

**Park and Recreation Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting  
April 2, 2019**

*[Transcriber's note: Poor audio recording quality. Parties present did not identify themselves before speaking. Overlapping speech.]*

[simultaneous comments]

**Chair:** Why don't we start with the Chair's report and let's talk about things that we can actually agendize as new business item.

So everything, welcome to the Chair's report. The past week there's been a lot of events. I first want to thank every PROSAC member and community member that had the opportunity to attend the [unintelligible] conference that Steven is talking about at the India Basin restoration project. I couldn't attend but I understand it was a really great conference in which the Mayor [unintelligible] the \$25 million donation which was the largest donation that would San Francisco parks had ever received in private funding.

Does anyone have any comments about how the conference went? Richard?

**Richard Rothman:** I was there. I thought it went very well. It was a really great addition to neighborhood there and [unintelligible] but it's just a down payment. One of the ships at the Hyde Street Pier was actually built at that shipyard. I think it's on the right track.

**Chair:** Thank you for sharing that Richard. Anybody else want to discuss their experience?

**Steven Currier:** It was great, there were a lot of people there, a lot of great comments. The Mayor did a great job. My only frustration and I mentioned this to Jordyn and I'll mention it to everybody else is that sometimes we're the stepchild of Recreation and Park and I think that needs to stop. I know that when Linda D'Avirro was Chair: of this body she laid into Phil about making sure that members of PROSAC especially those who attend these ribbon cuttings and openings and press conferences that we play a role here, maybe a minor role but we do play a role and I think Phil has to realize that we're a body that needs to be taken seriously.

**Chair:** Thank you. A couple days after that press conference was the McLaren Community Garden ribbon cutting and so it was really nice to see other PROSAC members and community members there. It was an event I got to attend, it was on the weekend and I appreciated seeing other folks there. Richard, it was really nice to see Phil the General Manager [unintelligible] is definitely a good example of how we've been recognized by the Department as well as the community and so if you haven't gotten a chance yet to check out the new community garden. [unintelligible]. I took a walking tour of [unintelligible] the Public Utilities Commission had facilitated. It was really, really nice and just listening to the community members of McLaren Park [unintelligible] he was talking about when they had first moved to that neighborhood his wife was starting to grow her own lettuce in the backyard and then when he was eating dinner

one day and he was like what kind of lettuce is this she told him I grew that in our backyard and it developed this lifestyle of theirs of contributing [unintelligible].

And so, we are I think in this next year it's really important for us to get out there and get involved and all of the events that the Department has put out for the public and so whether that's community events or whether [unintelligible].

I also want to mention that in District 4 we're going to do a [unintelligible]. So the walk-through is at 10:00 and then the Eggtravaganza starts from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. so I will be there and would love to have everybody else to attend.

Other events that are upcoming, I know in our March meeting we discussed maybe taking a field trip to Alemany Farms and so Alemany Farms is going to have their Earth Day celebration Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, that time is from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. I know this is the first time that I am describing this even to you all so right after this meeting I will send an email to this group and I'll give everyone two weeks to let me know if you can attend or not and that way [unintelligible].

**Female Speaker:** An email with all the details that you just mentioned would be super-appreciated.

[simultaneous comments]

**Chair:** If everyone is receiving it or not receiving these emails please let me know so I can work [unintelligible]. I also want to mention at the April 18<sup>th</sup> Recreation and Park Commission meeting Phil [unintelligible]. Again, it's April 18<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 o'clock.

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Chair:** So that's what I have for current events. The next item I want to talk about as part of the Chair's report is just our [unintelligible] but we meet every first Tuesday of the month in this room from 6:30 until whenever we're done with the agenda and we're going to try to make sure that we [unintelligible].

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible] an hour and a half?

**Chair:** I think it depends on how many agenda items we have but it is something that I am very conscious about. I want to be very respectful of everyone's time. Any questions?

Okay, so two hours or less is what I'm hearing from Vice Chair: so we'll try to stick to that.

The next item I'd like to talk about when it comes to committee business is quorum. This is an issue that has been brought up a year ago, in the last few months and even today it is something that we have serious challenges with and one of those things is just all the emails that we're

receiving about are you attending or are you not. So part of our committee [unintelligible] and responsibilities of ourselves as committee members we do need to notify the Department 24 hours before our meeting whether or not [unintelligible]. So at the close of business the Monday before PROSAC meeting please make sure that you have emailed Tiffany, prosac@sfgov.org. And so this will really help us make sure that we have an accurate attendee count. It's okay to say I can't attend or I'm not sure but at least we have an expectation of who will be on the committee on Tuesday.

As part of our email etiquette I think that when you know you'll be able to attend or if unfortunately, you can't make that meeting just respond to Tiffany. Robert do you have a question?

**Robert Brust:** Yes. We were tracking it on the sheet, people just don't reply, nothing, never. I think that should be taken into account with the people who don't show up, never. And it would be part of the reason that they're going to be reprimanded and a letter sent to their Supervisor. This is probably—this is one of the reasons, people are on the roles or Supervisors have not filled seats to it has inflated the level that we have to reach in order get business done and when it reaches a point like this it becomes obvious because we're just sitting here looking silly.

**Chair:** [unintelligible]

**Female Speaker:** What are our two vacancies? Are they both in 10?

[simultaneous comments]

**Chair:** We're missing two still. One for D10 and one for Steffen's seat.

[simultaneous comments]

**Chair:** [unintelligible] We talked about quorum making sure whether or not you can attend, make sure you email Tiffany close of business Monday before our PROSAC meeting. We talked about not hitting reply all and just reply to Tiffany. I'm only saying that now but Tiffany is going to be on maternity leave so that will change.

