed sports area. The sports light poles will be 60 feet tall – twice as tall as the trees that separate the parkland from Ocean Beach.



Golden Gate Park and the Beach Chalet restaurant as seen from Ocean Beach. The text shows the proposed location of the 150,000 watts of sports lighting on 60 foot poles. Current plans indicate that the lights could be on up until 10:00 p.m., 365 days of the year.

- Proposed sports lighting looks like this



“Destroy a public building and it can be rebuilt in a year; destroy a city woodland park and all the people living at the time will have passed away before its restoration can be effected.”

William Hammond Hall, Surveyor
First Superintendent of Golden Gate Park. 1872



Looking across the dunes from Ocean Beach towards the newly renovated Murphy windmill; The 60 foot light poles will be visible to the immediate left of the historic windmill.



SUNSET PARKSIDE EDUCATION AND ACTION COMMITTEE
1329 7th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122-2507
SPEAKSANFRANCISCO@yahoo.com

March 31, 2013

RECEIVED

APR 03 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
Cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Madam President and Commissioners,

The Sunset Architectural and Historical Resource Inventory Committee (SAHRIC), a committee of the Sunset Parkside Education and Action Committee (SPEAK) has the following concerns about the proposed Soccer Fields complex at the western edge of Golden Gate Park next to Ocean Beach:

There are four landmark buildings within a few yards of the proposed sports complex. They are the Murphy Windmill, the nearby Millwright's Cottage, the Queen Wilhelmina Windmill and Tulip Gardens, and the Beach Chalet. All four are official City Landmarks. The proximity of these structures to each other is enhanced by a pathway which runs north-south and connects the four landmarks, parallel to the Great Highway. This pathway lies atop what may have been the historic track of the Sutro Railroad which once connected H Street (now Lincoln Way) to the Sutro attractions at the foot of Sutro Heights, such as Playland-at-the-Beach. While this area has not yet been recognized as an historic district, if the Soccer Fields complex is approved, there will be little chance that sufficient historic connectivity and integrity will remain to qualify it as an historic district.

Here are the main points of our concerns of the Soccer Fields Project:

1. the proposed project is the development of an expanded sports facility complex at a nationally recognized site on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP);
2. this project should not be called a renovation: it is an extreme makeover and major expansion which will materially affect the NRHP status;
3. the EIR wrongly treats separately and does not connect the four highly visible landmarks mentioned above; the EIR does not adequately identify and describe them as a potential historic district and does not provide a fully dimensioned map showing the location of the proposed project within the potential landmark district;
4. with the right graphics, it can be demonstrated that the impact of the proposed project would be visually significant; the EIR did not contain adequate graphics or

photographs taken in sufficient light and thus the EIR says the project would not be visually significant;

5. an alternative to the proposed project should be developed which would show how a true restoration and renovation would enhance the historic resources. We ask the California Coastal Commission to carefully analyze the renovation of the Playing Fields with natural grass without additional lighting combined with the location of a high intensity sports complex to other areas such as the West Sunset Playing Fields;
6. approval of the project would foreclose any possibility of the West End of Golden Gate Park becoming a San Francisco historic district.

The proposed project will compromise the integrity of the historic buildings and compromise the visual and functional integrity with the increase in activity and hours of operation of the proposed sports facility.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.



Inge Horton
Chair, SAHRIC
Sunset Architectural and Historic Resources Inventory Committee

cc: Commissioners
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner
North Central District
45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122

HAIGHT-ASHBURY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. Box 170518 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94117 WWW.HANC-SF.ORG

April 2, 2013

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

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

The Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council opposes the installation of artificial turf and sports lighting at the existing soccer fields located at the west end of Golden Gate Park, commonly called the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields. This is a development that would be suited to at least one other nearby location that is not in Golden Gate Park and not adjacent to Ocean Beach and the GGNRA.

HANC opposes the development of a soccer complex at the west end of Golden Gate Park for all the reasons that the SF Oceans Edge folks do. It is simply an opportunity for the current San Francisco Recreation & Parks (Rec & Park) administration to further its goal of commercializing our parks.

The western end of Golden Gate Park is supposed to be "wild and natural" as set forth in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Artificial turf and stadium lights are antithetical to this goal! The Sierra Club and Audubon Society have also worked to defeat the use of artificial turf and stadium lights in this location.

In spite of what Rec & Park says, this is a development to attract adult soccer leagues from throughout the Bay Area (who will pay!), and not just "for the kids".

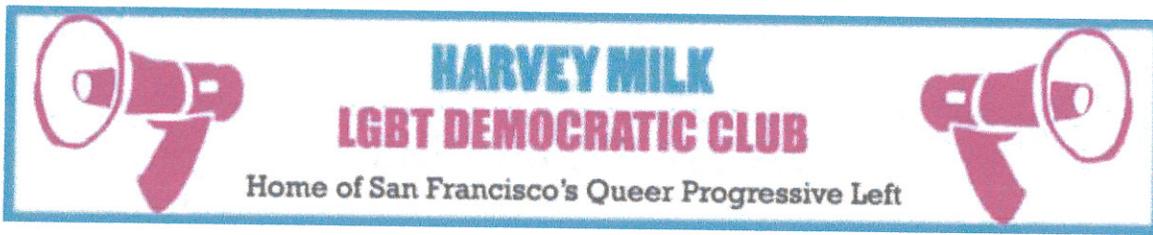
We support the renovation of the soccer fields (which have not been maintained for years) with state of the art gopher proofing AND the siting of the soccer complex at another location outside of GG Park.

Sincerely,



Kevin Bayuk
President

CC: Kevin Kahn ✓
CC: SF Ocean Edge



April 3, 2013

Note: Copy sent to staff

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

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

The Harvey Milk LGBT (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender) Club is opposed to the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project proposed for the western end of Golden Gate Park and urges the California Coastal Commission to recommend that this project be moved to an alternative location.

The Beach Chalet fields are used today by both youth and adults for practice soccer and competitions. When not in use, the fields are habitat for wildlife; in the past, they have also been used for kite flying, picnics, and even a concert! However, this project takes what is currently parkland benefiting all ages and physical abilities, and restricts it to use only by a limited number of people. It is unlikely that anyone will want to picnic on an artificial turf field. Artificial turf cannot be used for activities such as concerts. The loss of the meadow aspect of the park means that folks who come out to the fields to enjoy the parkland as parkland with grass, trees and birds, will no longer be able to enjoy this area as such.

San Francisco has plans to accommodate a higher population. As the number of people increases, they will need more land that is parkland, to counter the increasing dense urban environment. Even now, San Franciscans would like to have more opportunity for outdoor experiences in nature. The Leon Younger & PROS, LLC Recreation Assessment Report (Aug.2004), commissioned by the SF Recreation and Park Department, showed that over 60% of those polled currently participated in visiting nature areas, while only 12% participated in youth soccer, rugby or field hockey. In addition, when asked what programs that participants would take part in more often if available, almost 25% chose visiting nature areas, while only 3% chose youth soccer.

We are also concerned about the installation of stadium and other lighting. At this time, the soccer field area is dark at night. We were stunned to learn that the Beach Chalet project will install over 150,000 watts of light from sunset until 10:00 p.m. 365 days a year. Other lighting will be installed for the parking lot and for the new sidewalks. Our members take their families to Ocean Beach to walk along the Promenade, to view the sunset, to look at the stars, and to sit by the fire rings. This lighting will permanently destroy the beauty of the evening in this area for everyone, young and old.

Night lighting is damaging to wildlife health and especially to birds, affecting nesting, foraging, and migration patterns. Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach are major stops along the western flyway for migratory birds. The artificial turf and new lighting combined turn valuable parkland and wildlife habitat into a paved, lighted, developed and essentially sterile, lifeless site.

www.milkclub.org

While we understand and support the need for youth recreation opportunities, young people need to have the opportunity to experience nature directly and to learn to appreciate and value nature. What is the lesson to our children in destroying habitat for short-term convenience, especially when an alternative is available?

A strong compromise has been proposed -- renovating the soccer field with natural grass and no night lighting, and using the remaining funding to renovate additional playing fields in San Francisco. We hope that the California Coastal Commission will work with the City to implement this compromise, protecting Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach for everyone's use, now and into the future.

Sincerely,
Tom Temprano
President

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

Coalition for San Francisco



www.csfm.net • PO Box 320098 • San Francisco CA 94132-0098 • 415.262.0440 • Est 1972

April 2, 2013

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

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

The Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN) is a coalition of over 44 neighborhood organizations, formed to communicate San Francisco residents' concerns with land use and other issues. For the last three years, CSFN has been deeply concerned about the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex and the negative impact it would have on Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach.

The Beach Chalet Soccer Complex would introduce highly urbanized artificial fields into Golden Gate Park, destroying the naturalistic character of the western end of the Park. This project would replace natural plantings with proven toxic artificial turf, increase paving in the park in an area that is now completely vegetated, remove many trees that make up the Park's windbreak, and degraded wildlife habitat in the Park and at Ocean Beach. The project would increase traffic to the Park, to Ocean Beach, and through the neighborhoods. The horrendous 150,000 watts of sports lights and the additional pole lights would significantly decrease the darkness of the night sky and infringe on the wild nature of Ocean Beach; in addition, the lighting would have a negative impact on views not only for the neighbors around the area but also for visitors to historic Sutro Park and the Cliff House.

Ocean Beach is where San Franciscans go to watch the sunset, to sit by a fire on the beach, or to gaze at the stars. In sum, this project would change the overall character of the western edge of Golden Gate Park from a sylvan retreat to that of a developed sports complex and destroy the beauty of Ocean Beach.

We urge you to take into account our deeply felt concerns and to direct the City to renovate the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no lighting, and to consider seriously the alternative of West Sunset Playground and other facilities in San Francisco. Many of our playing fields are in need of funding; spending over \$14 million on this one project does not serve our children well. Fixing up Beach Chalet with natural grass and using the rest of the funding elsewhere in San Francisco would serve the children equally well, while preserving the beauty and habitat of Golden Gate Park and of Ocean Beach for future generations.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wuerfel
Chair, Open Space Committee

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

Barbary Coast Neighborhood Assn

Bayview/Hunters Point

Coordinating Council

Buena Vista Neighborhood Assn

Cathedral Hill Neighbors Assn

Cayuga Improvement Assn

Cole Valley Improvement Assn

Cow Hollow Assn

Diamond Heights Community Assn

Dolores Heights Improvement Club

East Mission Improvement Assn

Eureka Valley Promotions Assn

Ewing Terrace Neighborhood Assn

Excelsior District Improvement Assn

Fair Oaks Community Coalition

Forest Knolls Neighborhood Assn

Francisco Heights Civic Assn

Golden Gate Heights Nighbd Assn

Greater West Portal Nighbd Assn

Haight Ashbury Improvement Assn

Inner Sunset Action Committee

Jordan Park Improvement Assn

Laurel Heights Improvement Assn

Lincoln Park Homeowners Assn

Marina Civic Improvement &

Property Owners Assn

Miraloma Park Improvement Club

Mission Creek Harbor Assn

North Mission Terrace Improvement Assn

North Beach Neighbors

North Park Neighbors

Oceanview, Merced Heights,

Ingleside — Neighbors in Action

Outer Mission Residents Assn

Pacific Heights Residents Assn

Panhandle Residents Organization/
Stanyan-Fulton

Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Assn

Richmond Community Assn

Rincon Point Neighborhood Assn

Russian Hill Improvement Assn

Russian Hill Neighbors

Sunset Heights Assn of

Responsible People

Sunset-Parkside Education &

Action Committee

Telegraph Hill Dwellers

Twin Peaks Council & Open

Space Conservancy

Twin Peaks Improvement Assn

West Presidio Neighborhood Assn



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5 3RD STREET, SUITE 424
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
94103-3205

April 3, 2013

Note: Copy sent to staff

415.495.0349 PHONE
415.495.0265 FAX

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

CPF@CALIFORNIAPRESERVATION.ORG
WWW.CALIFORNIAPRESERVATION.ORG

RE: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

On behalf of the California Preservation Foundation (CPF), I am writing to express our concern over potential adverse impacts stemming from the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project. Established in 1977, CPF is the only statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of California's diverse cultural and architectural heritage. CPF works with its extensive network of 1,500 members to provide statewide leadership, advocacy, and education.

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The Beach Chalet Soccer fields are located at the western terminus of Golden Gate Park. Designed in 1871 by William Hammond Hall, Golden Gate Park is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as an important historic landscape under Criterion C (Design) at the national level of significance in the area of landscape architecture, and under Criterion A (Event) at the regional level of significance in the area of recreation and social history. The construction of the Beach Chalet Recreational fields in the 1930s had relatively little impact to the naturalistic meadows and woodlands. Other contributing features to the western half of the park include the restroom building from the 1930s and the tree windbreak at the western edge of the park.

Roy Adamyk, *Pomona*
Robert Imber, *Palm Springs*
Lydia Kremer, *Palm Springs*
David Marshall, AIA, *San Diego*
Gil Mathew, *Grass Valley*
Amy Minter, Esq., *Los Angeles*
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Richard Sucre, *San Francisco*
Sally Zamowitz, AIA, *Berkeley*

The currently proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex project would replace the existing grass field with up to seven and half acres of artificial turf; erect 60 foot light posts and 4 - 18 foot tall fencing around the soccer fields; remove a number of trees and tall shrubs; add paved pathways; and expand the existing parking lot. These new elements are out of character with the historic design intent of the western end of Golden Gate Park. The proposed improvements would significantly diminish the existing naturalistic character of the park's cultural landscape. Also of concern are potential impacts to surrounding historic resources including the Beach Chalet (San Francisco City Landmark #179), Murphy's Windmill and Millwright Cottage (San Francisco Landmark # 210), the Dutch Windmill (San Francisco City Landmark #147).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Cindy L. Heitzman

The Golden Gate Park Master Plan adopted in 1998 recommends that the original design of the park guide decisions about new projects. The Master Plan improvements to the western end of the park include improvement to the landscaping, continued reforestation of the western windbreak, addition of a grass soccer field, and restoration and rehabilitation for the windmills, Millwright's House and the Beach Chalet. It does not include the complete renovation of the soccer fields or introduction of artificial elements into the landscape.

The addition of the 60 foot light poles and the tall fencing would create a visual impact as both would be visible from the surrounding park area. The trees in that area are short, due to the strong winds that blow in off the Pacific Ocean, and provide little screening.

Night lighting of the soccer field is in conflict with Park Master Plan, which states "[p]ark lighting should not detract visually or physically from the character of the park." The Beach Chalet restaurant is a night use area, but the fields are not.

The Final Environmental Impact Report finds that the proposed improvements for the Beach Chalet Soccer Field would cause a significant adverse impact on a historic resource under the CEQA. The Hybrid Alternative should be considered because it includes renovation of the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no additional lighting. It includes the renovation of the nearby West Sunset Playground with artificial turf and lighting that is appropriate to that neighborhood. This would increase the hours of play for children while protecting the historic naturalistic character of Golden Gate Park and the enjoyment of Ocean Beach for everyone.

We hope that you will direct the City to protect Golden Gate Park and seriously consider either the Hybrid Alternative or using available funds to fix up other playing fields in San Francisco for increased use.

CPF encourages the Commission to work with all parties involved to develop sensitive improvements that maintain the historic character of Golden Gate Park. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at cheitzman@californiapreservation.org or by phone at 415-495-0349.

Sincerely,

Cindy Heitzman
Executive Director

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge



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APR 02 2013

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www.sfoceanedge.org

March 29, 2013

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NORTH CENTRAL COAST

(Copy of letter and CV have been sent to Staff)

Re: Beach Chalet Soccer Fields - Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach, San Francisco, CA

Dear Commissioner Dr. Clark E. Parker,

Enclosed please find a letter written by Mr. Milford W. Donaldson, regarding the negative impact of the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project on San Francisco's Ocean Beach and Golden Gate Park.

Also enclosed is a summary of his experience. In addition to the positions that are listed, in 2010 Mr. Donaldson was appointed the Chairman of the United States Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) by President Obama. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation promotes the preservation, enhancement, and sustainable use of our nation's diverse historic resources, and advises the President and the Congress on national historic preservation policy

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine Howard
Member, Steering Committee

Attachments: Letter from M.W. Donaldson re: Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Proposal, 2-14-13
Summary of Experience for MW Donaldson

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

ARCHITECT MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON FAIA

February 14, 2013

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

The Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Proposal

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Beach Chalet Fields' Renovation project in Golden Gate Park, proposed by the City & County of San Francisco's Parks & Recreation Department. As a preservation architect I have reviewed the significant cultural and historic features of GG Park, and conclude that, as proposed, the development would have significant irreparable impacts on these resources.

As you know, GG Park is one of the most famous urban parks in the world, and is registered as a historic resource by both the state and federal government, making the park of utmost importance in the promotion of our nation's cultural heritage.

The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared by the City for the project ignores the substantial body of evidence contained in the Urban Design Plan, Western Shoreline Area Plan / Local Coastal Program the Recreation and Open Space Element, the Ocean Beach Master Plan, and the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Any public body utilizing this EIR document to make decisions regarding the subject project will lack this information and thus the EIR is inadequate and unreliable. In the EIR three additional alternatives and the No Project Alternative were analyzed. Of these alternatives, all three alternatives would decrease the impact to the cultural resource compared to the proposed project. Yet none were pursued by the City.

The following proposed project initiatives conflict with the plans above and would, if constructed, constitute significant adverse, precedent setting impacts on this important historic and cultural resource:

- The proposed project is inconsistent with the Golden Gate Park Master Plan and conflicts with the City's General Plan policies.
- The proposed project will cause a significant impact to historic resources and spatial organization of the western end of Golden Gate Park.
- The existing historic design of the park encourages passive, informal uses in this area, as suggested by the naturalistic edges and open space. Alternatives that change the character of this section of the park significantly by establishing it as a heavy use, structured sports area would not be consistent with the historic design. The proposed project will adversely affect daytime and nighttime views of the area.

4100 FOLSOM BLVD Unit 5D, SACRAMENTO, CA 95819 mwdonaldson13@yahoo.com 916 532 8004

ARCHITECT MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON FAIA

- The removal of almost 30,000 square feet from the existing planted area impacts the historic tree and shrub edge, significantly altering the historic naturalistic setting. The historic grading will also be significantly altered by the proposed project. Substituting natural turf with artificial turf is a worrisome precedent in such a historic setting.
- The proposed structures, including the entry plaza, light standards, fencing and maintenance shed, are out of scale with the existing surroundings, including the historic vegetation and would significantly compromise historic visual and spatial relationships.
- The proposed new rectilinear pathways do not reflect the picturesque character of the historic curvilinear roads and pathways.

The mitigation measures should clearly state that the park should be designed to be as naturalistic as possible and to match the semi-wild feeling that currently exists in this part of the park.

I believe there are reasonable compromises to successfully achieve the goals of recreation and the preservation of Golden Gate Park's historic character. As others have noted, the current budget could provide a high tech drainage system, water conserving irrigation system, and modern day storm water management. Such improvements would preclude the need for artificial turf.

As a preservation architect, I encourage the Commission to direct the City of San Francisco and the Department of Recreation and Parks to select only alternatives that are consistent with the National Park Service's *Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (Secretary's Standards), and *The Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* (NPS, 1996) in order to retain the historic character of the pastoral landscape envisioned by William Hammond Hall, the park's original designer.

The Beach Chalet fields are a valuable cultural resource. All current park uses serve a broader spectrum of people, in terms of age, economic status, and physical ability, than does a limited-use athletic activity. I understand that you need to be responsive to all parties, and I believe there is a solution to achieve those means.

Sincerely,



Milford Wayne Donaldson FAIA

MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON, FAIA

SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE

On Wednesday, April 7, 2004, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger announced the appointment of Milford Wayne Donaldson as the State Historic Preservation Officer. Mr. Donaldson was sworn in during ceremonies held at the State Capitol on April 9, 2004. The SHPO serves as chief administrative officer of the Office of Historic Preservation in Sacramento and as Executive Secretary of the State Historical Resources Commission. During Mr. Donaldson's tenure as SHPO he has streamlined Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, has led the national initiative towards the sustainability and greening of historic resources. Mr. Donaldson has reached out to the California Tribes, initiating four Summits to discuss common ground issues and advocates tribes to become Tribal Historic Preservation Offices. Mr. Donaldson was appointed Chair of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation by President Barack Obama on June 1, 2010 for a three year term.

Prior to his appointment as SHPO, Mr. Donaldson had served as president of award winning Architect Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA, since 1978, specializing in historic preservation services. He is licensed to practice architecture in California, Nevada and Arizona and holds a certified license from the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards. Mr. Donaldson is affiliated with several historical and preservation organizations and is a past president of the California Preservation Foundation (CPF) and past chairs of the State Historical Building Safety Board, the State Historical Resources Commission, and the Historic State Capitol Commission.

Previously an instructor at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, he continues to lecture at California community colleges and universities. Mr. Donaldson holds a Bachelor of Architecture and a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. He engaged in post graduate studies at Uppsala University, Sweden, and received a Master of Science degree in Architecture from University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland, and a Master of Arts degree in Public History and Teaching from University of San Diego.

Over the last thirty-five years, Mr. Donaldson has established himself as a leader in Historic Preservation and adaptive reuse of existing structures. His depth of knowledge unites nineteenth century building methods with state-of-the-art twenty-first century construction technologies. In 1991, The California Council of the American Institute of Architects acknowledged Mr. Donaldson for his statewide leadership in the interpretation of the State Historical Building Code which allowed the rehabilitation of historic buildings for affordable single room occupancy hotels. In 1992, Mr. Donaldson was inducted into the College of Fellows by the American Institute of Architects.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation engaged Mr. Donaldson to assist California cities in disaster damage assessment of historic buildings following the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. A commendation was awarded by Governor Deukmejian to Mr. Donaldson for his efforts. Later, in the 1992 Eureka and 1994 Northridge Earthquakes, Mr. Donaldson lent his expertise to save historic buildings from unwarranted demolition. His efforts continue today as a Trainer in Emergency Response for the California Office of Emergency Services' Disaster Service Worker volunteer program.

Over 3000 projects have been completed by Mr. Donaldson's firm, now known as Heritage Architecture & Planning, mainly throughout the western portion of the United States, including working with the California State Office of Historic Preservation, the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the National Park Service, the California Department of Transportation, the Bureau of Land Management, the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the Department of Water Resources, the California Conservation Corps, the United States Marine Corps, the United States Navy, Environmental Protection Agency and many cities and counties.

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SF Ocean Edge ©

Where Golden Gate Park meets Ocean Beach . . .

www.sfoceanedge.org

March 29, 2013

(Copy of letter and CV have been sent to Staff)

Re: Beach Chalet Soccer Fields - Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach, San Francisco, CA

Dear Commissioner James Wickett,

Enclosed please find a letter written by Mr. Milford W. Donaldson, regarding the negative impact of the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project on San Francisco's Ocean Beach and Golden Gate Park.

Also enclosed is a summary of his experience. In addition to the positions that are listed, in 2010 Mr. Donaldson was appointed the Chairman of the United States Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) by President Obama. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation promotes the preservation, enhancement, and sustainable use of our nation's diverse historic resources, and advises the President and the Congress on national historic preservation policy

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine Howard
Member, Steering Committee

Attachments: Letter from M.W. Donaldson re: Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Proposal, 2-14-13
Summary of Experience for MW Donaldson

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

February 14, 2013

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

The Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Proposal

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As you know, GG Park is one of the most famous urban parks in the world, and is registered as a historic resource by both the state and federal government, making the park of utmost importance in the promotion of our nation's cultural heritage.

The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared by the City for the project ignores the substantial body of evidence contained in the Urban Design Plan, Western Shoreline Area Plan / Local Coastal Program the Recreation and Open Space Element, the Ocean Beach Master Plan, and the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Any public body utilizing this EIR document to make decisions regarding the subject project will lack this information and thus the EIR is inadequate and unreliable. In the EIR three additional alternatives and the No Project Alternative were analyzed. Of these alternatives, all three alternatives would decrease the impact to the cultural resource compared to the proposed project. Yet none were pursued by the City.

The following proposed project initiatives conflict with the plans above and would, if constructed, constitute significant adverse, precedent setting impacts on this important historic and cultural resource:

- The proposed project is inconsistent with the Golden Gate Park Master Plan and conflicts with the City's General Plan policies.
- The proposed project will cause a significant impact to historic resources and spatial organization of the western end of Golden Gate Park.
- The existing historic design of the park encourages passive, informal uses in this area, as suggested by the naturalistic edges and open space. Alternatives that change the character of this section of the park significantly by establishing it as a heavy use, structured sports area would not be consistent with the historic design. The proposed project will adversely affect daytime and nighttime views of the area.

4100 FOLSOM BLVD Unit 5D, SACRAMENTO, CA 95819 mwdonaldson13@yahoo.com 916 532 8004

ARCHITECT MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON FAIA

- The removal of almost 30,000 square feet from the existing planted area impacts the historic tree and shrub edge, significantly altering the historic naturalistic setting. The historic grading will also be significantly altered by the proposed project. Substituting natural turf with artificial turf is a worrisome precedent in such a historic setting.
- The proposed structures, including the entry plaza, light standards, fencing and maintenance shed, are out of scale with the existing surroundings, including the historic vegetation and would significantly compromise historic visual and spatial relationships.
- The proposed new rectilinear pathways do not reflect the picturesque character of the historic curvilinear roads and pathways.

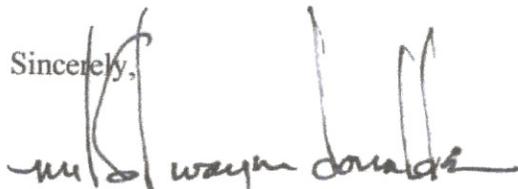
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Milford Wayne Donaldson FAIA

MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON, FAIA

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CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

March 29, 2013

(Copy of letter and CV have been sent to Staff)

Re: Beach Chalet Soccer Fields - Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach, San Francisco, CA

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Member, Steering Committee

Attachments: Letter from M.W. Donaldson re: Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Proposal, 2-14-13
Summary of Experience for MW Donaldson

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

ARCHITECT MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON FAIA

February 14, 2013

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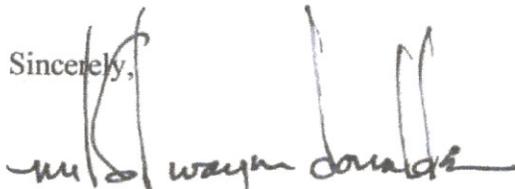
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A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Milford Wayne Donaldson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Milford Wayne Donaldson FAIA

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March 29, 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

(Copy of letter and CV have been sent to Staff)

Re: Beach Chalet Soccer Fields - Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach, San Francisco, CA

Dear Commissioner Dr. William A. Burke,

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Summary of Experience for MW Donaldson

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

ARCHITECT MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON FAIA

February 14, 2013

California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street Suite 2000
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The Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Proposal

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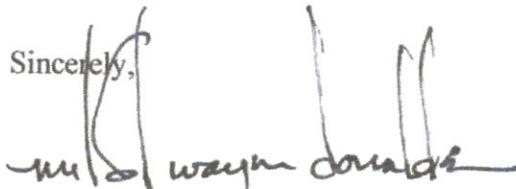
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www.sfoceanedge.org

March 29, 2013

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cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

ARCHITECT MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON FAIA

February 14, 2013

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CALIFORNIA
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

The Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Proposal

Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Beach Chalet Fields' Renovation project in Golden Gate Park, proposed by the City & County of San Francisco's Parks & Recreation Department. As a preservation architect I have reviewed the significant cultural and historic features of GG Park, and conclude that, as proposed, the development would have significant irreparable impacts on these resources.

As you know, GG Park is one of the most famous urban parks in the world, and is registered as a historic resource by both the state and federal government, making the park of utmost importance in the promotion of our nation's cultural heritage.

The Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared by the City for the project ignores the substantial body of evidence contained in the Urban Design Plan, Western Shoreline Area Plan / Local Coastal Program the Recreation and Open Space Element, the Ocean Beach Master Plan, and the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Any public body utilizing this EIR document to make decisions regarding the subject project will lack this information and thus the EIR is inadequate and unreliable. In the EIR three additional alternatives and the No Project Alternative were analyzed. Of these alternatives, all three alternatives would decrease the impact to the cultural resource compared to the proposed project. Yet none were pursued by the City.

The following proposed project initiatives conflict with the plans above and would, if constructed, constitute significant adverse, precedent setting impacts on this important historic and cultural resource:

- The proposed project is inconsistent with the Golden Gate Park Master Plan and conflicts with the City's General Plan policies.
- The proposed project will cause a significant impact to historic resources and spatial organization of the western end of Golden Gate Park.
- The existing historic design of the park encourages passive, informal uses in this area, as suggested by the naturalistic edges and open space. Alternatives that change the character of this section of the park significantly by establishing it as a heavy use, structured sports area would not be consistent with the historic design. The proposed project will adversely affect daytime and nighttime views of the area.

4100 FOLSOM BLVD Unit 5D, SACRAMENTO, CA 95819 mwdonaldson13@yahoo.com 916 532 8004

ARCHITECT MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON FAIA

- The removal of almost 30,000 square feet from the existing planted area impacts the historic tree and shrub edge, significantly altering the historic naturalistic setting. The historic grading will also be significantly altered by the proposed project. Substituting natural turf with artificial turf is a worrisome precedent in such a historic setting.
- The proposed structures, including the entry plaza, light standards, fencing and maintenance shed, are out of scale with the existing surroundings, including the historic vegetation and would significantly compromise historic visual and spatial relationships.
- The proposed new rectilinear pathways do not reflect the picturesque character of the historic curvilinear roads and pathways.

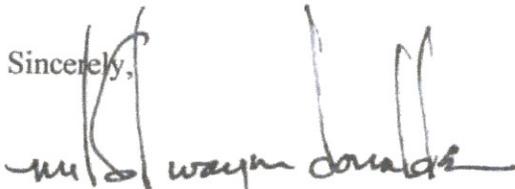
The mitigation measures should clearly state that the park should be designed to be as naturalistic as possible and to match the semi-wild feeling that currently exists in this part of the park.

I believe there are reasonable compromises to successfully achieve the goals of recreation and the preservation of Golden Gate Park's historic character. As others have noted, the current budget could provide a high tech drainage system, water conserving irrigation system, and modern day storm water management. Such improvements would preclude the need for artificial turf.

As a preservation architect, I encourage the Commission to direct the City of San Francisco and the Department of Recreation and Parks to select only alternatives that are consistent with the National Park Service's *Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* (Secretary's Standards), and *The Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* (NPS, 1996) in order to retain the historic character of the pastoral landscape envisioned by William Hammond Hall, the park's original designer.

The Beach Chalet fields are a valuable cultural resource. All current park uses serve a broader spectrum of people, in terms of age, economic status, and physical ability, than does a limited-use athletic activity. I understand that you need to be responsive to all parties, and I believe there is a solution to achieve those means.

Sincerely,



Milford Wayne Donaldson FAIA

MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON, FAIA

SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE

On Wednesday, April 7, 2004, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger announced the appointment of Milford Wayne Donaldson as the State Historic Preservation Officer. Mr. Donaldson was sworn in during ceremonies held at the State Capitol on April 9, 2004. The SHPO serves as chief administrative officer of the Office of Historic Preservation in Sacramento and as Executive Secretary of the State Historical Resources Commission. During Mr. Donaldson's tenure as SHPO he has streamlined Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act, has led the national initiative towards the sustainability and greening of historic resources. Mr. Donaldson has reached out to the California Tribes, initiating four Summits to discuss common ground issues and advocates tribes to become Tribal Historic Preservation Offices. Mr. Donaldson was appointed Chair of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation by President Barack Obama on June 1, 2010 for a three year term.

Prior to his appointment as SHPO, Mr. Donaldson had served as president of award winning Architect Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA, since 1978, specializing in historic preservation services. He is licensed to practice architecture in California, Nevada and Arizona and holds a certified license from the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards. Mr. Donaldson is affiliated with several historical and preservation organizations and is a past president of the California Preservation Foundation (CPF) and past chairs of the State Historical Building Safety Board, the State Historical Resources Commission, and the Historic State Capitol Commission.

Previously an instructor at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, he continues to lecture at California community colleges and universities. Mr. Donaldson holds a Bachelor of Architecture and a Bachelor of Science in Engineering from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. He engaged in post graduate studies at Uppsala University, Sweden, and received a Master of Science degree in Architecture from University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland, and a Master of Arts degree in Public History and Teaching from University of San Diego.

Over the last thirty-five years, Mr. Donaldson has established himself as a leader in Historic Preservation and adaptive reuse of existing structures. His depth of knowledge unites nineteenth century building methods with state-of-the-art twenty-first century construction technologies. In 1991, The California Council of the American Institute of Architects acknowledged Mr. Donaldson for his statewide leadership in the interpretation of the State Historical Building Code which allowed the rehabilitation of historic buildings for affordable single room occupancy hotels. In 1992, Mr. Donaldson was inducted into the College of Fellows by the American Institute of Architects.

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RECEIVED



APR 02 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

SF Ocean Edge ©

Where Golden Gate Park meets Ocean Beach . . .

www.sfoceanedge.org

March 29, 2013

(Copy of letter and CV have been sent to Staff)

Re: Beach Chalet Soccer Fields - Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach, San Francisco, CA

Dear Commissioner Steve Blank,

Enclosed please find a letter written by Mr. Milford W. Donaldson, regarding the negative impact of the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project on San Francisco's Ocean Beach and Golden Gate Park.

Also enclosed is a summary of his experience. In addition to the positions that are listed, in 2010 Mr. Donaldson was appointed the Chairman of the United States Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) by President Obama. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation promotes the preservation, enhancement, and sustainable use of our nation's diverse historic resources, and advises the President and the Congress on national historic preservation policy

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Katherine Howard

Katherine Howard
Member, Steering Committee

Attachments: Letter from M.W. Donaldson re: Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Proposal, 2-14-13
Summary of Experience for MW Donaldson

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

ARCHITECT MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON FAIA

February 14, 2013

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

The Beach Chalet Soccer Complex Proposal

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ARCHITECT MILFORD WAYNE DONALDSON FAIA

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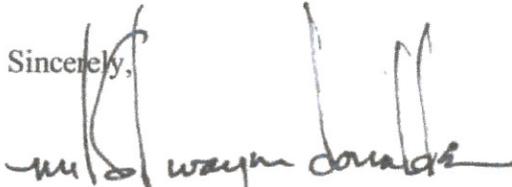
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SF Ocean Edge ©

Where Golden Gate Park meets Ocean Beach . . .

www.sfoceanedge.org

March 15, 2013

RECEIVED

MAR 18 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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 Chair Shallenberger and Honorable Commissioners,

Enclosed please find letters of concern regarding the Beach Chalet soccer fields project. These letters were originally mailed to the Sierra Club, to forward to the Coastal Commission.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine Howard, ALSA
Member, Steering Committee
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
cc: Coastal Commissioners

Attachments:
Lorraine Grassman
Linda Fries
Devid Zebker
Tom Zimberoff

RECEIVED

MAR 18 2013

Hello Commissioners!

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

I am a retired S.F. Park Ranger
who very much cares about
Golden Gate Park and the people
it serves.

I ask you to please put an
end to the ill-conceived
Soccer Field project in the West
End.

Thank you

Lorraine

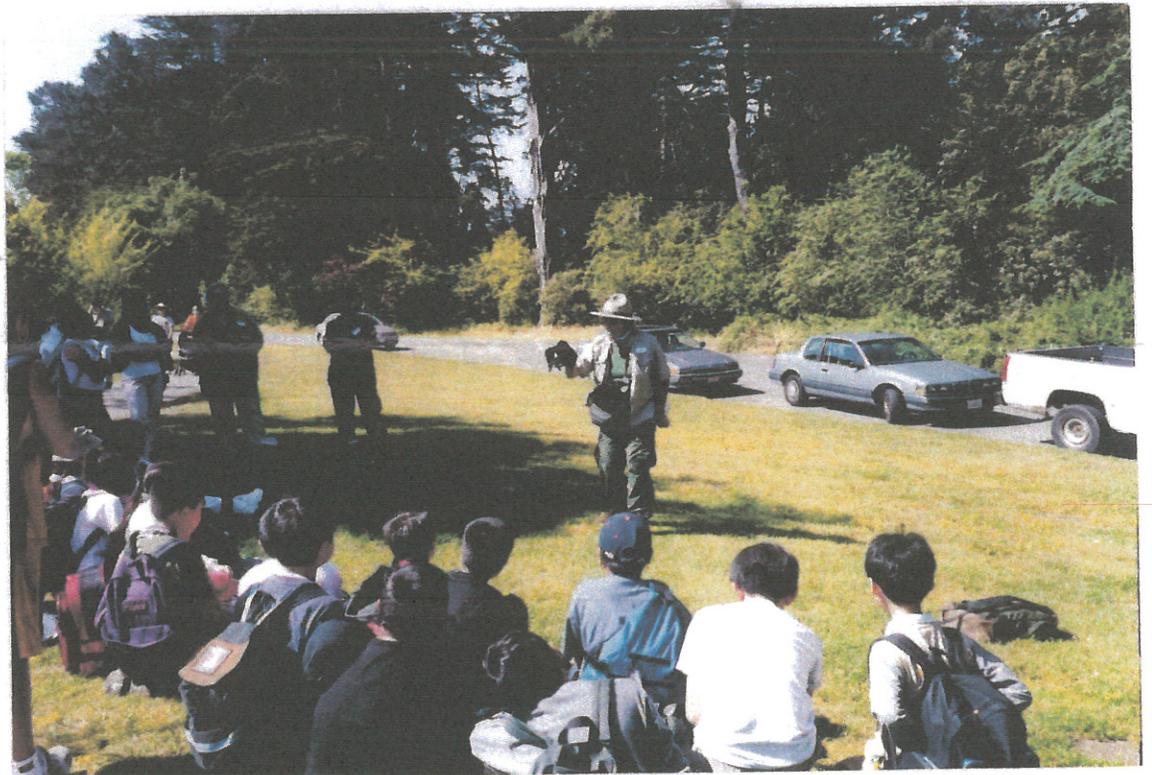
P.S. Enclosed are 2 photos of me
teaching children about nature -
one in which my Raven
puppet, NAZDAG, does the
talking.



Lorraine Grassano
2040 Franklin St Apt 1206
San Francisco, CA 94109-2983



SHARON MEADOW -



STOW LAKE - LaRanger & NAZDAQ

END OF THE PARK RAP

My name's Nazdaq, the rapping Raven,
And I'm here to talk about how we need to be saving
Golden Gate Park from more paving,
And to be fighting against this trend
That's leading right up to the Park's end:

Commercialize it!
Supersize it!
Privatize it!
More cement!
More buildings and big events!
Down with Nature!
Up with corporate nomenclature!

Across our Park the cancer crept
As John McLaren wept,
"How could they be so unclear on the concept?"

Won't you please help me halt the latest assault?

Astro-Turf by the Sand and Surf!
Bright lights higher than the trees!
Brighter than the Stars!
More noise, more cars!
Bring the wildlife to its knees!

Pushing me and my bros up against a wall,
The Park's supposed to be shared by us all!

(REFRAIN BY OTHER PUPPETS):

OWL (wearing shades): *Blinded by the light!*

NESTLINGS: *Bombarded by noise in the middle of our night!*

BUTTERFLY: *Grass that's synthetic! That's pathetic!*
How will things grow? Where will we go?

ANT: *Decomposers alert! Where's da dirt? Where's da dirt?*

1st GIRL: *What's up with Emperor Phil, is he dumb? This isn't a Park, it's a stadium!*
2nd GIRL: *Over one hundred trees to bite the dust! What's to trust in the "Parks Trust?"*

**ALL PUPPETS: We best start building Noah's Ark!
We're at the End of the Park, the End of the Park!**

(BACK TO NAZDAQ)

**That's why I'm making a pledge to support SF Ocean Edge,
They're not against kids playing soccer,
But *fake grass* in the Park is a real shocker!
Like, has the Lodge gone off its rocker?**

*Real green grass, is that too much to ask?
Renovation not lamination!
Planting more plants, not a treatment Plant!
More natural plots, not parking lots!*

**So while McLaren's rolling around in his grave,
Won't you join me, Nazdaq, in my rap and rave
To try and maintain what remains of our open space and wild land—
Make a stand!
Draw the line at the End of the Park:
No astro-turf! No lights after dark!**

**Hark! It's time to landmark
ALL of Golden Gate Park,
All one thousand acres and seventeen,
Why, almost THIRTY-PER CENT is no longer green!
Enough is enough! We got to get tough!**

**Give Emporer Phil "what for"—
Keep G.G.P. "au natural"
FOREVER MORE!**

LaRanger and Nazdaq, January 29, 2011

January 20, 2013

California Coastal Commission

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to protest the construction of a large artificial grass and night lit soccer complex at the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields. I have lived in San Francisco for 60 years, growing up here, and we raised our two sons in the city. Both sons played soccer for many years at the Beach Chalet. I know those existing fields very well. They are lovely places, very natural and just need better maintenance. They can continue to serve as soccer fields without the appalling anti-environmental changes proposed and approved by the government of S.F. The west end of Golden Gate Park is very quiet and restful and serene. The proposed Soccer Stadium Complex would completely destroy this feeling both day and night. There are other places to put this complex that would not permanently mar the natural peacefulness. The night lights would be especially terrible as it is often foggy by the sea and these lights would appear even brighter as a result. Stadium lighting is a terrible anti-environmental move both for park wild life and the surrounding neighborhoods. Dark skies! Please deny this terrible, anti-environmental project a permit.

Thank you!

Linda Fries
570 43rd Ave
S.F. CA 94121

665 Geary Street, #207
San Francisco, CA 94102

January 24, 2013

California Coastal Commission
c/o Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter
2530 San Pablo Avenue, Suite 1
Berkeley, CA 94702

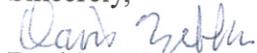
Dear People:

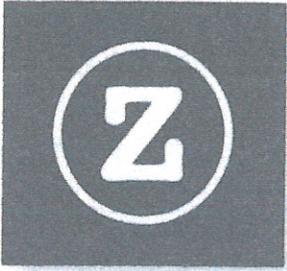
This is regarding the proposal to remove seven acres of natural grass in Golden Gate Park and replace it with artificial turf.

I would like Golden Gate Park to remain as close to its natural state as possible. I am also concerned about the light pollution caused by the installation of lights and the loss of habitat for wildlife.

Please oppose the proposal.

Sincerely,


David Zebker



ZIMBEROFF PICTURES

OFFICE
1364 45th Avenue
San Francisco, California 94122

TELEPHONE
(415) 246-2417

EMAIL
tom@zimberoff.com

WEB
<http://www.zimberoff.com>

January 23, 2013

COPY

Ms. Mary Shallenberger,
Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont S.; Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

Myriad arguments, better articulated than mine, have already been made to urge the Commission to reject the Beach Chalet plan that would replace ten acres of grass in Golden Gate Park (the soccer fields) with artificial turf, create unnecessary paved parking spaces, and—most egregiously of all—install unabated conspicuous lighting throughout. Nonetheless, let me add my own voice to the chorus of complaints. The obscene economic cost of this plan is eclipsed only by its environmental cost, which will debase a cherished section of the Park, adjacent to a famously magnificent stretch of Ocean Beach.

The proposed lights would pollute the only remaining refuge in San Francisco where urbanites can enjoy a stroll along the shore by starlight. The extra crowds and traffic would diminish the sound of the surf. The habitat of native, endangered birds, such as the snowy plover would be disrupted. You may get rid of the gophers, but the herons and egrets will lose their meal ticket. It's a really bad idea. I join the Sierra Club and SF Ocean Edge to implore you to abandon it.

