



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

**Date:** October 26, 2015

**To:** Recreation and Park Commission

**Through:** Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager

**From:** Dawn Kamalanathan, Director of Planning and Capital Management

**Subject:** McLaren Quick Start Projects – allocation of \$2.5m in 2012 Bond Funds

---

### Agenda Wording

Discussion and possible action to approve \$2.5 million in proposed expenditures from the 2012 San Francisco Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond for McLaren Park.

### Background

In November 2012, voters approved the \$195 million San Francisco Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond (the Bond). The Bond allocates \$10 million to the McLaren Park program, for the purposes of:

- Restoration of natural features, including lakes, meadows, and landscapes
- Recreational Assets, such as playgrounds, playfields, courts, and picnic areas
- Connectivity and Access, such as roads, pedestrian safety, paths, and trails

Over the past 6 months, RPD staff have attended a number of McLaren Collaborative meetings to discuss how planning for the expenditure of the McLaren Park Bond Funds should proceed over the next year. In conversation with community stakeholders, two themes emerged:

- **Agreement that McLaren Park users desire a series of immediate improvements to the Park.** McLaren Park users advocated for the 2012 Bond with the hope of addressing smaller scale, but long sought after, capital improvements. Working with the McLaren collaborative stakeholders, RPD staff have developed a list of \$2.5 million in Quick Start projects – so named because the projects can be completed in 2 years, and do not require changes to RPD policy and substantial redesign of the Park. The Quick Start projects include smaller projects, improving signage and paving in specific locations to be determined by the community, and larger projects such as the McLaren Community



Garden and McLaren Bike Park. The full list of Quick Start projects, and RPD's proposed schedule for their implementation, is included as an attachment to this report.

- **Agreement that a broader capital improvement planning process needs to occur.** While a number of prior planning exercises have focused on McLaren Park, these processes are either now outdated (McLaren Master Plan) or have been largely executed (McLaren Needs Assessment). RPD will initiate a focused capital improvement process in Spring 2016 that will evaluate and develop goals for McLaren Park:
  - **Entrances.** The Park lacks welcoming and clearly identified entrances for pedestrians, bikes, and cars. The Mansell project will help address some of these issues, but each neighborhood needs a friendly and safe access point to the park.
  - **Connectivity.** Stakeholders are most interested in exploring this theme. If a park user figures out how to enter the park, they then face the more complex challenge of deciding how to move around the park in a safe, convenient, and enjoyable fashion.
  - **Points of Interest.** Certain features and areas of the Park, such as the Group Picnic Area, are in need of improvement and clear program goals or themes to guide their design.

RPD staff will return in early 2016 for Commission approval of contract for a consultant to lead this process.

**Staff Recommendation**

Approve the expenditure of \$2.5 million of 2012 San Francisco Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond for the Quick Start projects.

**Supported By:** McLaren Collaborative

**Opposed By:** None

**Attachments:**

Quick Start Project List

Quick Start Project Schedule