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible]

[simultaneous comments]

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Chair:** So Rosa is listed.

**Male Speaker:** She was appointed today.

[simultaneous comments]

**Female Speaker:** Didn't we have a vacancy from 2?

**Chair:** Yes, which is Steffen's.

[simultaneous comments]

**Chair:** But even without those vacancies like as everyone here can see it's so very difficult to get everyone here and I think that will be another challenge that we have to address, not just our vacancies but making sure that this is a [unintelligible].

I also want to talk a little bit about the emails that we have to be sending out, whether or not there's a quorum or there's no quorum. It kind of goes back to Robert's point of [unintelligible] the challenges that we face when it comes to attendance. I'm not sure about you all but I feel like it may be also perceived that [unintelligible] a member might think or, I'm not going to attend because I assumed that there's not going to be a quorum and this meeting is going to get cancelled and so therefore I'm going to make other arrangements or plans and so what are your thoughts about [unintelligible].

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible] I understand where you're coming from but I also think that if we don't have that it's like then you're [unintelligible] a reminder to everybody that you need to respond.

**Chair:** Okay.

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Chair:** [unintelligible]

**Male Speaker:** It's the same people who don't respond.

**Chair:** Once we do that—I definitely hear what you're saying Richard and so I think as the chair it becomes [unintelligible] and I guess I want to end my Chair's report with just saying I want to make sure that I'm accessible for everyone that's here [unintelligible] so as part of the handout you'll have my cell phone number, it's down here. [unintelligible] Okay, well welcome everyone to the April 2019 PROSAC meeting, our first order of business is roll call. I will start my left.

**Nick Belloni:** District 2.

**Anthony Cuadro:** District 7.

**Jane Weil:** District 6.

**Roisin Isner:** District 10.

**Steven Currier:** District 11.

**Julia Pfeifferberger:** District 4.

**Ana Gee:** District 6.

**Robert Brust:** District 8.

**Cally Wong:** District 7.

**Mark Scheuer:** District 8.

**Richard Rothman:** District 1.

**Chair:** Jordyn Aquino, District 4. This is the sign in sheet if you have not received that yet. As part of the April meeting we'll kind of just talk through our vacancies and whether [unintelligible] District 10 the opportunity to tell us and our committee a little bit more about yourself, your background, [unintelligible] things like that.

**Roisin Isner:** I'm a third generation San Franciscan, a lifelong resident of District 10 from low Visitacion Valley [unintelligible]. I attended Recreation and Park programs as a youth [unintelligible]. I do want to appreciate though Maya Rodgers who is [unintelligible] I appreciate everything she did. [unintelligible]. I'm involved in community organizing [unintelligible]. Up to the November election I was knocking on thousands and thousands of doors in District 10 [unintelligible] which is probably the number one issue in the District and got pretty much universal support or concern about the level [unintelligible] what people were specifically looking for in terms of resources. So eliminating various access, creating more access to [unintelligible] that's what I'm interested in. Also, I'm going to [unintelligible].

**Chair:** Welcome to your first PROSAC meeting. It's really great to hear your [unintelligible]. So now that we've finished our roll call can we move to agenda Item #2 which is the review of the minutes. So in your packet you will have the March 2019 meeting minutes.

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible]

[simultaneous comments]

**Steven Currier:** District 11. I move to approve the minutes of March 5, 2019.

**Chair:** Okay, so for the review of the minutes we have Steven Currier as well as Nick Belloni. All in favor to approve the March, 2019 minutes say aye?

**All:** Aye.

**Chair:** Opposed? Meeting minutes for March 2019 have been approved. So we will move to our next agenda item, that would be the Chair's report but I'm going to skip that, that has been completed. And now I would like to introduce Cara Ruppert.

**Cara Ruppert:** My name is Cara Ruppert. I've been here a couple times. For any of you who I haven't met before I work in the Capital Division as a project manager and I am the lead within our Division on the Let's Play S.F. initiative. Lisa Branston who is on the agenda to be here tonight is the lead for the whole program for the Department.

We promised to come I think twice a year, one with our reports to the Recreation and Park Commission as well. So I was just going to present that and open it up for questions and give you a lot of exciting news actually this time around.

I was on leave over the summer and so I think when Lisa and maybe Melinda were here in August Washington Square playground was under construction and the most exciting part [unintelligible]. We are now on the cusp of breaking ground on five more sites, the rest of our Tier 1 sites.

Before I get too far into it let me just give you a quick background for some of the new members. The Let's Play S.F. initiative was originally called the Failing Playgrounds program. It was part of the 2012 bond with the idea of transforming the worst playgrounds in the city. There was a task force that identified different criteria but ranked the playgrounds across the whole city and it ended up with thirteen set over two tiers, thirteen playgrounds and only \$15 million which means it wasn't going to be enough money so we partnered with the San Francisco Parks Alliance to do a fundraising campaign to make sure that all thirteen playgrounds were renovated under this initiative.

So at the end of 2014 the task force presented the Recreation and Park Commission with this map which identifies all thirteen playgrounds here. You can see they're spread pretty well across the city. Like I said, the criteria for selecting the playgrounds, there is really three elements—number one was the [unintelligible] which is the pressure treated lumber that was used in playgrounds really until very recently, until the 2000s, so some of the equipment still needs to be taken out of some of our parks. It is a carcinogen. The second one was the location in low income neighborhoods combined with the high-needs density for that neighborhood too.