Sincerely yours,

Tom Zimberoff

CC: Sierra Club San Francisco Chapter

RECEIVED

APR 02 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
cc: Kevin Kahn

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am a San Francisco resident, natural history educator and presently a researcher at the California Academy of Sciences through their Ornithology Department. I became aware of the proposal to install synthetic fields at the Beach Chalet Soccer fields early on through friends at organizations I am closely involved in. I'm an active citizen science volunteer for the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory and a natural history instructor for the Golden Gate Audubon Society amongst others. Since 2007 I have lead a team of researchers studying raptor nesting in urban areas (the San Francisco Bay Area Raptor Nest Study) and have become very familiar with raptor and other avian species territories, nest locations and behaviors especially in Golden Gate Park which contains the majority of raptor territories in San Francisco outside of The Presidio.

Initially I was curious about the debate over the Beach Chalet Soccer Field proposal then, once I studied it in detail, became alarmed and ultimately became very opposed. At this point I'm both perplexed that this ill conceived project has made it this far in the process and dismayed that the city of San Francisco would so strongly push a development that has been shown to add hundreds of tons of toxic fill to our waste stream and will pollute millions of gallons of fresh water. As an expert in avian science I'm also appalled that the city is ignoring the numerous scientific studies on the effects of night lighting on migrating birds. As you know a large percentage of western birds follow the Pacific Flyway during both spring and fall migration and many if not most of them fly along the coast at night. Then there is the remnant wintering population of the nearly extinct Western Snowy Plover. Less than 2500 individuals left – about 40 overwinter within view of the proposed project that would light up their night roost.

In November of 2011, along with two colleagues, I met with reporter Lisa Carmack of the Bay Guardian to tour and discuss the artificial turf issue at the Beach Chalet. During our 30 minute walk I identified 27 species of birds by sight and sound, well over 100 individual birds that were using the grass soccer fields and immediate surroundings to feed on a variety of vegetation, insects. Included in that list was a bonded pair of adult Red-shouldered Hawks who were hunting Botta's Pocket Gophers along the perimeter. That was only a 30 minute survey on a drizzly day in November. Over the course of a year many more species and thousands of birds can be documented. As I'm sure you are aware, birds in general, raptors and owls in particular, are the most effective natural pest control agents there are. These will be extirpated.

A defective EIR: I have read in its entirety the Draft Environmental Impact Report commissioned by the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department. Based on my own studies I found it to grossly underestimate the impacts on biological resources within the project area in many ways including:

I specifically challenged the species inventory of the two wildlife survey's described in Section IV.F-5 and IV.F-6 of the EIR survey. As a participant of many nest surveys both professional and as a volunteer, while I recognize that birds nests are by design very difficult to detect, a finding of no active nests in the project impact area is almost impossible to believe. The paltry description of avian species identified strongly suggests that the wildlife survey was woefully inadequate for this area. Wildlife moves around, lies in hiding while resting and generally avoids activity when humans are and an inattentive biologist will miss much. Also a single nest survey in May will necessarily miss many species that nest before and after that month.

Regardless of the survey team's inability to find active nests however, the planned removal of over seven acres of grassland and woodland habitat will be a death sentence for the wildlife that use this area today. These animals can not, as the report implies, simply move to another area. Other areas are already in use by other animals surviving in remaining open space areas. Other areas are at their biological limits already and are fully subscribed. This is the simple biological fact that the producers of the Draft EIR were in denial of. This particular pair of Red-shouldered Hawks (that one group I organize, the SF Bay Area Raptor Nest Study has been monitoring since 2007) is a long established pair that uses this area as their primary diner. If this verdant habitat is plasticized and lit up these birds will try to move on but will only run into another territorial pair, conflict will ensue, the result being the removal of this biological resource along with an amount equal to all of the other wildlife that is now using this area including birds, mammals and insects.

Add on top of that the effective removal of the perimeter habitat that will be lit up until 10:00 PM most nights of the year. These areas can not be used for nocturnal animals that use it to feed or diurnal animals that need it to rest from the high demands of surviving in an near-urban environment. The large increase in traffic from humans will also have a negative effect on these animals.

In my professional opinion as an avian researcher and natural history educator the Draft EIR was negligent in addressing the extent of the significant Biological Resource environmental impacts. That the report was commissioned by the SF Recreation & Parks Department who has whole-heartedly endorsed the artificial turf project (without any environmental consideration) as a money maker and only begrudgingly and at the threat of lawsuit commissioned the EIR in itself is ethically challenging.

An EPA study of artificial turf & tire crumb includes a long list of metals and compounds that have long been associated with a host of human ailments. It has also been proven that once these particles are installed, they begin breaking down as they are exposed to light and air and then begin migrating into the ground, eventually to the aquifer. These particles end up in player's clothing, hair and also are inhaled & ingested by players. Twenty years down the road we'll be figuring out how to rid ourselves of these contaminants – but it will be too late - they will have made it into the water table by then. Water that will need to be treated once it has come into contact with these substances. My brother, Eric Bartley, a very experienced and LEED certified Landscape Architect describes to me a project he was brought into a few years after synthetic play fields were installed. Part of the standard installation for synthetic play fields includes the installation of perforated PVC pipes underneath the Tire Crumb. One of the several problems that my brother was made aware of is that the tire crumb would gradually break down and when it rains or is cleaned the water picks up these particles and eventually clogs the perforated PVC pipes that would put in as drainage. Maintenance staff would then need to clean the tarry, sticky goo out of the PVC pipes so that they would drain properly. Of course these same products were working their way into the aquifer and other water ways. Here's a list and a link from the EPA of what we can expect:

http://www.epa.gov/ner1/documents/tire_crumbs.pdf

Heavy metals, volatile compounds and petrochemicals the EPA detected in Tire Crumb include:

- a. Barium
- b. Arsenic
- c. Cadmium
- d. Chromium
- e. Cobalt
- f. Copper
- g. Lead
- h. Manganese
- i. Mercury
- j. Nickel
- k. Sulfur
- l. Zinc
- m. Nylon
- n. Polyester
- o. Rayon

Another concern is that this project will replace the natural green house gas sequestering system that is in place with recycled petrochemical products which produce green house gases. The EPA study found these off-gassing compounds in artificial turf fields:

Benzothizole – known to be harmful if swallowed or inhaled;

Toluene - a skin, eye, and respiratory irritant and can cause headaches;

Acetone - a skin, eye, and respiratory irritant which can affect the central nervous system

Acenaphthene - a known carcinogen

Naphthalene – kills moths – what else?

Others include:

- a. Aniline
- b. Benzene
- c. Chloroethane
- d. Halogenated flame retardants
- e. Isoprene
- f. Methyl ethyl ketone
- g. Methyl isobutyl ketone
- h. Phenol
- i. Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
- j. Styrene-butadiene
- k. Trichloroethylene

Perhaps not as scary, but a problem nonetheless is the projects lack of an "end of life" plan – a massive 400 ton per 10 year cycle of toxic landfill waste.

This area is not the native, now rare, California coastal dune habitat that was removed when settlers and then the park removed it to make way for what is there now. It is not the pristine wilderness it was and it is impractical to consider returning it to such. But it is a testament to the resourcefulness and resiliency of our remaining wildlife that many native species have adapted to what is available to them now. Unfortunately that will never be the case with artificial turf. Plastic fields are a barren, toxic wasteland as far as animals are concerned and these animals will go away, not to another place as is naively being suggested, but go away as in extirpated from this life forever or until the area is returned to a vegetative condition. If we subscribe to the myopic vision that only threatened or endangered species need be considered and protected, then uncommon and common species will become threatened and endangered. We only need look at the list of endangered species now to see that.

Thank you for accepting and considering my comments.


Eddie Bartley
San Francisco

www.naturetrip.com

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

California Coastal Commission:

I urge the Commission to reject the San Francisco permit request for the western end of Golden Gate Park, The Beach Chalet Plan. This plan would be devastating to the wildlife, and the natural coastal habitat of the Park.

I am a long-time resident of San Francisco and frequent visitor to the Park.

Edward J. Conley
39 Pond Street
San Francisco, California 94114



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FEB 20 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION



ZIMBEROFF PICTURES

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JAN 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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1364 45th Avenue
San Francisco, California 94122

TELEPHONE
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EMAIL
tom@zimberoff.com

WEB
<http://www.zimberoff.com>

January 23, 2013

Ms. Mary Shallenberger,
Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont S.; Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

Myriad arguments, better articulated than mine, have already been made to urge the Commission to reject the Beach Chalet plan that would replace ten acres of grass in Golden Gate Park (the soccer fields) with artificial turf, create unnecessary paved parking spaces, and—most egregiously of all—install unabated conspicuous lighting throughout. Nonetheless, let me add my own voice to the chorus of complaints. The obscene economic cost of this plan is eclipsed only by its environmental cost, which will debase a cherished section of the Park, adjacent to a famously magnificent stretch of Ocean Beach.

The proposed lights would pollute the only remaining refuge in San Francisco where urbanites can enjoy a stroll along the shore by starlight. The extra crowds and traffic would diminish the sound of the surf. The habitat of native, endangered birds, such as the snowy plover would be disrupted. You may get rid of the gophers, but the herons and egrets will lose their meal ticket. It's a really bad idea. I join the Sierra Club and SF Ocean Edge to implore you to abandon it.

Sincerely yours,

Tom Zimberoff

CC: Sierra Club San Francisco Chapter

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APR 02 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Date: March 28, 2013

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

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park (GGP), San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

We are writing to strongly protest the proposed installation of stadium lights and artificial turf at the Beach Chalet athletic fields.

We urge the CCC to soundly reject these proposals that violate the goals of the GGP Master Plan and instead recommend that the City of San Francisco renovate the Beach Chalet athletic fields with real grass and no lights. The City could use the remaining funding to upgrade soccer fields at other locations.

We are long-time San Francisco homeowners who live in close proximity to GGP and our family regularly enjoys bicycling and hiking in the park. We support the naturalistic setting of GGP and are members of the Sierra Club and San Francisco Amateur Astronomers.

One of our principal concerns is that the stadium lighting, no matter how well the fixtures are shielded, will reflect nearly 3 million lumens of light into the sky, destroying some of the best and most accessible dark sky resources in the entire inner Bay Area. The unnatural lighting (sunset to 10 p.m., 365 days a year) will also very likely have negative effects on the local plants and wildlife.

Additionally we are concerned about the health risks to children who play on the artificial turf. The Sierra Club has noted that San Francisco has provided no reason for not analyzing the dangers of artificial turf that exceeds the state's threshold for acute toxicity and cancer risk by 120%.

Sincerely,



Scott Miller and Barbara Conahan
32 Lyon Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-3024



cc: CCC Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner
cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue, SF CA 94122



1326 Masonic Ave. San Francisco, CA 94117 (415) 863-3337

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APR 04 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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

Soccer Field in Golden Gate Park

I have been told that the Coastal Commission is considering a request to alter the Beach Chalet's soccer fields in Golden Gate Park.

Please do not approve this project; it is inappropriate giving its surroundings and an unwelcome intrusion into the natural beauty of Golden Gate Park.

Permanent bleachers and high voltage lights are not necessary for the location. No question, the lawn area needs care, but artificial turf is not the way to go. I have also been told that it is not good surface for young people to play on.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rita Felciano

Rita Felciano

Amy Meyer
3627 Clement Street
San Francisco, CA 94121
415-221-8427 amyw2m@earthlink.net

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APR 16 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 15, 2013

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

cc: Kevin Kahn

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

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Both federal and city park lands would be severely detrimentally affected by the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Fields project. I am especially concerned about the negative impacts of installing sports lighting next to Ocean Beach. Keeping and increasing the amount of "dark sky" is a nationwide goal of the National Park System. For several years local advocates have sought to keep the skies as dark as possible at the western end of San Francisco. Reasons include conservation of natural habitat for birds and wildlife, and preservation of opportunities for astronomical observation.

We have striven to preserve the grand scale and aesthetic value of our Ocean Beach national park frontage. The tall lights proposed for the Beach Chalet soccer fields would be visible for a long distance, north and south, beyond the seven acre field and spoil a lot of the work for darkness that has already been accomplished. This has been done by reducing, not increasing, light intrusion and urging restriction of any new lighting, limiting it as much as possible to meeting safety requirements. For example, we have been successful in affecting the development plans of the Veterans Administration Hospital at Lands End. What kind of obligation would they feel to cooperate if this field were allowed to set a brilliant new precedent?

The Ocean Beach Master Plan is now being implemented. It is the product of the cooperation of city, state, and federal agencies and dozens of organizations and individuals to create an ecologically-sound basis for the future of San Francisco's longest beach. One of the most important features of this plan is that we will at last have the opportunity to make a much better connection between Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach.

There is a good alternative to the Golden Gate Park site. The West Sunset Playground south of Golden Gate Park is a sufficient distance inland, is a little larger, and has not been given consideration by the City as a workable alternative. The heart of the environmental process is the study of alternatives. The reasonable alternative to the beach front location for this kind of athletic field has not been given consideration.

The proposed athletic field development would diminish the quality of the west end of Golden Gate Park, the values of what we have at Ocean Beach, and along several more miles of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Further along our Pacific shore, it would set a terrible precedent for other large lighting projects along miles of coastline.

I urge you to reject this proposal and to encourage use of an alternative site.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Meyer".

Amy Meyer

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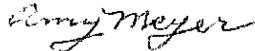
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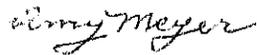
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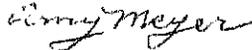
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45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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cc: Kevin Kahn

COMMUNICATIONS

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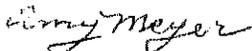
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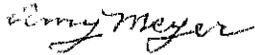
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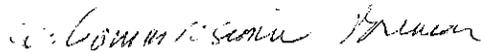
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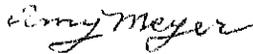
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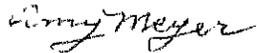
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I urge you to reject this proposal and to encourage use of an alternative site.

Sincerely yours,



Amy Meyer

Amy Meyer
3627 Clement Street
San Francisco, CA 94121
415-221-8427 a7w2m@earthlink.net

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APR 16 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 15, 2013

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

cc: Kevin Kahn *of Commission*

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

I was a San Francisco Recreation and Parks Commissioner for 12 years. I have been an advocate for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area for 43 years; I was co-chair of the citizens' campaign for that park. I am co-chair of the citizen panel for the recently finished Ocean Beach Master Plan.

Both federal and city park lands would be severely detrimentally affected by the proposed Beach Chalet Athletic Fields project. I am especially concerned about the negative impacts of installing sports lighting next to Ocean Beach. Keeping and increasing the amount of "dark sky" is a nationwide goal of the National Park System. For several years local advocates have sought to keep the skies as dark as possible at the western end of San Francisco. Reasons include conservation of natural habitat for birds and wildlife, and preservation of opportunities for astronomical observation.

We have striven to preserve the grand scale and aesthetic value of our Ocean Beach national park frontage. The tall lights proposed for the Beach Chalet soccer fields would be visible for a long distance, north and south, beyond the seven acre field and spoil a lot of the work for darkness that has already been accomplished. This has been done by reducing, not increasing, light intrusion and urging restriction of any new lighting, limiting it as much as possible to meeting safety requirements. For example, we have been successful in affecting the development plans of the Veterans Administration Hospital at Lands End. What kind of obligation would they feel to cooperate if this field were allowed to set a brilliant new precedent?

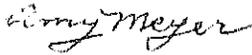
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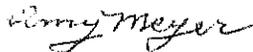
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Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Meyer".

Amy Meyer

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Amy Meyer
3627 Clement Street
San Francisco, CA 94121
415-221-8427 a7w2m@earthlink.net

April 15, 2013

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

cc: Kevin Kahn *A. Meyer*

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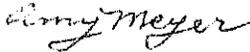
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1336 Willard Street, Apt. E
San Francisco, CA 94117

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

cc: Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RE: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

April 9, 2013

Dear Ms. Shallenberger and Commissioners,

As you review the decision on the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park, I hope you will consider that the decision was based on evidence that was not scientifically valid. Of most concern to me is the lack of peer-reviewed scientific and medical data on the health and environmental impacts of artificial turf that uses tire-crumbs infill. I have worked as a medical editor for more than 15 years, editing research papers and medical information. (My clients include the *British Medical Journal* and the World Health Organization.) This is why I have several concerns about the data.

The studies included in the Planning Department's Environmental Impact Report were not limited to those that had been peer-reviewed. Peer-review is the "gold standard" in scientific publishing: research is reviewed by those who are specialists in an area to determine the validity of the data collected, the methods used to collect the data, the statistics used to analyze the data, and the conclusions drawn. Peer-review is also used to weed out conflicts of interest that may have affected the results of a study.

In the case of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, one of the primary reviews cited by the Planning Department is the 2008 report by the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department's Synthetic Playfields Task Force. However, the 2008 task force seems not to have reviewed any valid data for the sections on *Material Composition: Ingestion – Inhalation of Turf Product Materials* and *Material Composition: Overall Chemical Composition and Flammability Issues*. Appendix B – **the master list of studies consulted by the task force – cites only non-peer-reviewed communications with**

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The data presented seem to have been chosen selectively rather than representatively. There is no indication of why the studies included in the report were chosen instead of other, more recent and scientifically valid studies; and there is no indication why literature searches were not done to update the references cited in the Planning Department's report.

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The Planning Department seems incapable of searching appropriate medical and scientific databases of peer-reviewed research, and unable to appraise research to determine its validity, therefore the lack of valid data submitted in support of this project did not allow the City to draw reliable conclusions about the potential hazards to people or the environment.

I ask that given the dearth of appropriate, scientifically valid, and current data presented in support of this project, **an unbiased, independent expert – that is, someone without any interest in the outcome of the project – who has knowledge of scientific method and research, conducts a thorough review and evaluation of the relevant medical and scientific literature before any conclusions are drawn about the hazards of artificial turf – either to the the environment or to health.** This project should not be allowed to move forward until this criterion has been met, for without valid data, you cannot draw valid conclusions.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Miriam Pinchuk

cc: Commissioners of the California Coastal Commission
cc: SF Ocean Edge, 1243 — 42nd Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122

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Jungreis Law

No, Central

Phone: 415-283-8594
Fax: 415-592-1656

Fax

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APR 16 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

To: Hon. Mary Shallenberger

From: Jason Jungreis

Fax: (415) 904-5400

Pages: 4

Re: re Beach Chalet Proposal

Date: April 16, 2013

This letter is urging the rejection of the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields proposal

760 Market Street, Suite 768, San Francisco, CA 94102

Millions are now using the internet to send and receive faxes. Are you? No more phone line, no more fax machine. Try it free at www.rapidfax.com/free.

Jason Jungreis
527 47th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121
415-750-0830
jasonjungreis@gmail.com

April 16, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
FAX (415) 904-5400

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I urge you to reject the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Fields Project. All factual aspects of the CCC's charter fall in line against the proposal. Also, the proposal has been a sham on its purported supporters due to its false assertions.

The Coastal Commission is concerned with impacts to the coast and the Park from loss of access by the general public to open space, wildlife impacts, night lighting impacts, water quality concerns. Each of these matters are negatively impacted by the Proposal.

1. Language from the Golden Gate Park Master Plan: By its express terms, the western edge of the Park is mandated to be kept "pastoral" and "sylvan." Filling the western edge of the Park with an athletic facility comprised of over seven acres of artificial turf lit by over 150,000 watts of night lighting on 60 foot poles is exactly the opposite. The proposal destroys dozens of trees, and will cost wildlife, habitat, nature, and serenity.

2. Lighting and fog: The proponents have stated that there will be no light impact. The doctored photos used by the proponents are patently false and must be seen to be (dis)believed. In the prevalent fog, the lights will reflect everywhere and create a constant "halo" effect. The San Francisco Dark Skies initiative will be wholly violated.

3. Water table contaminants: The water table beneath the soccer fields will soon be pumped for use in western San Francisco. The Environmental Impact Report failed to review the impact of the artificial turf's tens of thousands of pounds of ground up tires leaching their chemical and heavy metal toxins into the water table.

4. Airborne environmental dangers: The artificial turf produces airborne lead and carbon dust, and the Environmental Impact Report failed to fully review this health hazard for the players and for the people and wildlife living nearby.

5. Traffic: The proponents have stated that there will be no traffic impact in the park or nearby roadways. For those who know the area, this is so ridiculous as to be laughable. Further, the Environmental Impact Report expressly refers to the four lanes of Ocean Highway, when in fact that roadway is soon to be reconfigured to two lanes.

Here are 5 additional reasons to oppose the Project:

6. Manipulation: The arguments supporting the plan primarily revolved around a shameless bait and switch: promoters constantly discuss youth soccer, but as the promoters must acknowledge 85% of the increased playing time will be solely for adult leagues. The promoters' cynical manipulation of children should be exposed and condemned.

7. Cost: The City must pay over \$6 million now and then spend about \$2,000,000 every 8 years for replacement of the artificial turf. For about \$2,000,000, the City could install proper grass fields with gopher prevention and drainage that could be played on full time, and require only conventional maintenance.

8. Play quality and turf dangers: Artificial turf results in inferior play (the ball skids), joint and foot injuries (studies find a 40% increase in knee injuries with artificial turf compared to grass), and staph infections. In the west end of Golden Gate Park the ground is often wet, and there will be better traction and fewer injuries with cleats on wet grass than on wet rubber.

9. School facilities: The City has a developing policy of encouraging school facilities to be used during non-school hours. This policy should be, but has not been, taken into account as having an ameliorative effect on the scheduling challenges in youth soccer.

10. Golden Gate Park's Overuse: Golden Gate Park bears the brunt of millions of people every year: there is a limit to its carrying capacity, and people should be invited elsewhere. In particular, McLaren Park is dramatically under-utilized and more conveniently located for soccer-playing communities and Peninsula commuters.

Lastly, there was a failure to consider logical alternatives. I suggest review of a useful renovation of the West Sunset Playground, where soccer fields and lighting already exist. West Sunset is an urban park in a location much better suited to fulfill the legitimate objectives of the Project proponents.

The western end of Golden Gate Park is the last great oasis from urban pavement and does not deserve this ignominious fate. It would more readily be possible to vastly improve the grass fields (and at a fraction of the money). This is the wisest way to proceed.

Thanks.

Jason Jungreis

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
kevink@bcd.ca.gov

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122
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Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
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45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

April 15, 2013

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to protest the environmentally **dangerous** project proposed at the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park by SF Recreation and Parks.

I have closely followed this proposal for over 4 years and have attended many public meetings and hearings to learn and make suggestions to SF Recreation and Parks about this project. Unfortunately, Phil Ginsburg, a lawyer who was appointed by his longtime friend and political crony, then Mayor Gavin Newsom, controls SF Recreation and Parks. Mr. Ginsburg has NO park experience to qualify him for managing any park, yet was gifted with this powerful, lucrative position. In my opinion, after watching Mr. Ginsburg commercialize many aspects of SF parks, I believe his appointment was made primarily to serve the interests of campaign donors and the politicians they support.

It has been a dark time for the environment and San Francisco parks since Mr. Ginsburg became Director, who is known for making back room deals with the rich and powerful who seek to put their name on, and take control of public assets. We have seen the unlawful eviction of a local, 67 year, family run business at the historic boathouse at Stow Lake in Golden Gate Park in favor of an out of state group that is politically connected that is known for evicting historic family businesses. This new group had no boating experience whatsoever, promised all sorts of improvements and revenues that have not occurred after almost 2 years... all while Mr. Ginsburg lost over a million dollars of guaranteed income from the local historic family business.

Other senseless changes have included privatizing our beloved Strybing Arboretum that used to be open to all and was a place of much happy activity on any given day. It has now become a private garden under Mr. Ginsburg's directorship, in spite of major public opposition to this move. What used to be a garden that all economic classes of people enjoyed has become a playground for the wealthy since they now charge fees for non-locals, which means it is gated now and forbidding to use. Mrs. Strybing's will was violated with this move, but Mr. Ginsburg ignored this. He marches to the bidding of wealthy corporations and donors, who are pushing this dangerous project at the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields i.e. the Fisher family, (Gap founders) who are donating to this project in order to obtain naming rights to the new stadium and have refused to consider any site except our beloved Golden Gate Park, no doubt for vanity and corporation enhancement.

Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach are priceless treasures that we must protect from these thoughtless, politically driven developers. The reason I believe this to be true is that over the last 4 years I have listened as the public presented verbally and in writing a multitude of reasonable modifications to this project and Mr. Ginsburg has been unwilling to accept ANY modifications. These modifications would drastically improve the safety of the area for all children and adults who use the fields, Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach, including the ocean life, birds and other wildlife.

In particular I, and many others, have asked that the acres of carcinogenic rubber pellets they now plan to install under the artificial fields, be replaced with something non-carcinogenic. Mr. Ginsburg has refused to consider even this reasonable health and safety request. He has refused many other reasonable alternatives as well, labeling public input as "NIMBYISM" and claiming that any protestor must be against soccer. He claims that he has gone to great lengths to include public input, but the reality is different than he claims because he does not serve the public good, he serves the wealthy few.

Our public parks and beaches are no place for these politically driven games that are excluding public access and benefit the wealthy. We must hold the line, as history has shown that once developed, nature never comes back and the planet is damaged forever.

I am a social worker who has worked for over 25 years with people afflicted by various cancers. Many of these cancers can be directly related to environmental pollutants and I consider it my charge to advocate for non-carcinogenic practices wherever, and whenever, I can. In addition, my great grandfather came to San Francisco during the Gold Rush. Since then my family has enjoyed the beauty of Ocean Beach and Golden Gate Park, and are advocates for their protection. I frequent Ocean Beach and know that Ocean Beach in particular, is already in constant need of cleanup. **Knowing that the ocean level will rise soon, even more of the carcinogenic wash from the proposed stadium will flow directly into the Pacific Ocean.** A carcinogenic artificial turf stadium complete with 60 foot stadium lighting here, is a folly, and will only destroy this area, harm our children's health and quicken the demise of our oceans. It is shocking, that in an era of efforts to clean up toxic waste, anyone would even consider adding known carcinogens!

Thank you in advance for your dedication and assistance in preventing the damage from this vanity project, for the health and safety of generations to come.

Sincerely,

Suzanne R Dumont LCSW

Suzanne R. Dumont, LCSW
Licensed Clinical Social Worker
841 Rockdale Drive
San Francisco, CA 94127

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

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

Subject: NO Lighting at the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields in Golden Gate Park

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

The fate of Golden Gate Park is in your hands. Do not fail us and maybe even the rest of the coast line of California. I think that if you approve 60' Stadium lights, located a few feet from Ocean Beach, it could spread up and down the coast.

While I was attending meetings regarding the Ocean Beach Master Plan I learned about the proposed SFRPD's plan to turn the natural soccer fields into plastic/tire crumb fields, install 60' stadium lights and to cut down at least 65 trees.

I asked when do I get to vote on this?-- You don't I was told. I signed their petition and said how can I help?

WHY 1) I do not think there is a tire that is friendly to the environment and when it breaks down it will be blown all the way up the Park infecting the Chain of Lakes, wildlife, birds and vegetation.

2) When the trees come down the wind from the beach sand will meet with the tire crumb and spread fast thru the park.

3) Stadium lights will add to the hours of play breaking down the tire crumb and spreading its toxicant. The lights will also have a really negative impact on the wildlife, the dark skies and the enjoyment of Ocean Beach.

Don't be "hoodwinked" this is not about youth soccer, my grandson who plays soccer is home doing his homework by 6:00pm, this is for big time soccer teams, most not even from San Francisco.

I understand that 10,000 people have signed SFOCEANEDGE petitions or postcards against the Beach Chalet Park.

Please listen to them because once you destroy nature you cannot go back.

I support the many alternatives and the renovation of the Beach Chalet soccer fields with natural grass, better irrigation and gopher barriers.

Join the SFPUC when they pulled their plan to put a water treatment plant in Golden Gate Park. They were quoted in the newspaper that the "community did not want it in the park and we listened to them".

Angela Maestri
1423 Plymouth
S.F. CA. 94112



Cc: Commissioners
Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

Jason Jungreis
527 47th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121
415-750-0830
jasonjungreis@gmail.com

April 16, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
FAX (415) 904-5400

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I urge you to reject the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Fields Project. All factual aspects of the CCC's charter fall in line against the proposal. Also, the proposal has been a sham on its purported supporters due to its false assertions.

The Coastal Commission is concerned with impacts to the coast and the Park from loss of access by the general public to open space, wildlife impacts, night lighting impacts, water quality concerns. Each of these matters are negatively impacted by the Proposal.

1. Language from the Golden Gate Park Master Plan: By its express terms, the western edge of the Park is mandated to be kept "pastoral" and "sylvan." Filling the western edge of the Park with an athletic facility comprised of over seven acres of artificial turf lit by over 150,000 watts of night lighting on 60 foot poles is exactly the opposite. The proposal destroys dozens of trees, and will cost wildlife, habitat, nature, and serenity.

2. Lighting and fog: The proponents have stated that there will be no light impact. The doctored photos used by the proponents are patently false and must be seen to be (dis)believed. In the prevalent fog, the lights will reflect everywhere and create a constant "halo" effect. The San Francisco Dark Skies initiative will be wholly violated.

3. Water table contaminants: The water table beneath the soccer fields will soon be pumped for use in western San Francisco. The Environmental Impact Report failed to review the impact of the artificial turf's tens of thousands of pounds of ground up tires leaching their chemical and heavy metal toxins into the water table.

4. Airborne environmental dangers: The artificial turf produces airborne lead and carbon dust, and the Environmental Impact Report failed to fully review this health hazard for the players and for the people and wildlife living nearby.

5. Traffic: The proponents have stated that there will be no traffic impact in the park or nearby roadways. For those who know the area, this is so ridiculous as to be laughable. Further, the Environmental Impact Report expressly refers to the four lanes of Ocean Highway, when in fact that roadway is soon to be reconfigured to two lanes.

Here are 5 additional reasons to oppose the Project:

6. Manipulation: The arguments supporting the plan primarily revolved around a shameless bait and switch: promoters constantly discuss youth soccer, but as the promoters must acknowledge 85% of the increased playing time will be solely for adult leagues. The promoters' cynical manipulation of children should be exposed and condemned.

7. Cost: The City must pay over \$6 million now and then spend about \$2,000,000 every 8 years for replacement of the artificial turf. For about \$2,000,000, the City could install proper grass fields with gopher prevention and drainage that could be played on full time, and require only conventional maintenance.

8. Play quality and turf dangers: Artificial turf results in inferior play (the ball skids), joint and foot injuries (studies find a 40% increase in knee injuries with artificial turf compared to grass), and staph infections. In the west end of Golden Gate Park the ground is often wet, and there will be better traction and fewer injuries with cleats on wet grass than on wet rubber.

9. School facilities: The City has a developing policy of encouraging school facilities to be used during non-school hours. This policy should be, but has not been, taken into account as having an ameliorative effect on the scheduling challenges in youth soccer.

10. Golden Gate Park's Overuse: Golden Gate Park bears the brunt of millions of people every year: there is a limit to its carrying capacity, and people should be invited elsewhere. In particular, McLaren Park is dramatically under-utilized and more conveniently located for soccer-playing communities and Peninsula commuters.

Lastly, there was a failure to consider logical alternatives. I suggest review of a useful renovation of the West Sunset Playground, where soccer fields and lighting already exist. West Sunset is an urban park in a location much better suited to fulfill the legitimate objectives of the Project proponents.

The western end of Golden Gate Park is the last great oasis from urban pavement and does not deserve this ignominious fate. It would more readily be possible to vastly improve the grass fields (and at a fraction of the money). This is the wisest way to proceed.

Thanks.

Jason Jungreis

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
kevink@bcdca.gov

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122
sfoceanedge@earthlink.net

Hello Commissioners!

I am a natural S.F. Park Panger
who very much cares about
Golden Gate Park and the people
it serves.

I ask you to please put an
end to the ill-conceived
Soccer Field Project in the West
End.

Thank you

Lorraine

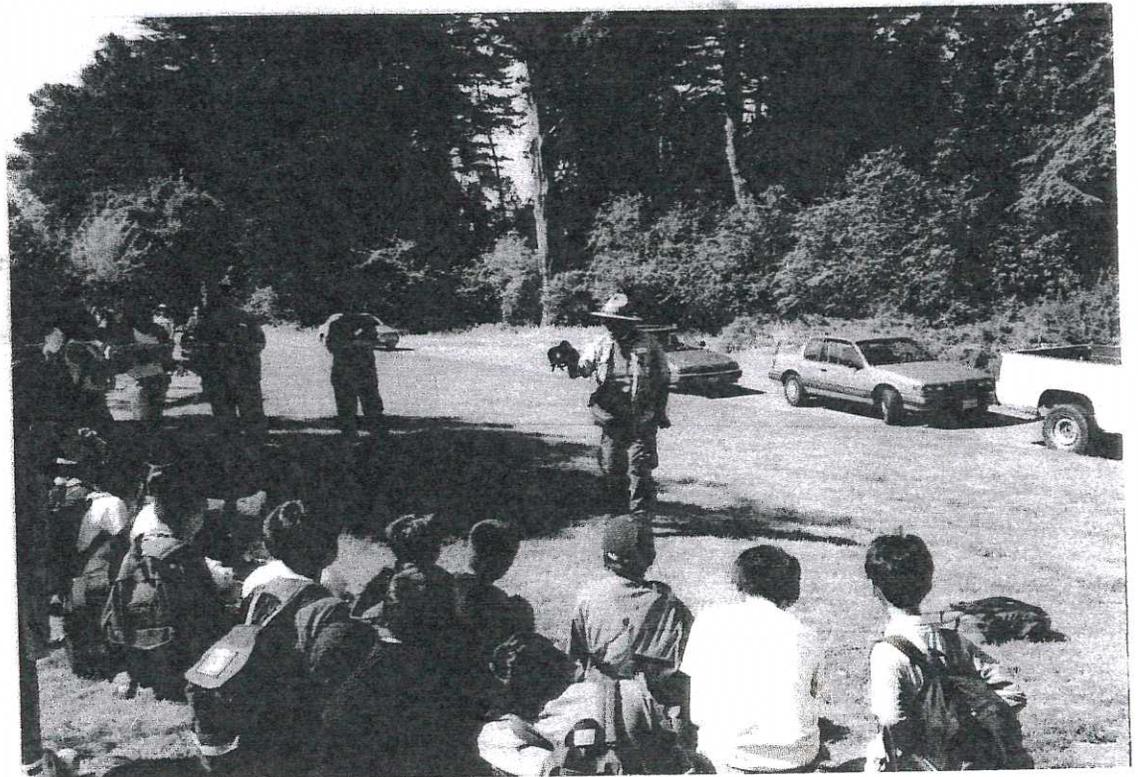
P.S. Enclosed are 2 photos of me
teaching children about native —
one in which my Raven
puppet, NAZDAQ, does the
talking.



Lorraine Grassano
2040 Franklin St Apt 1206
San Francisco, CA 94109-2983



SHARON MEADOW -



STOW LAKE - LaRanger & NAZDAQ

END OF THE PARK RAP

My name's Nazdaq, the rapping Raven,
And I'm here to talk about how we need to be saving
Golden Gate Park from more paving,
And to be fighting against this trend
That's leading right up to the Park's end:

Commercialize it!
Supersize it!
Privatize it!
More cement!
More buildings and big events!
Down with Nature!
Up with corporate nomenclature!

Across our Park the cancer crept
As John McLaren wept,
"How could they be so unclear on the concept?"

Won't you please help me halt the latest assault?

Astro-Turf by the Sand and Surf!
Bright lights higher than the trees!
Brighter than the Stars!
More noise, more cars!
Bring the wildlife to its knees!

Pushing me and my bros up against a wall,
The Park's supposed to be shared by us all!

(REFRAIN BY OTHER PUPPETS):

OWL (wearing shades): *Blinded by the light!*

NESTLINGS: *Bombarded by noise in the middle of our night!*

BUTTERFLY: *Grass that's synthetic! That's pathetic!*
How will things grow? Where will we go?

ANT: *Decomposers alert! Where's da dirt? Where's da dirt?*

1st GIRL: *What's up with Emperor Phil, is he dumb? This isn't a Park, it's a stadium!*
2nd GIRL: *Over one hundred trees to bite the dust! What's to trust in the "Parks Trust?"*

**ALL PUPPETS: We best start building Noah's Ark!
We're at the End of the Park, the End of the Park!**

(BACK TO NAZDAQ)

**That's why I'm making a pledge to support SF Ocean Edge,
They're not against kids playing soccer,
But *fake grass* in the Park is a real shocker!
Like, has the Lodge gone off its rocker?**

*Real green grass, is that too much to ask?
Renovation not lamination!
Planting more plants, not a treatment Plant!
More natural plots, not parking lots!*

**So while McLaren's rolling around in his grave,
Won't you join me, Nazdaq, in my rap and rave
To try and maintain what remains of our open space and wild land—
Make a stand!
Draw the line at the End of the Park:
No astro-turf! No lights after dark!**

**Hark! It's time to landmark
ALL of Golden Gate Park,
All one thousand acres and seventeen,
Why, almost THIRTY-PER CENT is no longer green!
Enough is enough! We got to get tough!**

**Give Emporer Phil "what for"—
Keep G.G.P. "au natural"
FOREVER MORE!**

LaRanger and Nazdaq, January 29, 2011

April 16, 2013

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

Subject: Beach Chalet Sports Fields, WT. end of Golden Gate Park

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

If you do not preserve Golden Gate Park and its Wildlife who will? It shocks me when I hear the City named after St. Francis is fighting to destroy the wildlife that are living in peace in a very fragile environment that is the west end of Golden Gate Park.

The proposed 60' stadium lights will have a devastating effect on the whole park.

In this age of childhood obesity I know that children need sports, but they also need nature. Some Inner City kids might never experience nature if it weren't for Golden Gate Park. Do not be fooled by the people declaring "there will be no place for kids to play soccer." That is a falsehood, and they do not need glaring stadium lights.

As I walk in Golden Gate Park every day I see posted signs regarding the wildlife in the park "Careful Raccoons Crossing", "Do not disturb the turtles," "Birds Nesting," and, most recently, "Coyote Alert."

The lights will really destroy the Pacific Flyway and the 64 counted birds, roosts and nests.

I am listing a few residents of the west end of Golden Gate Park: Coyotes, raccoons, skunks, ground hogs, squirrels (red & black) Heron, geese, red-tailed hawks, ground hogs, butterflies, bees, recently spotted "Coot Chicks" and Bison (located a few blocks from the proposed lighting).

Have you seen the acclaimed nature series "Planet Earth" produced by the BBC? They have a section about birds, posted on You Tube "San Francisco Golden Gate Park Wildlife". They think the Park is special.

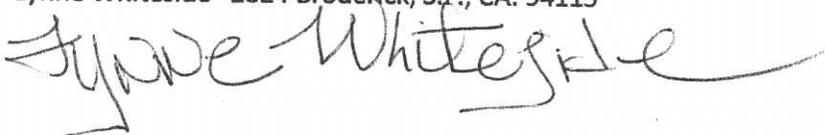
There is only one Golden Gate Park with 13 million visitors a year -- they do not come here to play soccer.

The lights, noise and cars will have a negative effect on wildlife and the citizens of the City of St. Francis who come to the park for peace, beauty and to feel lost in the wonder of nature.

When you look back on how you left the earth, do you want to say "I Okayed 60' stadium lights" with a negative footprint, covering all of the western end of Golden Gate Park, the Dark Skies and Ocean Beach.

Several alternative sites have been suggested and should be looked at.

Lynne Whiteside 2024 Broderick, S.F., CA. 94115



April 15, 2013

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

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer/Sports Stadium, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA.

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to you and your fellow commissioners to warn you about the plan by the SFRPD to build a major sports stadium with 60' banked stadium lights in Golden Gate Park and to urge you to support the Hybrid Alternative.

Much of the rhetoric going around is that this project is about "kids playing soccer" it is not. The plan is to build a major sports stadium on a site designated as a "bird/wildlife refuge". Children will not be playing at night only adults. Also for 6 months it is light for children to play until 7pm.

I worked for the San Francisco Recreation & Park Dept. for 37 years. From about 1996 or earlier, to 1998 I, along with others from the department, worked on the GGP Master Plan. Points I remember were:

- "Field lights at the Beach Chalet is not consistent with the GGPMP"
- "(night lightening) inappropriate to the park environment and out of character for the west end of GGP"
- "GGPMP West End Special Area does not recommend soccer field night use"
- "The remainder of this section makes it clear that the impact of the field lights would be significant"

It should be noted that at the east end of the park is already a sports stadium with lights and can be reconfigured to add additional soccer pitches.

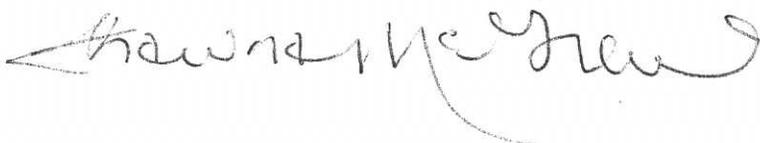
In 2004 I participated in the "Recreation Assessment Report" and the overwhelming request by the stakeholders (78%) wanted walking & biking trails. Outdoor sports courts were way down the list. People who live in big cities want peace, quiet and a way to commune with nature.

One of the biggest dangers of the night lightening would be the harmful effect it would have on the abundant wildlife that lives in the west end of the park. The lights would have a big effect on people and would bring in more cars that would disturb the fragile environment that fights daily for its existence. Who if not you will protect them?

The CCC was created to protect all, not a very small group who wants to destroy the Historic GGP. I think that if you allow this flawed project you will be opening the flood gates from one end of California to the Oregon border to every developer on the coast to say "well you allowed it in Golden Gate Park"

NOTE: there are many alternative sights to put this project, Candlestick Park comes to mind, when the 49ers leave you have a huge stadium with lights.

Shawna McGrew, 1522-32n Ave, San Francisco, CA., 94122



California Coastal Commission

January 20, 2013

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to protest the construction of a large artificial grass and night lit soccer complex at the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields. I have lived in San Francisco for 60 years, growing up here, and we raised our two sons in the city. Both sons played soccer for many years at the Beach Chalet. I know those existing fields very well. They are lovely places, very natural and just need better maintenance. They can continue to serve as soccer fields without the appalling anti-environmental changes proposed and approved by the government of S.F. The west end of Golden Gate Park is very quiet and restful and serene. The proposed Soccer Stadium Complex would completely destroy this feeling both day and night. There are other places to put this complex that would not permanently mar the natural peacefulness. The night lights would be especially terrible as it is often foggy by the sea and these lights would appear even brighter as a result. Stadium lighting is a terrible anti-environmental move both for park wild life and the surrounding neighborhoods. Dark Skies! Please deny this terrible, anti-environmental project a permit.

Thank you!

