



Kids from Mission Arts in the DeYoung Tower as part of the Junior Guides Program

Golden Gate Park Access and Safety Program
Quarterly Report
Quarter ending September 30, 2023

BACKGROUND

On March 16, 2020, the City issued shelter-in-place orders to prevent the spread of COVID 19. On April 27, 2020, the Recreation and Park Department (RPD) created JFK Promenade in Golden Gate Park by closing JFK Boulevard to cars and creating a safe, fun place to play, roll and stroll. On April 26, 2022, the Board of Supervisors approved Ordinance 74-22 which amended Park Code Section 6.13 Section 5 reporting as follows:

“(a) Beginning July 1, 2023, and annually thereafter until July 1, 2033, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency and Recreation and Park Department shall submit to the Board of Supervisors a joint report on the impacts of the street closures and on the implementation of Golden Gate Park Access and Safety Program. The annual reports shall include but not be limited to: annual visitation data to the Academy of Sciences, de Young Museum, and Gardens of Golden Gate Park; relevant analysis of park visitation data including access from equity priority communities, feedback from the disability community, a summary of traffic safety and collisions; and data and analysis on the usage of the Music Concourse Garage.

(b) Beginning July 1, 2022, and every three months thereafter until July 1, 2024, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency and Recreation and Park Department shall submit to the Board of Supervisors a joint report addressing the implementation status of the policy initiatives included in the Golden Gate Park Access and Safety Program and described in subsection (6)(d) of Section 6.12 of the Park Code. Quarterly reports submitted in July of each year may be consolidated with the annual reports required under subsection (a).”

The legislation became effective June 7, 2022. On Nov 8, 2022, voters approved Proposition J making JFK Promenade permanent and Proposition N transferring ownership of the Golden Gate Park Concourse Garage to RPD.

The reporting period of this quarterly report is July 1 through September 30, 2023.



EQUITY

Bandshell

Summer of 2023 marked 18 months of free, radically inclusive, live performance events at the Bandshell. Since its inception in August 2021, Free Live has provided 350 shows with 2,000+ performers, for more than 500,000 audience members. Music is performed every Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday evening, with some daytime shows on Saturday afternoons.

Types of Performances included: Singer/Songwriter, Rock, R&B, Soul, Funk, Reggae, Jazz, Latin Rock Fusion, Classical, Blues, Hip Hop, Salsa, Brazilian, African and Indian Dance and Drumming, Children's Music, Poetry, Jam Band, Bluegrass, Brass Ensembles, Choir and Holiday Music, and other genres.

Junior Guides

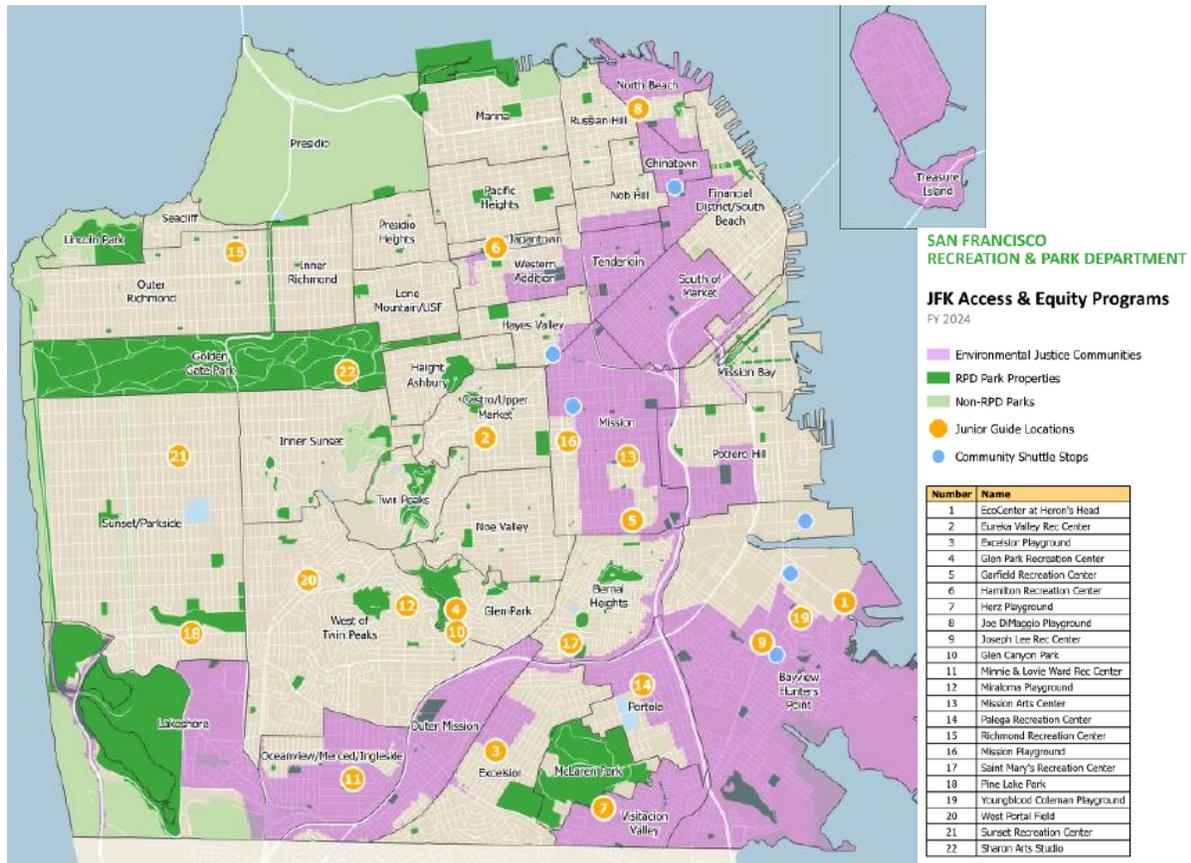
During FY23, the Recreation & Park Department, in partnership with the Gardens of Golden Gate Park, the de Young Museum, SFMTA, and the San Francisco Parks Alliance, expanded the *Golden Gate Park Junior Guides* field trip program to engage community organizations supporting residents in environmental justice communities. The field trips invited 1,070 San Francisco children aged 5-12 and 178 teen leaders plus 11 community groups. The goal of the program was to expose more people to the wonders of Golden Gate Park and empower them to return with their families and serve as Honorary Guides to the park.