Back to where we are today. So like I said Washington Square opened in early January. The Parks Alliance held an activation even on January 19<sup>th</sup> for the community and I haven't been by since the fences came down but I was there right before it opened and it seems like I've heard only great information and the playground is teeming with kids.

I'm also going to show you our schedule. So that red line is today, a little bit—this is what we presented to the Commission. You can see the top [unintelligible] projects here were Tier 1. Tier 2 down here. So Tier 1 they said they're starting construction within about a month, by early May we should start construction on all of those five sites with a couple of them starting sooner. Hot off the press [unintelligible] we just issued a Notice to Proceed [unintelligible] and that will be on April 8<sup>th</sup> so it will be from yesterday we'll be starting construction right down the street. McLaren Park picnic area is also on the same date so April 8. Just next week we're starting two more sites and then MaCaulay is right after. And then Alice Chalmers and Merced Heights will be in early May.

**Steven Currier:** Can you name the thirteen playgrounds.

**Cara Ruppert:** Sure. Tier 1 is Washington Square is complete, Alice Chalmers, Merced Heights, Panhandle playground, McLaren Group Picnic area and MaCaulay. There's only six in Tier 1. Six in Tier 1 and there's seven in Tier 2. Tier 2 are Golden Gate Height, Jury Commons, Hertz Playground, Stern Grove, Richmond Playground, West Portal and Buchanan Street Mall.

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible] So when will Tier 2 start?

**Cara Ruppert:** Where we are with Tier 2 is West Portal and Jury Commons are actually just finishing up their design drawings now and we expect to bid them out early in the summer and then they would start construction in the fall and then Hertz Playground—actually, let me back up. Buchanan Street Mall and Golden Gate Heights are kind of the next two. They are in the middle of conceptual design, finishing up the community engagement right now and then Hertz Playground the Parks Alliance has donated design services for that playground too and they have—they now have the design team under contract and so I believe they had some internal meetings and are planning their first community workshop I believe for early May.

Then Richmond Playground and Stern Grove Playground the Parks Alliance is about to issue an RFP this month for Richmond playground and followed quickly will be Stern Grove for design services and so we expect to start those with community engagement by late summer, early fall.

So we are starting all thirteen or finishing all thirteen within this year which is great. Were there any other questions on the status of those playgrounds?

**Steven Currier:** Just for the record, Mark and I served on that task force and there was a third tier, it's out there.

**Cara Ruppert:** I think there's the task force report is quite bulky. There's a series of different options that narrowed down to these thirteen. If anyone would like to see the task force report I believe it's on the website but we can also make it available for you too if you can't find it.

**Richard Rothman:** [unintelligible] is it just the surrounding area [unintelligible]. I assume you with the Supervisor.

**Cara Ruppert:** We're working with both. Usually our outreach for playgrounds in the hyper-local kind of area that uses that individual playground so they're our biggest target. We've partnered with the Parks Alliance who has a broader reach and they divide up the city with their staff by area and so they help us reach even further away from the local neighborhood and then of course we work with the Supervisor's office to make sure all the stakeholder that they're aware of—and we'd love—like one of our priorities for this project—and I'll get there in just a second to show you, we've been tracking the community engagement really tightly because we've wanted high levels of engagement and so if you have any stakeholders that you're aware of please pass them our way, we want to make sure to get there information and ideas on the subjects too.

So we just added a couple images of things you might have seen before. These are mostly Tier 1 sites or projects that have some conceptual drawings done. Merced Heights here, this is the John MaCaulay. The one addition is [unintelligible]. Alice Chalmers playground, McLaren Park group picnic area. Panhandle Playground. West Portal. This design is really close to what you see here, this is the Community Opportunity Fund grant application so it's shifted a little bit as it's developed over the years.

**Female Speaker:** What does that mean?

**Cara Ruppert:** The Community Opportunity Fund?

**Female Speaker:** Yeah, how does impact design?

**Cara Ruppert:** So the Community Opportunity Fund was part of the bond and the idea was that neighborhood would come together and apply for grants from the Department to do kind of a grass roots improvement to their properties. And so the Friends of West Portal Playground came together and wrote an application and they were awarded a pretty large grant to help build this playground. It wasn't enough so that's why we've partnered and come in with more money from this program to make sure it's built.

This is one you probably haven't seen. I don't think it was developed by August but this is the Jury Commons playground. In the foreground is a major play area. If you're not familiar with the site this is a very skinny—it's an old railroad bed that cuts diagonally through a block so you're pretty much looking at the entire width of the park right here. So a major play area and further in the distance along the left is a slide that takes you down a hillside over the short hillside and [unintelligible]. The challenge of this was that it was so narrow and the fall zones for playgrounds are so wide that it had to be a more interesting custom project compared to just laying down some slides. [unintelligible].

So this is slide about community engagement. This is our statistic right now. We've had what we've called interactions, over 3000 interactions with community members. Those are counted from over 113 community meetings, workshops, focus groups and survey responders. So we are getting out there and really trying to get a lot of feedback and involvement from our community.

Here is our current budget. We took the numbers and tried to look at them in a slightly different way than we typically show you which is usually sources and uses and we try to [unintelligible] design phase and construction phase for the projects and what you see here at the bottom, we're at \$36 million for the total initiative budget at this point, that's a little bit more than I think it was last August and that accounts almost all for an extended fundraising [unintelligible].