Linda Fries
570 43rd Ave
SF CA 94171



ZIMBEROFF PICTURES

OFFICE
1364 45th Avenue
San Francisco, California 94122

TELEPHONE
(415) 246-2417

EMAIL
tom@zimberoff.com

WEB
<http://www.zimberoff.com>

January 23, 2013

COPY

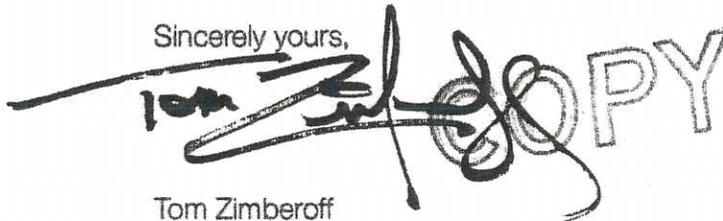
Ms. Mary Shallenberger,
Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont S.; Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

Myriad arguments, better articulated than mine, have already been made to urge the Commission to reject the Beach Chalet plan that would replace ten acres of grass in Golden Gate Park (the soccer fields) with artificial turf, create unnecessary paved parking spaces, and—most egregiously of all—install unabated conspicuous lighting throughout. Nonetheless, let me add my own voice to the chorus of complaints. The obscene economic cost of this plan is eclipsed only by its environmental cost, which will debase a cherished section of the Park, adjacent to a famously magnificent stretch of Ocean Beach.

The proposed lights would pollute the only remaining refuge in San Francisco where urbanites can enjoy a stroll along the shore by starlight. The extra crowds and traffic would diminish the sound of the surf. The habitat of native, endangered birds, such as the snowy plover would be disrupted. You may get rid of the gophers, but the herons and egrets will lose their meal ticket. It's a really bad idea. I join the Sierra Club and SF Ocean Edge to implore you to abandon it.

Sincerely yours,


Tom Zimberoff

Tom Zimberoff

cc: Sierra Club San Francisco Chapter

Date: March 28, 2013

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

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park (GGP), San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

We are writing to strongly protest the proposed installation of stadium lights and artificial turf at the Beach Chalet athletic fields.

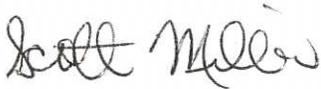
We urge the CCC to soundly reject these proposals that violate the goals of the GGP Master Plan and instead recommend that the City of San Francisco renovate the Beach Chalet athletic fields with real grass and no lights. The City could use the remaining funding to upgrade soccer fields at other locations.

We are long-time San Francisco homeowners who live in close proximity to GGP and our family regularly enjoys bicycling and hiking in the park. We support the naturalistic setting of GGP and are members of the Sierra Club and San Francisco Amateur Astronomers.

One of our principal concerns is that the stadium lighting, no matter how well the fixtures are shielded, will reflect nearly 3 million lumens of light into the sky, destroying some of the best and most accessible dark sky resources in the entire inner Bay Area. The unnatural lighting (sunset to 10 p.m., 365 days a year) will also very likely have negative effects on the local plants and wildlife.

Additionally we are concerned about the health risks to children who play on the artificial turf. The Sierra Club has noted that San Francisco has provided no reason for not analyzing the dangers of artificial turf that exceeds the state's threshold for acute toxicity and cancer risk by 120%.

Sincerely,



Scott Miller and Barbara Conahan
32 Lyon Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-3024

cc: CCC Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner
cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue, SF CA 94122

4/16/13

Dan Richman
4229 21st St
San Francisco, CA 94114
danrichman@earthlink.net

RECEIVED

APR 18 2013

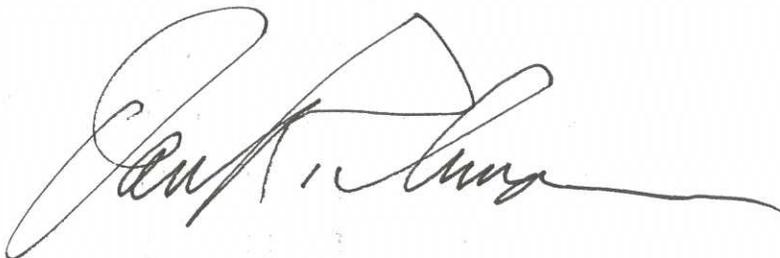
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Mr Kahn,

I'm a 74 year old man, an SF homeowner, a father, a devoted walker, and a member of the Golden Gate Audubon Conservation Committee. I have been against the proposed Chalet Soccer Fields project from the first moment I heard about. Now I understand that though this wrong-headed plan has been approved by the SF City Government, its final fate rests with you. I hope and pray you disapprove it. I believe the best way to explain why is to simply send you copies of two letters I've already written on the subject. I hope you will look them over.

Yours respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Richman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dear Environmental Review Officer:

(11/29/11)

Your EIR Report concerning the GG PARK Soccer Fields project is an inch thick and contains enough data, evidence, photos, and legal matter to dizzy us regular SF citizens, no matter how deeply interested we might be in the fate of our beloved Park.

So I wonder if you would consider trying the following experiment that might, just might, clear the air a bit? Please try to forget your position in the SF City Government for a few moments and approach the following questions simply as the rational grown-up I am sure you are. Or, at least try and imagine how other rational grown-ups who are not in the SF City Government might ask the following questions after reading your Report:

1. How can killing more than eleven acres of open grassland and woods in a semi-wild setting with a plastic blanket and concrete, especially in an area directly in the flyway of thousands of migratory birds and used by them as a resting place be "less than significant" (IV.F-36) as regards wildlife? How can you be so supremely certain that if the 1500 watt halide lights aren't pointing upward they won't disorient birds? You quote "one controlled experiment" (IVF-28) to justify this conclusion. Sorry, but in the science classes I attended, one experiment is only the beginning of research.

Also, an open field surrounded by trees is a "hot-spot" for

wildlife. The open field invites grazing and pecking and burrowing, and the trees invite the predators who feed upon the others. The existing soccer field is "hot." Ask anyone who has walked there at night and watched a Great Horned Owl drop from a branch to snatch a rodent off the ground. Or in the daylight watched a mass of migratory birds feeding off the insects and snails in the grasses. Would this work with plastic?

2. How can 6 or 10 60-foot 1500 watt spot-lights shining until 10 PM every night of the year in this critical bird area be seriously contemplated in a city whose own government initiated a Lights Out Policy that attracted praise from the Governor and Federal Congresspeople, and has inspired cities all over the world to emulate it?
3. Do the "light and glare" (IV.B-12) from cars and residences compare to that produced by 6 to 10 60-foot-high 1500 watt halide spotlights?
4. And speaking of those 60-foot-high spotlights (the average single-family house in San Francisco, by the way, is approximately 25-30 feet above the sidewalk), how can an examining body come to the conclusion the lights "would not have an adverse effect on a scenic vista, etc." (IV.B-18) when there is no indication in your pages of anyone in the surrounding neighborhoods being asked their opinion of the proposed lights, nor the proposed project in general. You call

this an Environmental Impact Report, yet seem to overlook the most vital segment of the environment there is in a city - the people who live there.

5. And while we're on the subject of the people who live in the environs of the West End, did you canvass the neighborhoods to ask our fellow citizens how they feel about the vastly increased traffic that would surely flow down their streets to and from the proposed parking lots?

6. If we go by the sanguine prophecies of the renovation's proponents, those parking lots will never accommodate the vast hordes of soccer-players and their fans who would flock to the plastic-coated fields from all over the City and way beyond it. But they'll have to park somewhere. Surely not on the streets. A visit to the Outer Richmond and Sunset neighborhoods, especially at night, will present the Environmental Impact observer with a solid wall of the parked cars of residents. Here the rational civilian would ask, But that means the overflow cars from the lots will have to park along the Park roads, doesn't it? And how will the public feel about that? Especially in the West End, that is supposed to give urban dwellers a taste of the countryside when they need it (See the Master Plan IV,B-14)?

7. Now, that term "public" raises another question. The Report describes the way "the public" will be able to more safely recreate on artificial grass than on the real McCoy, and the way "the public" will be able to in fact, recreate until 10:00 PM every night of the year beneath those 60-foot-high floodlights. When you say "the public," do you mean baseball players? No. These fields would not be designed for baseball. You mean, basketball players? No. Same reason. Football? No. Track sports like broad-jumping? Pole-vaulting? No, again. How about picnicking? No. Not allowed, probably. And anyway, a little simple research turns up much evidence that plastic grass is uncomfortable to sit on, gets hot in the sun, is a breeding ground for bacteria (since there no bacteria-eaters present) and smells funny besides. So, asks the rational person, What segment of the public, besides soccer-players, a sliver of the general population, will be able to use the proposed synthetic fields? Then, further asks the rational person, Is there no moral problem with spending a ton of dough on a project on public land that will serve a small, exclusive percent of "the public?" Could it be more than one percent? It would seem that if you really want to engage "the public," you would get this Proposal into the next City-wide Referendum. Then you, and all of us, will really find out what the public thinks of Rec/Park's scheme.

Respectfully,
Dan Richman

“Did I give you that assignment? Because...” The queen thought a bit. “Because there’s a chance the wine *is* what it’s supposed to be. Or perhaps if there is desire in the first place, it fans it. Or perhaps it only works some of the time. And then...belief is a powerful force. If Isolt *believed* in the potion, you see. And that’s why you were to tell her of its power on the wedding night.”

“And Mark wouldn’t need that sort of trick. Not with *that* angel...” breathed Brangien, sounding awed.

The queen sighed. “You begin to understand my reasoning.”

“But what of Isolt and Tristan? She was, I can tell you, Milady, a very proper girl. And very conscious of her political importance. And then Tristan was a knight! Sworn to loyalty and so on. And he had...other strong reasons for not getting involved with Isolt.” Brangien paused, then added quietly, “Or any girl for that matter, according to Isolt.”

“Yes. I sensed that soon after I met him.”

“But they did it, Milady! They destroyed their lives to be together!”

Queen Hildrun nodded slowly, then fell into another long silence while ripples of emotion crossed her face. Finally she muttered, “It

was foolish of Mark to send such a charming boy to escort such a lovely girl. Now *there's* a potent brew. The beauty of youth. It can work wonders. And it can turn tragic in a heartbeat. Consider Helen of Troy." She made a wry face, paused again and then asked, "And what did become of the handsome knight? I've heard...things. Several things."

"That's a mystery," Brangien answered. "And it might never be solved. Tristan may have been killed at Land's End by Mark's hunters, though Mark denies it, as did the hunters. The question in my mind is, would the hunters *admit* to having murdered his beloved stepson after learning that Mark had forgiven everything?"

"I see."

"Then some say he arrived at Land's End ahead of the hunters, bought a ship, sweet-talked his old crew, set sail, but just off-shore died of some wound or another. The crew buried him at sea."

"Hmm."

Of course the crew denied this till they were blue in the face. After all, to admit helping Tristan was to admit committing treason. So who will ever know the truth about that?"

"I understand."

"It's even been said that his old First Mate happened to be visiting Land's End and hated Isolt and Tristan enough to betray them in a way that's vague, but somehow involved a sail..."

"A sail?"

"Would you like to hear my theory, Milady?"

"I suppose," sighed the queen, as if remembering how difficult it had always been to shut down Brangien.

"Well, I never trusted that Tristan. I always thought he played a deep game. I think he just may have skipped out while he could..."

Hildrun covered her ears. "Enough! Enough, Brangien! There's only so much an old heart can bear!"

Then the baby girl on Brangien's lap woke and began to happily kick her feet and pump her arms.

The queen turned toward the child as if grateful for the distraction. "May I ask who is the father?" she asked gently.

Brangien swallowed, cleared her throat, and said with some nervousness, "It's Mark, Milady. It's the king. We came to...to an understanding." Then more eagerly, "He's a good man, Milady. He truly is."

"I believe that."

Suddenly Brangien rose from her chair and placed the baby in the startled queen's arms.

"I want to call her Isolt," said Brangien, rattling on. "And Mark agrees. But only with your approval, of course, Milady. Would that please you, Ma'am? And would you care to be the girl's godmother?" Then she held her breath.

Queen Hildrun gazed down upon the precious smiling face for a long moment. Her own face softened.

"Yes," she said. "I believe... I believe I would like that very much."

END

April 17, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 18 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

Hi, my name is Karen Arnold and I am writing to protest the Beach Chalet Soccer Field project to install 150,000 watts of sports lighting and 7 acres of artificial turf in the area of Golden Gate Park near Ocean Beach. This will have multiple negative consequences on the surrounding natural area, including, but not limited to the migratory routes of many bird species, who will be affected and distracted by this light pollution. This will have a devastating affect on residential bird and animal populations, especially those species who are night-dwellers. The installation of fake grass will degrade the natural, organic feel of the existing area, and who is paying for it?

As a lifetime resident of San Francisco, I am outraged that an area of the park historically designated for general use will be permanently altered to cater to a specialized group. This is not the spirit for which William Hall and John McLaren designed the park. They envisioned an area which could be enjoyed by all residents of San Francisco, not just those who happen to play soccer, as well as protecting the wildlife and migratory birds who visit SF every year.

This project is not appropriate for this geographical area. The proximity to sensitive coastal areas, already in danger due to human impact, warrants that the Coastal Commission take action against this project. Please use all of your influence to voice your concerns as well.

I feel that sports are important for children and adults alike, but they shouldn't be given preferential treatment over other activities or endangered habitats. They should be held in a site that is appropriate for this use. I must stress again that the Beach Chalet Site is not an appropriate site for this project.

Sincerely,

17 April, 2013

Karen M. Arnold
59 La Grande Ave.
SF CA 94112

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, Ca 94122

April 15, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 18 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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 that the Coastal Commission NOT allow the conversion of fields in Golden Gate Park to artificial turf.

As the mother of two young children, I know the enjoyment and other benefits that soccer provides. I also know that the demand for soccer fields in San Francisco is exceeding the supply, leading to scheduling issues and cancelled games. We need to find a solution to these problems. But we need to find one that does not involve artificial turf in Golden Gate Park.

Artificial turf in Golden Gate Park threatens our water quality since the runoff would need to be piped to the treatment plant, thus reducing flow to the aquifer. It threatens our air quality since the artificial turf would replace oxygen-generating grass and would involve the loss of trees as well. It threatens our access to open space since the fields would then be unusable for anything BUT soccer. Artificial turf in Golden Gate Park would also have severe impacts on wildlife, both because of the loss of natural space for everything from gophers to bees to hawks, and because of the night-time light pollution it would cause.

My children and I have enjoyed those fields in many ways over the years. Besides organized sports, they are good for making flower chains, dancing, cartwheels, birdwatching... the list goes on. They smell good when you walk by. And as my daughter pointed out when I told her about the proposal, they have a lot of bees and "I'm worried because I really love bees."

PLEASE do not allow all the ways in which a field of grass is part of childhood be steamrollered to make single-use space for team competition.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Quinn
3739 26th Street
San Francisco, 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 94122

William Kostura
P. O. Box 60211
Palo Alto, CA 94306
(650) 815-1174

RECEIVED

APR 18 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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

April 17, 2013

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

Note: **Staff has been copied on this letter**

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to oppose the athletic field plans for the area behind the Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park. I hope your commission is still undecided on this project and can weigh comments from the general public before making a decision.

I arrived in San Francisco in 1977 as a young man, still very much undecided on my career choice and future. I had always loved history and I also had a love of great places, but growing up in Texas I had almost no idea what to do with these interests. After a few years in San Francisco, however, there was no doubt: becoming a San Francisco historian was the only career path I wished to pursue. I became active as a local historian in 1981 and have worked professionally as an architectural historian since 1993. I served on the city's Landmarks Board during 1995-1996 and have published many works in the field. Although I live in Palo Alto now, I still consider myself a San Franciscan in every way except for my mailing address. Nearly all of my work involves San Francisco projects; I regularly write historical evaluations on older buildings that are reviewed by City Planning staff.

I mention all this because I wish to emphasize how important sense of place is to me; it drives most of what I do. Historical buildings in old cities and natural landscapes have almost equal appeal for me. One of the great things about San Francisco, in addition to its historic buildings and neighborhoods, is the presence of wooded landscapes and natural areas within a dense city. Glen Canyon, Golden Gate Heights, Sutro Forest, the top of Mount Davidson, Land's End in Lincoln Park, and Fort Funston offer opportunities for quiet getaways such as few city-dwellers in other parts of the United States have. All such areas should be treasured by us.

The park in San Francisco that is most accessible to the largest number of people is Golden Gate Park. In this park, there are two great landscapes: the Botanical Gardens (formerly Strybing Arboretum), and Strawberry Hill in Stow Lake. These two areas form just a small percentage of the total park area, and they are not enough, I would say. Golden Gate Park has become too much of a playground of many uses, and is no longer very park-like. I would like to see this trend toward urbanization reversed.

The proposed athletic fields would urbanize the park on a scale comparable to the building of museums in the concourse, the construction of Crossover Drive (from 19th Avenue and Lincoln Way to Park-Presidio Boulevard and Fulton), and the Polo Field. Very tall and bright night lights, a hardpack surface of artificial grass, and other built features will create an extremely intrusive environment for anyone coming to the park for quietude and contemplation. The proposal is much too much, and the negative effects will be felt well beyond the footprint of the athletic fields themselves.

I beg you to consider: if you were a hawk or a squirrel, a solitary human on a stroll, or a resident of the surrounding neighborhood, would you go there, if you did not have to?

In the spirit of Golden Gate Park historian Ray Clary, I thank you for considering these thoughts, and ask you to reject the proposed athletic fields.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William Keenan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

- ✓ 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

Paul W. Lovinger



P.O. Box 345, 101 Hyde St., San Francisco, CA 94142

Tel. & fax: (415) 564-2083 / E-mail: words@mybluelight.com

April 18, 2013

Mary Shallenberger, chairman
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St., Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

RECEIVED

APR 19 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Madam:

The proposed construction project in the meadow at the west end of Golden Gate Park near the Beach Chalet is unnecessary. It solves no problem. If OK'd, it could cause plenty of problems:

Health. Not even the proponents in the City-County of San Francisco know how toxic the phony turf will be.

Environmental. How would 150,000 watts of lighting affect the atmosphere and wildlife habitat? Killing scores of healthy trees could be a step back toward desert dunes.

Pollution. A lighted, 1,000-seat arena —attracting crowds and traffic — would bring added pollution in the forms of noise, light, air, and trash.

Urbanization. I've lived near Golden Gate Park for some 35 years. I visit it often. It offers an idyllic escape from city bustle. Nature is a main theme of the master plans for GG Park and Ocean Beach. But this latest scheme goes a long way toward urbanizing and spoiling them.

Yours very truly,

Paul W. Lovinger

April 19, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 19 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, GGP, S.F., CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing you to protest the artificial lighting/turf project proposed for the Beach Chalet fields. I am a property owner and a mother of two soccer playing children. We live in the Inner Sunset and go to G.G.P. at least twice a week. One of the reasons we bought our house was the proximity to the park and the beach. My family and I have been all over the park and love exploring the "wild" spaces in the different areas.

Raising a family in the city demands open space where city living children and adults can observe wildlife and begin a relationship with nature that will hopefully grow to a priority of preserving and protecting it. Ocean Beach has been a wonderful marine habitat for my family to explore. We collect sand dollars, count shore birds, watch the tides change and experience the overall magnificence of the Ocean.

The Beach Chalet Fields area has some "wild" parts that have trees for climbing and spots for quiet reflection. All these areas allow city dwellers to escape the "City" for a brief period.

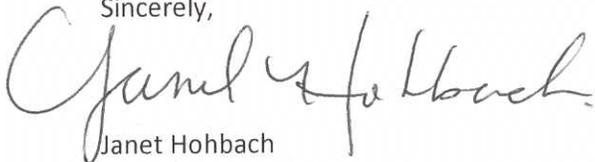
My concern is about the impact to Ocean Beach and the loss of this public open space. It is not just for my family but for all the families that desperately need a place to run, play and just breathe. Artificial lighting, turf, more cars and noise do not seem like a good plan for our beautiful park and beach.

My kids are 9 and 12. Both play soccer and my son is with SF Vikings. I like soccer and the exercise it gives kids but I do not think it is the only sport, let alone the only activity I want my kids involved in.

I think the artificial lighting plan is extremely short sighted and benefits few and harms many. We are all unsure of the impact the lighting will have on the coast and will not know for years.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Janet Hohbach

1443 8th Avenue

San Francisco, CA 94122

RECEIVED

APR 19 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

April 15, 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,

In regard to the Beach Chalet Soccer Field GGPark proposal:

My concern as a resident of the Richmond District is the proposed sports lighting system for this complex.

It is well known that intense floodlighting, as proposed for the soccer fields, is disruptive to wildlife, most significantly birds.

The sports lighting system, as proposed, bathes a very large area with light...in fact, I believe during a test of this lighting, from my residence about 1 mile inland adjacent to the north side of GGPark, the whole western skyline was illuminated.

The west end of GG Park, to date, is spared of night time floodlighting ... yes, Ocean Beach is lit by street lights ... and the GGNRA should be required to mitigate the intensity!

It is totally unacceptable that a whole new source of intense lighting be added.

I fully support increasing recreational capacity for children and all citizens in GG Park, in fact a new Nature Trail thru the east end GG Park Oak Woodlands is being created and the east end Horseshoe Courts complex is being renovated.

However, I think this kind of soccer field proposal for the western edge of GGP with its included sports floodlighting is inappropriate.

Sincerely,

ROBERT BAKEWELL
863 Arguello Blvd. # 5
SF, 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

Honorable Mary Shallenberger
Chair
Calif. Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

4/14/13

RECEIVED

APR 19 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

RE: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to you to urge you to say NO to the preposterous plan to plasticize the Beach Chalet Fields. The more research that I do, the more unbelievable the current plan becomes to degrade Golden Gate Park, a nationally known and loved green space abutting the beautiful California coast line.

I live in the Richmond District myself and use the area as a drawing and painting site when the athletic teams are not there. I run the Mary L. Harden School of Botanical Illustration & have 76 students currently enrolled. We paint & draw plant life of different eco systems and mount educational exhibits for nonprofit organizations.

As a parent, my daughter played soccer at the Beach Chalet athletic fields when she was young. In the 80's I worked with Mission Soccer League to develop new fields in the Eastern side of San Francisco. I am familiar with the City's needs to develop and maintain athletic

fields for all age groups. However, the proposal that organized sport should take precedent over all other family activities is unfair as well as being supported by a very large number of activists who live outside of the City & have other options.

The environment impact of plastic turf, bright unnatural evening lighting, the removal of trees, habitat and beauty, is huge.

I have always supported Soccer Clubs but no more.

I urge the Coastal Commission to do its duty, Stop this outrage. Do not be swayed by the rhetoric and political pressure, but think of the long term effects, costs and degradation of green space.

Some folks are counting on you. We know how effective you can be. Please do all that you can to preserve and protect California's beautiful and life sustaining coastline.

Thanks for your attention,

Mary Harder

369 - 11th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94118
mlharder5@aol.com

cc: Kevin Kahn

cc: SF Ocean Edge

April 18, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 19 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Hon. Shallenberger,

I am writing to you to express my concerns with the Beach Chalet Soccer Project in the west end of Golden Gate Park (the "Park").

I have lived in San Francisco (District 5) since October 2007. I am a native Californian.

Specifically, I am concerned about the commercial development of the Park and the introduction of synthetic material in a public park. I am not an expert in environmental matters, but I do believe that this project compromises the purpose of a public park and am wary of the magnitude of such development so close to the edge of the Pacific Ocean. Also, as a taxpayer, I would prefer that city taxes support Park preservation rather than the maintenance of commercial development in a designated public park area.

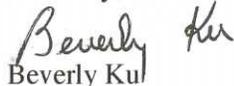
My greatest concern is that this project will lead to more development and quasi-privatization at the public's expense. The Park is a public space for the benefit of public citizens (a.k.a. voters) and visitors to San Francisco. It is not the appropriate place for commerce and development.

I do not have children but believe that children can play soccer on natural fields. Also, I am unsure of the benefits of playing soccer on synthetic turf rather than a natural field. A natural field, in my opinion, would serve the purpose equally well, if not better.

I am carbon copying Supervisor Eric Mar's office (District 1) and my supervisor's office (District 5) so that their offices are aware of my concerns. I have tried to reach out to my district supervisor, London Breed, but have been told by her legislative aide, Ahmad El-Najjar, that this is outside her jurisdiction.

Hon. Shallenberger, I urge the California Coastal Commission to preserve the Park for the public interest. I am confident that future generations will appreciate the natural, undisturbed landscape more than this type of stadium. In fact, we already have an excellent stadium—Kezar Stadium—near the Park!

Sincerely,



Beverly Kul
901 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117

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

cc: City Hall
Supervisor Eric Mar, District 1
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

cc: City Hall
Supervisor London Breed, District 5
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

4434 Fulton Street Apt. 8
San Francisco, California 94121

April 17, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 19 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

RE: Proposal for "Improvements" to Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park

Dear Ms Shallenberger,

In 1963 PG&E attempted to put a nuclear power plant on Bodega Head. Recognized as an act of lunacy, it was never built. In terms of scale the proposed soccer complex affects a small area yet its impact is great. The lighting alone is very problematic. The 150,000-watt proposed stadium lighting will sit on 60 feet poles-taller than the adjacent trees. Additionally night lighting is planned for new sidewalks and an enlarged parking lot.

This planned, year-round, dusk to 10 P.M illumination would light up Golden Gate Park and the adjacent neighborhood impacting Ocean Beach and its visitors, subjecting all to unwanted lights. It would be a nuisance and an aesthetic nightmare effecting prized views like that from Sutro Park. The wonderful expanse from Golden Gate Park down the coast will sport lighting poles above the trees visible both day and night. Having lived in an apartment overlooking Golden Gate Bridge for over 35 years, I can attest to the fact that good views are really priceless and do help to raise one's spirit. It makes no sense to butcher beautiful views.

The western part of Golden Gate Park has always been special in that it preserves the original intent of park planners—to provide a pastoral setting for city dwellers to commune with nature and receive solace from it. Recreation activities and development have been concentrated in the eastern part of the park. Those that do exist in the western part have been modest and those that are proposed must be sensibly planned to fit into this more sylvan environment. Adjacent to the soccer field is the Queen Wihelmina Tulip Garden and restored Murphy Windmill. Unfortunately, the scale of the proposed soccer development will diminish the experience of visiting this lovely place. It would be a shame given the years it took to raise money and restore this area.

Another of my concerns is the increased car traffic that the proposed soccer fields would generate given that the area has limited public transportation. The proposed quality fields would attract players from outside the city who would drive here. On busy weekends the impact on Ocean beach parking may prevent families, older adults with limited mobility, or the handicapped from being able to park, denying them the chance to enjoy the beach and the simple pleasure of just watching the surf and listening to the waves which can be a great comfort for the stress of urban life.

Though I support neighborhood soccer fields and would support a quality field with lighting in an alternate spot for the purpose of increasing park revenue, I cannot support this project. Substantial habitat degradation is my greatest concern. The proposal calls for the removal of over fifty trees, the paving over of parkland to make a bigger parking lot, and the installation of artificial turf and grand stands. All of these factors combined with the increased lighting and number of visitors would have severe negative impacts on the area's vegetation, its birds and other wildlife. That is why I favor the restoration and maintenance of the present grass soccer fields.

I respectfully request that you consider my reasons for opposing the proposed soccer complex. It should be built in an appropriate urban space not Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely yours,

Cira Marie Curri
Cira Marie Curri

Cc: SF Ocean Edge



SF Ocean Edge ©

Where Golden Gate Park meets Ocean Beach . . .

www.sfoceanedge.org

April 17, 2013

RECEIVED

APR 18 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Commissioner Burke

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 Chair Shallenberger and Honorable Commissioners,

Enclosed please find letters of concern from local organizations regarding the Beach Chalet soccer fields project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine Howard

Katherine Howard, ALSA

Member, Steering Committee

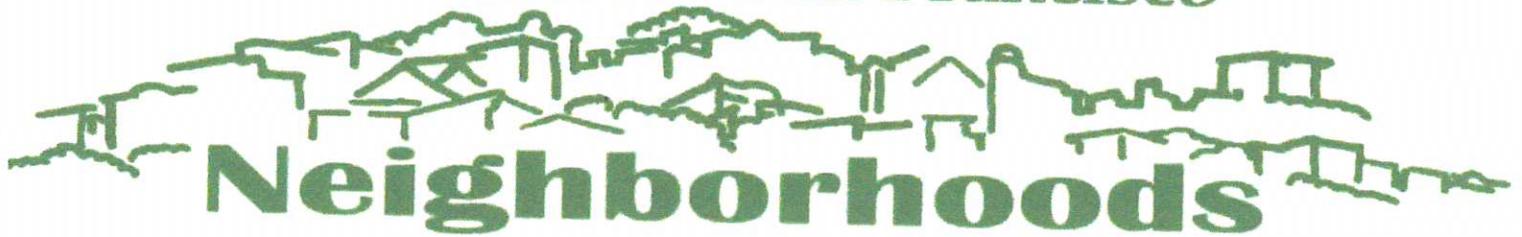
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
cc: Coastal Commissioners
cc: Charles Lester, Executive Director

Attachments:

Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods - representing over 44 neighborhood groups
California Preservation Foundation - SF Office
HANC - Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council
Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club
SPEAK - Sunset, Parkside Education and Action Committee

Coalition for San Francisco



Neighborhoods

www.csfn.net • PO Box 320098 • San Francisco CA 94132-0098 • 415.262.0440 • Est 1972

April 2, 2013

President

Judith Berkowitz 415.824.0617

1st Vice President

Penelope Clark 776.3876

2nd Vice President

Angelique Mahan 334.7131

Recording Secretary

Demian Quesnel 861.5084

Corresponding Secretary

Dick Millet 861.0345

Treasurer

Jim Lew 771.5250

Members-at-Large

Sue Cauthen

Lorraine Lucas

Gary Noguera

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

The Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN) is a coalition of over 44 neighborhood organizations, formed to communicate San Francisco residents' concerns with land use and other issues. For the last three years, CSFN has been deeply concerned about the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex and the negative impact it would have on Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach.

The Beach Chalet Soccer Complex would introduce highly urbanized artificial fields into Golden Gate Park, destroying the naturalistic character of the western end of the Park. This project would replace natural plantings with proven toxic artificial turf, increase paving in the park in an area that is now completely vegetated, remove many trees that make up the Park's windbreak, and degraded wildlife habitat in the Park and at Ocean Beach. The project would increase traffic to the Park, to Ocean Beach, and through the neighborhoods. The horrendous 150,000 watts of sports lights and the additional pole lights would significantly decrease the darkness of the night sky and infringe on the wild nature of Ocean Beach; in addition, the lighting would have a negative impact on views not only for the neighbors around the area but also for visitors to historic Sutro Park and the Cliff House.

Ocean Beach is where San Franciscans go to watch the sunset, to sit by a fire on the beach, or to gaze at the stars. In sum, this project would change the overall character of the western edge of Golden Gate Park from a sylvan retreat to that of a developed sports complex and destroy the beauty of Ocean Beach.

We urge you to take into account our deeply felt concerns and to direct the City to renovate the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no lighting, and to consider seriously the alternative of West Sunset Playground and other facilities in San Francisco. Many of our playing fields are in need of funding; spending over \$14 million on this one project does not serve our children well. Fixing up Beach Chalet with natural grass and using the rest of the funding elsewhere in San Francisco would serve the children equally well, while preserving the beauty and habitat of Golden Gate Park and of Ocean Beach for future generations.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wuerfel
Chair, Open Space Committee

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

Barbary Coast Neighborhood Assn
Bayview/Hunters Point
Coordinating Council
Buena Vista Neighborhood Assn
Cathedral Hill Neighbors Assn
Cayuga Improvement Assn
Cole Valley Improvement Assn
Cow Hollow Assn
Diamond Heights Community Assn
Dolores Heights Improvement Club
East Mission Improvement Assn
Eureka Valley Promotions Assn
Ewing Terrace Neighborhood Assn
Excelsior District Improvement Assn
Fair Oaks Community Coalition
Forest Knolls Neighborhood Assn
Francisco Heights Civic Assn
Golden Gate Heights Nghbrd Assn
Greater West Portal Nghbrd Assn
Haight Ashbury Improvement Assn
Inner Sunset Action Committee
Jordan Park Improvement Assn
Laurel Heights Improvement Assn
Lincoln Park Homeowners Assn
Marina Civic Improvement &
Property Owners Assn
Miraloma Park Improvement Club
Mission Creek Harbor Assn
New Mission Terrace Improvement Assn
North Beach Neighbors
North Park Neighbors
Oceanview, Merced Heights,
Ingleside — Neighbors in Action
Outer Mission Residents Assn
Pacific Heights Residents Assn
Panhandle Residents Organization/
Stanyan-Fulton
Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Assn
Richmond Community Assn
Rincon Point Neighborhood Assn
Russian Hill Improvement Assn
Russian Hill Neighbors
Sunset Heights Assn of
Responsible People
Sunset-Parkside Education &
Action Committee
Telegraph Hill Dwellers
Twin Peaks Council & Open
Space Conservancy
Twin Peaks Improvement Assn
West Presidio Neighborhood Assn



April 3, 2013

Note: Copy sent to staff

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

5 3RD STREET, SUITE 424
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
94103-3205

415.495.0349 PHONE
415.495.0265 FAX

CPF@CALIFORNIAPRESERVATION.ORG
WWW.CALIFORNIAPRESERVATION.ORG

RE: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

On behalf of the California Preservation Foundation (CPF), I am writing to express our concern over potential adverse impacts stemming from the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project. Established in 1977, CPF is the only statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of California's diverse cultural and architectural heritage. CPF works with its extensive network of 1,500 members to provide statewide leadership, advocacy, and education.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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SECRETARY
Diane Kane, PhD, *La Jolla*
PAST PRESIDENT
Christine Fedukowski, *Pasadena*

The Beach Chalet Soccer fields are located at the western terminus of Golden Gate Park. Designed in 1871 by William Hammond Hall, Golden Gate Park is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as an important historic landscape under Criterion C (Design) at the national level of significance in the area of landscape architecture, and under Criterion A (Event) at the regional level of significance in the area of recreation and social history. The construction of the Beach Chalet Recreational fields in the 1930s had relatively little impact to the naturalistic meadows and woodlands. Other contributing features to the western half of the park include the restroom building from the 1930s and the tree windbreak at the western edge of the park.

Ray Adamyk, *Pomona*
Robert Imber, *Palm Springs*
Lydia Kremer, *Palm Springs*
David Marshall, AIA, *San Diego*
Gil Mathew, *Grass Valley*
Amy Minter, Esq., *Los Angeles*
Deborah Rosenthal, Esq., *Costa Mesa*
Kurt Schindler, AIA, *Berkeley*
Carolyn Searls, PE, *San Francisco*
Kelly Sutherland-McLeod, AIA, *Long Beach*
Julianne Polanco, *San Francisco*
Richard Sucre, *San Francisco*
Sally Zarnowitz, AIA, *Berkeley*

The currently proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex project would replace the existing grass field with up to seven and half acres of artificial turf; erect 60 foot light posts and 4 - 18 foot tall fencing around the soccer fields; remove a number of trees and tall shrubs; add paved pathways; and expand the existing parking lot. These new elements are out of character with the historic design intent of the western end of Golden Gate Park. The proposed improvements would significantly diminish the existing naturalistic character of the park's cultural landscape. Also of concern are potential impacts to surrounding historic resources including the Beach Chalet (San Francisco City Landmark #179), Murphy's Windmill and Millwright Cottage (San Francisco Landmark # 210), the Dutch Windmill (San Francisco City Landmark #147).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Cindy L. Heitzman

The Golden Gate Park Master Plan adopted in 1998 recommends that the original design of the park guide decisions about new projects. The Master Plan improvements to the western end of the park include improvement to the landscaping, continued reforestation of the western windbreak, addition of a grass soccer field, and restoration and rehabilitation for the windmills, Millwright's House and the Beach Chalet. It does not include the complete renovation of the soccer fields or introduction of artificial elements into the landscape.

The addition of the 60 foot light poles and the tall fencing would create a visual impact as both would be visible from the surrounding park area. The trees in that area are short, due to the strong winds that blow in off the Pacific Ocean, and provide little screening.

Night lighting of the soccer field is in conflict with Park Master Plan, which states "[p]ark lighting should not detract visually or physically from the character of the park." The Beach Chalet restaurant is a night use area, but the fields are not.

The Final Environmental Impact Report finds that the proposed improvements for the Beach Chalet Soccer Field would cause a significant adverse impact on a historic resource under the CEQA. The Hybrid Alternative should be considered because it includes renovation of the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no additional lighting. It includes the renovation of the nearby West Sunset Playground with artificial turf and lighting that is appropriate to that neighborhood. This would increase the hours of play for children while protecting the historic naturalistic character of Golden Gate Park and the enjoyment of Ocean Beach for everyone.

We hope that you will direct the City to protect Golden Gate Park and seriously consider either the Hybrid Alternative or using available funds to fix up other playing fields in San Francisco for increased use.

CPF encourages the Commission to work with all parties involved to develop sensitive improvements that maintain the historic character of Golden Gate Park. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at cheitzman@californiapreservation.org or by phone at 415-495-0349.

Sincerely,

Cindy Heitzman
Executive Director

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

HAIGHT-ASHBURY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. Box 170518 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94117 WWW.HANC-SF.ORG

April 2, 2013

Kevin Bayuk
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Ms. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
North Central Coast District Office
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

The Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council opposes the installation of artificial turf and sports lighting at the existing soccer fields located at the west end of Golden Gate Park, commonly called the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields. This is a development that would be suited to at least one other nearby location that is not in Golden Gate Park and not adjacent to Ocean Beach and the GGNRA.

HANC opposes the development of a soccer complex at the west end of Golden Gate Park for all the reasons that the SF Oceans Edge folks do. It is simply an opportunity for the current San Francisco Recreation & Parks (Rec & Park) administration to further its goal of commercializing our parks.

The western end of Golden Gate Park is supposed to be "wild and natural" as set forth in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Artificial turf and stadium lights are antithetical to this goal! The Sierra Club and Audubon Society have also worked to defeat the use of artificial turf and stadium lights in this location.

In spite of what Rec & Park says, this is a development to attract adult soccer leagues from throughout the Bay Area (who will pay!), and not just "for the kids".

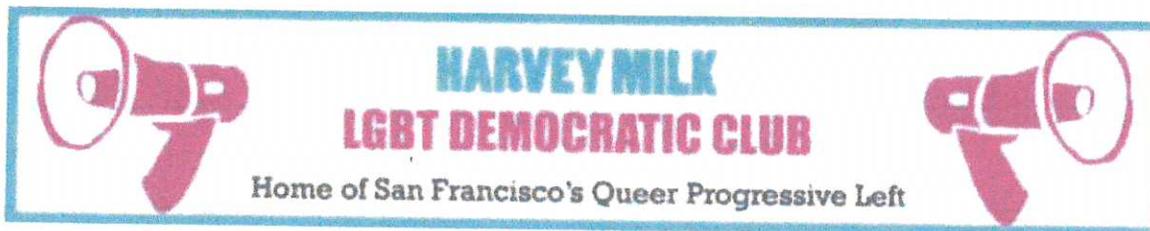
We support the renovation of the soccer fields (which have not been maintained for years) with state of the art gopher proofing AND the siting of the soccer complex at another location outside of GG Park.

Sincerely,



Kevin Bayuk
President

CC: Kevin Kahn
CC: SF Ocean Edge



April 3, 2013

Note: Copy sent to staff

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

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

The Harvey Milk LGBT (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender) Club is opposed to the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project proposed for the western end of Golden Gate Park and urges the California Coastal Commission to recommend that this project be moved to an alternative location.

The Beach Chalet fields are used today by both youth and adults for practice soccer and competitions. When not in use, the fields are habitat for wildlife; in the past, they have also been used for kite flying, picnics, and even a concert! However, this project takes what is currently parkland benefiting all ages and physical abilities, and restricts it to use only by a limited number of people. It is unlikely that anyone will want to picnic on an artificial turf field. Artificial turf cannot be used for activities such as concerts. The loss of the meadow aspect of the park means that folks who come out to the fields to enjoy the parkland as parkland with grass, trees and birds, will no longer be able to enjoy this area as such.

San Francisco has plans to accommodate a higher population. As the number of people increases, they will need more land that is parkland, to counter the increasing dense urban environment. Even now, San Franciscans would like to have more opportunity for outdoor experiences in nature. The Leon Younger & PROS, LLC Recreation Assessment Report (Aug.2004), commissioned by the SF Recreation and Park Department, showed that over 60% of those polled currently participated in visiting nature areas, while only 12% participated in youth soccer, rugby or field hockey. In addition, when asked what programs that participants would take part in more often if available, almost 25% chose visiting nature areas, while only 3% chose youth soccer.

We are also concerned about the installation of stadium and other lighting. At this time, the soccer field area is dark at night. We were stunned to learn that the Beach Chalet project will install over 150,000 watts of light from sunset until 10:00 p.m. 365 days a year. Other lighting will be installed for the parking lot and for the new sidewalks. Our members take their families to Ocean Beach to walk along the Promenade, to view the sunset, to look at the stars, and to sit by the fire rings. This lighting will permanently destroy the beauty of the evening in this area for everyone, young and old.

Night lighting is damaging to wildlife health and especially to birds, affecting nesting, foraging, and migration patterns. Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach are major stops along the western flyway for migratory birds. The artificial turf and new lighting combined turn valuable parkland and wildlife habitat into a paved, lighted, developed and essentially sterile, lifeless site.

www.milkclub.org

While we understand and support the need for youth recreation opportunities, young people need to have the opportunity to experience nature directly and to learn to appreciate and value nature. What is the lesson to our children in destroying habitat for short-term convenience, especially when an alternative is available?

A strong compromise has been proposed -- renovating the soccer field with natural grass and no night lighting, and using the remaining funding to renovate additional playing fields in San Francisco. We hope that the California Coastal Commission will work with the City to implement this compromise, protecting Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach for everyone's use, now and into the future.

Sincerely,
Tom Temprano
President

✓ cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge



SUNSET PARKSIDE EDUCATION AND ACTION COMMITTEE
1329 7th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122-2507
SPEAKSANFRANCISCO@yahoo.com

March 31, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
Cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Madam President and Commissioners,

The Sunset Architectural and Historical Resource Inventory Committee (SAHRIC), a committee of the Sunset Parkside Education and Action Committee (SPEAK) has the following concerns about the proposed Soccer Fields complex at the western edge of Golden Gate Park next to Ocean Beach:

There are four landmark buildings within a few yards of the proposed sports complex. They are the Murphy Windmill, the nearby Millwright's Cottage, the Queen Wilhelmina Windmill and Tulip Gardens, and the Beach Chalet. All four are official City Landmarks. The proximity of these structures to each other is enhanced by a pathway which runs north-south and connects the four landmarks, parallel to the Great Highway. This pathway lies atop what may have been the historic track of the Sutro Railroad which once connected H Street (now Lincoln Way) to the Sutro attractions at the foot of Sutro Heights, such as Playland-at-the-Beach. While this area has not yet been recognized as an historic district, if the Soccer Fields complex is approved, there will be little chance that sufficient historic connectivity and integrity will remain to qualify it as an historic district.

Here are the main points of our concerns of the Soccer Fields Project:

1. the proposed project is the development of an expanded sports facility complex at a nationally recognized site on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP);
2. this project should not be called a renovation: it is an extreme makeover and major expansion which will materially affect the NRHP status;
3. the EIR wrongly treats separately and does not connect the four highly visible landmarks mentioned above; the EIR does not adequately identify and describe them as a potential historic district and does not provide a fully dimensioned map showing the location of the proposed project within the potential landmark district;
4. with the right graphics, it can be demonstrated that the impact of the proposed project would be visually significant; the EIR did not contain adequate graphics or

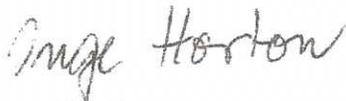
photographs taken in sufficient light and thus the EIR says the project would not be visually significant;

5. an alternative to the proposed project should be developed which would show how a true restoration and renovation would enhance the historic resources. We ask the California Coastal Commission to carefully analyze the renovation of the Playing Fields with natural grass without additional lighting combined with the location of a high intensity sports complex to other areas such as the West Sunset Playing Fields;

6. approval of the project would foreclose any possibility of the West End of Golden Gate Park becoming a San Francisco historic district.

