

# Envisioning A Sister Park Program

PROSAC, October 6, 2015



## Creating a Sustainable Model for Generating New Park Stewards

# What is the Sister Park Program?

- ▶ Collaboration – Existing & New Park Groups
- ▶ Contribution - Ideas, Resources & Connections
- ▶ Relationship- Building

# Why Have a Sister-Park Program?

## Immediate Payoffs

- ▶ Exchanging Information
- ▶ Exchanging Experiences
- ▶ Engaging the Neighbors
- ▶ Building Community Support
- ▶ Creating Volunteer Programs
- ▶ Creating a Network of Park-to-Park Contacts

## Long-Term Payoffs

- ▶ Restoring Unfunded/blighted Parks
- ▶ Creating as much Stewardship as Possible
- ▶ Bringing all Parks & their Assets to the Same Level
- ▶ Empowering Community
- ▶ Creating New Park Groups/Stewards

# Where to Start?

## Identify Communities & Neighborhoods In Need

- ❑ Community Parks In Dire Need of Repair & Rehabilitation, or
- ❑ Communities That Have No Parks or Playgrounds
  - ❑ Resources: COMET, Controllers Annual Park Maintenance Report, Failing Playground Report

# Where to Start?

## Gather Information

- Community Profile

- Demographics, Current Activity in the Park, Surrounding Neighborhood, Park Projects-Past, Current Planned

- Issues Identification

- Key Issues, Problems, Challenges

- Park Assessment

- Current Conditions, Opportunities, Constraints

# Where to Start?

- ❑ Identify Neighborhood Park Supporters
  - ❑ Does This Park Have Advocates or a Park Group?
  - ❑ Who Are The Neighborhood Leaders?
  - ❑ Who Are the Potential Key Stakeholders
  - ❑ Who Will Champion The Sister-Park Group?

# Where to Start?

- ❑ Find Fiscal Partners:
  - ❑ SF Recreation & Parks &
  - ❑ SF Parks Alliance
  - ❑ Other Non-Profit Groups
  - ❑ An Established Park Advocacy Group That Had Completed A Highly Successful Park Renovation



# Steps To Engagement Strategy

- ❑ Start with the People in The Community:
  - ❑ Identify the Memories of the Elderly and the Dreams of the Children
  - ❑ Focus on Assets Not Liabilities
  - ❑ Identify & Use Existing Resources
  - ❑ Capture The Attention & Imagination of the Neighbors & Community Leaders
  - ❑ Engage Others Who Can Support The Program

# Benefits of a Sister Park Program:

- ❑ Creates an Outreach Program with Consistency of Action
- ❑ Develops New Friendships, Ideas & Partnerships Which Will Grow Through Months, Years, & Results in Park Enhancements
- ❑ Creates Community Revitalization
- ❑ Identifies Best Practices to Support Broader Sister Park Relationships
- ❑ Links Together Parks, Neighbors & Communities
- ❑ From its Success~~Seeks Long-term Funding for Several Sister-Park Relationships to Continue Supporting a General Sister Park Program

Questions??  
Comments??  
Discussion??