We do have some really good news on budgets. All of these projects were bid around the same time at the end of last year and of all those five projects they all came in under the estimated cost. So we are really excited. We're wondering where the economy is going of course but it was a strategy that bid them all really close to each other that really paid off for us in an interesting way. We got a lot of contractors very excited about the projects. And we have the opportunity

now we aren't going to make any movements in the budget for a little while until the projects really start construction but we think we're going to be able to move money from what was dedicated to Tier 1 projects and move them into Tier 2 projects in order to start those projects sooner and fully fund them sooner.

**Ana Gee:** District 6. What happened to that money [unintelligible] or does it go to Tier 2?

**Cara Ruppert:** Right now it's going to Tier 2. So the fundraising campaign isn't complete. The Parks Alliance has raised about \$9.4 million out of about \$14 million is their goal and so we're still short around \$5 million but we think we can start making up a little bit of that money just by some of the cost savings we saw in these recent bids for Tier 1.

**Nick Belloni:** District 2. It says on this [unintelligible] it says additional public funding [unintelligible].

**Cara Ruppert:** Okay, so the additional public funding would be West Portal playground the Community Opportunity Fund money. It's some impact fees, developer impact fees. I know that was available for Jury Commons. Hertz playground had some as well. There is some add-backs from Supervisors, some General Fund money over the years that we've been holding all my pennies really close and counting all of those.

**Female Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Cara Ruppert:** And I think even maybe Buchanan has put out \$1 million. I could be wrong.

**Female Speaker:** Oh, it add-backs?

**Cara Ruppert:** In add-backs.

**Female Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Mark Scheuer:** District 8. So what accounts for this generosity? Is campaign efforts that this or [unintelligible].

**Female Speaker:** Oh no. It's the Parks Alliance has been leading the fundraising effort. Lisa Branston and Phil Ginsburg have been very involved and so you can thank them for [unintelligible]. They've applied for grants, they've put together most recently a civic committee led by the more well-known philanthropic family around town to really drive interest and get people excited about this program and that leads to people just donating money. There's been site tours, dinners, events. I have nothing to do with it, I'm not going to take that credit, that's all them.

**Chair:** I have a question. You talked a little bit about community engagement and I want [unintelligible] and I think at this time we know who the Tier 1 and Tier 2 playgrounds are and so moving forward how can PROSAC members play a role in making sure that we get that [unintelligible] and also just being more active and aware of [unintelligible].

**Cara Ruppert:** That's a good question. I mean if anyone is really interested, I know Ana has been involved in the Macaulay for sure over the years being an advocate for that project and especially getting funding for that project for the Supervisors. I'm happy to talk to people right now, afterwards, get in touch with me or Lisa Branston. Coming to some of these civic committee events might be worthwhile too. I'm not really sure about the fundraising but we love any volunteering any help we can get.

**Richard Rothman:** [unintelligible]

**Chair:** [unintelligible]

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible]

[simultaneous comments]

**Female Speaker:** I have a question [unintelligible].

**Cara Ruppert:** I haven't thought about it as a—

**Steven Currier:** It's required by the City Charter.

**Cara Ruppert:** It's required.

**Steven Currier:** It is required. You have to get permits to work on public lands.

**Male Speaker:** If RPD has like DPW come in and do something they pay DPW [unintelligible].

**Female Speaker:** It's kind of a [unintelligible] economy in some ways.

**Cara Ruppert:** We also do need the expertise of the other agencies, right? We want the Building Department to [unintelligible] is up to code and correct. [unintelligible] but that's you know also the cost of building in San Francisco [unintelligible]. A lot of it is paying for that expertise that we don't have in the Department and we don't want, right, we don't want to be building inspectors, we don't want to be construction managers. Having the project managers on staff is really helpful but if we have everything [unintelligible].

**Female Speaker:** I see, thank you.

**Cara Ruppert:** This next slide is just a moment on the donor recognition. I think you've probably seen this before, the donor recognition for the Let's Play S.F. campaign is a series of play blocks that were inspired by the small wooden blocks. The one on the left was our first install at Washington Square. We're going to make some refinements to that as we move forward and the two images on the right are the two arrangements of a play box that we're going to move

forward with. The Washington Square pyramid stack turned out to be kind of problematic on install and we want to avoid some of those issues in the future.

**Male Speaker:** What does it take to be a donor?

**Cara Ruppert:** I think you can give any amount of money. There's a chart if you want to be recognized like on the blocks I think it might be \$250,000 and up. It might be higher than that, I'm not sure. I can provide that. [unintelligible].

[simultaneous comments]

**Cara Ruppert:** That's it. So I can definitely answer more questions.

**Chair:** Does anyone on the committee have questions?

**Female Speaker:** What type of [unintelligible].

**Cara Ruppert:** So we're just about to start the community process on that so like I said we want the design and the renovation to be led by the community involvement in that. So Hertz I think is an exciting project because there's kind of two playgrounds right now that are separated by a big concrete walkway between them. There's an opportunity to really integrate them better. There's already some accessibility connections and so we really want to focus there. Hertz also has a small—we'll be doing some small accessibility upgrades to the bathrooms that area adjacent to the clubhouse kind of in the [unintelligible].

**Female Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Cara Ruppert:** The only thing we're touching is the bathrooms. So our scope of work touches the playgrounds and any of the services that the playground uses and so that's often a drinking fountain, bathrooms, sometimes it's gates of fencing and sometimes and accessible path of travel to the playgrounds.