The proposed project will compromise the integrity of the historic buildings and compromise the visual and functional integrity with the increase in activity and hours of operation of the proposed sports facility.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.



Inge Horton
Chair, SAHRIC

Sunset Architectural and Historic Resources Inventory Committee

cc: Commissioners
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner
North Central District
45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122



SF Ocean Edge ©

Where Golden Gate Park meets Ocean Beach . . .

www.sfoceanedge.org

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APR 17 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Commissioner Steve Kraus April 17, 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 Chair Shallenberger and Honorable Commissioners,

Enclosed please find letters of concern from local organizations regarding the Beach Chalet soccer fields project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine Howard, ALSA
Member, Steering Committee
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
✓ cc: Coastal Commissioners
cc: Charles Lester, Executive Director

Attachments:

Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods - representing over 44 neighborhood groups
California Preservation Foundation - SF Office
HANC - Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council
Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club
SPEAK - Sunset, Parkside Education and Action Committee

Coalition for San Francisco



www.csfn.net • PO Box 320098 • San Francisco CA 94132-0098 • 415.262.0440 • Est 1972

April 2, 2013

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

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

The Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN) is a coalition of over 44 neighborhood organizations, formed to communicate San Francisco residents' concerns with land use and other issues. For the last three years, CSFN has been deeply concerned about the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex and the negative impact it would have on Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach.

The Beach Chalet Soccer Complex would introduce highly urbanized artificial fields into Golden Gate Park, destroying the naturalistic character of the western end of the Park. This project would replace natural plantings with proven toxic artificial turf, increase paving in the park in an area that is now completely vegetated, remove many trees that make up the Park's windbreak, and degraded wildlife habitat in the Park and at Ocean Beach. The project would increase traffic to the Park, to Ocean Beach, and through the neighborhoods. The horrendous 150,000 watts of sports lights and the additional pole lights would significantly decrease the darkness of the night sky and infringe on the wild nature of Ocean Beach; in addition, the lighting would have a negative impact on views not only for the neighbors around the area but also for visitors to historic Sutro Park and the Cliff House.

Ocean Beach is where San Franciscans go to watch the sunset, to sit by a fire on the beach, or to gaze at the stars. In sum, this project would change the overall character of the western edge of Golden Gate Park from a sylvan retreat to that of a developed sports complex and destroy the beauty of Ocean Beach.

We urge you to take into account our deeply felt concerns and to direct the City to renovate the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no lighting, and to consider seriously the alternative of West Sunset Playground and other facilities in San Francisco. Many of our playing fields are in need of funding; spending over \$14 million on this one project does not serve our children well. Fixing up Beach Chalet with natural grass and using the rest of the funding elsewhere in San Francisco would serve the children equally well, while preserving the beauty and habitat of Golden Gate Park and of Ocean Beach for future generations.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wuerfel
Chair, Open Space Committee

cc: Commissioners
Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
SF Ocean Edge

Barbary Coast Neighborhood Assn
Bayview/Hunters Point
Coordinating Council
Buena Vista Neighborhood Assn
Cathedral Hill Neighbors Assn
Cayuga Improvement Assn
Cole Valley Improvement Assn
Cow Hollow Assn
Diamond Heights Community Assn
Dolores Heights Improvement Club
East Mission Improvement Assn
Eureka Valley Promotions Assn
Ewing Terrace Neighborhood Assn
Excelsior District Improvement Assn
Fair Oaks Community Coalition
Forest Knolls Neighborhood Assn
Francisco Heights Civic Assn
Golden Gate Heights Nighbd Assn
Greater West Portal Nighbd Assn
Haight Ashbury Improvement Assn
Inner Sunset Action Committee
Jordan Park Improvement Assn
Laurel Heights Improvement Assn
Lincoln Park Homeowners Assn
Marina Civic Improvement &
Property Owners Assn
Miraloma Park Improvement Club
Mission Creek Harbor Assn
New Mission Terrace Improvement Assn
North Beach Neighbors
North Park Neighbors
Oceanview, Merced Heights,
Ingleside — Neighbors in Action
Outer Mission Residents Assn
Pacific Heights Residents Assn
Panhandle Residents Organization/
Stanyan-Fulton
Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Assn
Richmond Community Assn
Rincon Point Neighborhood Assn
Russian Hill Improvement Assn
Russian Hill Neighbors
Sunset Heights Assn of
Responsible People
Sunset-Parkside Education &
Action Committee
Telegraph Hill Dwellers
Twin Peaks Council & Open
Space Conservancy
Twin Peaks Improvement Assn
West Presidio Neighborhood Assn



April 3, 2013

Note: Copy sent to staff

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

RE: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

On behalf of the California Preservation Foundation (CPF), I am writing to express our concern over potential adverse impacts stemming from the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project. Established in 1977, CPF is the only statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of California's diverse cultural and architectural heritage. CPF works with its extensive network of 1,500 members to provide statewide leadership, advocacy, and education.

The Beach Chalet Soccer fields are located at the western terminus of Golden Gate Park. Designed in 1871 by William Hammond Hall, Golden Gate Park is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as an important historic landscape under Criterion C (Design) at the national level of significance in the area of landscape architecture, and under Criterion A (Event) at the regional level of significance in the area of recreation and social history. The construction of the Beach Chalet Recreational fields in the 1930s had relatively little impact to the naturalistic meadows and woodlands. Other contributing features to the western half of the park include the restroom building from the 1930s and the tree windbreak at the western edge of the park.

The currently proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex project would replace the existing grass field with up to seven and half acres of artificial turf; erect 60 foot light posts and 4 - 18 foot tall fencing around the soccer fields; remove a number of trees and tall shrubs; add paved pathways; and expand the existing parking lot. These new elements are out of character with the historic design intent of the western end of Golden Gate Park. The proposed improvements would significantly diminish the existing naturalistic character of the park's cultural landscape. Also of concern are potential impacts to surrounding historic resources including the Beach Chalet (San Francisco City Landmark #179), Murphy's Windmill and Millwright Cottage (San Francisco Landmark # 210), the Dutch Windmill (San Francisco City Landmark #147).

The Golden Gate Park Master Plan adopted in 1998 recommends that the original design of the park guide decisions about new projects. The Master Plan improvements to the western end of the park include improvement to the landscaping, continued reforestation of the western windbreak, addition of a grass soccer field, and restoration and rehabilitation for the windmills, Millwright's House and the Beach Chalet. It does not include the complete renovation of the soccer fields or introduction of artificial elements into the landscape.

5 3RD STREET, SUITE 424
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
94103-3205

415.495.0349 PHONE
415.495.0265 FAX

CPF@CALIFORNIAPRESERVATION.ORG
WWW.CALIFORNIAPRESERVATION.ORG

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Sally Zarnowitz, AIA, *Berkeley*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Cindy L. Heitzman

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Cindy Heitzman
Executive Director

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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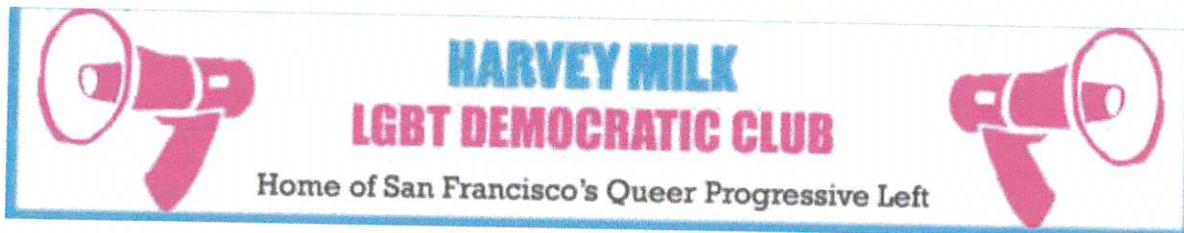
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Sincerely,



Kevin Bayuk
President

CC: Kevin Kahn
CC: SF Ocean Edge



April 3, 2013

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

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Sincerely,
Tom Temprano
President

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge



SUNSET PARKSIDE EDUCATION AND ACTION COMMITTEE
1329 7th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122-2507
SPEAKSANFRANCISCO@yahoo.com

March 31, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
Cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

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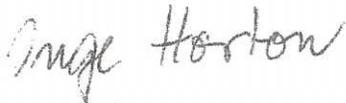
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3. the EIR wrongly treats separately and does not connect the four highly visible landmarks mentioned above; the EIR does not adequately identify and describe them as a potential historic district and does not provide a fully dimensioned map showing the location of the proposed project within the potential landmark district;
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photographs taken in sufficient light and thus the EIR says the project would not be visually significant;

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The proposed project will compromise the integrity of the historic buildings and compromise the visual and functional integrity with the increase in activity and hours of operation of the proposed sports facility.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.



Inge Horton
Chair, SAHRIC
Sunset Architectural and Historic Resources Inventory Committee

cc: Commissioners
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45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner
North Central District
45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122



SF Ocean Edge ©

Where Golden Gate Park meets Ocean Beach . . .

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April 17, 2013

APR 17 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Commissioner Belinda Faustinos
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 Chair Shallenberger and Honorable Commissioners,

Enclosed please find letters of concern from local organizations regarding the Beach Chalet soccer fields project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine Howard, ALSA
Member, Steering Committee
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
cc: Coastal Commissioners
cc: Charles Lester, Executive Director

Attachments:

Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods - representing over 44 neighborhood groups
California Preservation Foundation - SF Office
HANC - Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council
Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club
SPEAK - Sunset, Parkside Education and Action Committee

Coalition for San Francisco



Neighborhoods

www.csfm.net • PO Box 320098 • San Francisco CA 94132-0098 • 415.262.0440 • Est 1972

April 2, 2013

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

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

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The Beach Chalet Soccer Complex would introduce highly urbanized artificial fields into Golden Gate Park, destroying the naturalistic character of the western end of the Park. This project would replace natural plantings with proven toxic artificial turf, increase paving in the park in an area that is now completely vegetated, remove many trees that make up the Park's windbreak, and degraded wildlife habitat in the Park and at Ocean Beach. The project would increase traffic to the Park, to Ocean Beach, and through the neighborhoods. The horrendous 150,000 watts of sports lights and the additional pole lights would significantly decrease the darkness of the night sky and infringe on the wild nature of Ocean Beach; in addition, the lighting would have a negative impact on views not only for the neighbors around the area but also for visitors to historic Sutro Park and the Cliff House.

Ocean Beach is where San Franciscans go to watch the sunset, to sit by a fire on the beach, or to gaze at the stars. In sum, this project would change the overall character of the western edge of Golden Gate Park from a sylvan retreat to that of a developed sports complex and destroy the beauty of Ocean Beach.

We urge you to take into account our deeply felt concerns and to direct the City to renovate the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no lighting, and to consider seriously the alternative of West Sunset Playground and other facilities in San Francisco. Many of our playing fields are in need of funding; spending over \$14 million on this one project does not serve our children well. Fixing up Beach Chalet with natural grass and using the rest of the funding elsewhere in San Francisco would serve the children equally well, while preserving the beauty and habitat of Golden Gate Park and of Ocean Beach for future generations.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wuerfel
Chair, Open Space Committee

cc: Commissioners
Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
SF Ocean Edge

Barbary Coast Neighborhood Assn
Bayview/Hunters Point
Coordinating Council
Buena Vista Neighborhood Assn
Cathedral Hill Neighbors Assn
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North Beach Neighbors
North Park Neighbors
Oceanview, Merced Heights,
Ingleside — Neighbors in Action
Outer Mission Residents Assn
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Telegraph Hill Dwellers
Twin Peaks Council & Open
Space Conservancy
Twin Peaks Improvement Assn
West Presidio Neighborhood Assn



April 3, 2013

Note: Copy sent to staff

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

RE: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

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The Beach Chalet Soccer fields are located at the western terminus of Golden Gate Park. Designed in 1871 by William Hammond Hall, Golden Gate Park is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as an important historic landscape under Criterion C (Design) at the national level of significance in the area of landscape architecture, and under Criterion A (Event) at the regional level of significance in the area of recreation and social history. The construction of the Beach Chalet Recreational fields in the 1930s had relatively little impact to the naturalistic meadows and woodlands. Other contributing features to the western half of the park include the restroom building from the 1930s and the tree windbreak at the western edge of the park.

The currently proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex project would replace the existing grass field with up to seven and half acres of artificial turf; erect 60 foot light posts and 4 - 18 foot tall fencing around the soccer fields; remove a number of trees and tall shrubs; add paved pathways; and expand the existing parking lot. These new elements are out of character with the historic design intent of the western end of Golden Gate Park. The proposed improvements would significantly diminish the existing naturalistic character of the park's cultural landscape. Also of concern are potential impacts to surrounding historic resources including the Beach Chalet (San Francisco City Landmark #179), Murphy's Windmill and Millwright Cottage (San Francisco Landmark # 210), the Dutch Windmill (San Francisco City Landmark #147).

The Golden Gate Park Master Plan adopted in 1998 recommends that the original design of the park guide decisions about new projects. The Master Plan improvements to the western end of the park include improvement to the landscaping, continued reforestation of the western windbreak, addition of a grass soccer field, and restoration and rehabilitation for the windmills, Millwright's House and the Beach Chalet. It does not include the complete renovation of the soccer fields or introduction of artificial elements into the landscape.

5 3RD STREET, SUITE 424
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
94103-3205

415.495.0349 PHONE
415.495.0265 FAX

CPF@CALIFORNIAPRESERVATION.ORG
WWW.CALIFORNIAPRESERVATION.ORG

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Cindy L. Heitzman

The addition of the 60 foot light poles and the tall fencing would create a visual impact as both would be visible from the surrounding park area. The trees in that area are short, due to the strong winds that blow in off the Pacific Ocean, and provide little screening.

Night lighting of the soccer field is in conflict with Park Master Plan, which states "[p]ark lighting should not detract visually or physically from the character of the park." The Beach Chalet restaurant is a night use area, but the fields are not.

The Final Environmental Impact Report finds that the proposed improvements for the Beach Chalet Soccer Field would cause a significant adverse impact on a historic resource under the CEQA. The Hybrid Alternative should be considered because it includes renovation of the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no additional lighting. It includes the renovation of the nearby West Sunset Playground with artificial turf and lighting that is appropriate to that neighborhood. This would increase the hours of play for children while protecting the historic naturalistic character of Golden Gate Park and the enjoyment of Ocean Beach for everyone.

We hope that you will direct the City to protect Golden Gate Park and seriously consider either the Hybrid Alternative or using available funds to fix up other playing fields in San Francisco for increased use.

CPF encourages the Commission to work with all parties involved to develop sensitive improvements that maintain the historic character of Golden Gate Park. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at cheitzman@californiapreservation.org or by phone at 415-495-0349.

Sincerely,

Cindy Heitzman
Executive Director

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

HAIGHT-ASHBURY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. Box 170518 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94117 WWW.HANC-SF.ORG

April 2, 2013

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Vice President

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Corresponding Secretary

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Burt Phillips

Michael Behrens

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

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

The Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council opposes the installation of artificial turf and sports lighting at the existing soccer fields located at the west end of Golden Gate Park, commonly called the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields. This is a development that would be suited to at least one other nearby location that is not in Golden Gate Park and not adjacent to Ocean Beach and the GGNRA.

HANC opposes the development of a soccer complex at the west end of Golden Gate Park for all the reasons that the SF Oceans Edge folks do. It is simply an opportunity for the current San Francisco Recreation & Parks (Rec & Park) administration to further its goal of commercializing our parks.

The western end of Golden Gate Park is supposed to be "wild and natural" as set forth in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Artificial turf and stadium lights are antithetical to this goal! The Sierra Club and Audubon Society have also worked to defeat the use of artificial turf and stadium lights in this location.

In spite of what Rec & Park says, this is a development to attract adult soccer leagues from throughout the Bay Area (who will pay!), and not just "for the kids".

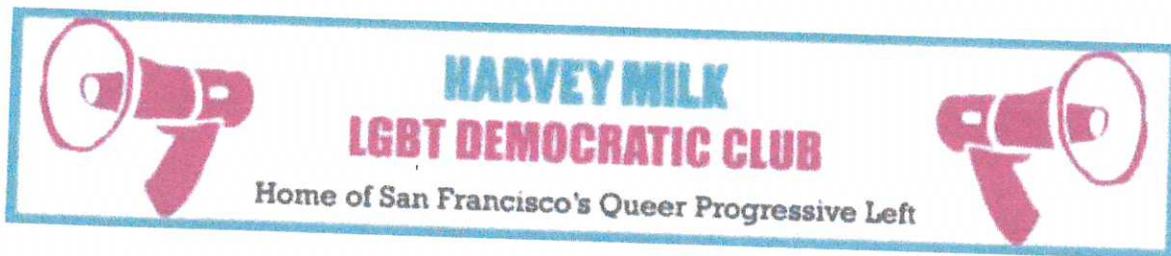
We support the renovation of the soccer fields (which have not been maintained for years) with state of the art gopher proofing AND the siting of the soccer complex at another location outside of GG Park.

Sincerely,



Kevin Bayuk
President

CC: Kevin Kahn
CC: SF Ocean Edge



April 3, 2013

Note: Copy sent to staff

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

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

The Harvey Milk LGBT (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender) Club is opposed to the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project proposed for the western end of Golden Gate Park and urges the California Coastal Commission to recommend that this project be moved to an alternative location.

The Beach Chalet fields are used today by both youth and adults for practice soccer and competitions. When not in use, the fields are habitat for wildlife; in the past, they have also been used for kite flying, picnics, and even a concert! However, this project takes what is currently parkland benefiting all ages and physical abilities, and restricts it to use only by a limited number of people. It is unlikely that anyone will want to picnic on an artificial turf field. Artificial turf cannot be used for activities such as concerts. The loss of the meadow aspect of the park means that folks who come out to the fields to enjoy the parkland as parkland with grass, trees and birds, will no longer be able to enjoy this area as such.

San Francisco has plans to accommodate a higher population. As the number of people increases, they will need more land that is parkland, to counter the increasing dense urban environment. Even now, San Franciscans would like to have more opportunity for outdoor experiences in nature. The Leon Younger & PROS, LLC Recreation Assessment Report (Aug. 2004), commissioned by the SF Recreation and Park Department, showed that over 60% of those polled currently participated in visiting nature areas, while only 12% participated in youth soccer, rugby or field hockey. In addition, when asked what programs that participants would take part in more often if available, almost 25% chose visiting nature areas, while only 3% chose youth soccer.

We are also concerned about the installation of stadium and other lighting. At this time, the soccer field area is dark at night. We were stunned to learn that the Beach Chalet project will install over 150,000 watts of light from sunset until 10:00 p.m. 365 days a year. Other lighting will be installed for the parking lot and for the new sidewalks. Our members take their families to Ocean Beach to walk along the Promenade, to view the sunset, to look at the stars, and to sit by the fire rings. This lighting will permanently destroy the beauty of the evening in this area for everyone, young and old.

Night lighting is damaging to wildlife health and especially to birds, affecting nesting, foraging, and migration patterns. Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach are major stops along the western flyway for migratory birds. The artificial turf and new lighting combined turn valuable parkland and wildlife habitat into a paved, lighted, developed and essentially sterile, lifeless site.

www.milkclub.org



SUNSET PARKSIDE EDUCATION AND ACTION COMMITTEE
1329 7th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122-2507
SPEAKSANFRANCISCO@yahoo.com

March 31, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
Cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Madam President and Commissioners,

The Sunset Architectural and Historical Resource Inventory Committee (SAHRIC), a committee of the Sunset Parkside Education and Action Committee (SPEAK) has the following concerns about the proposed Soccer Fields complex at the western edge of Golden Gate Park next to Ocean Beach:

There are four landmark buildings within a few yards of the proposed sports complex. They are the Murphy Windmill, the nearby Millwright's Cottage, the Queen Wilhelmina Windmill and Tulip Gardens, and the Beach Chalet. All four are official City Landmarks. The proximity of these structures to each other is enhanced by a pathway which runs north-south and connects the four landmarks, parallel to the Great Highway. This pathway lies atop what may have been the historic track of the Sutro Railroad which once connected H Street (now Lincoln Way) to the Sutro attractions at the foot of Sutro Heights, such as Playland-at-the-Beach. While this area has not yet been recognized as an historic district, if the Soccer Fields complex is approved, there will be little chance that sufficient historic connectivity and integrity will remain to qualify it as an historic district.

Here are the main points of our concerns of the Soccer Fields Project:

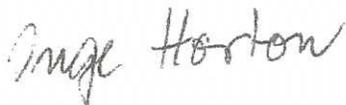
1. the proposed project is the development of an expanded sports facility complex at a nationally recognized site on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP);
2. this project should not be called a renovation: it is an extreme makeover and major expansion which will materially affect the NRHP status;
3. the EIR wrongly treats separately and does not connect the four highly visible landmarks mentioned above; the EIR does not adequately identify and describe them as a potential historic district and does not provide a fully dimensioned map showing the location of the proposed project within the potential landmark district;
4. with the right graphics, it can be demonstrated that the impact of the proposed project would be visually significant; the EIR did not contain adequate graphics or

photographs taken in sufficient light and thus the EIR says the project would not be visually significant;

5. an alternative to the proposed project should be developed which would show how a true restoration and renovation would enhance the historic resources. We ask the California Coastal Commission to carefully analyze the renovation of the Playing Fields with natural grass without additional lighting combined with the location of a high intensity sports complex to other areas such as the West Sunset Playing Fields;
6. approval of the project would foreclose any possibility of the West End of Golden Gate Park becoming a San Francisco historic district.

The proposed project will compromise the integrity of the historic buildings and compromise the visual and functional integrity with the increase in activity and hours of operation of the proposed sports facility.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.



Inge Horton
Chair, SAHRIC
Sunset Architectural and Historic Resources Inventory Committee

cc: Commissioners
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner
North Central District
45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122



SF Ocean Edge ©

Where Golden Gate Park meets Ocean Beach . . .
www.sfoceanedge.org

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APR 17 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Commissioner Dr. Clark Parker April 17, 2013

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

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Sincerely,

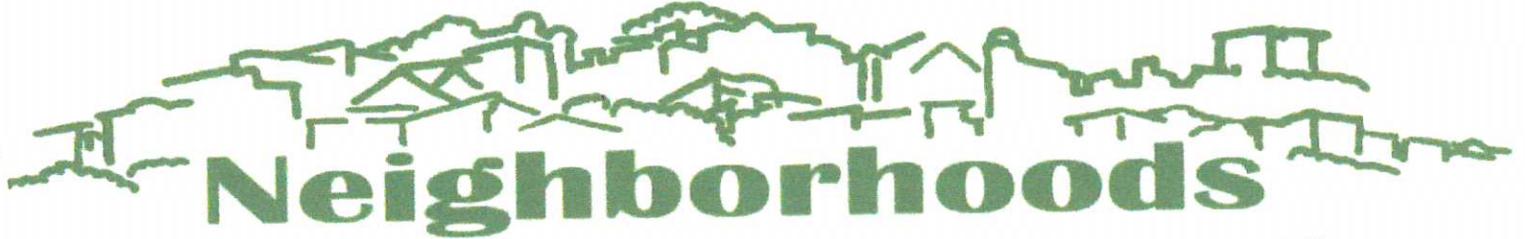
Katherine Howard, ALSA
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cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
cc: Coastal Commissioners
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April 3, 2013

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Cindy L. Heitzman

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Sincerely,

Cindy Heitzman
Executive Director

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

HAIGHT-ASHBURY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. Box 170518 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94117 WWW.HANC-SF.ORG

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HANC opposes the development of a soccer complex at the west end of Golden Gate Park for all the reasons that the SF Oceans Edge folks do. It is simply an opportunity for the current San Francisco Recreation & Parks (Rec & Park) administration to further its goal of commercializing our parks.

The western end of Golden Gate Park is supposed to be "wild and natural" as set forth in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Artificial turf and stadium lights are antithetical to this goal! The Sierra Club and Audubon Society have also worked to defeat the use of artificial turf and stadium lights in this location.

In spite of what Rec & Park says, this is a development to attract adult soccer leagues from throughout the Bay Area (who will pay!), and not just "for the kids".

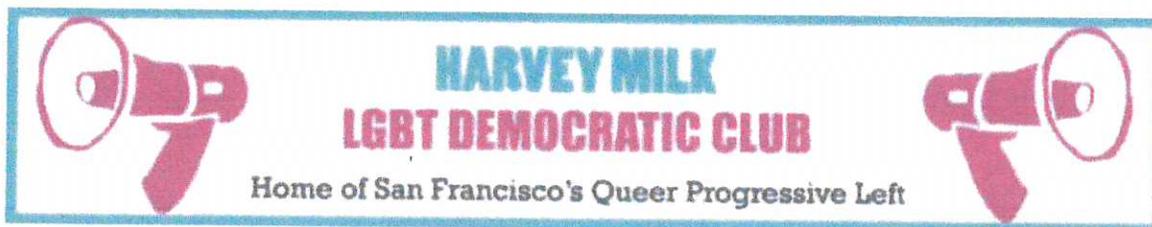
We support the renovation of the soccer fields (which have not been maintained for years) with state of the art gopher proofing AND the siting of the soccer complex at another location outside of GG Park.

Sincerely,



Kevin Bayuk
President

CC: Kevin Kahn
CC: SF Ocean Edge



April 3, 2013

Note: Copy sent to staff

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

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

The Harvey Milk LGBT (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender) Club is opposed to the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project proposed for the western end of Golden Gate Park and urges the California Coastal Commission to recommend that this project be moved to an alternative location.

The Beach Chalet fields are used today by both youth and adults for practice soccer and competitions. When not in use, the fields are habitat for wildlife; in the past, they have also been used for kite flying, picnics, and even a concert! However, this project takes what is currently parkland benefiting all ages and physical abilities, and restricts it to use only by a limited number of people. It is unlikely that anyone will want to picnic on an artificial turf field. Artificial turf cannot be used for activities such as concerts. The loss of the meadow aspect of the park means that folks who come out to the fields to enjoy the parkland as parkland with grass, trees and birds, will no longer be able to enjoy this area as such.

San Francisco has plans to accommodate a higher population. As the number of people increases, they will need more land that is parkland, to counter the increasing dense urban environment. Even now, San Franciscans would like to have more opportunity for outdoor experiences in nature. The Leon Younger & PROS, LLC Recreation Assessment Report (Aug.2004), commissioned by the SF Recreation and Park Department, showed that over 60% of those polled currently participated in visiting nature areas, while only 12% participated in youth soccer, rugby or field hockey. In addition, when asked what programs that participants would take part in more often if available, almost 25% chose visiting nature areas, while only 3% chose youth soccer.

We are also concerned about the installation of stadium and other lighting. At this time, the soccer field area is dark at night. We were stunned to learn that the Beach Chalet project will install over 150,000 watts of light from sunset until 10:00 p.m. 365 days a year. Other lighting will be installed for the parking lot and for the new sidewalks. Our members take their families to Ocean Beach to walk along the Promenade, to view the sunset, to look at the stars, and to sit by the fire rings. This lighting will permanently destroy the beauty of the evening in this area for everyone, young and old.

Night lighting is damaging to wildlife health and especially to birds, affecting nesting, foraging, and migration patterns. Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach are major stops along the western flyway for migratory birds. The artificial turf and new lighting combined turn valuable parkland and wildlife habitat into a paved, lighted, developed and essentially sterile, lifeless site.

www.milkclub.org

While we understand and support the need for youth recreation opportunities, young people need to have the opportunity to experience nature directly and to learn to appreciate and value nature. What is the lesson to our children in destroying habitat for short-term convenience, especially when an alternative is available?

A strong compromise has been proposed -- renovating the soccer field with natural grass and no night lighting, and using the remaining funding to renovate additional playing fields in San Francisco. We hope that the California Coastal Commission will work with the City to implement this compromise, protecting Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach for everyone's use, now and into the future.

Sincerely,
Tom Temprano
President

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge



SUNSET PARKSIDE EDUCATION AND ACTION COMMITTEE
1329 7th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122-2507
SPEAKSANFRANCISCO@yahoo.com

March 31, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
Cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Madam President and Commissioners,

The Sunset Architectural and Historical Resource Inventory Committee (SAHRIC), a committee of the Sunset Parkside Education and Action Committee (SPEAK) has the following concerns about the proposed Soccer Fields complex at the western edge of Golden Gate Park next to Ocean Beach:

There are four landmark buildings within a few yards of the proposed sports complex. They are the Murphy Windmill, the nearby Millwright's Cottage, the Queen Wilhelmina Windmill and Tulip Gardens, and the Beach Chalet. All four are official City Landmarks. The proximity of these structures to each other is enhanced by a pathway which runs north-south and connects the four landmarks, parallel to the Great Highway. This pathway lies atop what may have been the historic track of the Sutro Railroad which once connected H Street (now Lincoln Way) to the Sutro attractions at the foot of Sutro Heights, such as Playland-at-the-Beach. While this area has not yet been recognized as an historic district, if the Soccer Fields complex is approved, there will be little chance that sufficient historic connectivity and integrity will remain to qualify it as an historic district.

Here are the main points of our concerns of the Soccer Fields Project:

1. the proposed project is the development of an expanded sports facility complex at a nationally recognized site on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP);
2. this project should not be called a renovation: it is an extreme makeover and major expansion which will materially affect the NRHP status;
3. the EIR wrongly treats separately and does not connect the four highly visible landmarks mentioned above; the EIR does not adequately identify and describe them as a potential historic district and does not provide a fully dimensioned map showing the location of the proposed project within the potential landmark district;
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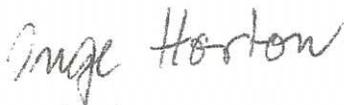
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5. an alternative to the proposed project should be developed which would show how a true restoration and renovation would enhance the historic resources. We ask the California Coastal Commission to carefully analyze the renovation of the Playing Fields with natural grass without additional lighting combined with the location of a high intensity sports complex to other areas such as the West Sunset Playing Fields;

6. approval of the project would foreclose any possibility of the West End of Golden Gate Park becoming a San Francisco historic district.

The proposed project will compromise the integrity of the historic buildings and compromise the visual and functional integrity with the increase in activity and hours of operation of the proposed sports facility.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.



Inge Horton
Chair, SAHRIC
Sunset Architectural and Historic Resources Inventory Committee

cc: Commissioners
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner
North Central District
45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122



SF Ocean Edge ©

Where Golden Gate Park meets Ocean Beach . . .

www.sfoceanedge.org

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APR 17 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 17, 2013

Commissioner James Wickott

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 Chair Shallenberger and Honorable Commissioners,

Enclosed please find letters of concern from local organizations regarding the Beach Chalet soccer fields project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine Howard

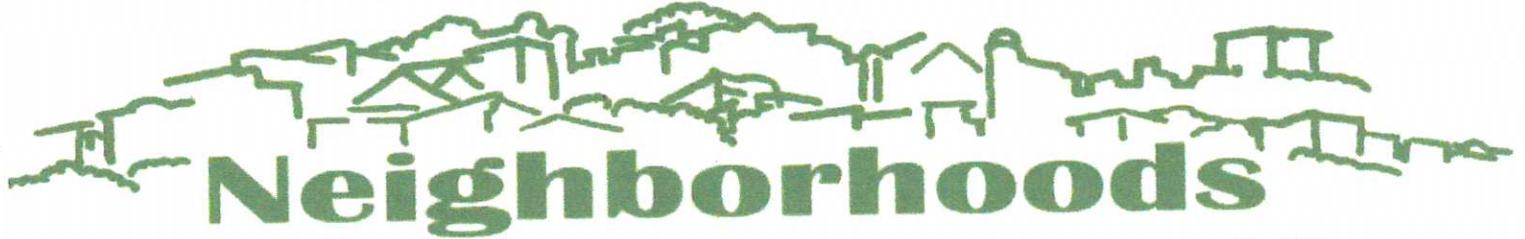
Katherine Howard, ALSA
Member, Steering Committee
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
cc: Coastal Commissioners
cc: Charles Lester, Executive Director

Attachments:

Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods - representing over 44 neighborhood groups
California Preservation Foundation - SF Office
HANC - Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council
Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club
SPEAK - Sunset, Parkside Education and Action Committee

Coalition for San Francisco



Neighborhoods

www.csfn.net • PO Box 320098 • San Francisco CA 94132-0098 • 415.262.0440 • Est 1972

April 2, 2013

President

Judith Berkowitz 415.824.0617

1st Vice President

Penelope Clark 776.3876

2nd Vice President

Angelique Mahan 334.7131

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Demian Quesnel 861.5084

Corresponding Secretary

Dick Millet 861.0345

Treasurer

Jim Lew 771.5250

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Sue Cauthen

Lorraine Lucas

Gary Noguera

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

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

The Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods (CSFN) is a coalition of over 44 neighborhood organizations, formed to communicate San Francisco residents' concerns with land use and other issues. For the last three years, CSFN has been deeply concerned about the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex and the negative impact it would have on Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach.

The Beach Chalet Soccer Complex would introduce highly urbanized artificial fields into Golden Gate Park, destroying the naturalistic character of the western end of the Park. This project would replace natural plantings with proven toxic artificial turf, increase paving in the park in an area that is now completely vegetated, remove many trees that make up the Park's windbreak, and degraded wildlife habitat in the Park and at Ocean Beach. The project would increase traffic to the Park, to Ocean Beach, and through the neighborhoods. The horrendous 150,000 watts of sports lights and the additional pole lights would significantly decrease the darkness of the night sky and infringe on the wild nature of Ocean Beach; in addition, the lighting would have a negative impact on views not only for the neighbors around the area but also for visitors to historic Sutro Park and the Cliff House.

Ocean Beach is where San Franciscans go to watch the sunset, to sit by a fire on the beach, or to gaze at the stars. In sum, this project would change the overall character of the western edge of Golden Gate Park from a sylvan retreat to that of a developed sports complex and destroy the beauty of Ocean Beach.

We urge you to take into account our deeply felt concerns and to direct the City to renovate the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no lighting, and to consider seriously the alternative of West Sunset Playground and other facilities in San Francisco. Many of our playing fields are in need of funding; spending over \$14 million on this one project does not serve our children well. Fixing up Beach Chalet with natural grass and using the rest of the funding elsewhere in San Francisco would serve the children equally well, while preserving the beauty and habitat of Golden Gate Park and of Ocean Beach for future generations.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wuerfel
Chair, Open Space Committee

cc: Commissioners
Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

Barbary Coast Neighborhood Assn
Bayview/Hunters Point
Coordinating Council
Buena Vista Neighborhood Assn
Cathedral Hill Neighbors Assn
Cayuga Improvement Assn
Cole Valley Improvement Assn
Cow Hollow Assn
Diamond Heights Community Assn
Dolores Heights Improvement Club
East Mission Improvement Assn
Eureka Valley Promotions Assn
Ewing Terrace Neighborhood Assn
Excelsior District Improvement Assn
Fair Oaks Community Coalition
Forest Knolls Neighborhood Assn
Francisco Heights Civic Assn
Golden Gate Heights Nghbrd Assn
Greater West Portal Nghbrd Assn
Haight Ashbury Improvement Assn
Inner Sunset Action Committee
Jordan Park Improvement Assn
Laurel Heights Improvement Assn
Lincoln Park Homeowners Assn
Marina Civic Improvement &
Property Owners Assn
Miraloma Park Improvement Club
Mission Creek Harbor Assn
New Mission Terrace Improvement Assn
North Beach Neighbors
North Park Neighbors
Oceanview, Merced Heights,
Ingleside — Neighbors in Action
Outer Mission Residents Assn
Pacific Heights Residents Assn
Panhandle Residents Organization/
Stanyan-Fulton
Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Assn
Richmond Community Assn
Rincon Point Neighborhood Assn
Russian Hill Improvement Assn
Russian Hill Neighbors
Sunset Heights Assn of
Responsible People
Sunset-Parkside Education &
Action Committee
Telegraph Hill Dwellers
Twin Peaks Council & Open
Space Conservancy
Twin Peaks Improvement Assn
West Presidio Neighborhood Assn



CALIFORNIA
PRESERVATION
FOUNDATION

April 3, 2013

Note: Copy sent to staff

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

5 3RD STREET, SUITE 424
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
94103-3205

415.495.0349 PHONE
415.495.0265 FAX

CPF@CALIFORNIAPRESERVATION.ORG
WWW.CALIFORNIAPRESERVATION.ORG

RE: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

On behalf of the California Preservation Foundation (CPF), I am writing to express our concern over potential adverse impacts stemming from the proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project. Established in 1977, CPF is the only statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation of California's diverse cultural and architectural heritage. CPF works with its extensive network of 1,500 members to provide statewide leadership, advocacy, and education.

The Beach Chalet Soccer fields are located at the western terminus of Golden Gate Park. Designed in 1871 by William Hammond Hall, Golden Gate Park is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as an important historic landscape under Criterion C (Design) at the national level of significance in the area of landscape architecture, and under Criterion A (Event) at the regional level of significance in the area of recreation and social history. The construction of the Beach Chalet Recreational fields in the 1930s had relatively little impact to the naturalistic meadows and woodlands. Other contributing features to the western half of the park include the restroom building from the 1930s and the tree windbreak at the western edge of the park.

The currently proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex project would replace the existing grass field with up to seven and half acres of artificial turf; erect 60 foot light posts and 4 - 18 foot tall fencing around the soccer fields; remove a number of trees and tall shrubs; add paved pathways; and expand the existing parking lot. These new elements are out of character with the historic design intent of the western end of Golden Gate Park. The proposed improvements would significantly diminish the existing naturalistic character of the park's cultural landscape. Also of concern are potential impacts to surrounding historic resources including the Beach Chalet (San Francisco City Landmark # 179), Murphy's Windmill and Millwright Cottage (San Francisco Landmark # 210), the Dutch Windmill (San Francisco City Landmark # 147).

The Golden Gate Park Master Plan adopted in 1998 recommends that the original design of the park guide decisions about new projects. The Master Plan improvements to the western end of the park include improvement to the landscaping, continued reforestation of the western windbreak, addition of a grass soccer field, and restoration and rehabilitation for the windmills, Millwright's House and the Beach Chalet. It does not include the complete renovation of the soccer fields or introduction of artificial elements into the landscape.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Cindy L. Heitzman

The addition of the 60 foot light poles and the tall fencing would create a visual impact as both would be visible from the surrounding park area. The trees in that area are short, due to the strong winds that blow in off the Pacific Ocean, and provide little screening.

Night lighting of the soccer field is in conflict with Park Master Plan, which states "[p]ark lighting should not detract visually or physically from the character of the park." The Beach Chalet restaurant is a night use area, but the fields are not.

The Final Environmental Impact Report finds that the proposed improvements for the Beach Chalet Soccer Field would cause a significant adverse impact on a historic resource under the CEQA. The Hybrid Alternative should be considered because it includes renovation of the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no additional lighting. It includes the renovation of the nearby West Sunset Playground with artificial turf and lighting that is appropriate to that neighborhood. This would increase the hours of play for children while protecting the historic naturalistic character of Golden Gate Park and the enjoyment of Ocean Beach for everyone.

We hope that you will direct the City to protect Golden Gate Park and seriously consider either the Hybrid Alternative or using available funds to fix up other playing fields in San Francisco for increased use.

CPF encourages the Commission to work with all parties involved to develop sensitive improvements that maintain the historic character of Golden Gate Park. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at cheitzman@californiapreservation.org or by phone at 415-495-0349.

Sincerely,

Cindy Heitzman
Executive Director

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

HAIGHT-ASHBURY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. Box 170518 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 941 17 WWW.HANC-SF.ORG

April 2, 2013

Kevin Bayuk
President

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Vice President

Robert Leon
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Housing and Land Use Chair

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Burt Phillips

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

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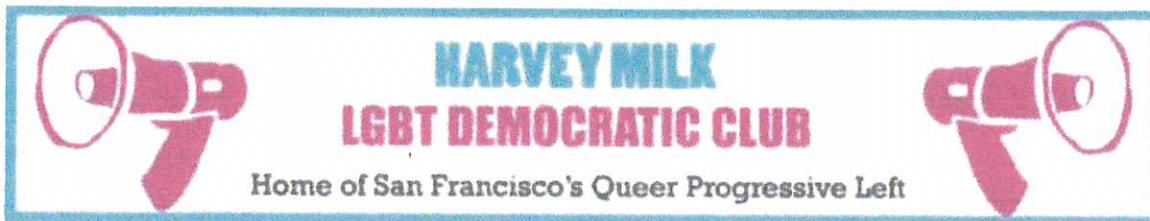
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Kevin Bayuk
President

CC: Kevin Kahn
CC: SF Ocean Edge



April 3, 2013

Note: Copy sent to staff

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

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

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Tom Temprano
President

✓ cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge



SUNSET PARKSIDE EDUCATION AND ACTION COMMITTEE
1329 7th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122-2507
SPEAKSANFRANCISCO@yahoo.com

March 31, 2013

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California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
Cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn

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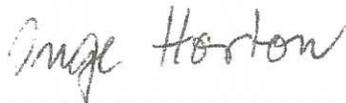
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Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.



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Chair, SAHRIC
Sunset Architectural and Historic Resources Inventory Committee

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45 Fremont Street, #2000
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- cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner
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SF Ocean Edge ©

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Commissioner Regula

April 17, 2013

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

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APR 17 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

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Thank you for your consideration.

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Member, Steering Committee
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
cc: Coastal Commissioners
cc: Charles Lester, Executive Director

Attachments:

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Coalition for San Francisco



Neighborhoods

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The Beach Chalet Soccer Complex would introduce highly urbanized artificial fields into Golden Gate Park, destroying the naturalistic character of the western end of the Park. This project would replace natural plantings with proven toxic artificial turf, increase paving in the park in an area that is now completely vegetated, remove many trees that make up the Park's windbreak, and degraded wildlife habitat in the Park and at Ocean Beach. The project would increase traffic to the Park, to Ocean Beach, and through the neighborhoods. The horrendous 150,000 watts of sports lights and the additional pole lights would significantly decrease the darkness of the night sky and infringe on the wild nature of Ocean Beach; in addition, the lighting would have a negative impact on views not only for the neighbors around the area but also for visitors to historic Sutro Park and the Cliff House.

Ocean Beach is where San Franciscans go to watch the sunset, to sit by a fire on the beach, or to gaze at the stars. In sum, this project would change the overall character of the western edge of Golden Gate Park from a sylvan retreat to that of a developed sports complex and destroy the beauty of Ocean Beach.

We urge you to take into account our deeply felt concerns and to direct the City to renovate the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no lighting, and to consider seriously the alternative of West Sunset Playground and other facilities in San Francisco. Many of our playing fields are in need of funding; spending over \$14 million on this one project does not serve our children well. Fixing up Beach Chalet with natural grass and using the rest of the funding elsewhere in San Francisco would serve the children equally well, while preserving the beauty and habitat of Golden Gate Park and of Ocean Beach for future generations.