Originally planned for 2020 as part of Golden Gate Park's 150th birthday celebration, the program was postponed due to COVID. The 2021 and 2022 Junior Guides program served over 1,500 San Francisco children and attending summer camps, plus 11 groups in Environmental Justice Communities.

Summer 2023 Quarter Highlights

Community Shuttle Program:

The Community Shuttle transports adults from Environmental Justice Community neighborhoods and provides a guided experience to the cultural institutions, JFK art installations, and landscaped beauty of our parks. During summer 2023 the shuttle program brought 330 adults from across the city to enjoy our parks.



Community Groups	Supervisory District	Group Size
Arab Resource and Organizing Center	5	110
Bayview United	10	10
Chinatown Community Development Center	3	40
Community Grows	5	10
District 10 Resource Fair	10	80
Network for Elders	10	40
Rafiki Coalition	10	40
TOTAL Participants		330

Summer 2023 Quarter Highlights

Community Gathering:

On Saturday August 5, 2023, JFK hosted a free community event for more than 1,000 soccer fans from around the Bay Area with a World Cup quarterfinal match viewing party to watch Netherlands and South Africa play. With live music and a World Cup Village with food trucks, face painting, games for the kids, and sunshine, it was an energetic quarterfinal game.



ACCESSIBILITY

Adaptive Bike Program

The Adaptive Bike Programs returned to San Francisco and the Bay Area Outdoor Recreation Program (BORP) operated all summer. This free program runs at two locations on alternating weekends, Golden Gate Park and Upper Great Highway. BORP takes reservations to ensure that the right type of adaptive bike is available, and BORP staff assist participants to use their bicycles.

Outside Lands

More than 225,000 people attended Outside Lands (OSL) festival August 11-13, 2023 and accessibility to GGP was enhanced by a variety of transportation elements:

- Shuttles provided by OSL served 9,000 per day

Summer 2023 Quarter Highlights

- SFMTA provided a record number of additional buses and services
- Three Transportation Network Company stations were established to allow pick up and drop off by Uber and Lyft
- Bike parking was available

MOBILITY

JFK Shuttle

The JFK shuttle's regular weekend service supported transportation access for Outside Lands and Hardly Strictly Bluegrass and ridership was more than double the usual rate on those weekends.

Bike Mobility

There are now 11 new bike racks installed adjacent and near JFK. A total of 20 racks with capacity for 96 bikes are planned, with the remainder scheduled to be installed in early 2024.

There are also five new Lyft shared bike stations in the park. In community engagement during COVID, bike share stations were repeatedly requested by the public as a great way to enhance mobility and enjoy recreational access within the park. Locations are:

1. Pompei Circle at JFK Dr
2. MLK Jr. Dr at 7th Ave
3. JFK Dr at 8th Ave/Music Concourse Dr
4. JFK Dr at Ocean Beach
5. Spreckels Lake

STREET SAFETY

JFK Promenade

The project to grind off most traffic paint lines on JFK has begun! The center line and crosswalks will remain, but parking lines, bus zone markings, and other vehicle-related paint will be removed. This will enhance clarity in the space and improve the look of the promenade. The project is scheduled to be completed in early 2024.

UPCOMING INITIATIVES AND NEAR-TERM WORK IN PROGRESS

- The jurisdictional transfer of the Music Concourse Garage is still in process, now expected to be complete in early 2024. Once completed, RPD will be able to:
 - Institute flexible pricing and reduce rates at less popular hours for all users,
 - Increase the time limit on the free loading zone in the garage from 15 minutes to 30 minutes,
 - Provide additional subsidized parking for Discover and Go and Museums for All pass users, and
 - Install improved directional signage for better access to and flow within the garage.
- As part of the Slow Street Network, MTA is planning to conduct an evaluation of the street conditions along JFK. This will include four days of observation (weekdays and weekends) to better understand visitor behavior, modal interactions, and opportunities for improvement.
- A Disability Access Coordinator (DAC), a new position approved in the RPD's budget, is expected to begin work in late November 2023. The DAC will plan, develop, and implement architectural accessibility projects along with developing and supporting programmatic access policies, practices, and procedures. The DAC will streamline departmental compliance set forth by state and federal codes, as well as other relevant laws, ordinance and regulations impacting people with disabilities, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- RPD is committed to ADA improvements along the north side of JFK at Conservatory Drive East, Pompeii Circle, and Conservatory Drive West. As part of a larger barrier removal project on JFK, the Department is replacing 10 curb ramps and improving three crosswalks. The estimated project cost is \$350,000 and is being funded by the City's Certificates of Participation program. Construction is scheduled to begin winter 2024.
- RPD is also studying the feasibility of reconfiguring the roadway at Conservatory Drive West to include a turnaround circle near the intersection of JFK. This would allow passengers to drop park users off at the ADA path of travel, closest to the Conservatory of Flowers. Cost estimation has begun.