**Female Speaker:** [unintelligible] is there any consideration to does this playground have a water fountain?

**Cara Ruppert:** I don't believe so.

[simultaneous comments]

**Female Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Chair:** And just as a reminder to the committee when we ask questions on an agenda item we do want to speak very clearly and loudly so that we can make sure that it's on the record. We

also present our name and the District that represent because Tiffany will need that information. Does anyone else have questions?

**Cara Ruppert:** Just one last thing. We are planning—and this is a save the date, you'll get official invites—we're planning groundbreaking ceremonies for all of these sites that are starting construction. The Panhandle playground has been set for April 25<sup>th</sup> and MaCaulay has been set for April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

[simultaneous comments]

**Cara Ruppert:** So they're both at 11:00 a.m. We look forward to seeing the actual invite in your inbox shortly. Hold those dates for now.

**Chair:** Thank you. We have one public speaker.

**Pat Skain:** I want to introduce myself. My name is Pat Skain, I'm a [unintelligible] neighborhood association and I would like to be included in the outreach with regards to the Sloat Boulevard project. The experience we have is that Sloat Boulevard is the dividing line between Districts [unintelligible] I've only had one encounter wherein Let's Play S.F. was introduced and so my group at least, the Pine Lake Park Neighborhood Association, really have very little background or involvement with this project so we would like to at least perhaps put them on the list of announcements.

**Cara Ruppert:** Great, yeah. [unintelligible].

**Chair:** I think with that too it would be really helpful here if you mention that for Stern Grove which is part of Tier 2 that planning and those community meeting sessions are happening [unintelligible].

I'm going to close the agenda item for Let's Play S.F. Thank you all. Now I'm going to invite Stacy to present on Civic Center. There should be a PowerPoint slide we have.

**Stacy Bradley:** It's great to see you all. I manage our Planning Unit and I'm here with Nick Perry from the Planning Department. He ran the Civic Center public realm plan effort so I thought what we would do today go over activations and investment that's going into Civic Center today and then the plan for the future which is what Nick led, it's was a very multi-disciplinary effort and I have also here is the Civic Center commons which is an effort led by the Planning Department and Mayor's Office of Economic and Workforce Development to really activate this space. So Nick and I will both touch on Civic Center Commons a little bit but our contact there wasn't able to join us today but we can answer questions if you have any.

I'm sure you know all know but of course our biggest investments to date in the recent time are the playgrounds. Actually, the playgrounds are the latest—the original playgrounds were the latest capital investment in Civic Center. The ones before we renovated them were from the 90s. The plaza itself is from the 60s and it was built at the same time as the parking garage and Brooks Hall which are both underneath the plaza. Brooks Hall was our original conference

center that's now not used. It's not open to the public at all and the city uses it for storage. It's all under the southern half of Civic Center Plaza.

So these are playgrounds which were another amazing donation from the Helen Diller family. They have donated funds for these playgrounds, Julius Khan and the Mission Dolores playgrounds, so three—now four really amazing spaces that have helped to regenerate our parks. We also have the Buy-Rite café kiosk that open soon after the playgrounds and it's really helping to activate the corner of the park as well as the whole park.

Some of the things that Dana Ketchum has been leading with our property management team is holiday tree lighting, it's been going on for ages but the last couple years it's really become quite the events. This year she was able to put in an ice skating rink. Did anyone go? It was pretty cool. It looped around the trees so they're hoping next year that we'll be able to put in a different loop and keep changing these things up. It's the same concessionaire that does Union Square and I think also the Embarcadero though I'm not positive if they're both the same. Definitely Union Square ice skating rink.

So she's been doing large things as well as Lisa Branston who works on Let's Play S.F., the World Cup Soccer viewing event that's on the bottom right and then other big things like [unintelligible] and the Due Tour have come through here. We gave a presentation like this at RPD University which was last week and it's really interesting Dana brought up that she have been—she was charged with activating this space about seven years ago I think it was and once she first pitched that these big entities coming in should go to Civic Center they completely shut her down and it took a real—it took a lot of work to encourage people to locate in the Civic Center and I think a lot of where we are today has been helped through that effort to get people to see Civic Center as a place for fun and a fun location that can hold these civic grand spaces. We had the women's march there and Pride has been there for years by seeing not just marches and parades and gatherings after the Giants but also being able to go there and see a concert or the Cluster Fest had been there, the Due Tour, these large events that while they're ticketed elevate the space to a different level that it wasn't there before. And then I think that's also helped make it safer for smaller activations like this picture in the middle of the volleyball and we permit soccer frequently. So kids are now using the space that was at times overrun by activity that you don't always want in a park or it doesn't always [unintelligible]. So I think these activations help to really bring life into the space and make it comfortable for everybody.

**Male Speaker:** Stacy, the police station that was a substation that they put there—

**Stacy Bradley:** At UN Plaza. It's made a big difference, huge. It's not even staffed all the time but it's generally staffed and it's always there and people feel so much safer. It's made a really big different to certainly the drug use and drug selling that used to happen at UN Plaza. That's shifted. It's helping Civic Center but it's pushing the activity a block away or two blocks away.

**Male Speaker:** So Recreation and Park does Civic Center Plaza. Does it also do UN Plaza or is that—

**Stacy Bradley:** We work with Public Works. It's under Public Works' jurisdiction for UN Plaza and of course Fulton Street which is a street. But we do the permitting so they've ceded the permitting effort to us but they do a lot of the other work.

**Richard Rothman:** [unintelligible]

**Stacy Bradley:** Yes. It's a complicated arrangement and I don't know the details but I believe we do the permitting. Public Works does some stuff but I think Dana does all the permitting.