Sincerely,

Nancy Wuerfel
Chair, Open Space Committee

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

Barbary Coast Neighborhood Assn
Bayview/Hunters Point
Coordinating Council
Buena Vista Neighborhood Assn
Cathedral Hill Neighbors Assn
Cayuga Improvement Assn
Cole Valley Improvement Assn
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Twin Peaks Council & Open
Space Conservancy
Twin Peaks Improvement Assn
West Presidio Neighborhood Assn



CALIFORNIA
PRESERVATION
FOUNDATION

April 3, 2013

Note: Copy sent to staff

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

RE: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

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The currently proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex project would replace the existing grass field with up to seven and half acres of artificial turf; erect 60 foot light posts and 4 - 18 foot tall fencing around the soccer fields; remove a number of trees and tall shrubs; add paved pathways; and expand the existing parking lot. These new elements are out of character with the historic design intent of the western end of Golden Gate Park. The proposed improvements would significantly diminish the existing naturalistic character of the park's cultural landscape. Also of concern are potential impacts to surrounding historic resources including the Beach Chalet (San Francisco City Landmark # 179), Murphy's Windmill and Millwright Cottage (San Francisco Landmark # 210), the Dutch Windmill (San Francisco City Landmark # 147).

The Golden Gate Park Master Plan adopted in 1998 recommends that the original design of the park guide decisions about new projects. The Master Plan improvements to the western end of the park include improvement to the landscaping, continued reforestation of the western windbreak, addition of a grass soccer field, and restoration and rehabilitation for the windmills, Millwright's House and the Beach Chalet. It does not include the complete renovation of the soccer fields or introduction of artificial elements into the landscape.

53RD STREET, SUITE 424
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
94103-3205

415.495.0349 PHONE
415.495.0265 FAX

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WWW.CALIFORNIAPRESERVATION.ORG

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Cindy L. Heitzman

The addition of the 60 foot light poles and the tall fencing would create a visual impact as both would be visible from the surrounding park area. The trees in that area are short, due to the strong winds that blow in off the Pacific Ocean, and provide little screening.

Night lighting of the soccer field is in conflict with Park Master Plan, which states "[p]ark lighting should not detract visually or physically from the character of the park." The Beach Chalet restaurant is a night use area, but the fields are not.

The Final Environmental Impact Report finds that the proposed improvements for the Beach Chalet Soccer Field would cause a significant adverse impact on a historic resource under the CEQA. The Hybrid Alternative should be considered because it includes renovation of the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no additional lighting. It includes the renovation of the nearby West Sunset Playground with artificial turf and lighting that is appropriate to that neighborhood. This would increase the hours of play for children while protecting the historic naturalistic character of Golden Gate Park and the enjoyment of Ocean Beach for everyone.

We hope that you will direct the City to protect Golden Gate Park and seriously consider either the Hybrid Alternative or using available funds to fix up other playing fields in San Francisco for increased use.

CPF encourages the Commission to work with all parties involved to develop sensitive improvements that maintain the historic character of Golden Gate Park. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at cheitzman@californiapreservation.org or by phone at 415-495-0349.

Sincerely,

Cindy Heitzman
Executive Director

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

HAIGHT-ASHBURY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. Box 170518 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94117 WWW.HANC-SF.ORG

April 2, 2013

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Michelle Welch
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Joey Cain
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Ms. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
North Central Coast District Office
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

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HANC opposes the development of a soccer complex at the west end of Golden Gate Park for all the reasons that the SF Oceans Edge folks do. It is simply an opportunity for the current San Francisco Recreation & Parks (Rec & Park) administration to further its goal of commercializing our parks.

The western end of Golden Gate Park is supposed to be "wild and natural" as set forth in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Artificial turf and stadium lights are antithetical to this goal! The Sierra Club and Audubon Society have also worked to defeat the use of artificial turf and stadium lights in this location.

In spite of what Rec & Park says, this is a development to attract adult soccer leagues from throughout the Bay Area (who will pay!), and not just "for the kids".

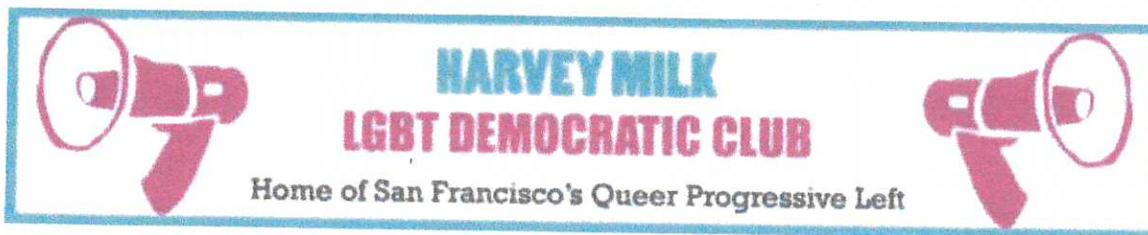
We support the renovation of the soccer fields (which have not been maintained for years) with state of the art gopher proofing AND the siting of the soccer complex at another location outside of GG Park.

Sincerely,



Kevin Bayuk
President

CC: Kevin Kahn
CC: SF Ocean Edge



April 3, 2013

Note: Copy sent to staff

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

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

The Harvey Milk LGBT (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender) Club is opposed to the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project proposed for the western end of Golden Gate Park and urges the California Coastal Commission to recommend that this project be moved to an alternative location.

The Beach Chalet fields are used today by both youth and adults for practice soccer and competitions. When not in use, the fields are habitat for wildlife; in the past, they have also been used for kite flying, picnics, and even a concert! However, this project takes what is currently parkland benefiting all ages and physical abilities, and restricts it to use only by a limited number of people. It is unlikely that anyone will want to picnic on an artificial turf field. Artificial turf cannot be used for activities such as concerts. The loss of the meadow aspect of the park means that folks who come out to the fields to enjoy the parkland as parkland with grass, trees and birds, will no longer be able to enjoy this area as such.

San Francisco has plans to accommodate a higher population. As the number of people increases, they will need more land that is parkland, to counter the increasing dense urban environment. Even now, San Franciscans would like to have more opportunity for outdoor experiences in nature. The Leon Younger & PROS, LLC Recreation Assessment Report (Aug.2004), commissioned by the SF Recreation and Park Department, showed that over 60% of those polled currently participated in visiting nature areas, while only 12% participated in youth soccer, rugby or field hockey. In addition, when asked what programs that participants would take part in more often if available, almost 25% chose visiting nature areas, while only 3% chose youth soccer.

We are also concerned about the installation of stadium and other lighting. At this time, the soccer field area is dark at night. We were stunned to learn that the Beach Chalet project will install over 150,000 watts of light from sunset until 10:00 p.m. 365 days a year. Other lighting will be installed for the parking lot and for the new sidewalks. Our members take their families to Ocean Beach to walk along the Promenade, to view the sunset, to look at the stars, and to sit by the fire rings. This lighting will permanently destroy the beauty of the evening in this area for everyone, young and old.

Night lighting is damaging to wildlife health and especially to birds, affecting nesting, foraging, and migration patterns. Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach are major stops along the western flyway for migratory birds. The artificial turf and new lighting combined turn valuable parkland and wildlife habitat into a paved, lighted, developed and essentially sterile, lifeless site.

www.milkclub.org

While we understand and support the need for youth recreation opportunities, young people need to have the opportunity to experience nature directly and to learn to appreciate and value nature. What is the lesson to our children in destroying habitat for short-term convenience, especially when an alternative is available?

A strong compromise has been proposed -- renovating the soccer field with natural grass and no night lighting, and using the remaining funding to renovate additional playing fields in San Francisco. We hope that the California Coastal Commission will work with the City to implement this compromise, protecting Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach for everyone's use, now and into the future.

Sincerely,
Tom Temprano
President

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge



SUNSET PARKSIDE EDUCATION AND ACTION COMMITTEE
1329 7th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122-2507
SPEAKSANFRANCISCO@yahoo.com

March 31, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
Cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Madam President and Commissioners,

The Sunset Architectural and Historical Resource Inventory Committee (SAHRIC), a committee of the Sunset Parkside Education and Action Committee (SPEAK) has the following concerns about the proposed Soccer Fields complex at the western edge of Golden Gate Park next to Ocean Beach:

There are four landmark buildings within a few yards of the proposed sports complex. They are the Murphy Windmill, the nearby Millwright's Cottage, the Queen Wilhelmina Windmill and Tulip Gardens, and the Beach Chalet. All four are official City Landmarks. The proximity of these structures to each other is enhanced by a pathway which runs north-south and connects the four landmarks, parallel to the Great Highway. This pathway lies atop what may have been the historic track of the Sutro Railroad which once connected H Street (now Lincoln Way) to the Sutro attractions at the foot of Sutro Heights, such as Playland-at-the-Beach. While this area has not yet been recognized as an historic district, if the Soccer Fields complex is approved, there will be little chance that sufficient historic connectivity and integrity will remain to qualify it as an historic district.

Here are the main points of our concerns of the Soccer Fields Project:

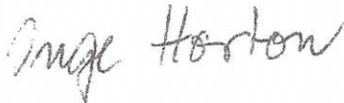
1. the proposed project is the development of an expanded sports facility complex at a nationally recognized site on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP);
2. this project should not be called a renovation: it is an extreme makeover and major expansion which will materially affect the NRHP status;
3. the EIR wrongly treats separately and does not connect the four highly visible landmarks mentioned above; the EIR does not adequately identify and describe them as a potential historic district and does not provide a fully dimensioned map showing the location of the proposed project within the potential landmark district;
4. with the right graphics, it can be demonstrated that the impact of the proposed project would be visually significant; the EIR did not contain adequate graphics or

photographs taken in sufficient light and thus the EIR says the project would not be visually significant;

5. an alternative to the proposed project should be developed which would show how a true restoration and renovation would enhance the historic resources. We ask the California Coastal Commission to carefully analyze the renovation of the Playing Fields with natural grass without additional lighting combined with the location of a high intensity sports complex to other areas such as the West Sunset Playing Fields;
6. approval of the project would foreclose any possibility of the West End of Golden Gate Park becoming a San Francisco historic district.

The proposed project will compromise the integrity of the historic buildings and compromise the visual and functional integrity with the increase in activity and hours of operation of the proposed sports facility.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.



Inge Horton
Chair, SAHRIC

Sunset Architectural and Historic Resources Inventory Committee

cc: Commissioners
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner
North Central District
45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122



SF Ocean Edge ©

Where Golden Gate Park meets Ocean Beach . . .

www.sfoceanedge.org

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APR 17 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Commissioner Lucchese

April 17, 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 Chair Shallenberger and Honorable Commissioners,

Enclosed please find letters of concern from local organizations regarding the Beach Chalet soccer fields project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine Howard, ALSA
Member, Steering Committee
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
cc: Coastal Commissioners
cc: Charles Lester, Executive Director

Attachments:

Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods - representing over 44 neighborhood groups
California Preservation Foundation - SF Office
HANC - Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council
Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club
SPEAK - Sunset, Parkside Education and Action Committee

Coalition for San Francisco



Neighborhoods

www.csfm.net • PO Box 320098 • San Francisco CA 94132-0098 • 415.262.0440 • Est 1972

April 2, 2013

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Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

California Coastal Commission

45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000

San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

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cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

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April 3, 2013

Note: Copy sent to staff

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45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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Executive Director

cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge

HAIGHT-ASHBURY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. Box 170518 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94117 WWW.HANC-SF.ORG

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North Central Coast District Office
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San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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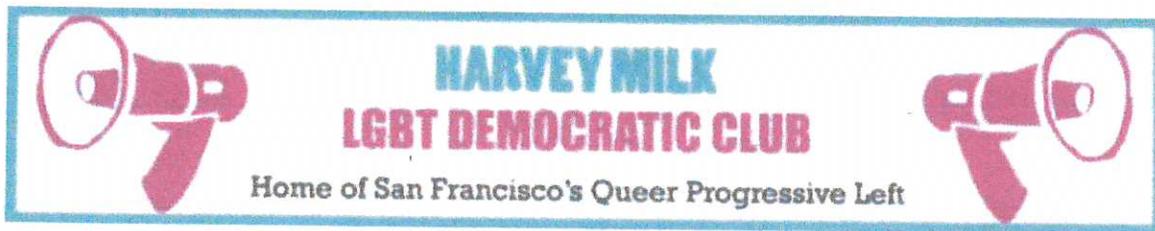
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Sincerely,



Kevin Bayuk
President

CC: Kevin Kahn
CC: SF Ocean Edge



April 3, 2013

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

Subject: Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Complex, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

The Harvey Milk LGBT (Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender) Club is opposed to the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project proposed for the western end of Golden Gate Park and urges the California Coastal Commission to recommend that this project be moved to an alternative location.

The Beach Chalet fields are used today by both youth and adults for practice soccer and competitions. When not in use, the fields are habitat for wildlife; in the past, they have also been used for kite flying, picnics, and even a concert! However, this project takes what is currently parkland benefiting all ages and physical abilities, and restricts it to use only by a limited number of people. It is unlikely that anyone will want to picnic on an artificial turf field. Artificial turf cannot be used for activities such as concerts. The loss of the meadow aspect of the park means that folks who come out to the fields to enjoy the parkland as parkland with grass, trees and birds, will no longer be able to enjoy this area as such.

San Francisco has plans to accommodate a higher population. As the number of people increases, they will need more land that is parkland, to counter the increasing dense urban environment. Even now, San Franciscans would like to have more opportunity for outdoor experiences in nature. The Leon Younger & PROS, LLC Recreation Assessment Report (Aug.2004), commissioned by the SF Recreation and Park Department, showed that over 60% of those polled currently participated in visiting nature areas, while only 12% participated in youth soccer, rugby or field hockey. In addition, when asked what programs that participants would take part in more often if available, almost 25% chose visiting nature areas, while only 3% chose youth soccer.

We are also concerned about the installation of stadium and other lighting. At this time, the soccer field area is dark at night. We were stunned to learn that the Beach Chalet project will install over 150,000 watts of light from sunset until 10:00 p.m. 365 days a year. Other lighting will be installed for the parking lot and for the new sidewalks. Our members take their families to Ocean Beach to walk along the Promenade, to view the sunset, to look at the stars, and to sit by the fire rings. This lighting will permanently destroy the beauty of the evening in this area for everyone, young and old.

Night lighting is damaging to wildlife health and especially to birds, affecting nesting, foraging, and migration patterns. Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach are major stops along the western flyway for migratory birds. The artificial turf and new lighting combined turn valuable parkland and wildlife habitat into a paved, lighted, developed and essentially sterile, lifeless site.

www.milkclub.org

While we understand and support the need for youth recreation opportunities, young people need to have the opportunity to experience nature directly and to learn to appreciate and value nature. What is the lesson to our children in destroying habitat for short-term convenience, especially when an alternative is available?

A strong compromise has been proposed -- renovating the soccer field with natural grass and no night lighting, and using the remaining funding to renovate additional playing fields in San Francisco. We hope that the California Coastal Commission will work with the City to implement this compromise, protecting Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach for everyone's use, now and into the future.

Sincerely,
Tom Temprano
President

✓ cc: Commissioners
cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn
Coastal Planner North Central Coast District
cc: SF Ocean Edge



SUNSET PARKSIDE EDUCATION AND ACTION COMMITTEE
1329 7th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122-2507
SPEAKSANFRANCISCO@yahoo.com

March 31, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
Cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Madam President and Commissioners,

The Sunset Architectural and Historical Resource Inventory Committee (SAHRIC), a committee of the Sunset Parkside Education and Action Committee (SPEAK) has the following concerns about the proposed Soccer Fields complex at the western edge of Golden Gate Park next to Ocean Beach:

There are four landmark buildings within a few yards of the proposed sports complex. They are the Murphy Windmill, the nearby Millwright's Cottage, the Queen Wilhelmina Windmill and Tulip Gardens, and the Beach Chalet. All four are official City Landmarks. The proximity of these structures to each other is enhanced by a pathway which runs north-south and connects the four landmarks, parallel to the Great Highway. This pathway lies atop what may have been the historic track of the Sutro Railroad which once connected H Street (now Lincoln Way) to the Sutro attractions at the foot of Sutro Heights, such as Playland-at-the-Beach. While this area has not yet been recognized as an historic district, if the Soccer Fields complex is approved, there will be little chance that sufficient historic connectivity and integrity will remain to qualify it as an historic district.

Here are the main points of our concerns of the Soccer Fields Project:

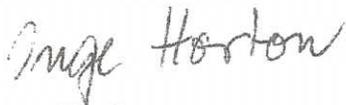
1. the proposed project is the development of an expanded sports facility complex at a nationally recognized site on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP);
2. this project should not be called a renovation: it is an extreme makeover and major expansion which will materially affect the NRHP status;
3. the EIR wrongly treats separately and does not connect the four highly visible landmarks mentioned above; the EIR does not adequately identify and describe them as a potential historic district and does not provide a fully dimensioned map showing the location of the proposed project within the potential landmark district;
4. with the right graphics, it can be demonstrated that the impact of the proposed project would be visually significant; the EIR did not contain adequate graphics or

photographs taken in sufficient light and thus the EIR says the project would not be visually significant;

5. an alternative to the proposed project should be developed which would show how a true restoration and renovation would enhance the historic resources. We ask the California Coastal Commission to carefully analyze the renovation of the Playing Fields with natural grass without additional lighting combined with the location of a high intensity sports complex to other areas such as the West Sunset Playing Fields;
6. approval of the project would foreclose any possibility of the West End of Golden Gate Park becoming a San Francisco historic district.

The proposed project will compromise the integrity of the historic buildings and compromise the visual and functional integrity with the increase in activity and hours of operation of the proposed sports facility.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.



Inge Horton
Chair, SAHRIC

Sunset Architectural and Historic Resources Inventory Committee

cc: Commissioners
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: Mr. Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner
North Central District
45 Fremont Street, #2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122

Kevin - FYI



Kathy

1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco CA 94122
April 18, 2013

Dear Chair Mary K. Shallenberger,

I would like to invite you to let us give you an informal tour of the Beach Chalet area any time before the hearing on this project. We think that if you could just see what a beautiful area it is, you would understand why so many people are heartbroken at the thought of the parkland being paved over with artificial turf. Walking by the ocean and enjoying the beauty of the beach at dusk, may also help to show why the lights are going to ruin this area for everyone - people and wildlife alike.

There is a good, feasible alternative location for this project. We would also like to show you how well this location works.

We appreciate the need for active recreation, but we also know that children are now becoming detached from nature. We feel that the needs of both nature and children - today and future generations - can be met. with our alternative.

Please contact me, and we will arrange this site visit at your convenience.

sincerely,

Katherine Howard, ASLA
Member, Steering Committee
SF Ocean Edge
415-710-2402

RECEIVED

APR 18 2013

✓ cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT
Exhibit 7
A-2-SNF-12-020 (Beach Chalet)
Page 714 of 878



RECEIVED

APR 18 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco CA 94122
April 18, 2013

Dear Chair Mary K. Shallenberger,

I would like to invite you to let us give you an informal tour of the Beach Chalet area any time before the hearing on this project. We think that if you could just see what a beautiful area it is, you would understand why so many people are heartbroken at the thought of the parkland being paved over with artificial turf. Walking by the ocean and enjoying the beauty of the beach at dusk, may also help to show why the lights are going to ruin this area for everyone - people and wildlife alike.

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Please contact me, and we will arrange this site visit at your convenience.

sincerely,

Katherine Howard, ASLA
Member, Steering Committee
SF Ocean Edge
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner



RECEIVED
APR 18 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL
NORTH COUNTY

1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco CA 94122
April 18, 2013

Dear Commissioner Belinda Faustinos,

I would like to invite you to let us give you an informal tour of the Beach Chalet area any time before the hearing on this project. We think that if you could just see what a beautiful area it is, you would understand why so many people are heartbroken at the thought of the parkland being paved over with artificial turf. Walking by the ocean and enjoying the beauty of the beach at dusk, may also help to show why the lights are going to ruin this area for everyone - people and wildlife alike.

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Please contact me, and we will arrange this site visit at your convenience.

sincerely,

Katherine Howard, ASLA
Member, Steering Committee
SF Ocean Edge
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner



RECEIVED

APR 18 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco CA 94122
April 18, 2013

Dear Charles Lester,

I would like to invite you to let us give you an informal tour of the Beach Chalet area any time before the hearing on this project. We think that if you could just see what a beautiful area it is, you would understand why so many people are heartbroken at the thought of the parkland being paved over with artificial turf. Walking by the ocean and enjoying the beauty of the beach at dusk, may also help to show why the lights are going to ruin this area for everyone - people and wildlife alike.

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Please contact me, and we will arrange this site visit at your convenience.

sincerely,

Katherine Howard

Katherine Howard, ASLA
Member, Steering Committee
SF Ocean Edge
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner



1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco CA 94122
April 18, 2013

Dear Commissioner Wendy Mitchell,

I would like to invite you to let us give you an informal tour of the Beach Chalet area any time before the hearing on this project. We think that if you could just see what a beautiful area it is, you would understand why so many people are heartbroken at the thought of the parkland being paved over with artificial turf. Walking by the ocean and enjoying the beauty of the beach at dusk, may also help to show why the lights are going to ruin this area for everyone - people and wildlife alike.

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Please contact me, and we will arrange this site visit at your convenience.

sincerely,

Katherine Howard, ASLA
Member, Steering Committee
SF Ocean Edge
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner



1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco CA 94122
April 18, 2013

Dear Commissioner Steve Blank,

I would like to invite you to let us give you an informal tour of the Beach Chalet area any time before the hearing on this project. We think that if you could just see what a beautiful area it is, you would understand why so many people are heartbroken at the thought of the parkland being paved over with artificial turf. Walking by the ocean and enjoying the beauty of the beach at dusk, may also help to show why the lights are going to ruin this area for everyone - people and wildlife alike.

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Please contact me, and we will arrange this site visit at your convenience.

sincerely,

Katherine Howard, ASLA
Member, Steering Committee
SF Ocean Edge
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner



1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco CA 94122
April 18, 2013

Dear Commissioner Bruce Reznik,

I would like to invite you to let us give you an informal tour of the Beach Chalet area any time before the hearing on this project. We think that if you could just see what a beautiful area it is, you would understand why so many people are heartbroken at the thought of the parkland being paved over with artificial turf. Walking by the ocean and enjoying the beauty of the beach at dusk, may also help to show why the lights are going to ruin this area for everyone - people and wildlife alike.

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Please contact me, and we will arrange this site visit at your convenience.

sincerely,

Katherine Howard

Katherine Howard, ASLA
Member, Steering Committee
SF Ocean Edge
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner



1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco CA 94122
April 18, 2013

Dear Commissioner James Wickett,

I would like to invite you to let us give you an informal tour of the Beach Chalet area any time before the hearing on this project. We think that if you could just see what a beautiful area it is, you would understand why so many people are heartbroken at the thought of the parkland being paved over with artificial turf. Walking by the ocean and enjoying the beauty of the beach at dusk, may also help to show why the lights are going to ruin this area for everyone - people and wildlife alike.

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Please contact me, and we will arrange this site visit at your convenience.

sincerely,

Katherine Howard, ASLA
Member, Steering Committee
SF Ocean Edge
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner



1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco CA 94122
April 18, 2013

Dear Commissioner Dayna Bochco,

I would like to invite you to let us give you an informal tour of the Beach Chalet area any time before the hearing on this project. We think that if you could just see what a beautiful area it is, you would understand why so many people are heartbroken at the thought of the parkland being paved over with artificial turf. Walking by the ocean and enjoying the beauty of the beach at dusk, may also help to show why the lights are going to ruin this area for everyone - people and wildlife alike.

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Please contact me, and we will arrange this site visit at your convenience.

sincerely,

Katherine Howard, ASLA
Member, Steering Committee
SF Ocean Edge
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner



1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco CA 94122
April 18, 2013

Dear Commissioner Steve Kram,

I would like to invite you to let us give you an informal tour of the Beach Chalet area any time before the hearing on this project. We think that if you could just see what a beautiful area it is, you would understand why so many people are heartbroken at the thought of the parkland being paved over with artificial turf. Walking by the ocean and enjoying the beauty of the beach at dusk, may also help to show why the lights are going to ruin this area for everyone - people and wildlife alike.

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Please contact me, and we will arrange this site visit at your convenience.

sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Katherine Howard".

Katherine Howard, ASLA
Member, Steering Committee
SF Ocean Edge
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner



1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco CA 94122
April 18, 2013

Dear Commissioner Dr. Clark E. Parker,

I would like to invite you to let us give you an informal tour of the Beach Chalet area any time before the hearing on this project. We think that if you could just see what a beautiful area it is, you would understand why so many people are heartbroken at the thought of the parkland being paved over with artificial turf. Walking by the ocean and enjoying the beauty of the beach at dusk, may also help to show why the lights are going to ruin this area for everyone - people and wildlife alike.

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Please contact me, and we will arrange this site visit at your convenience.

sincerely,

Katherine Howard, ASLA
Member, Steering Committee
SF Ocean Edge
415-710-2402

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner

April 20, 2013

RECEIVED

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

APR 22 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

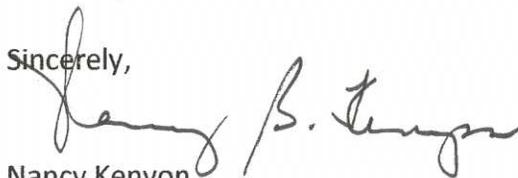
I want to express my strong opposition to the soccer field planned for the area of the Beach Chalet. In a city and state on the forefront of conservation, creating a green and organic environment, why would you introduce such an anti-environmental project??? Especially when you have a Hybrid alternative.

Ocean Beach and Golden Gate Park have been enjoyed by my family, neighbors, children and grandchildren. Please do not place artificial turf and lighting in our beloved parks. My children had many recreational experiences in sports of all kinds in San Francisco, and were never unable to find recreational facilities. Recreation is important but not at the expense of artificial turf and huge LED lights.

I have lived on Masonic Ave. in San Francisco for over 43 years. I am retired as Executive Director of a nonprofit that worked for 30 years to end housing discrimination in the Bay Area.

I am told that the Commission is concerned with impacts to the coast and the Park, from loss of access by the general public to open space, wildlife impacts, night lighting impacts, water quality concerns. As a birdwatcher, I predict that these lights will confuse and harm the thousands of migrating birds who fly down our coast each year. Please do not betray our past commitment to a beautiful city.

Sincerely,



Nancy Kenyon
1375 Masonic Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94117

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 20, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 23 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Regarding: Beach Chalet Soccer Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

I am writing to convey my opposition to the synthetic turf soccer fields at the Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park as well as my support for soccer. I have an 8 year old son who is an ardent soccer player and plays in the Viking leagues. Our family supports efforts to expand play opportunities but not at the environmental, historic and cultural costs associated with this project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Courtney Damkroger
2626 Hyde St
San Francisco, CA 94109

April 18, 2013

183 Parnassus Ave. #4
San Francisco, CA 94117-4249

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

RECEIVED

APR 23 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am appalled to hear of California Coastal Commission plans for the destruction of 55 trees and meadow areas in Golden Gate Park for artificially surfaced sports fields and parking lots.

This is particularly egregious as the GGP Master Plan and Ocean Beach Master Plan's main themes are recreation in a naturalistic setting. Only in a science fiction alternate reality could AstroTurf be considered a naturalistic setting.

My preference would be to renovate the Beach Chalet area with native plants and use the remainder of the funding to fix up playing fields all over San Francisco.

The health of our planet requires more plants and trees, not more human-made surfaces, and the California Coastal Commission should lead the nation in creative projects going in this direction.

Sincerely,



Adele Frammer
183 Parnassus Ave. #4
San Francisco, CA 94117-4249

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 21, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 23 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

On this eve of Earth Day 2013 we are writing you to express our dismay over the proposed project for the athletic fields at the Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park. We in the neighborhood have vehemently opposed this project, yet it does not appear that valid arguments are taken seriously.

I am a current National Park Service Employee and my husband Tim is retired from the National Park Service. I have lived in the Outer Richmond District over 20 years and Tim over 30, and we cherish and regularly use the park. We raised two children just a block from the park and used it heavily for family activities - walks, bike rides, picnics. We feel a strong obligation to protect Golden Gate Park and are concerned that current management is moving in the wrong direction. We heartily support organized activities in the park for children as well as for families. Too many children in San Francisco and surrounding areas do not get the kind of wonderful natural and/or recreational experience that Golden Gate Park can supply. On a walk I once passed a field trip of kids from China Town walking to the Ocean, most of them had never seen the Pacific Ocean although they had lived here all of their lives! It breaks my heart, but also gives me hope that more kids are getting that opportunity. There is no reason this project can't provide superb playing fields for soccer and other events in a natural environment without the negative impacts of the proposal.

The preferred alternative for this project would have a profound negative impact to the California Coast due to loss of wildlife habitat; impacts to night sky due to introduction of lights for night use; and will cause removal of valuable trees and grass. It will introduce more people and cars to western Golden Gate Park, nearby neighborhoods, and the beach area adjacent long into the night. Good bye to romantic evening walks on the beach. We note that protecting the night sky is a current National Park Service mandate, and this project will be on the doorstep of Golden Gate National Recreation Area with large lighted playing fields.

We are concerned about the use of artificial turf. Is it toxic? Apparently the long term effects are not known; but because of this, the rain that falls on this turf is to be piped to the sewage treatment plant rather than allowed to be absorbed and to restore the aquifer as can be done with a grass field.

We are also concerned with the loss of the historic character of western Golden Gate Park. This project as proposed will forever change the look, feel, and character of western Golden Gate Park.

This project as proposed is costly, likely toxic, negatively impacts natural and cultural resources, and disrupts the neighborhood. The proposed benefits to children through organized sports can be realized through less impactful ways. We support renovating the athletic fields at the Beach Chalet with real, honest to goodness turf and use the remainder of the funding to restore other playing fields throughout the city.

Sincerely,  

Robbyn Jackson and Timothy Przygocki
895 31st Avenue #7
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

April 18, 2013

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

cc: Kevin Kahn

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

I know you have received so many letters of concern regarding the proposed conversion of the grassy fields at the far western end of Golden Gate Park into a high-intensity soccer venue that will forever diminish the natural environment there. I would like to add just two points.

The myth of "for the children". The stadium lighting that is proposed will enable night-time play by adult leagues. Children will not need the lighting; children play April through October and it's daylight savings time. They do not play in the cold, dark months of November through March. However, adult soccer league play occurs after work hours and on weekends. It is adults who might need the lighting, not the children. Please consider that when the children's leagues line up all the kids to tell you the children need the night lights. It is not school children from the San Francisco public schools, but children bound into leagues for competition play that you will generally hear from. But the children play during the day; it is the adults who play at night. Even so, tonight is April 18 and it is light until 8 p.m. The days are growing even longer, of course.

Precedent for stadium lighting so close to the ocean and its beaches. It will be very difficult to say no to other proposals to light up the coast. Although San Francisco might appear to be a highly developed urban place, the far west end of the city is low-density at the edge of wondrous open space, the huge belt of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), the Ocean Beach and the almost unpeopled west end of Golden Gate Park. There is dark sky here; the migrations of birds fly over the beach; nocturnal wildlife thrive here since it feels almost as remote as open countryside.

You'll hear many other reasons from opponents and proponents, so I hope these are slightly different points that you might not otherwise hear. I urge you to reject the proposal and recommend another site.

Sincerely,



Mary Anne Miller
1239 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122
415 661-0126
Ma-miller@msn.com

RECEIVED

APR 22 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Dear Mr. Kahn,

Below is a letter I submitted to Ms. Shallenberger regarding protecting the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park. If you have time, I would like to ask that you please read it as well.

Thank you,
Alexis Morris

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
Staff has been copied on this letter

RECEIVED

APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to ask you to please put an immediate stop to this plan to destroy the Beach Chalet Soccer Field 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.

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 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 Board of Supervisors 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 recreation 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 the industrialization of 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. They talked about "restoring" old fields in the proposition 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 a 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 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 for them. It has ample sunlight, 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) 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 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 area straddles 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 suddenly 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. Environmental studies show time and time again 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 there, 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 now 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: there is 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".

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 just started asking for support from businesses the other day, I have 30 on the list so far. But 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 do so. I will also send you a copy of that list very soon.

Thank you for your strong consideration,



Alexis Morris
1384 11th Avenue
San Francisco, Ca 94122
savethefield.org

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Bonnie Knight
1639-26th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122-3213
Bonnie.Knight@att.net, (415) 290-1575
April 23, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shellenberger,

I am a native San Franciscan, age 61, who has lived within walking distance of Golden Gate Park all my life; I grew up in the Sunset District; the proposed new soccer fields and lights at the Western edge of Golden Gate Park are part of my home turf. I am greatly dismayed at what the proposal for artificial turf and lights will do to irreparably damage the Western end of the park for the many reasons stated below, and hope that the Commission will consider the Hybrid Alternative and move artificial turf to West Sunset Playground and/or renovate Beach Chalet soccer fields with real grass, better field construction and no light pollution!

The birds and wildlife depend on the natural greenery in the park. City dwellers need open space, too! Worst of all, the lights will pollute the sky and ruin the area for wild animals and birds and destroy the atmosphere of nature for evening beach visitors. The sports lights will also affect the views of nature from the Cliff House and Sutro Heights. The removal of trees to be replaced with seating means a destruction of nature, an introduction of more cars to the area, adding further pollution.

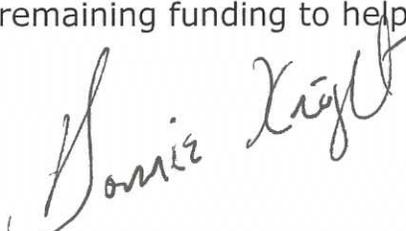
My children's high school science teacher, Mrs. Kovisto, told me that the chemicals in artificial turf leach into the ground over time and make it toxic. Yuck!

The area will lose grass, the rainwater will not go into the ground, the entire historic character of the area will be ruined forever. Please, please, do not allow this project!

I'm all for soccer, however. Please move this project to the West Sunset Playground, where Golden Gate Park is not affected. Alternatively, renovate Beach Chalet with real grass and use the remaining funding to help playing fields throughout San Francisco.

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Bonnie Knight



cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000, San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

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APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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

April 23, 2013

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to you as a 44 year resident of San Francisco, an avid park user and advocate. **I am asking your commission to stop the installation of artificial grass fields and powerful stadium lighting at the Beach Chalet Soccer field location in Golden Gate Park.**

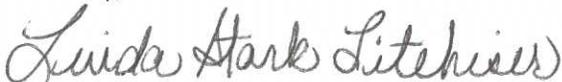
My children have grown up around Golden Gate Park. We love the pastoral, bucolic settings and the gradual meandering paths to the sea. It is a treasure for the entire city. We need to preserve what little precious natural land we have left for future generations. I understand the needs of soccer enthusiasts for longer play time, my grandchildren play soccer, but there are alternatives to this plan and perhaps through your commission these concerns and alternatives will finally be "heard".

I shared my concerns about this issue at the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Commission meetings, at the board of Supervisors hearings and through letter and petition drives. Through it all, the side favoring a natural grass renovation and lower illumination lighting has been ignored and worse yet vilified as being anti-children and obstructionist. There are good people with passionate views on both sides of this issue but so far the alternatives have not been given a fair hearing.

If we go down this road to an artificial grass field and high powered lighting, we won't be able to go back. I observed the construction of this type of field in Crocker Amazon Park. It completely changes the landscape of the park. It can't be reversed if we decide that other types of sport, native plant gardens, or an open meadow for concerts would be a preferred use by another generation.

I hope you will consider these concerns. My family shares this view and we await your decision.

Sincerely;



Linda Stark Litehiser

78 Havelock St.

San Francisco, CA 94112

Cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont St. Suite 200
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Cc: Ocean Edge, 1243 42nd. Ave. San Francisco, CA 94122

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APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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 effect 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 Wilton
Exhibit 7
A-2-SNF-12-020 (Beach Chalet)
Page 737 of 878

April 22, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Romano and Judy Pell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

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

JEAN B BARISH, ESQ
5758 GEARY BOULEVARD, #341
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94121

April 21, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am an Appellant in the referenced case, involving the grant of a Coastal Permit to the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department to construct artificial turf soccer fields with stadium lights at the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park. I urge the California Coastal Commission to deny this permit. I also urge the Commission to support the win-win hybrid alternative, which would renovate the Golden Gate Park fields with natural grass and no night lighting, and move the proposed development to a more suitable location at the nearby West Sunset Playground.

There are many reasons why the Coastal Permit should be denied. Following are significant negative impacts of this project:

- Artificial night lighting that will stay on until 10 pm every night of the year will create unacceptable light pollution and ruin the dark sky in the area.
- Night lighting will also harm wildlife habitat and disrupt the migratory pattern of birds.
- Artificial turf with rubber tire crumb infill is toxic. It is unsuitable to use this material above the large aquifer which is below these fields, and in an area close to the Pacific Ocean, where toxic tire crumb poses a risk to sea life.
- Toxic rubber tire crumb also poses a serious health risk to children and adult who would be playing on these fields.
- The project is inconsistent with the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, Ocean Beach Master Plan and the Western Shoreline Area Plan.
- A built environment at this location will significantly alter the aesthetic experience of this part of the Park and the adjoining coastline.

Hon. Mary Shallenberger
April 20, 2013
Page 2

- Many San Francisco residents and visitors to the City are opposed to this project. At a recent meeting of the Coastal Commission over 5,000 postcards signed by opponents to the project were delivered to you, and significant environmental organizations, including the Sierra Club and the Audubon Society, oppose this project.

I am a strong supporter of recreational soccer, and understand there may be a need for more playing fields in San Francisco. But meeting the needs of the soccer community must not be done at the expense of spoiling a priceless natural resource and putting the health of the public at risk. The win-win alternative that Appellants have proposed will provide more soccer-playing time while also preserving Golden Gate Park and the coastline. This win-win alternative, which would restore the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no sports lighting, and restore the West Sunset playfields with safe, non-toxic turf and night lights is clearly the ideal solution.

Golden Gate Park is a priceless open-space in the midst of urban San Francisco. Destroying the Park and the adjoining coastline with synthetic turf and night lighting is both short-sighted and wrong. Our children deserve to have the western edge of San Francisco protected for their enjoyment and their children's enjoyment. It is a priceless resource that must be preserved. Please keep San Francisco green and safe by denying the permit to construct this project at the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields.

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

Charlotte Hennessy 1125 Hollywood Ave. Oakland, CA 94602

April 22, 2013

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

RECEIVED

APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to support the Hybrid Alternative to the current desecration of Golden Gate Park that has been approved.

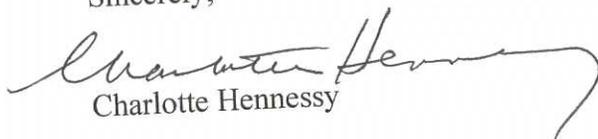
I am a retired National Park Service employee (at Golden Gate National Recreation Area) and a board member of the Presidio Historical Association. I am dedicated to the preservation of natural and historic environments and areas. I also am a (Marina District) San Francisco property owner, which is tenant occupied currently. I now live in Oakland, California, as I have an elderly aunt who needs my attention at this time, and I lived in the Presidio for thirteen years until I retired a few years ago.

I (and everyone I know) have long cherished the beauty of the west end of Golden Gate Park, near Ocean Beach, and I make it a point to visit as often as possible. The idea that the natural wonder and healthy ecological balance that it currently enjoys will be lost, and the thought that habitat will be lost due to artificial lighting and turf is excruciating to ponder. This part of the park has long been cherished by humans as well as been the home of much wildlife. Even the fish in the ocean will suffer with "65-foot lights on every day of the year until 10 p.m." I doubt that it's an idea designed for the children to play soccer. I imagine that adults are behind this urging, and the reality that they will be drinking beer afterward and getting in their cars is another very bad idea.

There is a documentary called "City Dark," which tells how destructive artificial lighting is to our environment, which I urge you to see if you haven't already. And the addition of so many more cars to the area is another factor to consider, which will destroy the character and oasis factor that is this park.

Please don't let a few people with big bucks destroy Golden Gate Park. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Charlotte Hennessy



ACTION FOR NATURE, INC.

2269 CHESTNUT STREET, No. 263, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94123
PHONE: (415) 421-2640 FAX: (415) 922-5717
WEBPAGE: www.actionfornature.org E-MAIL: mail@actionfornature.org

RECEIVED

APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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,

I am writing on behalf Action For Nature (AFN), an international environmental organization based in San Francisco. Action For Nature works to encourage young people to take personal action to protect the environment. For ten years Action For Nature has recognized young environmentalists around the world with the Action For Nature Eco-Hero Award. AFN's Eco-Heroes have saved sea turtles, removed litter from beaches, campaigned for clean water, and kept our environment safe and clean in many other ways. We are very proud of our work and the many young people we have met who care deeply about the world we live in.

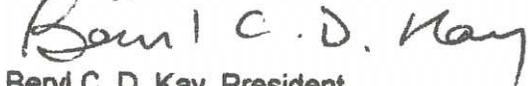
Action For Nature is strongly opposed to the development of a sports complex with artificial turf and 150,000 watts of sports lighting at the western edge of Golden Gate Park. This project will light up the dark night sky near Ocean Beach, degrade wildlife habitat, remove natural windbreaks, and increase the risk of toxins in water runoff. A sports complex of this size will significantly alter the overall character of the western edge of Golden Gate Park, changing it from a sylvan retreat to that of a developed sports facility.

There are many reasons this project should not be permitted. AFN Eco-Hero Claire Dworsky of San Francisco demonstrated that water runoff from artificial turf contains dangerous levels of heavy metals and other toxins. Because of the proximity of the artificial turf to the ocean, the runoff water puts endangered marine wildlife at risk. The sports lights will spoil the night sky for star gazers and amateur astronomers as well as endanger the snowy plover that lives at the ocean. But perhaps most important, this project will result in the loss of a beautiful, natural area of Golden Gate Park that is so vitally important to countless children.

Action For Nature joins others in urging the California Coastal Commission to protect San Francisco's crown jewel and the adjoining coastline by not permitting this project. Young people not only need an opportunity to play soccer, they also need places to go that expose them to nature and help them learn to appreciate the natural world. Replacing acres of grass with plastic and rubber tire crumbs, and artificially lighting the night sky near Ocean Beach will forever deny this priceless opportunity to the next generation.

On behalf of our children, thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Beryl C. D. Kay, President
Action For Nature
2269 Chestnut Street #263
San Francisco, CA 94123
mail@actionfornature.org
www.actionfornature.org

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

RECEIVED

April 21, 2013

APR 24 2013

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

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

On this eve of Earth Day 2013 we are writing you to express our dismay over the proposed project for the athletic fields at the Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park. We in the neighborhood have vehemently opposed this project, yet it does not appear that valid arguments are taken seriously.

I am a current National Park Service Employee and my husband Tim is retired from the National Park Service. I have lived in the Outer Richmond District over 20 years and Tim over 30, and we cherish and regularly use the park. We raised two children just a block from the park and used it heavily for family activities - walks, bike rides, picnics. We feel a strong obligation to protect Golden Gate Park and are concerned that current management is moving in the wrong direction. We heartily support organized activities in the park for children as well as for families. Too many children in San Francisco and surrounding areas do not get the kind of wonderful natural and/or recreational experience that Golden Gate Park can supply. On a walk I once passed a field trip of kids from China Town walking to the Ocean, most of them had never seen the Pacific Ocean although they had lived here all of their lives! It breaks my heart, but also gives me hope that more kids are getting that opportunity. There is no reason this project can't provide superb playing fields for soccer and other events in a natural environment without the negative impacts of the proposal.

The preferred alternative for this project would have a profound negative impact to the California Coast due to loss of wildlife habitat; impacts to night sky due to introduction of lights for night use; and will cause removal of valuable trees and grass. It will introduce more people and cars to western Golden Gate Park, nearby neighborhoods, and the beach area adjacent long into the night. Good bye to romantic evening walks on the beach. We note that protecting the night sky is a current National Park Service mandate, and this project will be on the doorstep of Golden Gate National Recreation Area with large lighted playing fields.