**Nick Perry:** [unintelligible]

**Female Speaker:** [unintelligible] I'm very involved with that because that's where I live but you can correct me but I think it's something like—this picture you're seeing is under seven different jurisdictions. Some is MTA, some is DPW, some is Recreation and Park. So getting everyone to the table and agreeing to a plan has been a Herculean effort and we're doing a great job to cross these different jurisdictions.

**Stacy Bradley:** So I'll just go quickly into this. This is the Civic Center commons slide showing our big capital investments that were coupled with the smaller activation so there is a stewardship program the Hunter's Point Family which is soon to be called Urban Alchemy. They're staffed there throughout the day and are at the playgrounds and they started in play cubes and then more to the playgrounds and they're also throughout the space. They bring out the chairs and the tables and help make sure that everybody feels safe in the environment. There's also this little game, literally a little [unintelligible] that comes out and brings these mobile games and they come out for a few hours and go back in and then there's a lot of free programming that we've been doing including block parties, art installations that are rotating through the space.

Next is the public realm plan that Nick is going to step you through in going over those many long days of bringing everybody together.

**Nick Perry:** Thanks for having me. Nick Perry, Planning Department. I'm one of the principle planners, urban designers there. I'm managing this plan, it's still going on so it's not over yet but I decided to get you all an update on where we are right now.

The public realm plan is building off of all the recent work that Stacy just outlined to create a vision for long-term capital investments in the public spaces and the streets in Civic Center. The place area covers the entire Civic Center Historic District. It's looking at not just the public use [unintelligible] streets that connect to them, how we make those safer, more pleasant, experiences for people travelling by all modes.

I'll start by saying Civic Center is a unique space, it's a special space. It's one of the largest collections of [unintelligible] neo-classical buildings in the country outside of I think the Mall in Washington D.C. which actually creates a lot of issues and problems too because they're often dead spaces. They're beautiful but they've been spaces that have been challenged with for a long time in terms of activating on a daily basis. There's been I think a stack of plans about this thick

for Civic Center over the years. The plaza design that we have today at Civic Center Plaza when it was built in the 1960s was immediately panned and it's been something that we've struggled with activating and improving for almost fifty years now.

So as was just mentioned this is a big effort. The planning Department back in 2015 was asked to convene all the agencies that have a stake in Civic Center, bring everyone to the table and make this plane together so Recreation and Park has been one of our closet partners but we're also joined by Real Estate, MTA, Public Works, OEWD, the Arts Commission, Public Utilities Commission. We hired a large consulting team to help us with the concept design which I'll walk you through that's led by CMG Landscape Architecture, a San Francisco based firm and their large consultants that specialize in everything from structural engineer to community outreach to infrastructure architecture and more.

So the plan's timeline, it actually kind of really got off the ground back in 2015, that was the centennial of City Hall and also the centennial of Civic Center, the investment of the playground is coming soon, there was an understanding that this is an open space that serves District 6, it serves the surrounding neighborhoods that can really do a better job of serving those neighborhoods and there's also all these new housing units coming in near the intersection of Market and Van Ness, about 4000 housing units in the pipeline. So in addition to serving the communities that are out there today it's going to have to serve even more people as an open space and a park.

And so the Mayor Ed Lee at the time asked us to convene the group, to get working on the project. We were able to hire the consultants in 2017 and since then we've kind of been on the ground running with an extensive community outreach process. We've had three big workshops, lots of focus group, surveys, just really trying to get out to the community, being out in UN plaza with people. We have a mobile outside station we've built we can roll out there. We're doing all types of things to get an much input because this is the neighborhood space but it's also a space for the entire city and what the future of the space should be is something that we want as many as people as possible to [unintelligible].

So just a few concepts and diagrams. Today we have these three spaces that link City Hall to Market Street. There's UN Plaza, there's the walk to Folsom Street with the Pioneer monument between the Asian Art Museum and the library and there's Civic Center Plaza and they were originally envisioned as a grand promenade that would carry marches on Market Street all the way to City Hall. Instead over the years they've become fragmented, a lot of parking, a lot of just eating away at the edges over the years to create not a unified experience.

And so the goal in the public realm plan is to try to at least visually tie them together, manage them together, think about them as a unified space as a Civic Center commons and make sure that the access points to them from the neighborhoods surrounding are welcoming.

One of the first things we did with this plan is we did a public space and public life study and that was with the consultant Gayle Architecture. And that was just spending all day in Civic Center for multiple days from early in the morning until late at night counting people, observing people. What are they doing? Where are they walking? What are the activities that they're

partaking in? Getting a sense of what's really happening out there because as city employees we spend a lot of time out there but we don't—and we have kind of conjecture and stories of what happens but this was actually quantifying it, getting the data. And the main taking from that was that there's a lot of people just passing through the space, lots of people going to the opera, going to work, going home, going to the playgrounds. But there were very few invitations to stay and that was one of the main reasons why the spaces weren't succeeding because there wasn't much to do there. It was mainly just a place to pass through.

In the spring of last year based on a lot of community input in the previous months leading up that our consultants created three framework plans for the public spaces and these were just meant to illustrate a range of difficult approaches to adding new amenities and activities and design features to the spaces. We weren't asking people to choose one over the other, it was more just an exercise to illustrate a lot of the idea that we were hearing from the community like I want a dog park or I'd like see more trees or I'd like to see more lawn. And it was showing a range of potential for the spaces.

We took those, we got a lot of feedback on those. We even asked people to cut them up into pieces and tell us what was their favorite element of each one and created a bunch of [unintelligible] that really helped the design team understand where we wanted to go with this concept plan which I'll walk through right now.

So I'm going to walk you through this, I'll try to go through it quickly so we can get to questions. I'm going to start at Market Street and then make our way to City Hall and describe the design features in this concept plan. And just to emphasize this is a conceptual vision right now. It will continue to evolve over time. The main goal right now is to have something that we can kind of discuss and rally around and talk about for future implementation.

So starting at the BART Station. So we're at UN Plaza in this view. Today there's that hole in the ground with the escalators that go down to the BART and MUNI Station. It's kind of a big pit and the idea here is UN Plaza the design itself is pretty good. It doesn't really have design problems, it's just that there's not much to do around the edges. It's great where there's a farmer's market but when there's not or other activity there there's just nothing active on the ground floors around. So one of the ideas is that BART needs to build a canopy to protect the escalators in the future, they're required to do that. Rather than doing just a canopy the idea is to create an actual station building that could have some ground floor café or retail use and the upper level because it would be a two-story building could have a community meeting space that could be rented out with a great view of City Hall. So kind of something that anchors that space and provides a sense of activation that's currently not there.

The rest of UN Plaza looking towards City Hall will remain mostly as it is today. Upgrading the paving would probably be the biggest change. We've also—there's some design details that the team has worked on to make it more flexible for the farmer's market. We've heard loud and clear that one of the best things about Civic Center's public spaces today is the heart of the city farmer's market.

The fountain has [unintelligible] uses that we're looking at today. So there's—it's designed by Lawrence Halcoran who is a famous landscape architect and so the idea here is you keep the basic elements of the fountain which are these stone plints and then instead of having the sunken water feature you raise it up so it's actually accessible. It has a water feature that can be turned off or on, it could be interactive depending on whether it's warm or cold or whether we want to use it for maybe like outdoor seating instead and that would be in this area right here. And the other part of the fountain would actually be a storm water garden. There's an underground flow of water that's coming through Civic Center. People sometimes call it Hayes Creek but it's not actually a creek, it's just this constant flow of water. So capturing that water and bringing it to the surface and using it to fill this and irrigate the other gardens in the plaza is another aspect of the design.

Moving to Fulton Street. This is probably the most transformative park of the public realm plan concept and this is actually turning Folsom Street into a new park and having flexible lawn animals in the center of Fulton Street that could be used for soccer as this image is showing or could be used for outdoor movie nights or it could be tended over for large events. So the flexibility is really key here and it's key for all these public spaces because they have to work day to day and they have to work for the big events.

The other aspect of Fulton Street is activating the Asian Art Museum and the library. So right now the Fulton Street entrance to the Asian Art Museum is closed. We're looking at reactivating that building so that door could be accessed and then the library is just terraced but there's just nothing really there right now. There's an idea of adding a center for the stewards who helped staff the space, public restroom, maybe another café, something to activate the edges.

And then finally we get to Civic Center Plaza. Large central gathering spaces from City Hall that allows the big protests and gatherings and celebrations to still take place. There is this idea of a mirror fountain. So there historically has always been water features in Civic Center Plaza. The 1912 design had two circular fountains. The 1960s design had a big reflecting pool which they removed because it leaked and people went swimming in it. This idea is something about this thick in depth that can be drained easily so that you could have large gatherings there but on a normal day it could be something that reflects City Hall and also is kind of a interactive play feature for the neighborhood.

**Chair:** Can you tell us about how it is an interactive play feature?

**Nick Perry:** So it's something that kids can walk on and play on and also it might have like a mist feature. I mean the details have to be worked out but people love to interact with water and this would be a safe way of doing that.

The edges of the plaza would be framed by garden spaces. So instead of having the trees straight down the center which poses a lot of problems for programming the spaces and wasn't part of the original design [unintelligible] and the center space would be framed.

And then the kiosks would be replaced so adding new restroom facilities, adding new access to the below ground structures, the garage and to Brooks Hall. So this is showing basically where

the current garage kiosk is the hole right here. So making this more welcoming to access those features below.

And then this is just showing the view of all these spaces from the dome of City Hall during what it might look like during Pride. You can see it spilling out into Fulton Street all the way to UN Plaza really making it a useable, flexible space, framed by more day to day uses.

And then this is just a placeholder. We're still working on the street designs, working closely with MTA on traffic analysis for how we might improve the streets around the area. Those designs we'll be working through the summer so I don't really have anything concrete to share today but the one big idea is making the block of Grove Street in Bill Graham Civic Auditorium more of a flexible space so that it's more connected to the plaza and that when we do close it it looks more like a plaza than it does a street.

So none of this is in the capital—there's not capital funding for this yet. This is a vision plan and it would have to be phased. So we're starting to talk across city agencies about what we would prioritize from the phasing perspective. The initial idea right now is we would first target for a phase 1 improvement would be the Fulton Street open space. We think Civic Center Plaza is doing quite well now. It's also a big lift to improve Civic Center Plaza because when you do that you have to improve the below ground facilities too which requires structural upgrades. And then UN Plaza is another candidate for early phase of improvement where right now we think biggest bang for our buck would be making Fulton into a park.

So next steps. Continuing to do engagement on this concept plan. If you have any groups that you'd like me to come out to and share this with I'd be happy to do that. We're going to continue to refine the street design this spring. We'll be actually writing the draft plan document and the project description for environmental review. We'll be going to the Commissions next month. I believe we're scheduled for Recreation and Park Commission on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Female Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Nick Perry:** And then hope to have the draft plan released by the end of summer and being environmental review soon thereafter. And then environmental review because this is a historic district, we've expecting it to be a full EIR so it's a [unintelligible] process. This is a long road ahead of us, this is like the conceptual design phase but it's exciting and I look forward to hearing your questions and comments.