We are concerned about the use of artificial turf. Is it toxic? Apparently the long term effects are not known; but because of this, the rain that falls on this turf is to be piped to the sewage treatment plant rather than allowed to be absorbed and to restore the aquifer as can be done with a grass field.

We are also concerned with the loss of the historic character of western Golden Gate Park. This project as proposed will forever change the look, feel, and character of western Golden Gate Park.

This project as proposed is costly, likely toxic, negatively impacts natural and cultural resources, and disrupts the neighborhood. The proposed benefits to children through organized sports can be realized through less impactful ways. We support renovating the athletic fields at the Beach Chalet with real, honest to goodness turf and use the remainder of the funding to restore other playing fields throughout the city.

Sincerely,  

Robbyn Jackson and Timothy Przygocki
895 31st Avenue #7
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

Honorable Mary Shallenberger
Chair
Calif. Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105



Mary L. Harden
Botanical Artist
Illustration and Instruction
369 - 11th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94118
cell: 650-296-6122
MLHarden@aol.com

RE: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to you to urge you to say NO to the preposterous plan to plasticize the Beach Chalet Fields. The more research that I do, the more unbelievable the current plan becomes to degrade Golden Gate Park, a nationally known and loved green space abutting the beautiful California Coast line.

I live in the Richmond District myself and use the area as a drawing and painting site when the athletic teams are not there. I run the Mary L. Harden School of Botanical Illustration & have 76 students currently enrolled. We paint & draw plant life of different eco systems and mount educational exhibits for non profit organizations.

As a parent, my daughter played soccer at the Beach Chalet athletic fields when she was young. In the 80's I worked with Mission Soccer League to develop new fields in the Eastern side of San Francisco. I am familiar with the City's needs to develop and maintain athletic

1/2

fields for all age groups. However, the proposal that organized sport should take precedent over all other family activities is unfair as well as being supported by a very large number of activists who live outside of the City & have other options

The environment impact of plastic turf, bright unnatural evening lighting, the removal of trees, habitat and beauty, is huge.

I have always supported Soccer Clubs but no more.

I urge the Coastal Commission to do its duty. Stop this outrage. Do not be swayed by the rhetoric and political pressure, but think of the long term effects, costs and degradation of green space.

Some folks are counting on you. We know how effective you can be. Please do all that you can to preserve and protect California's beautiful and life sustaining Coastline.

Thanks for your attention,

Mary Handen

369 - 11th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94118
mlhanden5@aol.com

cc: Kevin Kahn

✓ cc: SF Ocean Edge

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APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

April 23, 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.

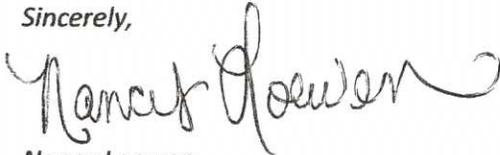
I am equally opposed to the idea of installing stadium lighting. Such bright lights have no place in our park or along our coast. I cannot see the necessity for these lights -- proponents talk about giving kids more time to play, but I think we do not want young students playing soccer until 10 p.m. 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.

Ms. Shallenberger
April 23, 2013
Page 2

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Loewen". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

Nancy Loewen
810 37th Avenue
San Francisco, California 94121

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, California 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, California 94122

To: Commissioner Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
Cc: Commissioners and Staff
From: Hilary Buffum
Date: April 23, 2013

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APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST 2/13/13

Beach Chalet Ball Fields

By: Hilary Buffum

Junior, Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts

It has become increasingly clear that our climate is changing, ocean levels rising, weather patterns fluctuating, and the ocean is acidifying; and yet we continue to ignore this reality as we dump toxins into the air, water and our bodies, creating more waste in the name of convenience. We cannot maintain these habits and survive as a species. Humans do not have the right to continue to serve our short term desires over the long term effects on the environment, ecosystem, and ourselves.

That is why we need to start looking at the whole picture on projects such as the Beach Chalet Ball Fields; a plan to renovate the fields behind the Beach Chalet restaurant at the western edge of Golden Gate Park, adding artificial turf, stadium lighting, bleachers for spectator seating, barbeques, a playground and extra parking lot space.

For many this sounds like a good idea. However, when the city Parks and Recreation Department (Park and Rec.) was asked to do an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), the Planning Commission produced a lengthy report that only scratched the surface of local environmental activists' concerns. The EIR did not look at the big picture, instead, only focusing on the benefits the field would bring and ignoring the negative impacts.

In reading the Draft EIR that was released in October 2011, a section was devoted to reviewing some possible environmental concerns that were raised in prior scoping sessions for the project that were required to be included in the EIR. These included the impact on local wildlife species, water quality, and the effects on the people who use the fields on a regular basis. (Pgs.ES-11 to ES-14). The EIR labeled the project's impact on these areas less than significant but there was little no evidence presented.

Let us begin with the "minimal" impact on the local wildlife. I spoke with Ellen Koivisto, a local resident and public high school science teacher at the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts who has taught chemistry, biology, physics, astronomy and environmental science. (Koivisto, DEIR Letter) I began the conversation with a question about the effects this project would have on the existing ecosystem. We talked about the consequences of the stadium lighting on the navigation of bird, fish and insect species. For species who navigate by light, the stadium lighting is disorienting and they exhaust themselves attempting to find their direction. This area, so close to Ocean Beach, is a migratory pathway used by a multitude of different species throughout the year, including some identified as endangered or rare. Koivisto explained that, "The soccer fields are used as habitat. They provide food sources for a number of species that pass through this area... [They] eat some of the stuff that is available that lives in, on, or around those

fields.” She goes on to explain how these fields are an essential part of the diverse food chain that exists in Golden Gate Park, including native plant and fungal species.

The “removal of 16 trees and approximately 44 shrubs to accommodate the proposed changes,” (pg. ES-2 draft EIR) would be actively destroying local animal habitat, and native species. Koivisto also brought up the destruction of the Western Wind Break, the trees and “shrubs” that protect us against the harsh oceanic winter winds, and goes on to explain that the EIR definition of a shrub includes some plants that are up to forty feet tall. “...come March, April you get sandblasted.” She says, “The sand just roars up the street...the Western Wind Break prevents that sand from destroying Golden Gate Park.” The turf itself that will be replacing the grass removes the homes of animals that feed the variety of local raptor species. All of the above in combination with the lights that are to be left on until 10 pm, 365 days a year, confusing the migrations of more raptors as well as fish shows that the “less than significant” effects would be wiping out an entire western edge ecosystem.

A major argument for the instillation of these fields is that water will be saved because the fields will no longer need watering. However because of the direct sunlight that the field is exposed to the rubber traps the heat of the sun and if it is not watered fairly frequently it can overheat and become unsafe to play on. The fields also need to be hosed down in order to remove animal waste and garbage because it cannot naturally break down as it would on a grass field.

Artificial turf is made of recycled car and truck tires that contain volatile organic compounds, additives that according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are carcinogens. This is in the crum-rubber “recycled” tire padding that the turf is made of. These black rubber pellets are needed to keep the turf blades upright and the field springy because it sits atop a concrete base. This crumb rubber migrates into storm drains via the shoes and clothing of soccer players and spectators, sending it directly to the ocean.

After she won a science competition in 2009, nine-year-old Claire Dworsky partnered with UC Santa Cruz for a project based on her curiosity about the difference in water quality around artificial turf and grass soccer fields. (ucsc.edu) Koivisto spoke about Dworsky’s more recent studies, which show that lechate, the chemicals that leak from the turf field into the water, are 100% fatal to marine life. The gardeners have to hose down the turf fields to clean, creating toxic run-off. This lechate goes directly into the water table and into the ocean, affecting sections of marine life as well as the plants and animals that live in the area and consume the water. As a result, artificial turf fields damage water, rendering it toxic and unusable, rather than saving it.

How does this impact the soccer players? City Fields and Park and Rec. only present possible benefits. But the paint that makes the fields green contains lead. Although the amounts are lower than the hazard level as stated in the Draft EIR, an article published by BBC in 2009 says that lead exposure at any amount has affects on children’s learning and cognitive abilities. Lead has, according to the article, shown a strong affect on intellectual development and even a correlation to lower SAT scores. (news.bbc.uk).

Toxic exposure from artificial turf fields is not limited to lead, as these fields are also bacterial breeding grounds, which is especially bad for people who come into contact with the fields on a regular basis. Young children playing on the fields inhale bacteria such as *Staphylococcus aureus*, which is normally not harmful and goes unnoticed, but can cause soft tissue infections and toxic shock syndrome based on varying levels of

concentration and exposure. A study done by Pennsylvania State University scientists indicated that the heat built up and trapped by artificial turf fields increases the affects of *Staphylococcus aureus*, but not to extremely concerning levels (plantscience.psu.edu) When Koivisto spoke about it, she expressed concern that the tests were done inside contained areas with no sunlight and the effects could be much larger in the open air with direct sunlight. That soccer players and young children playing in these areas may be at much higher risk than the studies show.

Another concern Koivisto expressed was that of the traveling of the crumb-rubber on the clothing of the players as well as the young children getting it in cuts and in their mouths. Crumb-rubber is made of recycled tires and therefore contains trace amounts of copper from the brake pads and other chemicals picked up off the road; its mixed nature makes it impossible to get a chemical composition for the turf, she explains. However we do know that copper, at least, is a deadly poison to humans and other organisms. And the field also contains lead as a remnant of gasoline and oil that the tires come into contact with before they are turned into crumb-rubber. The rubber gets picked up in the players' clothing which then gets washed in the washing machine with other clothing, all the other clothes are exposed, and chemicals from the rubber leach into the water.

The plastic that the turf may contain endocrine disrupters as well, Koivisto says. She goes on to explain that endocrine disrupters are more effective in smaller amounts because then the body does not recognize them as intruders and fight them off. Now we have not just the soccer players but the whole soccer player's family exposed to these toxins as a result of the crum rubber in the laundry.

What if you do not play soccer? What if you never go near the fields yourself? This does not make you exempt from the effects. Besides the water quality issues discussed above, there is an issue for anyone who lives down-wind of the fields. Due to the heat island affect the airborne toxins rise on the air and move into the surrounding areas. Also artificial turf can catch fire, as Koivisto points out early in our interview. The burning turf produces a billowing choking black smoke that she indicates would be toxic. (youtube.com). She says that she brought this up at the scoping session for the Planning Commission and EIR. The response in the EIR is that turf does not catch fire, when in fact a short internet search will produce countless accounts of turf fires.

Lastly, the stadium lighting will blast into the surrounding areas, lighting neighborhoods until late into the night, creating light pollution that is increased by the refractions of light by fog, and disrupting our natural circadian rhythms. As residents of the area, Koivisto and I both noted that the projected photographs with the light poles in them in the Draft EIR were taken on clear days at twilight when the light pollution would not seem as bad.

When we take all of this into account and weigh it against the benefits of the turf fields, it is clear what decision should be made. I, as a former soccer player, understand the appeal of being able to play even when it is raining. The idea of having a more formal space for people to enjoy the sport seems wonderful, but when you factor in all of the drawbacks, I cannot ignore the reality of this project's negative impacts; including the final one, the fact that the field has to be replaced every 10-12 years, and we have no way of disposing of the turf, which must be classified as toxic waste. I have to ask is it worth it? Is it worth the cost? You may say that it is only one little soccer field. But look at how much damage it can do. Ask yourself if you are willing to be responsible for all the death and sickness it causes. Are a few more hours of playing time worth it? Will those

invested in the project cover the years shaved off each life in relation to the field? Look at it on a global scale, everyone thinks that they are the exception, but those exceptions are starting to add up. We need to start thinking of more than ten years into the future when we look at our projects and truly ask ourselves, who or what does this effect in the long run? Am I willing to be responsible for this?

Bio:

Hello I am Hilary Buffum. I am sixteen years old and a junior at the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts in the theatre department. I have lived on the outer edges of the Outer Sunset my entire life. Having grown up in the area the effects on the ecosystems in the area are very dear to my heart. I have a deep interest in science, especially chemistry and the way that the chemistry of our small environments effects our entire planet's well being.

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April 22, 2013

APR 24 2013

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

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to you as both a concerned public school educator and as a resident of the San Francisco Richmond District to **protest** the proposed artificial changes to the GG Park soccer field, and to ask for your consideration of the eco-friendly hybrid alternative.

I have lived in the outer portion of the Richmond District for the past nine years, but have grown up visiting the GG Park and ocean beach areas since my childhood. I am a Speech-Language Pathologist and work in the Marin County schoolsystem for the past ten years; I have also periodically consulted for the San Francisco Unified School District . I have worked with children of all ages and find it incredibly rewarding to not only improve their communication abilities, but also to incorporate the importance of respect for nature and animals in many of my therapy sessions. It is amazing to see how open and eager even the youngest of children are to these ideals. I became involved/affiliated with SF Ocean Edge as soon as I heard about the proposed project one year ago.

I am gravely concerned about the impact that this project can and will have, (should it pass), not only on the environment, but also the on the well-being and values of the children who are/have been involved:

In terms of the park and surrounding coastal area:

- The 60 foot/150,000 watts stadium lighting will obscure the natural night sky for all residents of the Sunset and Richmond districts with an obnoxious, artificially bright reflective, neon quality. Stars will no longer be visible, beach bonfires(located directly across the street) will be impacted; these have offered both individuals and families alike wholesome joy and sanctuary by making us feel like we are in the wilderness someplace far away from the asphalt jungle which is so nearby. The Audubon Society has already reported that the night lighting will grossly impact the migratory patterns of over a hundred species of birds. The Sierra Club reports the lighting (which is to remain on 360 days/year until 10:00 p.m. every night), will leave various animals and birds vulnerable to night time predators.
- At least 55 trees are to be cut down...these add aesthetically to the general soccer field area and to the feel of what is supposed to be nature, not to mention that these

are the homes of ravens, owls and other birds...who will not be given an evacuation notice for themselves nor their young once the excavation crew comes in!

- I am appalled and deeply saddened to know that the city proposes to install artificial turf, from which the runoff has been proven to be toxic, in a large historic park where children play (often barefoot as I did as a child), lush plants and trees grow and wildlife resides. A hybrid, eco-friendly alternative exists...let us please consider that.
- It is hard to imagine that even more cars would be swarming to that specific area of the park, particularly if more stadium seating is added, and asphalt parking lots with parent pickup/drop off areas for more speeding SUV's, minivans and cars which already are a problem, especially on weekends...this is not the proper place for such a high scale, high volume sports project...the West Sunset playground is a better suited area as it is surrounded by streets and parking areas already...and again: will not impact ALL living beings whether they are residents walking dogs, parents with strollers, joggers, wildlife, etc.

In terms of my concerns for the children:

- What does this teach children about the importance of environmental conservation?! We know that the general well-being of our eco-system is in trouble...we need the future generations of tomorrow to become informed, and work in favor of the environment, not against it for personal gain. When attending and speaking at the public hearing in front of the SF Board of Supervisors last May, I witnessed approximately 200 children speak openly about their "needs." I heard reasons such as "My friends had to move to Hillsborough and Marin because there are no places to play here." "I can't get the ball in the goal because of the gopher holes." This is why we have proposed a natural grass field with gopher-proof netting underneath. I heard a lot of "I want" at this hearing. I also later found out that many parents of these children were lied to by the soccer organizations as they (the parents) were told it would be a night of soccer practice and then pizza afterwards. The children who are involved in this are being taught that lying to their own parents is okay, and that it is acceptable to manipulate politicians and to destroy nature in the name of a game (soccer) they want to play. This is beyond comprehension and I am concerned beyond words.

Children need spaces to play organized sports, they absolutely do, but this is not the place if it means the toxic destruction of a natural environment...children need nature too. And...not if it means teaching children to lie and to disrespect nature, and lastly, not if it is through the ruination of a natural setting, including a peaceful night sky which was planned out carefully for San Francisco residents a hundred years ago. Please consider the alternative plan. Thank you for your time!

Respectfully yours,

Farideh Alagheband, M.S. CCC, SLP
790 46th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121

JEAN B BARISH, ESQ.
5758 GEARY BOULEVARD, #341
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94121

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APR 24 2013

April 21, 2013

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

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am an Appellant in the referenced case, involving the grant of a Coastal Permit to the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department to construct artificial turf soccer fields with stadium lights at the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park. I urge the California Coastal Commission to deny this permit. I also urge the Commission to support the win-win hybrid alternative, which would renovate the Golden Gate Park fields with natural grass and no night lighting, and move the proposed development to a more suitable location at the nearby West Sunset Playground.

There are many reasons why the Coastal Permit should be denied. Following are significant negative impacts of this project:

- Artificial night lighting that will stay on until 10 pm every night of the year will create unacceptable light pollution and ruin the dark sky in the area.
- Night lighting will also harm wildlife habitat and disrupt the migratory pattern of birds.
- Artificial turf with rubber tire crumb infill is toxic. It is unsuitable to use this material above the large aquifer which is below these fields, and in an area close to the Pacific Ocean, where toxic tire crumb poses a risk to sea life.
- Toxic rubber tire crumb also poses a serious health risk to children and adult who would be playing on these fields.
- The project is inconsistent with the Golden Gate Park Master Plan, Ocean Beach Master Plan and the Western Shoreline Area Plan.
- A built environment at this location will significantly alter the aesthetic experience of this part of the Park and the adjoining coastline.

Hon. Mary Shallenberger
April 20, 2013
Page 2

- Many San Francisco residents and visitors to the City are opposed to this project. At a recent meeting of the Coastal Commission over 5,000 postcards signed by opponents to the project were delivered to you, and significant environmental organizations, including the Sierra Club and the Audubon Society, oppose this project.

I am a strong supporter of recreational soccer, and understand there may be a need for more playing fields in San Francisco. But meeting the needs of the soccer community must not be done at the expense of spoiling a priceless natural resource and putting the health of the public at risk. The win-win alternative that Appellants have proposed will provide more soccer-playing time while also preserving Golden Gate Park and the coastline. This win-win alternative, which would restore the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and no sports lighting, and restore the West Sunset playingfields with safe, non-toxic turf and night lights is clearly the ideal solution.

Golden Gate Park is a priceless open-space in the midst of urban San Francisco. Destroying the Park and the adjoining coastline with synthetic turf and night lighting is both short-sighted and wrong. Our children deserve to have the western edge of San Francisco protected for their enjoyment and their children's enjoyment. It is a priceless resource that must be preserved. Please keep San Francisco green and safe by denying the permit to construct this project at the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jean Barish

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

April 23, 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 you to protest the implementation of the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields at the western edge of Golden Gate Park.

I grew up in the City's Outer Richmond district and returned to my old neighborhood when I retired. I was a Marine Geophysicist, I spent years travelling, spending months at sea collecting data for geophysical research. I now advocate for my neighborhood. My neighbors and I joined to form the Friends of Cabrillo Playground to address the problems that lack of custodial and gardening services were causing to our neighborhood playground. We Outer Richmond denizens like our quiet neighborhood and do not want a large athletic field and it accompanying crowds, noise and traffic. We do not believe that this is an appropriate usage of the western end of Golden Gate Park.

Several issues worry me about the plan:

1. Night lighting and the impact on wildlife.
2. The use of synthetic turf. While it is true that synthetic turf will obviate the need for irrigation to the area, the plastic turf, obviously, has a life span. It is not recyclable, so imagine that quantity of plastic turf going into the landfill.
3. As a long-time resident of the Outer Richmond district, I disagree with this usage of the western end of Golden Gate Park. Our end of the park has a somewhat "wild" aspect that we appreciate. It has not been manicured to death like the areas around the museums and Conservatory. We like our end of the park wild and natural.
4. Increase in traffic and congestion. The San Francisco Recreation and Parks Dept. has already forced the Hardly Strictly Bluegrass Music Festival and the Outside Lands Music Festival on residents of this community. These events make life in this neighborhood unbearable, but they are limited to three days each. A soccer field that operates daily to 10PM will be a constant harassment.
5. The loss of so many trees that provide a windbreak.
6. Without the trees, there will be an increase in sand and silt in the air that will be unhealthy.
7. Lack of data regarding toxicity of the runoff from the artificial turf. What you don't know can definitely hurt you.

I would urge the California Coastal Commission to weigh the numerous negative impacts of the Beach Chalet Athletic Field. There are other options for athletic fields that will not impact the quality of life for the people and wildlife at the western end of Golden Gate Park.

Best regards,
Devorah Joseph, Ph.D.,
862-39th Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94121

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

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APR 24 2013

April 18, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair

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

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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

Shallenberger
April 18, 2013
Page 2

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

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, California 94105-2219

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, California 94122

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APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

William Kostura
P. O. Box 60211
Palo Alto, CA 94306
(650) 815-1174

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

April 17, 2013

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

Note: **Staff has been copied on this letter**

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to oppose the athletic field plans for the area behind the Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park. I hope your commission is still undecided on this project and can weigh comments from the general public before making a decision.

I arrived in San Francisco in 1977 as a young man, still very much undecided on my career choice and future. I had always loved history and I also had a love of great places, but growing up in Texas I had almost no idea what to do with these interests. After a few years in San Francisco, however, there was no doubt: becoming a San Francisco historian was the only career path I wished to pursue. I became active as a local historian in 1981 and have worked professionally as an architectural historian since 1993. I served on the city's Landmarks Board during 1995-1996 and have published many works in the field. Although I live in Palo Alto now, I still consider myself a San Franciscan in every way except for my mailing address. Nearly all of my work involves San Francisco projects; I regularly write historical evaluations on older buildings that are reviewed by City Planning staff.

I mention all this because I wish to emphasize how important sense of place is to me; it drives most of what I do. Historical buildings in old cities and natural landscapes have almost equal appeal for me. One of the great things about San Francisco, in addition to its historic buildings and neighborhoods, is the presence of wooded landscapes and natural areas within a dense city. Glen Canyon, Golden Gate Heights, Sutro Forest, the top of Mount Davidson, Land's End in Lincoln Park, and Fort Funston offer opportunities for quiet getaways such as few city-dwellers in other parts of the United States have. All such areas should be treasured by us.

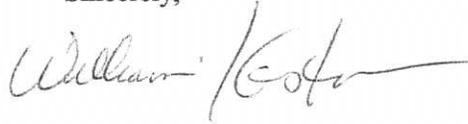
The park in San Francisco that is most accessible to the largest number of people is Golden Gate Park. In this park, there are two great landscapes: the Botanical Gardens (formerly Strybing Arboretum), and Strawberry Hill in Stow Lake. These two areas form just a small percentage of the total park area, and they are not enough, I would say. Golden Gate Park has become too much of a playground of many uses, and is no longer very park-like. I would like to see this trend toward urbanization reversed.

The proposed athletic fields would urbanize the park on a scale comparable to the building of museums in the concourse, the construction of Crossover Drive (from 19th Avenue and Lincoln Way to Park-Presidio Boulevard and Fulton), and the Polo Field. Very tall and bright night lights, a hardpack surface of artificial grass, and other built features will create an extremely intrusive environment for anyone coming to the park for quietude and contemplation. The proposal is much too much, and the negative effects will be felt well beyond the footprint of the athletic fields themselves.

I beg you to consider: if you were a hawk or a squirrel, a solitary human on a stroll, or a resident of the surrounding neighborhood, would you go there, if you did not have to?

In the spirit of Golden Gate Park historian Ray Clary, I thank you for considering these thoughts, and ask you to reject the proposed athletic fields.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Kohn". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

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

RECEIVED

APR 24 2013

April 23, 2013

Staff has been copied on this letter

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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
Support the appeal to deny the LCP permit granted for this project

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

I am writing to protest the issuance of the Coastal Zone Permit for the Beach Chalet renovation project and to request that the large sports complex as described be constructed at an alternative site that does not negatively affect the natural enjoyment of the beach and the park. A hybrid alternative does exist to accomplish the playfield goals.

This letter is about asking the Commission to preserve the coastline at Ocean Beach in San Francisco and for similarly situated urban areas. There is a very real danger in setting a precedent with this project to allow stadium lighting within the coastal zone to the detriment of the wildlife and accessing the pleasure of our magnificent coastline. I note that the National Coastal Zone Management Act supports "giving development priority to coastal-dependent uses." There is nothing about a soccer complex that *needs to be adjacent* to the ocean. There is no nexus to the sport that requires the location of its playfield to be at the seaside. Conversely, the serenity of the ocean experience at the end of Golden Gate Park is seriously compromised by lights and the built up requirements of the project.

This letter is about asking the Commission to preserve the wild western part of Golden Gate Park for future generations. It is about respecting the land as primarily a place to recreate in nature, and to accommodate other activities that blend in with the natural setting. Many sports that can be integrated with the natural setting are part of the park. Indeed, soccer has been part of the Beach Chalet area for decades. This area should be improved and continue to offer a place for children to play as part of the beautiful experience of being in this gentle place. It is noteworthy how unobtrusively many different sports have been merged into the natural areas at the western end of the park without controversy. That is because there has been respect for the park first, and inappropriate development with lights and plastic grass have not been allowed.

This letter is about asking the Commission to allow me to enjoy this wonderful special place of birds, tall and bent trees, diversity of plants, the smell of the sea, and a place to get away from it all. I should tell you that "nature" to me is the great outdoors, with everything that

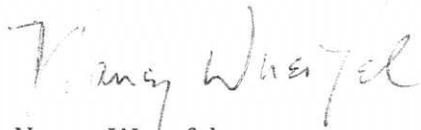
thrives there, regardless of its place of origin. It is what lives and grows, that shows me the seasons, the times of day and night, and the stars above. It is not plastic or artificial. Golden Gate Park is such a gift of nature's offerings!

Right now, I can enjoy this nature and the kids can play soccer and there is no conflict. I do support renovations for children to play on real grass fields with proper irrigation and gopher deterrents, but not at the expense of changing 7 acres of open space into a stadium complex. This area is not just raw land awaiting development. It is currently occupied with a mix of everything that a park should be AND it is right next to the crashing waves of the Pacific Ocean. Being from the midwest, it means a great deal to me to be able to view the ocean anytime, but especially at night when the whitecaps glow with the moonlight. Please don't let tall, artificial lights ruin this for everyone.

There is nothing more important that we can offer the future generations of San Franciscans than a natural setting in Golden Gate Park, down by the ocean, and ensuring a mutual respect for the worth of wild things while people pursue their individual recreational interests. Open space indeed is the most valuable possession an urban society has.

Thank you for considering my comments

Sincerely,



Nancy Wuerfel
2516 23rd Avenue
San Francisco, Ca 94116

cc: Commissioners
Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
SF Ocean Edge

RECEIVED

April 18, 2013

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

APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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

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

RECEIVED

APR 24 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

EARTHDAY April 22, 2013

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

Subject: **PLEASE NO STADIUM LIGHTS IN Golden Gate PARK**

A few years ago a group of retired folks at my church wanted to make a difference in the lives of kids in the poorest section of San Francisco (the projects & homeless youth). One of our members, a retired SF school teacher, approached a principal of a school, and suggested that we introduce the children to nature.

Where in an urban big city could we go? Of course the wild nature filled west end of Golden Gate Park. There we could walk on tree lined paths, see the squirrels, all of the birds (have you ever seen a "turkey duck"?), a turtle swimming in 1 of the lakes and geese quacking over us in formation or grazing in the Beach Chalet soccer fields.

It might be hard for you to realize but these inner City kids do not get to see trees & nature they are too poor to go to the mountains.

When we went to the soccer fields, to play kickball, it was sad to see a fence surrounding it, locked and with a sign saying something like "to reserve the fields call".

The CCC's home page states "protect, conserve, enhance environmental & human based resources of the California coast & ocean for environmentally sustainable & prudent use by current & future generations" and to protect "highly urbanized areas up to 5 miles". Please protect all of us.

In 1876 when William Hammond Hall was building the park, he and his commissioners resigned when the "Big 4" wanted to put a racetrack in the west end of the park, because his (Hall) plans for the west of 19th Ave. was to be for the all San Franciscans to experience nature.

Some tour companies describe the west end of the park "explore a magic garden" or "paths, meadows, lakes off a chance to lose oneself in pockets of idyllic scenery" and an "urban oasis".

At the east end of the park is already a stadium with lights.

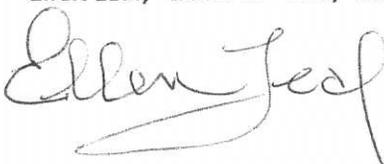
Everyone wants kids to get out and play, but they do not play at night (restore the natural fields), and what could be better for City kids to be able to experience nature. True story one of the little boys with us one day had a squirrel come up to him and he gave it a piece of an apple, wow the laughter from the child was so heartwarming and he talked about it for weeks.

We are adding to our outings a night beach party so that the children can see stars but if you allow stadium lights the size of Candlestick Park that will destroy our dark sky experience

I fear if you allow these horrible lights it could open up the whole coast to these types of lights.

There are many alternative sites and the SFRPD has over 50 places to provide fields.

Ellen Leaf, 2690-45th Ave, San Francisco, CA., 94116



cc: staff

April 15, 2013

Hon. Marv 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 that the Coastal Commission NOT allow the conversion of fields in Golden Gate Park to artificial turf.

As the mother of two young children, I know the enjoyment and other benefits that soccer provides. I also know that the demand for soccer fields in San Francisco is exceeding the supply, leading to scheduling issues and cancelled games. We need to find a solution to these problems. But we need to find one that does not involve artificial turf in Golden Gate Park.

Artificial turf in Golden Gate Park threatens our water quality since the runoff would need to be piped to the treatment plant, thus reducing flow to the aquifer. It threatens our air quality since the artificial turf would replace oxygen-generating grass and would involve the loss of trees as well. It threatens our access to open space since the fields would then be unusable for anything BUT soccer. Artificial turf in Golden Gate Park would also have severe impacts on wildlife, both because of the loss of natural space for everything from gophers to bees to hawks, and because of the nighttime light pollution it would cause.

My children and I have enjoyed those fields in many ways over the years. Besides organized sports, they are good for making flower chains, dancing, cartwheels, birdwatching... the list goes on. They smell good when you walk by. And as my daughter pointed out when I told her about the proposal, they have a lot of bees and "I'm worried because I really love bees."

PLEASE do not allow all the ways in which a field of grass is part of childhood to be steamrolled to make single-use space for team competition.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Quinn
3739 26th Street
San Francisco, 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 94122

4434 Fulton Street Apt. 8
San Francisco, California

April 17, 2013

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

RE: Proposal for "Improvements" to Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park

Dear Ms Shallenberger,

In 1963 PG&E attempted to put a nuclear power plant on Bodega Head. Recognized as an act of lunacy, it was never built. In terms of scale the proposed soccer complex affects a small area yet its impact is great. The lighting alone is very problematic. The 150,000-watt proposed stadium lighting will sit on 60 feet poles-taller than the adjacent trees. Additionally night lighting is planned for new sidewalks and an enlarged parking lot.

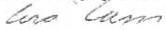
This planned, year-round, dusk to 10 P.M illumination would light up Golden Gate Park and the adjacent neighborhood impacting Ocean Beach and its visitors, subjecting all to unwanted lights. It would be a nuisance and an aesthetic nightmare effecting prized views like that from Sutro Park. The wonderful expanse from Golden Gate Park down the coast will sport lighting poles above the trees visible both day and night. Having lived in an apartment overlooking Golden Gate Bridge for over 35 years, I can attest to the fact that good views are really priceless and do help to raise one's spirit. It makes no sense to butcher beautiful views.

The western part of Golden Gate Park has always been special in that it preserves the original intent of park planners—to provide a pastoral setting for city dwellers to commune with nature and receive solace from it. Recreation activities and development have been concentrated in the eastern part of the park. Those that do exist in the western part have been modest and those that are proposed must be sensibly planned to fit into this more sylvan environment. Adjacent to the soccer field is the Queen Wilhelmina Tulip Garden and restored Murphy Windmill. Unfortunately, the scale of the proposed soccer development will diminish the experience of visiting this lovely place. It would be a shame given the years it took to raise money and restore this area.

Another of my concerns is the increased car traffic that the proposed soccer fields would generate given that the area has limited public transportation. The proposed quality fields would attract players from outside the city who would drive here. On busy weekends the impact on Ocean beach parking may prevent families, older adults with limited mobility, or the handicapped from being able to park, denying them the chance to enjoy the beach and the simple pleasure of just watching the surf and listening to the waves which can be a great comfort for the stress of urban life.

Though I support neighborhood soccer fields and would support a quality field with lighting in an alternate spot for the purpose of increasing park revenue, I cannot support this project. Substantial habitat degradation is my greatest concern. The proposal calls for the removal of over fifty trees, the paving over of parkland to make a bigger parking lot, and the installation of artificial turf and grand stands. All of these factors combined with the increased lighting and number of visitors would have severe negative impacts on the area's vegetation, its birds and other wildlife. That is why I favor the restoration and maintenance of the present grass soccer fields.

I respectfully request that you consider my reasons for opposing the proposed soccer complex. It should be built in an appropriate urban space not Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely yours,

Cira Marie Curri

Cc: SF Ocean Edge

cc: Staff of CCC by SF OE

From: Andrew Bennett [mailto:ab48@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Monday, April 22, 2013 1:18 PM

[copy has been sent to staff]

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 writing you this letter to protest the Beach Chalet Soccer Complex project and its negative impacts on the community. We want to protect Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach from 150,000 watts of sports lighting and 7 acres of artificial turf. My wife and I live near the park and use it on a daily basis. Our concern is with impacts to the coast and the Park from loss of open space, night lighting and the impact on wildlife, water quality, and increased congestion and car traffic.

We love soccer and the good health and disposition athletics and organized sports can offer to children and their development. My wife and I both played soccer as children and I went on to play semi -pro until my early twenties and then as a coach after that. I am now 57 years old and have always played on natural turf and do not feel deprived.

I am not against artificial turf per say, as it has its place in a Stadium context, but I feel it has NO place in a green space like GGP and especially accompanied by 150,000 watts of lighting. The beauty of GGP is that is is a NATURAL respite in the otherwise asphalt and concrete of the surrounding city of San Francisco. The loss of another major Natural open space is criminal and unwarranted. Do you think children will want to stop playing soccer, if they cannot play on astro turf?

I ride my bike on a daily basis through the park and the surface traffic and parking (especially with the new parking allowances on MLK have made it a considerably more dangerous and congested green space for pedestrian and cyclist. There is not a day that a car door is not opened in front of me in the new narrow bike corridor between the curb and the parked cars along MLK. Ocean Beach already fills up on sunny days and during all the events planned for the park. Introducing more cars and pavement to GGP is a really really bad idea. GGP is already dangerously close to becoming more of a car park and less of a people park.

The total environmental impact of this proposed project is unknown, but what is sure is the loss of trees , grass and habitat is always a negative for many well documented reasons from pure asthetics to issues like carbon sequestration, and aquifer recharge.

None of this makes sense. A highly prized NATURAL soccer field, the envy of any city world wide and we want to destroy it with artificial turf and light up the night sky like an airport runway. No thanks. Please stop this madness for the sake of the parks neighbors and the entire city.

Sincerely,



Andrew Bennett
1240 7th Ave Apt 4
SF CA 94122

From: J. C. [mailto:thepoetjc@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, April 22, 2013 1:07 PM

THIS IS NOT HOLLYWOOD

Only Hollywood, the land of the unreal, would need this horrific lighting, not to mention, fax sets with removable plastic grass. This is one of the greatest spots that remain in The City barely effected by ambient light. Decades ago we lost **Fleischer Pool**, which was almost a **Wonder of the World**, to become a part of a larger Zoo and Water Treatment Plant. The Water Treatment Plant was/is a necessary evil with a needed purpose; but a ugly, phony, and unnatural soccer field at the north western end of a City hailed the world around for its beauty is not necessary, purposeful, or fitting for Golden Gate Park. The Park is a majestic mixture of natural and mystic beauty; not to mention all the decades 4 generations of my family have enjoy: Feeding the ducks in so many lakes; Watching the Buffalo roam; rowing, horse back riding, hiking, and just generally frolicking.

I am not without sympathy for the need of a mammoth field for the worlds most popular sport; so I hardily recommend placing it at the opposite south eastern corner of this great City; like Candlestick or the old Shipyard. Imagine what all that light could do to deter crime in that area. *Not at the western end of the Most Loved City on the west coast, where the beauty of GG Park meets the Great Pacific Ocean.*

John [JC] Cosgrave
PO Box 1407
Boulder Creek, CA 95006
831-338-3948

[copy has been sent to CCC staff.]

April 20, 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

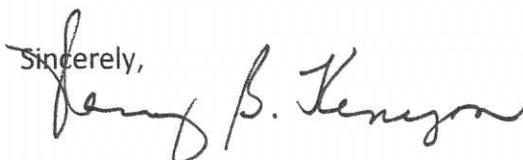
Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I want to express my strong opposition to the soccer field planned for the area of the Beach Chalet. In a city and state on the forefront of conservation, creating a green and organic environment, why would you introduce such an anti-environmental project??? Especially when you have a Hybrid alternative.

Ocean Beach and Golden Gate Gate Park have been enjoyed by my family, neighbors, children and grandchildren. Please do not place artificial turf and lighting in our beloved parks. My children had many recreational experiences in sports of all kinds in San Francisco, and were never unable to find recreational facilities. Recreation is important but not at the expense of artificial turf and huge LED lights.

I have lived on Masonic Ave. in San Francisco for over 43 years. I am retired as Executive Director of a nonprofit that worked for 30 years to end housing discrimination in the Bay Area.

I am told that the Commission is concerned with impacts to the coast and the Park, from loss of access by the general public to open space, wildlife impacts, night lighting impacts, water quality concerns. As a birdwatcher, I predict that these lights will confuse and harm the thousands of migrating birds who fly down our coast each year. Please do not betray our past commitment to a beautiful city.

Sincerely,


Nancy Kenyon
1375 Masonic Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94117

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 18, 2013

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

cc: Kevin Kahn

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

I know you have received so many letters of concern regarding the proposed conversion of the grassy fields at the far western end of Golden Gate Park into a high-intensity soccer venue that will forever diminish the natural environment there. I would like to add just two points.

The myth of "for the children". The stadium lighting that is proposed will enable night-time play by adult leagues. Children will not need the lighting; children play April through October and it's daylight savings time. They do not play in the cold, dark months of November through March. However, adult soccer league play occurs after work hours and on weekends. It is adults who might need the lighting, not the children. Please consider that when the children's leagues line up all the kids to tell you the children need the night lights. It is not school children from the San Francisco public schools, but children bound into leagues for competition play that you will generally hear from. But the children play during the day; it is the adults who play at night. Even so, tonight is April 18 and it is light until 8 p.m. The days are growing even longer, of course.

Precedent for stadium lighting so close to the ocean and its beaches. It will be very difficult to say no to other proposals to light up the coast. Although San Francisco might appear to be a highly developed urban place, the far west end of the city is low-density at the edge of wondrous open space, the huge belt of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), the Ocean Beach and the almost unpeopled west end of Golden Gate Park. There is dark sky here; the migrations of birds fly over the beach; nocturnal wildlife thrive here since it feels almost as remote as open countryside.

You'll hear many other reasons from opponents and proponents, so I hope these are slightly different points that you might not otherwise hear. I urge you to reject the proposal and recommend another site.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Miller
1239 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122
415 661-0126
Ma-miller@msn.com



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

April 23, 2013

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing to you as a 44 year resident of San Francisco, an avid park user and advocate. I am asking **your commission to stop the installation of artificial grass fields and powerful stadium lighting at the Beach Chalet Soccer field location in Golden Gate Park.**

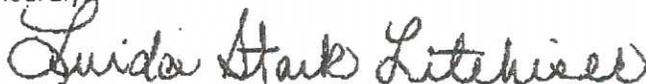
My children have grown up around Golden Gate Park. We love the pastoral, bucolic settings and the gradual meandering paths to the sea. It is a treasure for the entire city. We need to preserve what little precious natural land we have left for future generations. I understand the needs of soccer enthusiasts for longer play time, my grandchildren play soccer, but there are alternatives to this plan and perhaps through your commission these concerns and alternatives will finally be "heard".

I shared my concerns about this issue at the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Commission meetings, at the board of Supervisors hearings and through letter and petition drives. Through it all, the side favoring a natural grass renovation and lower illumination lighting has been ignored and worse yet vilified as being anti-children and obstructionist. There are good people with passionate views on both sides of this issue but so far the alternatives have not been given a fair hearing.

If we go down this road to an artificial grass field and high powered lighting, we won't be able to go back. I observed the construction of this type of field in Crocker Amazon Park. It completely changes the landscape of the park. It can't be reversed if we decide that other types of sport, native plant gardens, or an open meadow for concerts would be a preferred use by another generation.

I hope you will consider these concerns. My family shares this view and we await your decision.

Sincerely,



Linda Stark Litehiser
78 Havelock St.
San Francisco, CA 94112

Cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont St. Suite 200
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Cc: Ocean Edge, 1243 42nd. Ave. San Francisco, CA 94122

April 22, 2013

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

Subject: NO LIGHTS AT THE WT. END OF Golden Gate PARK

Facts you should know:

60' stadium lights proposed for the soccer fields at the Beach Chalet are NOT for kids but for adult soccer leagues with stadium seating, amplified sound and NO public transit.

The SFRPD has 40 green spaces that are being used for youth soccer plus the current Beach Chalet fields, 12 parks with lights used for night time soccer, and 9 gyms used for indoor youth soccer leagues. There is only one Golden Gate Park.

RECREATION at the west end of GGP: golf, archery, fly casting, model boats, disc golf, tai chi, soccer, par course, French lawn bowling, running clubs, dog training areas, hiking/biking trails and a Senior Center.

Statements in the EIR regarding the Beach Chalet Soccer fields: "fields are used exclusively through reservations" and "when not reserved the fields are closed and unavailable for use". When you see a child peering through a fence at the soccer pitches it is ONLY because you have to "pay to play".

MASTER PLAN paid for by the San Francisco tax payers, with input from all over the City, not just 1 interest group states: "The demands for recreation need to be balanced with the objectives of preserving the original intent & purpose of the park as a "sylvan and pastoral" retreat.

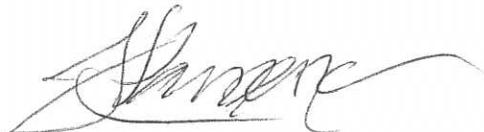
Restore the natural soccer fields with better grass, irrigation and gopher barriers. Remember it takes a large amount of water & disinfectants to clean plastic grass and then it goes into the aquifer.

Please LOOK at the suggested alternatives. We want kids to "get out & play" but also to experience nature at its **BEST**.

BE CAREFUL DO NOT WEAKEN THE COASTAL LAWS AND ALLOW HUGE WATTS OF LIGHT ON OUR COAST.

I AM DEPENDING ON YOU

S. Kamena
1423 Plymouth
SF CA, 94122



cc: staff

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 Honorable Mary Shallenberger:

I am writing to voice my opposition to a proposal to erect a soccer field (with artificial turf and artificial lighting) at the western most end of Golden Gate Park. I have grave misgivings about the environmental repercussions such a plan would cause. Decay of and run off from artificial turf is harmful and should not be installed at a location in close proximity to the Pacific Ocean, where it will enter and disrupt the delicate ocean ecosystem.

Also, the lighting that is proposed for the soccer complex will have a negative impact on wildlife that make their homes in the Western portion of Golden Gate Park and in the adjoining Pacific Ocean intertidal areas.

I am a children's librarian and have a great concern for the welfare of children, but the negatives of selecting this particular coastal location as a site for a soccer field far outweighs any short-sighted and short term benefits. There are other less fragile and more appropriate locations which could be developed for a soccer field without harming the unique and wonderful coastal strip at the end of Golden Gate Park and the wildlife living there. Looking at the big picture, preserving the open space and protecting the ocean is the greatest gift that can be given to children of this and future generations.

Thank you for your attention to my concerns and your dedication in monitoring and protecting the California's coast.

Sincerely yours,

Kathleen Keeler
3820 Lawton Street
San Francisco , CA 94122

22 April, 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, California
Staff has been copied on this letter.

Dear Ms. Shallenberger :

I write to you on this year's Earthday with deep concern for the ocean-adjacent area of our beautiful Golden Gate Park. I hope that you will protect this area's natural character by halting the proposed artificial turf project, allowing for renovation with grass fields at Beach Chalet and an alternate location for the popular sports facilities.

I was born and raised here in the City, and enjoyed many years playing soccer on the natural turf fields of Beach Chalet as a student at local schools. My wife and I have lived within three blocks of the park for the past 23 years, benefiting from the peaceful and rejuvenating environment on walks through the trees and past grassy meadows. I currently teach painting at the Sharon Art Studio, in the east end of the park, and I often draw inspiration from the park's greenery.

The currently proposed renovations for the Beach Chalet fields would destroy a large portion of the wildlife habitat near our neighborhood, add significant light pollution after dark, and overwhelm the local area with traffic and crowds. Birds, mammals, and insects could not forage or hunt on the artificial turf. The tall, powerful stadium lighting would obliterate the evening views from the beach. And the out-of-scale sports complex would replace what now provides a sylvan respite from urban concrete and noise. This would include the removal of over 55 trees, further degrading our local parkland.

My wife, friends, neighbors and I frequently enjoy the recreational benefits of bird watching, stargazing, and spotting wildlife such as foxes, raccoons, or blue herons in and around the Beach Chalet – Ocean Beach area. We have enough traffic noise, litter, and night lighting near our home as it is. I earnestly plead that you protect this treasure of natural beauty for us and for all visitors to our delightful garden on the coast.

Finally, as a teacher in the San Francisco public schools, I have seen first-hand how students enjoy wildlife and nature-viewing experiences as well as sports. We need to maintain a variety of recreational outlets for our youth to thrive here in a large city. As a balanced alternative, placing the sports lighting and artificial turf at West Sunset Playground, further away from Golden Gate Park and the coast, would benefit all concerned.

Sincerely,


Charles J. Denefeld
3820 Lawton Street 94122

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

cc: SF Ocean Edge, 1243 42nd Avenue 94122

April 15, 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,

In regard to the Beach Chalet Soccer Field GGPark proposal:

My concern as a resident of the Richmond District is the proposed sports lighting system for this complex.

It is well known that intense floodlighting, as proposed for the soccer fields, is disruptive to wildlife, most significantly birds.

The sports lighting system, as proposed, bathes a very large area with light...in fact, I believe during a test of this lighting, from my residence about 1 mile inland adjacent to the north side of GGPark, the whole western skyline was illuminated.

The west end of GG Park, to date, is spared of night time floodlighting ... yes, Ocean Beach is lit by street lights ... and the GGNRA should be required to mitigate the intensity!

It is totally unacceptable that a whole new source of intense lighting be added.

I fully support increasing recreational capacity for children and all citizens in GG Park, in fact a new Nature Trail thru the east end GG Park Oak Woodlands is being created and the east end Horseshoe Courts complex is being renovated.

However, I think this kind of soccer field proposal for the western edge of GGP with its included sports floodlighting is inappropriate.

Sincerely,

ROBERT BAKEWELL
863 Arguello Blvd. # 5
SF, 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

April 23, 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 extremely concerned about the proposed development of the soccer fields behind the Beach Chalet. This has been a topic conversation among all my friends, family and neighbors since the plans began and no one I know is in support of the plans.

I am a sixth generation San Franciscan. My son is seventh generation. Six generations of my family have lived in the Richmond District beginning before the 1906 earthquake. Currently we live in our family home of more than fifty years in the Outer Richmond District. We are bird watchers and nature walkers. I walk with friends and family in western Golden Gate Park perhaps three times a week, sometimes more.

We watch the return of the Great Horned owls with joy. We love the hawks and recently a turkey vulture has taken up the park and beach as part of its territory. The coyotes are thrilling and I look forward to seeing the foxes others have seen. We walk in the park in order to catch sight of the birds and animals. It gives us pleasure and hope. There are so few opportunities in San Francisco for families to experience this.

Artificial "turf" in the soccer fields will have many negative environmental elements but further decreasing grassy areas used by the raptors and other animals is very upsetting. The huge electric lights will be devastating for the growing owl populations and the nocturnal animals. The greatly increased traffic at the new fields will turn this quiet area into another busy, noisy urban area with competition over parking and disregard for pedestrians and wildlife alike. On any sunny weekend parking is already crowded at the beach end of the park.

The western park of Golden Gate Park, right up to Ocean Beach is a quiet, calm area that is safe for walkers, runners, bikers and other recreational users. This is one of San Francisco's greatest treasures. Parts of the park to the east are becoming very crowded but the western end still provides peace for people and protection for returning wildlife.

My son played soccer for two years while at George Washington High School in the Richmond District. We drove to soccer fields all over the city for practice and games. I saw fields similar to what is proposed here. As popular as soccer is, it is inappropriate to sacrifice wild areas of the park for an artificial environment. My nineteen year old son has worked at the zoo since he was twelve. He is now studying wildlife conservation in college. As a single mom, I couldn't take him to distant areas for vacation, but the park provided wonderful opportunities for us.

There are so many reasons why the proposals for the soccer fields will negatively impact our area. This is such an emotional issue it is difficult to discuss. It may seem to be a distant and neglected area to some, but not to those who know, use and love this part of the park. The immediate impact will be, if the fields are torn up and lighting is installed, that the noise, crowds, parking and nighttime activity will continue to push back the areas that support birds and animals towards the east until none of the wilder areas are left.

Sincerely,

Jocasta Mettling
826-39th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121
Jocastamet@aol.com

April 23, 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,

We are writing to protest the plans for the Beach Chalet soccer complex that, if implemented, impose 150,000 watts of sports lighting and more than seven acres of artificial turf into our beloved, nature-filled neighborhood. Because there are no countervailing reasons to impose this eyesore on locals and individuals seeking to enjoy the outdoors in this area, the CCC should register its strong opposition to this project.

We recently moved to the Sutro Heights micro-neighborhood from Bernal Heights. We moved here so we can raise our son in a quiet, naturalistic setting rich with open space, wildlife, the ocean and stars—all rarities in a city like San Francisco. The house we were fortunate enough to buy has a view straight south toward Golden Gate Park and the coastline. The lights at the soccer fields, if they are installed, will drastically affect our view. And more importantly, the project threatens the natural surroundings we hold so dear. It is our love for Ocean Beach and Golden Gate Park that brought us to this neighborhood and caused us to spend hard-earned money on a house that we love and intend to pass onto generations of children in our family. Please don't let this project—which appears to be driven by mercenary considerations alone—ruin our nighttime experience and threaten the open spaces and environmental gifts in this area that we hold so dear.

My husband and I were both soccer players as youngsters (I was captain of my high school varsity team) and we both still love the sport. We hope and expect that our son will play soccer and love the sport as much as we do. Yet we do not support the Beach Chalet soccer complex because we recognize that fostering a love for soccer does not require sacrificing valuable open space and threatening the natural resources that we also expect our son to enjoy for a lifetime. We could not be more ardent supporters of soccer and adequate soccer facilities. But the proposed project brings those facilities at too great of a cost.

Because the proposed project imposes far too great a cost on the community and the viability of the fragile ecosystems here at Ocean Beach, we strongly oppose the Beach Chalet soccer complex project. Please let us know how we can be helpful in furthering your efforts to keep this travesty from occurring.

Many thanks for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
Grady and Dena Sharp
133 Sutro Heights Ave., SF CA 94121

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

From: gabriel@math.nmsu.edu [mailto:gabriel@math.nmsu.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2013 8:19 AM
To: SF Ocean Edge

My letter to the CCC:

I moved to San Francisco from a small town that had once had a dark sky with many stars, but when the university put up the stadium lights, that was all that we saw. I have no interest in having this happen again.

Despite the assurances of the proponents that the lights can be focused downwards, there is no way to enforce that. In other words, when the attempt to focus the lights downwards fails, the soccer megaplex proponents will shrug their shoulders and go on with the construction.

I live on the ridge north of Golden Gate Park, which means that my apartment, which is actually above where the lights would be shining, would be directly in the glare of the lights.

Please do not approve this project!

Sincerely,
Gabriel Lampert
695 48th Avenue, #1
San Francisco CA 94121
gabriel.nmsu@gmail.com

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St., Ste 2000
San Francisco 94105

RE: Proposed Changes to Beach Chalet Soccer Field, Golden Gate Park
(North Central Coast District – Hearing May 9th)

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

Please reject the proposed changes to Golden Gate Park. Yes, the existing soccer field needs to be improved, but surely not at the expense of destroying our cherished park.

As a longtime resident of the Richmond District, I seen various interest groups chip away at the park, frequently limit large parts of the park to public use, and monetize the park.

The Park is an island of tranquility, a respite for city dwellers who simply cannot leave the city to see trees and expose their children to a bit of nature. The Park is a jewel that must be protected from greed and over-ambitious, essentially privatizing plans.

Furthermore, I recommend that all members of the CCC who have not already driven to the area in question and along Ocean Beach should do so ASAP, on a week-end, as beach parking is already difficult.

Do we want 150,000 watt lamps lighting up the entire neighborhood? Would you want this in your neighborhood? Not to mention all the traffic and litter a sports complex of the proposed size would draw -- day and night.

Sports venues are a good and desirable thing for city kids, but they do not belong in GG Park. Please do not destroy this urban oasis.

Sincerely,

Bernice Garcia
6630 Fulton St.
SF, CA 94121

Cc: Kevin Kahn, North Central Coast District
SF Ocean Edge

From: Denise Dorey [mailto:axisofloveposse@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2013 4:07 PM
To: SF Ocean Edge

To the Board Of Supervisors;

As a lifetime resident of San Francisco, I am a supporter of keeping Golden Gate Park green & free of odiferous toxic fake grass & lighting. The park was designed & built for all San Franciscans to enjoy a cost free outdoor experience. With so little open space available to urban city dwellers the soccer stadium is not conducive to an outdoor experience. If one must play soccer in the park they can use the natural turf which is less abrasive & causes less injuries. The artificial turf is far more expensive to repair & the cost will no doubt be passed along to SF taxpayers. Wildlife also is obstructed from using the park. There really are no winners except those who stand to profit!

Sincerely,
Denise Dorey

Bonnie Knight
1639-26th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122-3213
Bonnie.Knight@att.net, (415) 290-1575
April 23, 2013

Hon. Mary Shellenberger, 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
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shellenberger,

I am a native San Franciscan, age 61, who has lived within walking distance of Golden Gate Park all my life; I grew up in the Sunset District; the proposed new soccer fields and lights at the Western edge of Golden Gate Park are part of my home turf. I am greatly dismayed at what the proposal for artificial turf and lights will do to irreparably damage the Western end of the park for the many reasons stated below, and hope that the Commission will consider the Hybrid Alternative and move artificial turf to West Sunset Playground and/or renovate Beach Chalet soccer fields with real grass, better field construction and no light pollution!

The birds and wildlife depend on the natural greenery in the park. City dwellers need open space, too! Worst of all, the lights will pollute the sky and ruin the area for wild animals and birds and destroy the atmosphere of nature for evening beach visitors. The sports lights will also affect the views of nature from the Cliff House and Sutro Heights. The removal of trees to be replaced with seating means a destruction of nature, an introduction of more cars to the area, adding further pollution.

My children's high school science teacher, Mrs. Kovisto, told me that the chemicals in artificial turf leach into the ground over time and make it toxic. Yuck!

The area will lose grass, the rainwater will not go into the ground, the entire historic character of the area will be ruined forever. Please, please, do not allow this project!

I'm all for soccer, however. Please move this project to the West Sunset Playground, where Golden Gate Park is not affected. Alternatively, renovate Beach Chalet with real grass and use the remaining funding to help playing fields throughout San Francisco.

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Bonnie Knight

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000, San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

April 19, 2013

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

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, GGP, S.F., CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am writing you to protest the artificial lighting/turf project proposed for the Beach Chalet fields. I am a property owner and a mother of two soccer playing children. We live in the Inner Sunset and go to G.G.P. at least twice a week. One of the reasons we bought our house was the proximity to the park and the beach. My family and I have been all over the park and love exploring the "wild" spaces in the different areas.

Raising a family in the city demands open space where city living children and adults can observe wildlife and begin a relationship with nature that will hopefully grow to a priority of preserving and protecting it. Ocean Beach has been a wonderful marine habitat for my family to explore. We collect sand dollars, count shore birds, watch the tides change and experience the overall magnificence of the Ocean.

The Beach Chalet Fields area has some "wild" parts that have trees for climbing and spots for quiet reflection. All these areas allow city dwellers to escape the "City" for a brief period.

My concern is about the impact to Ocean Beach and the loss of this public open space. It is not just for my family but for all the families that desperately need a place to run, play and just breathe. Artificial lighting, turf, more cars and noise do not seem like a good plan for our beautiful park and beach.

My kids are 9 and 12. Both play soccer and my son is with SF Vikings. I like soccer and the exercise it gives kids but I do not think it is the only sport, let alone the only activity I want my kids involved in. I think the artificial lighting plan is extremely short sighted and benefits few and harms many. We are all unsure of the impact the lighting will have on the coast and will not know for years.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Janet Hohbach
1443 8th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122

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

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Soccer Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I have lived in the Richmond District of San Francisco most of the time since my arrival in 1963. I am particularly fond of it. Golden Gate Park has been a big part of it, particularly now, with both windmills looking great.

I am deeply concerned about the proposal to replace the existing natural grass at the Soccer Fields with artificial turf. While I understand the need for more access for soccer players, I would want to see this need addressed with improved grass laying techniques, which are now available, and better maintenance.

The fields are an integral part of the park, to be enjoyed as Nature, as was also envisioned by the Master Plan. It is important for city dwellers to find retreat in the parks, to commune with nature and to share it with wildlife. At present this end of the park is part of the Pacific Flyway for migrating birds, who will be disturbed by the loss of trees, and loose feeding grounds from the loss of grass.

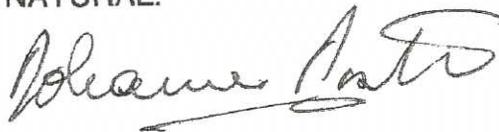
The lights will have a huge impact on the park. The beach will lose the allure of the sunsets with the proposed lights. Sunsets are a big attraction on the beach right now.

The artificial turf would have a sub-base of shredded tires that will leach lead, asbestos and other dangerous elements into the soil, and aquifer. I foresee a lot of misgivings in the future about having been so cavalier in the use of these materials. It will be hard to find a place to dispose of this toxic material in the future, and exorbitantly expensive. I have heard many accounts of children and adults finding a coating of black dust on them on fields that have the artificial turf. These fields have signs to warn players to wash this dust off for health reasons.

I want to express my support for more soccer fields, some of which could easily be added in the park. Just have these fields be with real living grass, and without lights. We do not need to have night games; children would certainly not go out to play soccer after sundown.

Let us keep the park NATURAL.

Sincerely,



Johannes Posthumus
636 - 46th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121-2406

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

From: David Ambruster [mailto:david_ambruster@earthlink.net]
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2013 11:22 AM
To: sfoceanedge@earthlink.net
Subject: Beach Chalet Soccer Fields

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
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

As a neighbor of Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach, I oppose the plan to replace the grass soccer fields with artificial turf. Artificial turf is ugly and unnatural and unhealthy. Grass is lovely and natural and healthful. There is no question that grass is a better choice for this area.

Soccer fields and nature can coexist, but the plan for artificial turf and bright lights is a nature killer that should be rejected.

Thank you,

David Ambruster
1462 45th Ave
San Francisco, CA
94122

April 22, 2013

Berit Pedersen & Vince Rodrigues
582 48th Avenue, SF CA 94121
415.221.3434

April 22, 2013

Re: The Proposed Beach Chalet Soccer Fields

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of the California Coastal Commission:

Please put a halt to the proposed overdevelopment of the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields located at the edge of Golden Gate Park. There are much simpler and less intrusive ways to enhance the playing experience without compromising the natural beauty of the area.

The proposed 10 banks of 60-foot stadium lights are out of place in an area that is known and valued worldwide for its natural beauty.

There has been considerable investment in the Ocean Beach area recently to restore the natural beauty and make it more accessible for all.

- An example of how things can be done well is the new Lands End Lookout near the Cliff House. This development was done with respect for the environs, was supported by the neighborhood and is extremely popular with locals and tourists.

The stadium lights in particular will have a negative impact on the neighborhood. They will stand out far above the tree line - an eyesore during the day and large glowing monstrosity at night. As the Ocean Beach area can be foggy year round, I hate to think of how light will be reflected over the surrounding area. These lights will alter the area dramatically for all, just for the benefit of a few.

And who stands to benefit? One of the major arguments for the changes is so that more "kids" can play, but I am very curious as to how often "kids" would be playing at times where so much lighting is necessary. The reality is that the proposed changes are most beneficial for the Parks and Rec, as they can schedule more adult leagues during at night, helping their bottom line.

This project is out of sync with the neighborhood. There are better solutions. Please don't let this happen.

I thank you for your attention,

Berit and Vince

April 18, 2013

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

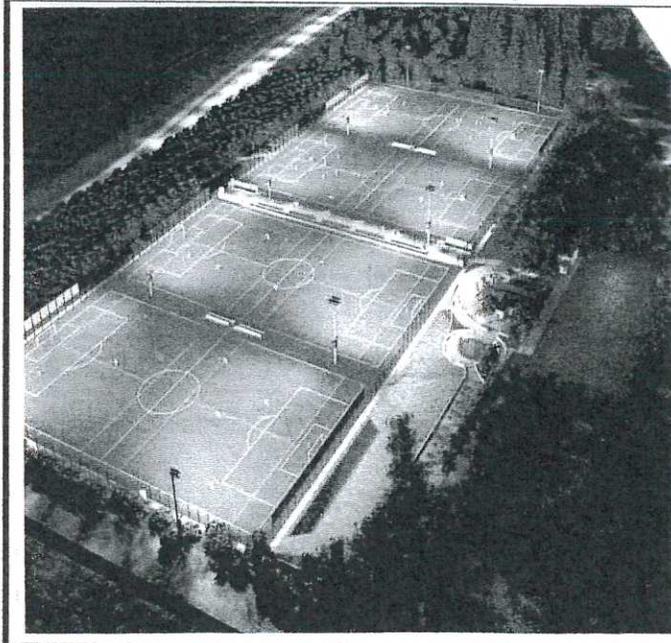
Subject: Proposed Replacement and Expansion of the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields in Golden Gate Park

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

This letter is to request in writing that you oppose the **Beach Chalet Soccer Fields project** in San Francisco's beautiful, historical Golden Gate Park. A sports complex of this scope will create disturbance, and destruction that will change the ecological balance of the entire park, its wildlife; and the Parks relationship to its surrounding neighborhoods forever.

- 7 + acres, all artificial turf, to replace a real grass playing field covering an area larger than Candlestick Park! After proposed tree removal, consider what will happen when the natural sand mixes with tire crumb (a component of fake grass) and is blown across the entire park, covering the existing flora and fauna? Or present in the water runoff?
- 10 banks of 60 foot tall stadium lights that will be lighted to 10:00 p.m. every night of the year with 150,000 watts of light that will shine next to Ocean Beach and surrounding neighborhoods. Please consider what this will do to the night skies, migratory birds, and other animals in the park and to the surrounding neighbors.

Proposed -- urbanized parkland, lost habitat.



Then please consider a \$13.2 Million project that could be done for much less money, loss of wildlife habitat in an area designated as the most wild and wooded in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jan Matejcek (a native San Franciscan)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jan Matejcek". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned below the typed name.

[copy has been sent to staff]

From: Alex [<mailto:alxgg@pacbell.net>]
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2013 11:57 AM
To: SF Ocean Edge

The plans being considered are against the spirit of the far western end of the park and its long ago planners. I respectfully urge the California Coastal Planning Commission deny the petition for this construction and lighting project. There are other places in the city where such a project could be placed; for example, the area where the current plans for a new basketball arena is being discussed. It could be integrated with those plans.

Sincerely, Alexander N. Gansa

Sent from my iPhone

From: Collins, Jonathan [<mailto:JCollins@ucsf.edu>]
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2013 11:28 AM

To the CCC:

As a resident of the Sunset neighborhood and frequent user of Golden Gate Park, I urge you to not allow the development of soccer fields with artificial turf and artificial lights in the park. Maintaining the park with as much natural vegetation, free from light pollution, and from overuse is the prudent choice to keep one of the city's best resources as it was intended for. The wildlife needs and the appropriate uses of the park dictate that the lighting and artificial turf not be allowed in the park.

Thank you,
Jonathan Collins
700 Parnassus Ave. #8
San Francisco, CA 94122

[copy has been sent to staff]

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,

I am somewhat new to the Bay area and to the Sunset neighborhood. In my short time here I have enjoyed exploring my new community, especially Golden Gate Park. It is an amazing walk from my closest entrance at 9th & Irving all the way to the Beach Chalet. I am imaging soccer fields with stadium seating and lights and feel that this would spoil the natural setting of the park and surrounding areas.

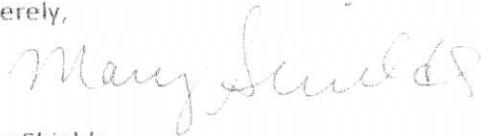
I am not opposed to kids playing soccer here – but feel that there may be a more suitable alternative to this current plan. Kids love to run and play soccer and they deserve real grass and a neighborhood feel. Stadium lights and extra seating will really take away from everyone's park and beach experience.

I moved here from Denver and lived in a small neighborhood similar to the Sunset and there was a neighborhood park where kids played soccer during the week and weekends. There was not extra lighting other than street lights and parents lined the sidelines with blankets and chairs. It was a wonderful experience for parents and players, and it also was worked well for other park visitors.

Certainly there is a more considerate way to improve conditions here. I love the uniqueness of my new community and hope to help preserve this for future newcomers.

Thanks for your consideration!

Sincerely,



Mary Shields
1212 10th Ave Apt 108
San Francisco, CA 94112

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 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
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

The proposed soccer field project has certainly generated a lot of frustration – I agree that more soccer time is needed in San Francisco and that the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields need to be upgraded. The problem is that the current proposal causes a major change, which many of us feel is inappropriate and unnecessary because alternatives to the proposed project are available.

The proposed site is on the western edge of the city where families are choosing to live because of the access to undeveloped space. Parents are interested in living in the city and commuting to work by bicycle or public transportation – they want every-day access to nature to get away from development in other areas of the city. The western end of the park provides that access, as well as access to several recreational facilities.

The Golden Gate Bridge and Golden Gate Park are both icons – the Bridge is a magnificent gateway to San Francisco - the western edge of the Park, anchored by a historic windmill in each corner, is a magnificent gateway to the ocean. The Murphy Windmill has just undergone a multi-million dollar renovation. The intrusion of a sports complex with artificial turf and stadium lighting would mar the setting and experience of the western edge of the Park. The Beach Chalet Athletic Fields are not listed in the Golden Gate Park Master Plan as a night use area and the dark skies constitute a unique resource in the project vicinity.

There are alternatives to the proposal which would create an overall increase in soccer time and retain the western edge of the Park as a more sylvan and pastoral setting than the rest of the Park, which I believe is the intent of the Master Plan, which I view as Guiding Principles.

Thank you.



Kathleen Stern
636 46th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121-2406

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 19, 2013

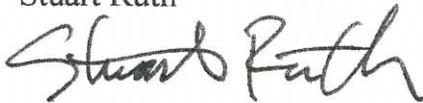
Dear California Coastal Commissioners,

I implore you to disallow the misguided plan to plasticize the natural grass fields of the Beach Chalet soccer venue, and to erect tall, bright lights to illuminate the area for night commercial usage in pristine Golden Gate Park.

Just as a plan to develop a shopping center with brightly lit parking areas in Golden Gate Park would be unthinkable, so should the installation of bright lights and the destruction of the natural grass fields at the Beach Chalet.

Because of the obviously harmful environmental effects to the ground below and the night sky above, this proposal must be rejected.

Stuart Ruth

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stuart Ruth". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "S".

San Francisco

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 protest 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 were 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. 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

April 20, 2013

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

Regarding: Beach Chalet Soccer Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

I am writing to convey my opposition to the synthetic turf soccer fields at the Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park as well as my support for soccer. I have an 8 year old son who is an ardent soccer player and plays in the Viking leagues. Our family supports efforts to expand play opportunities but not at the environmental, historic and cultural costs associated with this project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Courtney Damkroger
2626 Hyde St
San Francisco, CA 94109

April 18, 2013

183 Parnassus Ave. #4
San Francisco, CA 94117-4249

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 appalled to hear of California Coastal Commission plans for the destruction of 55 trees and meadow areas in Golden Gate Park for artificially surfaced sports fields and parking lots.

This is particularly egregious as the GGP Master Plan and Ocean Beach Master Plan 's main themes are recreation in a naturalistic setting. Only in a science fiction alternate reality could AstroTurf be consider a naturalistic setting.

My preference would be to renovate the Beach Chalet area with native plants and use the remainder of the funding to fix up playing fields all over San Francisco.

The health of our planet requires more plants and trees, not more human-made surfaces, and the California Coastal Commission should lead the nation in creative projects going in this direction.

Sincerely,

Adele Frammer
183 Parnassus Ave. #4
San Francisco, CA 94117-4249

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

Bertille Legrand
2877 23rd Street
San Francisco, Ca 94110
Bertillelegrand@yahoo.com

April 23, 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 this letter to protest the proposed changes to the Beach Chalet Athletic Field. I am a long time resident of San Francisco. With my husband, visiting friends and family, I visit Golden Gate Park (GGP) regularly and strongly believe that GGP should be kept naturalistic and that all outdoors activities should be done in a natural environment.

It is not healthy for our children to play in this man made environment you are trying to create. The impact on the environment is also of great concern. In an era when we try so hard to be conscientious about our use of chemicals, energy, and plastics, your plan do not fit.

The alternative is to renovate the Beach Chalet with real grass and use remainder of funding to fix up playing fields all over San Francisco. It will save our environment and create beauty in the city.

Most Sincerely,

Bertille Legrand

Peter Desmond

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

Charlotte Hennessy 1125 Hollywood Ave. Oakland, CA 94602

April 22, 2013

Honorable Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St. 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 support the Hybrid Alternative to the current desecration of Golden Gate Park that has been approved.

I am a retired National Park Service employee (at Golden Gate National Recreation Area) and a board member of the Presidio Historical Association. I am dedicated to the preservation of natural and historic environments and areas. I also am a (Marina District) San Francisco property owner, which is tenant occupied currently. I now live in Oakland, California, as I have an elderly aunt who needs my attention at this time, and I lived in the Presidio for thirteen years until I retired a few years ago.

I (and everyone I know) have long cherished the beauty of the west end of Golden Gate Park, near Ocean Beach, and I make it a point to visit as often as possible. The idea that the natural wonder and healthy ecological balance that it currently enjoys will be lost, and the thought that habitat will be lost due to artificial lighting and turf is excruciating to ponder. This part of the park has long been cherished by humans as well as been the home of much wildlife. Even the fish in the ocean will suffer with "65-foot lights on every day of the year until 10 p.m." I doubt that it's an idea designed for the children to play soccer. I imagine that adults are behind this urging, and the reality that they will be drinking beer afterward and getting in their cars is another very bad idea.

There is a documentary called "City Dark," which tells how destructive artificial lighting is to our environment, which I urge you to see if you haven't already. And the addition of so many more cars to the area is another factor to consider, which will destroy the character and oasis factor that is this park.

Please don't let a few people with big bucks destroy Golden Gate Park. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Charlotte Hennessy
cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner

22 April, 2013

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

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, California
Staff has been copied on this letter.

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

I write to you on this year's Earthday with deep concern for the ocean-adjacent area of our beautiful Golden Gate Park. I hope that you will protect this area's natural character by halting the proposed artificial turf project, allowing for renovation with grass fields at Beach Chalet and an alternate location for the popular sports facilities.

I was born and raised here in the City, and enjoyed many years playing soccer on the natural turf fields of Beach Chalet as a student at local schools. My wife and I have lived within three blocks of the park for the past 23 years, benefiting from the peaceful and rejuvenating environment on walks through the trees and past grassy meadows. I currently teach painting at the Sharon Art Studio, in the east end of the park, and I often draw inspiration from the park's greenery.

The currently proposed renovations for the Beach Chalet fields would destroy a large portion of the wildlife habitat near our neighborhood, add significant light pollution after dark, and overwhelm the local area with traffic and crowds. Birds, mammals, and insects could not forage or hunt on the artificial turf. The tall, powerful stadium lighting would obliterate the evening views from the beach. And the out-of-scale sports complex would replace what now provides a sylvan respite from urban concrete and noise. This would include the removal of over 55 trees, further degrading our local parkland.

My wife, friends, neighbors and I frequently enjoy the recreational benefits of bird watching, stargazing, and spotting wildlife such as foxes, raccoons, or blue herons in and around the Beach Chalet – Ocean Beach area. We have enough traffic noise, litter, and night lighting near our home as it is. I earnestly plead that you protect this treasure of natural beauty for us and for all visitors to our delightful garden on the coast.

Finally, as a teacher in the San Francisco public schools, I have seen first-hand how students enjoy wildlife and nature-viewing experiences as well as sports. We need to maintain a variety of recreational outlets for our youth to thrive here in a large city. As a balanced alternative, placing the sports lighting and artificial turf at West Sunset Playground, further away from Golden Gate Park and the coast, would benefit all concerned.

Sincerely,



Charles J. Denefeld
3820 Lawton Street 94122

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District

cc: SF Ocean Edge, 1243 42nd Avenue 94122

April 22, 2013

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St., Ste 2000
San Francisco 94105

RECEIVED

APR 25 2013

**CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION**

RE: Proposed Changes to Beach Chalet Soccer Field, Golden Gate Park
(North Central Coast District – Hearing May 9th)

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

Please reject the proposed changes to Golden Gate Park. Yes, the existing soccer field needs to be improved, but surely not at the expense of destroying our cherished park.

As a longtime resident of the Richmond District, I seen various interest groups chip away at the park, frequently limit large parts of the park to public use, and monetize the park.

The Park is an island of tranquility, a respite for city dwellers who simply cannot leave the city to see trees and expose their children to a bit of nature. The Park is a jewel that must be protected from greed and over-ambitious, essentially privatizing plans.

Furthermore, I recommend that all members of the CCC who have not already driven to the area in question and along Ocean Beach should do so ASAP, on a week-end, as beach parking is already difficult.

Do we want 150,000 watt lamps lighting up the entire neighborhood? Would you want this in your neighborhood? Not to mention all the traffic and litter a sports complex of the proposed size would draw -- day and night.

Sports venues are a good and desirable thing for city kids, but they do not belong in GG Park. Please do not destroy this urban oasis.

Sincerely,



Bernice Garcia
6630 Fulton St.
SF, CA 94121

Cc: Kevin Kahn, North Central Coast District ✓
SF Ocean Edge

NANCY WUERFEL, 2516 23RD AVENUE, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94116

April 23, 2013

Staff has been copied on this letter

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

RECEIVED

APR 25 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Support the appeal to deny the LCP permit granted for this project

Dear Ms. Shallenberger:

I am writing to protest the issuance of the Coastal Zone Permit for the Beach Chalet renovation project and to request that the large sports complex as described be constructed at an alternative site that does not negatively affect the natural enjoyment of the beach and the park. A hybrid alternative does exist to accomplish the playfield goals.

This letter is about asking the Commission to preserve the coastline at Ocean Beach in San Francisco and for similarly situated urban areas. There is a very real danger in setting a precedent with this project to allow stadium lighting within the coastal zone to the detriment of the wildlife and accessing the pleasure of our magnificent coastline. I note that the National Coastal Zone Management Act supports "giving development priority to coastal-dependent uses." There is nothing about a soccer complex that *needs to be adjacent* to the ocean. There is no nexus to the sport that requires the location of its playfield to be at the seaside. Conversely, the serenity of the ocean experience at the end of Golden Gate Park is seriously compromised by lights and the built up requirements of the project.

This letter is about asking the Commission to preserve the wild western part of Golden Gate Park for future generations. It is about respecting the land as primarily a place to recreate in nature, and to accommodate other activities that blend in with the natural setting. Many sports that can be integrated with the natural setting are part of the park. Indeed, soccer has been part of the Beach Chalet area for decades. This area should be improved and continue to offer a place for children to play as part of the beautiful experience of being in this gentle place. It is noteworthy how unobtrusively many different sports have been merged into the natural areas at the western end of the park without controversy. That is because there has been respect for the park first, and inappropriate development with lights and plastic grass have not been allowed.

This letter is about asking the Commission to allow me to enjoy this wonderful special place of birds, tall and bent trees, diversity of plants, the smell of the sea, and a place to get away from it all. I should tell you that "nature" to me is the great outdoors, with everything that

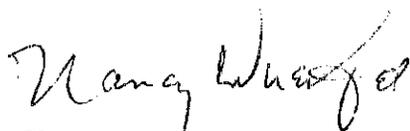
thrives there, regardless of its place of origin. It is what lives and grows, that shows me the seasons, the times of day and night, and the stars above. It is not plastic or artificial. Golden Gate Park is such a gift of nature's offerings!

Right now, I can enjoy this nature and the kids can play soccer and there is no conflict. I do support renovations for children to play on real grass fields with proper irrigation and gopher deterrents, but not at the expense of changing 7 acres of open space into a stadium complex. This area is not just raw land awaiting development. It is currently occupied with a mix of everything that a park should be AND it is right next to the crashing waves of the Pacific Ocean. Being from the midwest, it means a great deal to me to be able to view the ocean anytime, but especially at night when the whitecaps glow with the moonlight. Please don't let tall, artificial lights ruin this for everyone.

There is nothing more important that we can offer the future generations of San Franciscans than a natural setting in Golden Gate Park, down by the ocean, and ensuring a mutual respect for the worth of wild things while people pursue their individual recreational interests. Open space indeed is the most valuable possession an urban society has.

Thank you for considering my comments

Sincerely,



Nancy Wuerfel
2516 23rd Avenue
San Francisco, Ca 94116

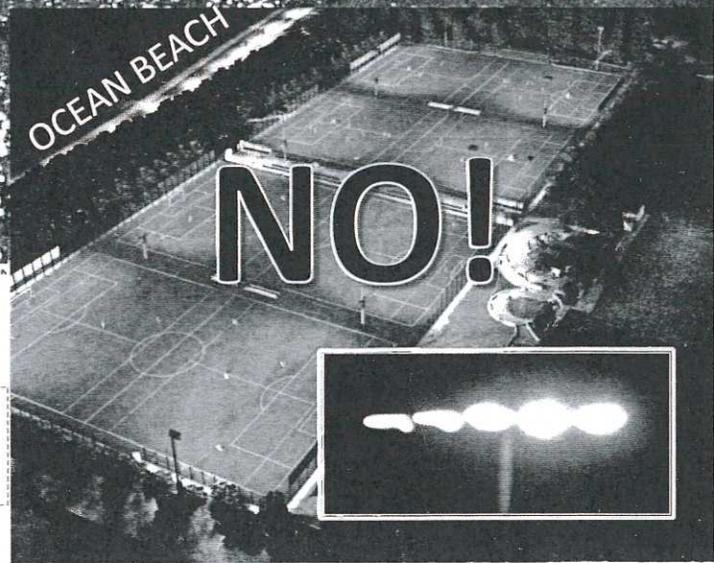
cc: Commissioners
✓Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
SF Ocean Edge

YES!



The Beach Chalet fields today – meadow, playing field, wildlife habitat, and parkland open to everyone.

Proposed 7-acre artificial turf soccer complex with 150,000 watts of sports lighting – lighted until 10:00 p.m. every night of the year.



Representative
postcard from
individuals

Dear Commissioners,

Please protect Ocean Beach and Golden Gate Park:

- STOP the removal of over 7 acres of natural grass & the installation of over 7 acres of artificial turf – plastic grass, gravel and tire waste – at Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park, next to Ocean Beach!
- STOP the installation of 60 foot tall stadium lights with 150,000 watts of lights next to Ocean Beach – lighted *every night of the year* until 10:00 pm!
- STOP the loss of over 55 trees and the destruction of wildlife habitat!
- STOP the loss of access to naturalistic parkland for all visitors.
- SUPPORT alternatives for this project.

Thank you!

William Chauncey
Name (PRINT)
Fat=treeboy@yahoo.com

Email (PRINT VERY CLEARLY)

City

SASHA

State

Zip Code

SASHA PUPEN KOV
PUPEN KOV
PUPEN KOV@Gmail.COM



If mailed,
please affix
postage

TO: California Coastal Commission
c/o SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122

www.sfoceanedge.org SF Ocean Edge

Exhibit 7

A-2-SNF-12-020 (Beach Chalet)

Page 806 of 878

DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

Name or description of project:

Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020 (San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, San Francisco Co.) Beach Chalet Soccer Fields, Golden Gate Park

Date and time of receipt of communication:

May 3, 2013; 5:00pm

Type of communication:

Telephone conversation

Person initiating communication:

Phil Ting

Person(s) receiving communication:

Carole Groom

Detailed substantive description of the content of communication:

(Attach a copy of the complete text of any written material received.)

Assemblymember Ting, who represents the area where the project is located, called to voice his support for the project as proposed by the applicant, indicating it was necessary to accommodate a lack of playing fields for children in San Francisco.

Date: May 7, 2013

Signature of Commissioner: _____

Carole Groom

DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

Name or description of project:

Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020 (San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, San Francisco Co.) Beach Chalet Soccer Fields, Golden Gate park

Date and time of receipt of communication:

May 2, 2013 at 11:30 am

Location of communication:

San Mateo County Board of Supervisors Office, Redwood City

Type of communication:

In person meeting

Person(s) in attendance at time of communication:

Phil Ginsburg, Patrick Hannan, Susan Hirsch, Dan Mauer, Susan McCabe

Person(s) receiving communication:

Carole Groom

Detailed substantive description of the content of communication:

(Attach a copy of the complete text of any written material received.)

Applicant representatives presented their rebuttals to four common objections to this project:

- 1) Lights
 - a. Design, location, and height (60 feet rather than standard 80 feet) were specifically chosen to minimize impacts to public views, wildlife, and surrounding neighbors. The lighting proposal was carefully evaluated in the project EIR.
- 2) Non-conformity with the site's 'pastoral' and 'naturalistic' character
 - a. This location has been used as an athletic field for more than 75 years. That is its intended use. While these athletic fields may be 'perceived' as "pastoral open space", this belies the fact that the fields' intended and historical use is to accommodate active recreational pursuits such as soccer and lacrosse. There is nothing 'pastoral' or 'naturalistic' about a non-native grass species specifically chosen for its qualities which accommodate athletics and requires gallons of pesticides and tons fertilizers to maintain.
- 3) Maintenance & Care
 - a. There are no maintenance techniques that will enable grass fields to accommodate the hours of play needed by the applicant to meet the recreational demand for soccer in the City & County of San Francisco. That is why they are proposing the use of synthetic turf.
- 4) Alternative Sites
 - a. The West Sunset playground cannot accommodate the hours of play needed to meet the City's recreational demand for soccer unless one or more of its baseball fields are removed. To displace baseball with soccer is a zero-sum proposition for the city's residents.

DISCLOSURE OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

Name or description of project:

Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020 (San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, San Francisco Co.) Beach Chalet Soccer Fields, Golden Gate Park

Date and time of receipt of communication:

April 29, 2013; 10:00am

Location of communication:

San Mateo County Board of Supervisors Office, Redwood City

Type of communication:

In person meeting

Person(s) in attendance at time of communication:

Mark Massara, Katherine Howard, Lennie Roberts

Person(s) receiving communication:

Carole Groom

Detailed substantive description of the content of communication:

(Attach a copy of the complete text of any written material received.)

Appellants presented four specific objections to this project:

- 1) Lights
 - a. Appellants claim the lighting impacts were not adequately studied in the project EIR and claim that heavy fog or inclement weather conditions enhance the lights' luminosity, distracting birds migrating across the Pacific Flyway.
- 2) Non-conformity with the site's 'pastoral' and 'naturalistic' character
 - a. Appellants are opposed to the use of synthetic turf and lighting, arguing such elements do not conform with the LCP.
- 3) Maintenance & Care
 - a. Appellants assert the use of gopher wire and improved maintenance techniques would enable the existing grass fields to accommodate a higher frequency of use.
- 4) Alternative Sites
 - a. Appellants assert that a renovated West Sunset playground is a viable alternative to the proposed Beach Chalet project.

Date: May 7, 2013

Signature of Commissioner: _____

Carole Groom

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

Assembly
California Legislature



PHILIP Y. TING
ASSEMBLY MEMBER, NINETEENTH DISTRICT

RECEIVED

MAY 06 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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,

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



RECEIVED

MAY 06 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

ITEM TH15c
PERMIT A-2-SNF-12-020
ROBERT T. ANDERSON
IN FAVOR OF PROJECT

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 Commissioners:

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 untrammelled 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-naturalists' 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

RECEIVED

MAY 08 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

May 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,

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,



Helen Pui Kwong, San Francisco

Representative
Correspondence
from 12 individuals

Our soccer team is constantly battling to have quality soccer fields in San Francisco. Please vote "no substantial issue" and renovate Beach Chalet Athletic Field.

Matt Wondolowski
SF Viking

From: ernst.feibusch
To: [CoastalBeachChaletAppeal](#)
Cc: ricolivas@juno.com
Subject: beach chalet approval by coastal comission
Date: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 7:16:59 PM

I kicked my first soccer ball as a 12 yr.old @ B'Chalet in 1937. Played and coached on it after that. Sufferd with the footing by virtue of gopher holes. The fields w ere often closed--by US Army during WWII and patially during the Korean War; by Rec & Park to "fix" it; by other city agencies to allow consturctiuon of a sewer line (since removed to Fleischackers) for SW Sewer Facilities. I can remember being admonished by a "civilian" on a horse (stables were nearby) as whether " I knew my place." Now when there is still a chance, I would liketo play on it, i.e., soccer, as an 88 year old. YES!! The footing of a plostic pitch is excellent. Come on out and see. I'll be happy to have some of my betters interview me as to footing (no pun intended.) My group is playing at CrockerAmazon tonight and next Tuesday 8:00. After that we'll return to South Sunset Plgrd, 8pm.The plastic pitch is the best thing ever invented whether it annoys the Oligarchs and their minions or not. .For that matter, why is the meeting being heldin Marin County when the discussion deals w/ matters of SF. It must be nice to have money and power and have paid stooges work for me. For more soccer Ernst M. Feibusch, 2821 Taraval St. SF 94116, 415 564-3588

From: [Andrew Solow \(Gladding & Michel\)](#)
To: [Kahn, Kevin@Coastal](#); [mary.shallenberger@coastal.ca.gov](#); [carol.groom@coastal.ca.gov](#)
Cc: [Lester, Charles@Coastal](#); [Carl, Dan@Coastal](#); [Craig, Susan@Coastal](#)
Subject: {Appeal #: A-2-SNF-12-020 // Th15c} - Examiner Editorial: Coastal Commission should allow city's plan for soccer fields to proceed_5.2.2013
Date: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 1:41:11 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Coastal Commission should allow city's plan for soccer fields to proceed 5.2.2013.pdf](#)

CA Coastal Commission re:
Appeal #: A-2-SNF-12-020 // Th15c
Calendared for Consideration: May 9, 2013

Honorable Commissioners and Staff,

I hereby request that the CA Coastal Commission take formal notice of the attached San Francisco Examiner Editorial dated May 2, 2013 - see text of Editorial below.

I also request that the CA Coastal Commission take formal notice of the rendering of the Beach Chalet Soccer Fields as designed by the CA Coastal Commission Staff shown below.

Coastal Commission should allow city's plan for soccer fields to proceed

By: SF Examiner Editorial | 05/02/13 10:46 PM
SF Examiner Editorial .

A recent report by staff members of the state agency that controls development along California's coastline argues against a plan for new playing fields near the Beach Chalet in Golden Gate Park. But the document is flawed in its reasoning and its recommendations should be rejected.

When the California Coastal Commission takes up the issue of the Beach Chalet soccer fields during its Thursday meeting, the members of the agency will have before them a document based on a false understanding of what this portion of the park was, is and should be.

The 9.4-acre playing fields sit on the western side of Golden Gate Park, where athletic fields of some sort have existed for more than 75 years. The fields are among the most used in The City, but poor drainage and wear forces them to be closed roughly half of the time, according to the Recreation and Park Department. One of the four fields is typically closed at all times to allow the grass to regrow.

To extend the playing time at the fields, the parks department has entered into a public-private funding proposal with the City Fields Foundation that would pay to replace the grass with artificial turf. The site would also receive new lights to illuminate the fields for more hours, a new children's playground, new seating and revamped restrooms. These improvements would add more than 9,500 hours of playing time at the fields, which are much needed in a city where field space and time are both at a premium.

The plan has been approved locally, but an appeal to the Coastal Commission prompted

the report. In that document, agency staff members erroneously refer to the existing fields as “pastoral landscape,” arguing that features of the playing field, including the lines that mark the athletic fields, could be harmful to wildlife.

Opponents of this plan and now the Coastal Commission’s staff make it appear as though the Recreation and Park Department is clear-cutting virgin forest in an isolated area to make way for a mega development. The truth is that the site, which comprises less than 1 percent of the total space in Golden Gate Park, is already a playing field with marked lines. The arguments against lighting range from the light pollution it could cause to the impacts the lights would have on migrating birds. The report even objects to the sideline seating from which parents would be able to watch their children play sports. Oh, yes, and the new soccer fields are too rectangular!

The report’s main is that the area should remain natural, as is called for in a Golden Gate Park master plan. But, of course, a truly natural Golden Gate Park would consist of the sand dunes that used to dominate the area before the park was created. Others argue that the area should consist of trees and walking paths. However the Coastal Commission staff argues that nine acres of mowed grass — but not artificial turf — would be natural.

This paper has argued before that if there were not already playing fields at this location, this project would be an inappropriate one. But given the history of the past 75 years, this project wisely upgrades the existing use to make it more usable for the children and adults who need more space for sports in The City. The remaining 99 percent of Golden Gate Park is there for everything else.

Read more at the San Francisco Examiner: <http://www.sfexaminer.com/opinion/op-eds/2013/05/coastal-commission-should-allow-city-s-plan-soccer-fields-proceed#ixzz2SgfaG869>

Beach Chalet Soccer Fields as designed by the CA Coastal Commission Staff

sfpix.com



sfpix.com

Andrew Solow
Past President and Co-Founder
Mission Youth Soccer League (MYSL)
San Francisco, CA 94131
Cell 415-722-3047

Beth Lewis
571 25th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94121

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

May 7, 2013

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA
Staff has been copied on this letter

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

Please uphold the recommendations of the Coastal Commission staff report which finds the current proposed project to renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park in violation of the goals of the California Coastal Commission. The project is also inconsistent with the 1998 Golden Gate Master Plan, The 2004 National Register Listing, The City of San Francisco's Coastal Plan and The 2012 Ocean Beach Master Plan.

You will hear a lot of arguments on May 9th why the proposed project is flawed. A lot of Bay Area projects may look like a good idea at first: The Embarcadero Freeway, which was later torn down; Filling the SF Bay was once considered a good idea; Even a proposal to develop the Marin Headlands with housing for 30,000 people was planned, but was thankfully stopped and instead is now open space.

It can take a decade or more for government bodies to acknowledge that certain kinds of development are inappropriate in certain areas. Reversing projects that have already been implemented is very costly.

The paving over of 7 acres of Golden Gate Park right where it interfaces with the Ocean with toxic tires, plastic grass and 150,000 watts of lights constitutes inappropriate development in a very special place. It is an open space resource that should be protected for present and future generations by you, our Coastal Commission Supervisors. You have that power on May 9, 2013. Please support the findings of your own staff!

Sincerely,

Beth Lewis

From: [Abela Carlos](#)
To: [Kahn, Kevin@Coastal](mailto:Kahn.Kevin@Coastal)
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco
Date: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 3:05:20 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
May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing
Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No. A-2-SNF-12-020

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I am very much opposed to the proposed soccer field development in Golden Gate Park. The tall lighting will ruin the natural and wild nature of Golden Gate Park and also the ruin the coastline. Golden Gate Park was built to bring some wilderness into our city, and this project will take that away. Paving over more of the park is also an anathema to the purpose of the park. I am also an avid soccer player and I do not think that putting down astro turf on the field will be of any benefit. If the City of SF only spent a little time maintaining the existing field they could easily eliminate the problem of gopher holes. Our California coastline is slowly being destroyed with developments such as this proposal and I urge you to help prevent the City from destroying our historic and wonderful Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely,

Carlos Abela
1266 40th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94122

cc: Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner, North Central Coast District
Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov

From: [James Forcier](#)
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco
Date: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 5:46:58 PM

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

May 7, 2013

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I'm writing to ask that you accept the recommendations in the Coastal Commission staff report which finds the proposed project to renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park to be in violation of the goals of the California Coastal Commission. The project is also inconsistent with the 1998 Golden Gate Master Plan, the 2004 National Register Listing, the City of San Francisco's Coastal Plan and the 2012 Ocean Beach Master Plan.

In particular, paving over 7 acres of Golden Gate Park using plastic grass and material created from automobile tires, and illuminating the area with 150,000 watts of light, is inappropriate in this park setting. This part of the park where it meets the Pacific Ocean should be maintained as open space. Please support the staff's findings.

Sincerely,

James Forcier
2953 Broderick Street
San Francisco, CA 94123h

From: [SF Playfields](#)
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal; 2d4@sbcglobal.net; kw021605@sbcglobal.net
Subject: re: Appeal Number: A-2-SNF-12-020 / Beach Chalet athletic fields
Date: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 5:52:41 PM

Because this letter is being submitted after 4:00 Monday, May 6th,
I will submit copies to the Commissioners and to the record at the hearing on
5/9/2013

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION CENTRAL COAST
5/9/2013

AND NORTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICES Th15c.

**Appeal Number: A-2-SNF-12-020 / Beach Chalet athletic fields, Golden Gate
Park**

Submitted by Kelley Watts, @SHPFC, on 5/9/2013

re; the proposed project's SBR crumb infill material

The project's SBR crumb infill contains carcinogenic toxins. Herein I will
address only one, **carbon black**.

- 1) SBR crumb contains **carbon black** as its principal ingredient, (at least 20%).
- 2) **Carbon black** was added to the World Health Organization, the International Agency for Research on Cancer, (IARC), and the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) lists of substances known to the State to cause cancer. In this form it is found on the Prop 65 list of materials known to cause cancer.
- 3) **Carbon black** is composed of microscopic particles which are not only small enough to be inhaled but small enough to be absorbed through the skin.
- 4) The quantity of **carbon black** to be introduced by this project into the coastal environment by the SBR crumb infill will be in the 100s of tons spread over 9 acres.

- 5) The infill material will be loose and exposed in the coastal environment where, (and I quote the San Francisco Beach Chalet Environmental Impact Report), “where wind will easily disperse the particulate matter” - .
-

Proposition 65 - CRNR Notices

Chemical Listed Effective February 21, 2003
as Known to the State of California to Cause Cancer:
Carbon Black (airborne, unbound particles of respirable size)
[02/21/03]

Excerpts from the **San Francisco Beach Chalet Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)**

(DEIR page IV.H-2);

“The SBR material also contains **carbon black**, an industrial chemical used in the manufacturing of automobile tires and other plastic materials.”

(DEIR page IV.H-2);

“It, (**carbon black**), is composed of nanoparticles that are much smaller than PM10 and PM2.5 (nanoparticles vary in size from 1 to 100 nanometers, with a billion nanometers forming a meter).”

(DEIR page IV.H-3);

“Fine particulates small enough to be inhaled into the deepest parts of the human lung can cause adverse health effects, and studies have shown that elevated particulate levels contribute to the death of approximately 200 to 500 people per year in the Bay Area. High levels of particulates have also been known to exacerbate chronic respiratory ailments, such as bronchitis and asthma, and have been associated with increased emergency room visits and hospital admissions.”

(DEIR page IV.H-3);

“wind will easily disperse the particulate matter”

From: [Deborah Howard-Page](#)
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: No Astro turf in park land-- think of the wildlife!
Date: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 10:15:23 PM

I urge the Coastal Commission to consider any and all alternative options, such as repairing other soccer fields close by. Please consider the flora and fauna. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Deborah Howard-Page
547 Arkansas St.
S.F., CA 94107

Memo to: Coastal Commissioners
From: Isabel Wade, Ph.D.
Founder, San Francisco Neighborhood Parks Council
Re: Beach Chalet
Date: May 5, 2013

Unfortunately I will be out of town when the hearing on San Francisco's Beach Chalet is held next week. I am writing to urge you to respect the work of your staff and the concerns of many thousands of San Francisco residents (including myself) about the inappropriate project proposed for the Beach Chalet.

As the founder of the Neighborhood Parks Council, a 501©3 organization now merged to form the SF Parks Alliance, I am well aware of the challenge of balancing various recreation needs on very limited land while also maintaining habitat and other values in our park system. I am also not necessarily an opponent of artificial turf in some circumstances. I strongly support expansion of soccer facilities in our city. However, I do not support the proposed project of artificial turf in Golden Gate Park that I believe is in violation of the Master Plan. In addition, the planned lighting for this facility will not only violate the plan's stated intent for the west end of the park, but also is in violation of federal policies aimed at reducing light impact on the night sky. We have such a unique opportunity for observing the cosmos at night in San Francisco as compared to almost any other major metropolitan area; we should protect and enhance this very important resource for the public and respect the national policy in this regard.

The continued insistence by the Recreation and Park Department that the Beach Chalet is the only site in San Francisco for this soccer facility is just not correct. The West Sunset Playground has been identified as another good site, less than a dozen blocks away but in an urban setting more appropriate for the lights. In addition, there is considerable land at Candlestick Point – a new defunct stadium setting with no apparent funding for the planned development. There are undoubtedly others.

I urge you to respect your mandate to protect the Coast and reject this project that will harm our coastal resources, the night sky, and the quiet end of Golden Gate park.

Thank You.

4 pages

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MAY 08 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

18 Southfield Road
Glen Cove, NY, 11542
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
Appeal Number: A-2-SNF-12-020

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

I have read the California Coastal Commission Appeal Staff Report and find it very thorough. I appreciate the time and effort taken in reviewing the concerns about this project, and I agree with your conclusions and recommendations.

I submitted my concerns for the past public hearing and will not repeat them. However I failed to note the fact that the fields were fenced (even though I did see them on visiting the site in the past.

Fenced fields with locked gates make the fields inaccessible to the public; the taxpayers who pay for them and who have the right of free access. By fencing them the fields become the "property" of the soccer teams (or others) that apparently control access by preventing anyone who is not on the schedule from using the fields. This is now the case even when the fields are not in use. This makes them private use fields in a public park.

This lockout should not be permitted. While scheduled events should be able to be held, at all other times the fields should be open to anyone to use.

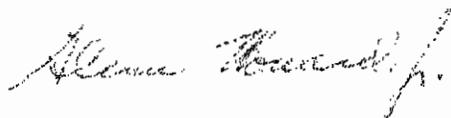
I fully support the West Sunset Playground alternative (referred to as the Hybrid Alternative) as practical, and economically and environmentally sound.

As an added note, the City argued that grass fields were difficult to maintain. In reviewing the images on Google Earth™ of the fields over the past 20 years it is obvious that the fields, when properly maintained, were in excellent shape, but when poorly maintained looked like crop circles or worse indicating that the Park Management was inconsistent in upkeep and made it appear that the grass fields were not sustainable. See attached Google Earth™ images from June 2012, June 2011, September 2010 and June 2010.

Note that in all images the golf course (on the right) is in good shape at all times while the sports fields vary widely in simply being watered and cared for properly.

Again I thank you for your excellent and thorough report and support your recommendations.

Sincerely,



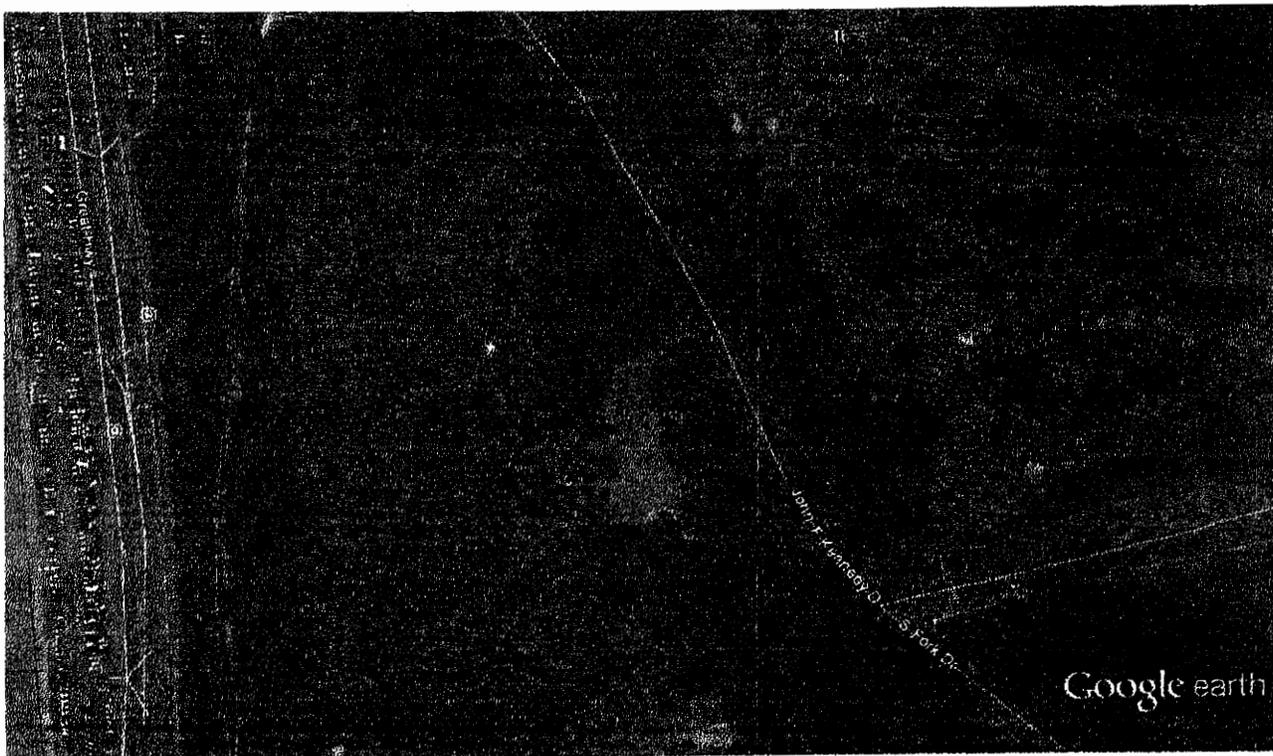
Glenn W. Howard, Jr., Ph.D.

516-759-1640

Cc: Kevin.Kahn@coastal.ca.gov
SF Ocean Edge <sfoceanedge@earthlink.net>



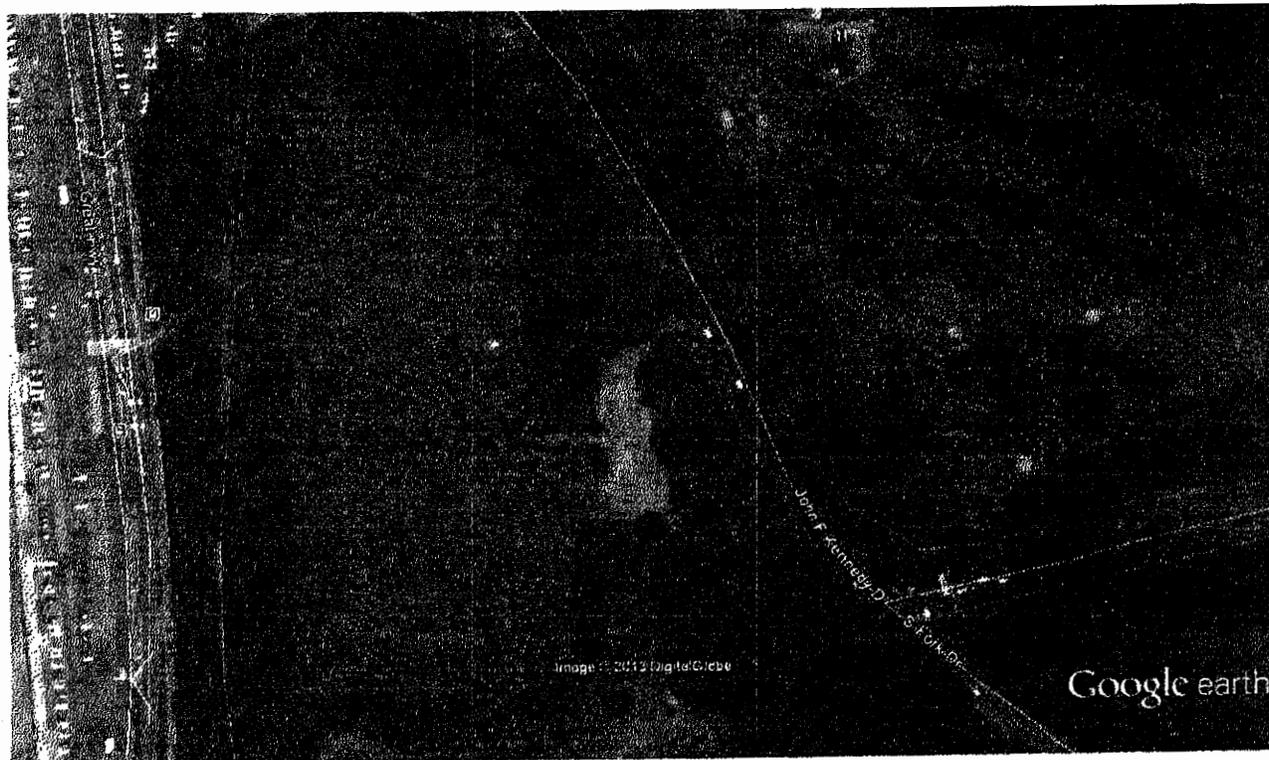
June 2012 (Google Earth)



June 2011 (Google Earth)



September 2010 (Google Earth)



June 2010 (Google Earth)

From: [Donald Dodge](#)
To: [CoastalBeachChaletAppeal](#)
Subject: GG park soccer fields
Date: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 10:26:03 AM

Dear commissioners

I believe that GG Park and GGNRA is not the place for artificial turf and high intensity lighting right next to the coast.

Thank you

Donald Dodge
300 Caselli Ave
San Francisco 94114

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Rebecca Evans](#)
To: [CoastalBeachChaletAppeal](#)
Cc: [Rebecca Evans](#)
Subject: Support for the staff report
Date: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 9:58:25 PM

Chair Shallenberger: I have read the staff report on the Beach Chalet and find it accurate and intelligent. I hope that the Coastal Commission supports the staff recommendations in their entirety.

You clearly have the impetus and the authority to protect this part of our precious coastal area as San Francisco has failed to do.

In the early 1970s I worked for the passage of the Coastal Act. I am pleased that the Commission and its staff are still doing exemplary work.

Rebecca Evans
San Francisco

May 3, 2013

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

Kevin Kahn, Coastal Planner
North Central Coast District
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Re: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, California
Subject: Support Recommendation of California Coastal Commission Staff Report

Dear Ms. Shallenberger and Mr. Kahn:

Simply put, San Francisco Tomorrow supports the California Coastal Commission staff report recommending rejection of artificial turf and stadium lights at the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, which adversely impact the naturalistic landscape and open spaces that link the Pacific Ocean, Golden Gate Park, Panhandle and urban greenways and provide important habitat for nesting and migrating birds.

As one of San Francisco's oldest environmental organizations, we have steadfastly advocated for open space, recreational areas, environmental responsibility, environmental justice and San Francisco's unique qualities. Like our battles against freeway construction and waterfront development, San Francisco Tomorrow has fought for better environmental alternatives, which have ultimately proved beneficial for future generations. At any given moment in time, financial and short-term expediency may blind ones vision for the long-term. The California Coastal Commission was created to guide our coastal destiny, independent of local politics and financial intrigue. We urge you to guide the City towards better alternatives, such as:

- The Hybrid Alternative that moves artificial turf to the West Sunset Playground, while renovating the Beach Chalet soccer fields with real grass, drainage/ field improvements and minimal lights;
- Renovating the Beach Chalet fields with real grass and use remaining funds to upgrade play fields throughout San Francisco;
- Evaluating new development sites, which may enable larger and more cost-efficient fields, such as at Treasure Island, Mission Bay and Hunters Point, in addition to neighborhood parks;
- Better distribution of fields to meet the requirements of disadvantaged communities, rather than a fiscal emphasis on league teams from outside San Francisco.

Fundamentally, in line with the Local Coastal Program, the Golden Gate Park Master Plan and the Ocean Beach Master Plan, we see the greatest public good in preserving the western end of Golden Gate Park in its historic form as a low-impact open space that provides respite for visitors and shelter for species to replace lost habitat. The environmental continuity, from ocean to park to streetscapes, is an environmental pathway too important to lose.

Especially with viable alternatives that serve the programmatic needs of even more San Franciscans, we urge the rejection of artificial turf and stadium lights at the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennifer Clary', written in a cursive style.

Jennifer Clary, President
44 Woodland Avenue, SF, CA 94117

cc: SF Ocean Edge
1243 42nd Avenue
San Francisco, Ca 94122

From: [Celia Taupin](#)
To: Kahn, Kevin@Coastal
Subject: BEACH CHALET ATHLETIC FIELDS
Date: Wednesday, May 08, 2013 12:37:25 PM

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

May 7, 2013

Subject: Beach Chalet Athletic Fields, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA

Dear Ms. Shallenberger,

Please uphold the recommendations of the Coastal Commission staff report which finds the current proposed project to renovate the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields in Golden Gate Park in violation of the goals of the California Coastal Commission. The project is also inconsistent with the 1998 Golden Gate Master Plan, The 2004 National Register Listing, The City of San Francisco's Coastal Plan and The 2012 Ocean Beach Master Plan.

The paving over of 7 acres of Golden Gate Park right where it interfaces with the Ocean with toxic tires, plastic grass and 150,000 watts of lights constitutes inappropriate development in a very special place. It is an open space resource that should be protected for present and future generations by you, our Coastal Commission officials. You have that power on May 9, 2013. Please support the findings of your own staff!

Sincerely,

Celia Thompson Taupin
3435 Cesar Chavez, Studio 320
San Francisco,
CA 94110

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MAY 06 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

May 6, 2013

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MAY 06 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

California Coastal Commission:

RE: **Don't light up the night in Golden Gate Park**

I see that the San Francisco Chronicle is attempting to launch an email campaign against the staff opinion on the artificial turf/night lighting proposal by SF Park & Rec. for Golden Gate Park. This is unfortunate, as this matter should be decided on the merits, not on some write in campaign. But since this avenue is being advocated, I thought I should weigh in.

The Park & Rec. folks have alternative locations for their artificial turf fields, but have bullheadedly persisted with their idea to put this in Golden Gate Park (GGP). So, if the Commission puts an end to their plan, nothing is really lost for the soccer advocates.

But failure to act by the Commission would mean a great loss to the nature of GGP.

I must add that years of neglect by Park and Rec. to the existing fields should hardly be justification for the current solution. If they want soccer fields in GGP, then they should maintain the ones they have.

Please vote against the artificial turf/night lighting proposal. You will be doing The City a favor, as efforts can then be devoted to alternative locations, which should have occurred voluntarily.

*Larry Roles*2428 Union Street
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-346-2798

barbara berman

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MAY 06 2013

May 1, 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

TO ALL MEMBERS OF COASTAL COMMISSION AND STAFF :

Please do not replace the grass near the Beach Chalet with artificial turf. Please do not install high-powered lighting. My husband and I live near Golden Gate Park and we treasure it. We also support athletic activities in San Francisco green spaces. HOWEVER we believe that a solution that takes into account both the habitat of birds, and the health of San Francisco citizens, is possible.

THANK YOU

Sincerely



Barbara Berman

568 fifth avenue san francisco california 944118
415-668-2409 bbgabe@aol.com

2, May 2013

Dear Dan,

This letter is to oppose the the plan to put astro turf to the Beach Chalet soccer field. I'm also apposed to the lighting. I have played in these fields as a kid and had no problems with the field. I think if you took the money (20,000,000.00 from the City and 28,000,000.00 from the City fields foundation) and put it into the maintenance of the field it would go a long way. Hire somebody full time to maintain it. Please do not turn the city's parks into sterile copy's of what should be natural. There are enough parks with astro turf and plastic.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. Regan
543 Chenery St.
S.F. CA 94131
(415) 587-4415

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MAY 06 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Agenda Item # 15-C
Katherine W Jarrett

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 SF's soccer needs without destroying this natural legacy and jeopardizing precious local wildlife.

Katherine W Jarrett
5511 Golden Gate Ave
Oakland, CA 94618

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MAY 06 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

RECEIVED

May 2, 2013

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

MAY 06 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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.

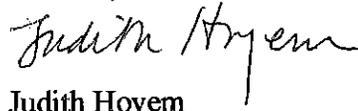
I am concerned not only about the loss of a large meadow but also the toxic effects of the proposed use of astro-turf and what might leach into the ground and the ground water. I understand that because of the uncertainty about this, the run-off from rain water falling on fields will need to be piped to sewage plants for treatment. This will be a maintenance cost. Why not simply plant grass and let the rain water restore the aquifer 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
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

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MAY 06 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

To:

California Coastal Commission
Mary K. Shallenberger, Chair and
Dan Carl, Deputy Manager
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

May 1, 2013

RE: Beach Chalet Fields (Agenda Item # 15-C)

Dear Coastal Commission members and staff:

I support the alternative of adding soccer facilities off-site, while improving the grass fields and preserving wildlife habitat at Beach Chalet. Please do NOT replace the natural grass soccer fields at Beach Chalet with artificial turf and 60-foot-tall lights. 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.

Please, can we find a way to meet SF's soccer needs without destroying this natural legacy and jeopardizing precious local wildlife.

Yours truly,



Chris Nakashima

Carson Cox
Agenda Item # 15-C

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MAY 06 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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:

I normally do not write these kinds of letters, but I wanted to urge you to please 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.

Although I don't live in San Francisco, I do use the park regularly and consider it a regional treasure. Is my understanding that the western end of Golden Gate Park was intended to remain more natural and less developed. Also birds use this site, which is located adjacent to Ocean Beach along the Pacific Flyway.

Given that there appear to be other nearby options for developing lighted artificial turf soccer fields, let's find a way to meet SF's soccer needs without destroying this natural legacy and jeopardizing precious local wildlife.

Sincerely,



Carson Cox
491 Throckmorton Ave.
Mill Valley, CA 94941

Agenda Item # 15-C

Dear Coastal Commission members and staff:

As a parent of a soccer player and a San Franciscan who has enjoyed Beach Chalet for decades, I urge you to and request that you please 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. Staff and volunteers from the Surfrider Foundation, Golden Gate Audubon, GGNRA, and other community organizations have worked so hard to keep this corridor as a place which delicately balances the need for viable wildlife habitat and for human recreation and relaxation.

Let's not undo their thoughtful efforts but find a way to meet San Francisco's soccer needs without destroying this natural legacy and jeopardizing precious local and migrating wildlife.

Sincerely,

Nancy Fee
1105 Greenwich Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

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MAY 06 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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MAY 06 2013

COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

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.

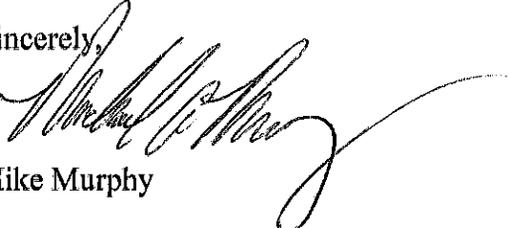
3) Anecdotal evidence in support of Staff Recommendation to renew natural grass fields

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

OPPOSED TO PROJECT A-2-SNF-12-020

Item: **Th15c**

May 9th 2013

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MAY 06 2013

Aaron Goodman

25 Lisbon St.

San Francisco, CA 94112

Tel: 415.786.6929

E: amgodman@yahoo.com

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

Re: ITEM# Th15c
Application: A-2-SNF-12-020
Position: Opposed to the project

California Coastal Commissioners;

I write to you briefly in opposition to the renovation of the Golden Gate Park proposed renovations by the SF Recreation and Park Department for the following reasons;

- a) It affects negatively a primary park and migratory area along the coast.
- b) Multiple other projects have been approved without appropriately looking at the loss of tree canopy, and migratory landing areas in the District 7 area of San Francisco.
- c) There have been proposed by the appellants significant alternatives that have been ignored by the city and county of SF, which must be considered as options per CEQA.
- d) The city has started on a major project within the coastal areas without an EIR through a letter of determination issued improperly (see Westside Observer Judge Quentin Kopp's article on 800 Brotherhood Way adjacent to Lake Merced, and a prior PUBLIC PARK!
- e) Parkmerced's proposed project negatively affects bird migratory areas and ongoing tree removal is occurring while a CEQA case has yet to be determined.
- f) SFSU-CSU has already embarked on additional demolitions in the area adjacent to Lake Merced affecting tree and migratory areas (see prior Frederick Burke Elementary School which was recently changed to an artificial turf and lighted recreation area)

We strongly support the efforts of SF Ocean Edge, and other organizations on this issue and hope that you will focus your efforts on the alternatives that were proposed by the appellants as a basis for a community based resolution that protects the environment.

Sincerely

Aaron Goodman



Agenda # Th 15c
Application # A-2-SNF-12-020

OPPOSE

I OPPOSE The proposed changes.

Cheryl Richard

my name: Cheryl Richard

940 San Jose Ave. No. 4
SF, CA 94110

April 30, 2013

California Coastal Commission

Re: Beach Chalet Fields

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MAY 06 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

I do not want:

1. astrourf or concrete paths
2. bright lights
3. stadium seating, bleachers, etc.
4. a gated soccer field
5. a soccer field that requires disturbing the ecology of the meadow, including prey for raptors, like gophers and mice
6. a soccer field that requires toxic chemicals for maintenance
7. a new or larger parking lot
8. more traffic congestion.
9. more competition for parking due to crowds descending

May 6, 2013, 2013

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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,

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.

As an environmentalist, I am deeply invested in our natural resources and wildlife. For years, I have advocated to minimize our impact on our natural environment and to make smart public policy decisions to protect it. I consider every development project very carefully and I am confident that the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields renovation project is the right one for city residents and environmentalists alike.

Renovating the fields will have a miniscule impact on the surrounding environment, since the Beach Chalet Fields make up less than one percent of the total area of Golden Gate Park. Not only are the fields a fraction of the entire park, but they are also separated from the beach by a busy, *four-lane, illuminated* highway. Unless someone is playing soccer on the fields or cheering on their friends or family in the stands, they will likely never even realize that these fields exist.

The plan to renovate the fields is both environmentally safe and responsible. An EIR determined that the project will not diminish the historic character of the park and that the use of synthetic turf on the fields is safe. Synthetic turf fields reduce landfill waste and are recyclable. Additionally, using turf will save about 5.7 millions gallons of water each year. The conservation of water is an environmental advantage we will only gain through renovating the Beach Chalet Fields **with synthetic turf**.

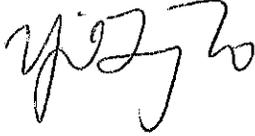
The EIR concluded that the impact of traffic along the field will be virtually undetectable, helping to ensure that wildlife are undisturbed. In addition, the Recreation and Parks Department has committed to replacing the 16 trees and 44 plants being removed with an impressive 200 trees and 1000 additional plants.

And as an amateur soccer player myself, the synthetic turf minimizes injury to the players and low maintenance due to no watering for the grass (hence NO carbon footprint), it is an absolutely ideal approach to this site and project.

Renovating the fields will only improve the surrounding environment, not destroy it.
Please vote "No Substantial Issue" on the Coastal permit appeal and let us move
forward as a city.

Thank You for your time and support

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yiu To', written in a cursive style.

Yiu To
LEED Professional (Building Design and Construction)
3318 Rivera Street,
San Francisco

May 6, 2013

Commissioner Brian Brennan
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St., Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

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MAY 08 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Re: CCC hearing on May 8, 2013 regarding Beach Chalet soccer field in Golden Gate Park of San Francisco

Dear Commissioner Brennan,

Hello. I strongly urge you and the rest of the California Coastal Commission (CCC) to rule that replacing the existing seven acres of natural grass and soil at the Beach Chalet soccer fields at the west end of Golden Gate Park in San Francisco with artificial turf and at least 600,000 pounds of rubber crumb (small tire particles) will not be allowed due to the probable contamination of Ocean Beach in San Francisco from the tire particles.

The fence on the western side of the existing soccer field there now is only 165 yards (495 feet) to where the sand begins at Ocean Beach. If this ill-conceived project occurs, the artificial turf and rubber particles will probably extend another 60 feet to the west and thus be only 450 feet or less from the sand at Ocean Beach.

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 tire particles to the sand of Ocean Beach (and ultimately to the Pacific Ocean) as rain water (on days of heavy rain) drains from the field to Ocean Beach carrying the small particles with it.

As the study from the consultant below states, toxic substances from the tire particles will become water soluble in the rain water and thus will go wherever the rain water goes. Because some of this rain water will drain back to the beach from gravity, some of the contaminated water will go into the water at Ocean Beach. As the excerpt from the 2006 consultant's report below shows, water contaminated from tires is toxic to some aquatic organisms.

The consultant's 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](http://www.ardeacon.com/pdf/Assessment%20Environmental%20Toxicity%20Report.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, Don 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 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.

This project was pushed by a few top people who were, in effect, working more for Mr. Fisher and the Fisher family's City Fields Foundation, than they were for the people of San Francisco. This is clear when one sees how blatantly this project is a violation of the text and spirit of the Golden Gate Park Master Plan (GGPMP).

I could go on and on about how this project violates the GGPMP but instead I'll just give a few examples of text in the GGPMP that clearly shows the corruptness of the process that approved this ill-conceived plan that is an environmental danger to Ocean Beach.

Here's the address to the GGPMP:

<http://sfrecrepark.org/GGPMasterPlan.aspx>

Examples showing this project blatantly violates the text and spirit of the GGPMP

- (“Utilities and Infrastructure” link - pg 9-5) “**Lighting is for safety purposes and is not intended to increase night use.**” (my comment: can't get any more clearer than that that putting 60 foot high lights whose whole purpose is to increase night use shows this project from the getgo was a massive violation of the text and spirit of the GGPMP – a master plan that the City of SF and the SF Recreation and Park Department is supposed to follow.)
- (“Objectives and Policies” link - pg 3-9) “The major design feature of Golden Gate Park and the framework within which all park activities occur is its pastoral and sylvan landscape. **The integrity of the pastoral and sylvan landscape must be maintained and remain unaltered.**”
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As I have just shown, this project from the getgo was a massive violation of the Master Plan of Golden Gate Park. But because a few people with power in SF City government wanted it, they ignored this Master Plan (all the while claiming they weren’t violating it).

It is up to the CCC – an agency free from the politics of SF government - 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 environmentally reckless and not-well-thought-out plan.

Thank you for your service on the CCC and for reading my comments. I wish you well.

William Crowley
 San Francisco
 bc1961@sbcglobal.net

May 6, 2013

Commissioner Mark Vargas
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St, Ste 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

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MAY 08 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

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William Crowley
 San Francisco
 bc1961@sbcglobal.net

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MAY 08 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

May 6, 2013

Commissioner Dayna Bochco
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St., Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: CCC hearing on May 8, 2013 regarding Beach Chalet soccer field in Golden Gate Park of San Francisco

Dear Commissioner Bocho,

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William Crowley
 San Francisco
 bc1961@sbcglobal.net

RECEIVED

MAY 08 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

May 6, 2013

Commissioner Jana Zimmer
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St., Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: CCC hearing on May 8, 2013 regarding Beach Chalet soccer field in Golden Gate Park of San Francisco

Dear Commissioner Zimmer,

Hello. I strongly urge you and the rest of the California Coastal Commission (CCC) to rule that replacing the existing seven acres of natural grass and soil at the Beach Chalet soccer fields at the west end of Golden Gate Park in San Francisco with artificial turf and at least 600,000 pounds of rubber crumb (small tire particles) will not be allowed due to the probable contamination of Ocean Beach in San Francisco from the tire particles.

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William Crowley
 San Francisco
 bc1961@sbcglobal.net

May 6, 2013

RECEIVED

MAY 08 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

Commissioner Steve Blank
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St., Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: CCC hearing on May 8, 2013 regarding Beach Chalet soccer field in Golden Gate Park of San Francisco

Dear Commissioner Blank,

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William Crowley
 San Francisco
 bc1961@sbcglobal.net

Agenda Number: Th15c
Application Number: A-2-SNF-12-020
Name: Mary Purpura
Position: Opposed

April 30, 2013

RECEIVED

MAY 06 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

Dear California Coastal Commission:

As a San Francisco resident for 27 years, and a San Francisco homeowner for 18 years, I am unequivocally opposed to the proposal to "renovate" the Beach Chalet soccer fields in western Golden Gate Park with astroturf and overhead lighting.

We know that astroturf is plastic. Replacing what is currently a biologically diverse area of soil with dead, petroleum-based plastic feels like the kind of grotesque proposal one would encounter in a state with less of a commitment to ecological preservation and diversity than California has. The proposed lighting will completely change the feel of that part of the city and disturb the Pacific flyway flight patterns of countless birds whose ancestors have no doubt travelled that route for millennia.

Please decide in favor of ecological diversity; health of the local ecosystem and its inhabitants; and preservation of the quality of this beautiful park, and oppose this project.

Thank you,



Mary Purpura
1481 De Haro Street
San Francisco, CA 94107

RECEIVED

5 May 2013

California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont
San Francisco CA 94105-2219

MAY 07 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

Concerning May 9 Session, Item 15c, Appeal A-2-SNF-09-006

This appeal, by the Sierra Club and others, should be upheld by the Coastal Commission.

San Francisco City and County should not install artificial turf, floodlighting, more parking space, and other development in proximity to the coast.

Sincerely,



William Stanley
3131 Cabrillo Street
San Francisco, California 94121-3507

415-668-3343

RECEIVED

MAY 07 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION

May 5, 2013

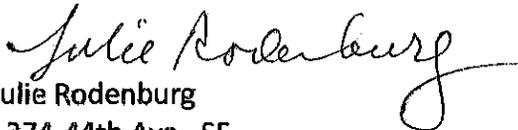
Re: Golden Gate Soccer Field

I applaud your opinion to keep Golden Gate Park a park. We used to call it the SF Parks & Recreation Dept., now parks seem to be second to recreation. and the parks are for sale to the highest bidder. I live a few blocks from the soccer field, and none of the neighbors I have talked to support this. Even my nephews who play soccer say they do not like to play on synthetic turf.

I truly hope this project does not go through – the plastic turf, big lights, new buildings, parking, etc., is one more step in devaluing the park and what it stands for = experiencing nature, the plants, the birds, the peaceful respite. It's hard to believe that the City Fields Foundation is pouring millions into this project while the park, especially the western end, is in such sorry shape. The park has become severely understaffed and these "millions" could pay for some gardeners to maintain the soccer field and nearby vegetation. Why is stadium lighting needed? Why do we need soccer games until 10 p.m. every day, all year? Fear of gopher holes is a poor argument – they're everywhere in this area, and there's nothing that can be done about the weather. Another venue should be chosen for this project.

Don't give up the fight!

Sincerely,



Julie Rodenburg
1274-44th Ave., SF

RECEIVED

MAY 06 2013

CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
NORTH CENTRAL COAST

May 1, 2013

Dan Karl, Deputy Director:

- I am concerned regarding project
"Beach Chalet" - I and many others are
opposed to this project.

Sincerely,
Anne Dinelli.

Ms. Peggy Da Silva
153 Vasquez Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94127-1034

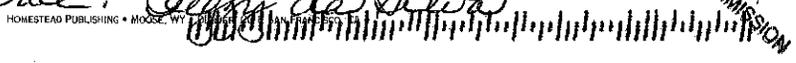
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
FRANCISCO



Dear Ms Shallenberger, Please
do not approve SF Rec + the
proposal for soccer field w/
artificial turf and lights in
Golden Gate Park west end.
We need the wild, free and
dark end of the park. Kids
can play on grass, during
the day. And they (and the
birds) will benefit from
preserving a more natural
open space. Peggy da Silva

Hon. Mary Shallenberger, Chair
CA Coastal Comm.
45 Fremont St.

Suite 2000
RECEIVED
SF CA MAY 10 08 2013
CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION



Ms. Peggy Da Silva
153 Vasquez Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94127-1034

Association

on inspires and
empowers people to travel by air



Dear Mr Kohn - I am completely opposed to the soccer field w/ lights and artificial turf being proposed for the west end of Golden Gate Park. As a child, I enjoyed the wild and free nature of the west end. Our children still need that. Please do not approve Rec + Park permit. Thanks.

Peggy da Silva

Kevin Kohn
Coastal Planner
North Central Coast District
Calif Coastal Comm.
45 Fremont St #2000

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CALIFORNIA
COASTAL COMMISSION
CENTRAL COAST AREA

Oppose project

Agenda Th 15c

App # A-2-SNF-12-020

Agenda Th 15c

App # A-2-SNF-

12-020

Kamille Nixon

Oppose Project

- Coast Commissioners,

1) oppose the project and support

2) Recommendations to keep the most

Park Beach Chalet Soccer Fields

as natural.

Please do not let them put in
turf, massive lighting, and the rest.

The alternative plan for meeting
my concerns of the kid soccer players

k.nixon@gmail.com

247.4813

Sincerely,

Kamille Nixon

Exhibit 7

A-2-SNF-12-020 (Beach Chalet)

Page 877 of 878

From: [Sierra Club](#) on behalf of [Jessica Dervin-Ackerman](#)
To: [CoastalBeachChaletAppeal](#)
Subject: Renovate the Beach Chalet fields with natural grass and minimal or no lighting
Date: Tuesday, May 07, 2013 1:08:28 PM

May 7, 2013

Honorable Mary Shallenberger
CA

Dear Honorable Shallenberger,

RE: May 9th, 2013 CCC Hearing and Agenda Item 15 c. Appeal No.
A-2-SNF-12-020

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,

Ms. Jessica Dervin-Ackerman
548 43rd St Apt A
Oakland, CA 94609-2072