**Chair:** Thank you Nick. [unintelligible]

**Richard Rothman:** District 1. I have a couple questions about [unintelligible] so some of those spots are ADA so I hope the city will add on Polk Street or Hyde ADA spots you're going to remove that you add them on to the side streets there.

The other thing is—and I think I've emailed you or somebody about it is that Civic Center Plaza even when I walk it through now it looks so bare and you know when you're a senior you see things through different eyes and I know why there's no benches there but you guys can design a

bench that people can sit in and not—I don't think we should be penalized for—you know, design a bench where people can't lay on it. But I think there needs to be benches there. People who work around City Hall, sit outside because really unless you [unintelligible] there's really no space if you bring your own lunch or if you buy your lunch at City Hall or someplace else so I wish you people could figure out a way to add permanent benches.

**Stacy Bradley:** You know I think we agree with that Richard and one of the steps that we've been doing in the interim before we can add benches because it does take time to add infrastructure like that is with the Civic Center commons they are putting out with Hunters Point Family the chairs and the tables and they are trying to spread them out throughout the plaza sort of in a conglomeration so that they aren't just sitting out there all by themselves so there are seats out there, they do not just come out anymore just for the food trucks. They are more spread out.

**Richard Rothman:** I see them by Buy-Rite.

**Stacy Bradley:** They were always there at Buy-Rite when Buy-Rite is open but they're out beyond that. Just last week we met out there onsite and there were chairs in front of the Asian Art museum, chairs and tables. And a nice collection of them so it doesn't feel like you're alone.

**Richard Rothman:** Well I didn't see any in the plaza when I was there.

**Nick Perry:** The design concept right now is to flood the spaces with as much seating as possible so there's enough room for anyone no matter what walk of life you're in because if you just put a little bit out there it can get co-opted by one group but if you put out so much then that's the intention is to just flood it with seating but it will require a level of stewardship and management that we're slowly moving towards right now.

**Richard Rothman:** Thank you.

**Stacy Bradley:** There's a good picture looking out from the play structures to City Hall that shows some of the seating.

**Ana Gee:** District 6. [unintelligible] It's a lot safer, it's a lot nicer. However, all that negative activity that you were talking about earlier Stacy has moved out to Turk and Hyde so we have no the people that are dealing and everything has just moved up. So I just want to comment on that and I have another question, eventually you will have to deal with that because Turk and Hyde is park of Recreation and Park. So when you were showing the design for that soccer field—

**Nick Perry:** On Fulton Street?

**Ana Gee:** Yeah, because the museum and the library, that sounds very great but how do people like from the Tenderloin have access to hey I want to [unintelligible].

**Nick Perry:** In terms of how it's managed and programmed I don't know if I have the answer to that yet. It would most likely become a Recreation and Park property and then the

management of the space would be managed through the Recreation and Park Department in terms of how it would be programmed and used. That's the best answer I can give right now.

**Ana Gee:** One last question, regarding the [unintelligible] but a lot of people from the Tenderloin that have to come to use the playground or just to hang out over there are not able to afford that. Is there anyway perhaps you have once a month kind of like Tenderloin discount for them so they can have that experience too?

**Stacy Bradley:** That's a great idea. Dana manages that, I'll give her that suggestion.

**Jane Weil:** District 6. I just want to say again I can't tell you how thrilled we all are that live near there. The only bad thing is that we have to wait so long.

**Stacy Bradley:** So actually, if the rest of you are interested in engaging please tell your Supervisors because I think Supervisor Haney is onboard but hearing it from other people will really help to elevate it as being a citywide need and encouragement. We need encouragement to help us.

**Jane Weil:** So, my question is can we do any of it specifically Fulton Street before the EIR? Is there anything we can do before because the whole EIR process takes years?

**Stacy Bradley:** So actually, we've been talking about that too and we are working with the Planning Department, with Public Works, and the MTA to get a pilot out there for street soccer that would close down half of the street. We thought it would be better to do it incrementally so that people can adjust because that space while it may not be used at its highest capacity is still used by a lot of different people in the city. So changing it wholesale right away we thought we'd get a lot of pushback so the first thing that we're aiming for is a two-month street soccer pilot, kind of like what was at the yard if any of you were out there. We also had similar constructions at Tenderloin Children's [unintelligible] and Margaret Hayward and so they're kind of like pop-ups but they're more robust. So we're working on getting that there for July and August of this year and we think that once that happens and we shut down half of the road and so some things that make it seem more pleasant on that half it won't look exactly like a park but it will sort of look like it's getting there. We can see what the reaction was and hopefully we can say maybe for four months or much longer on the following year and the hurdles of getting things permitted are kind of high and expensive so we're working with Public Works and MTA to help us cut down on the permit fees. So like you were saying they are expensive and we don't want to pay for that because we think it's ridiculous as a city project to do a city effort.

So hopefully come and we'll let you know when it's out there but the hope is that it's July 4<sup>th</sup> through August. I think it will be good and getting feedback from how that works and then that can help inform the final design because once the environmental review is done then there's also design and some design can move forward but generally not until after the EIR.

**Jane Weil:** The last question is that I've been involved in several of these workshops and the only thing that I would want more of is more green. Is there any way we can green UN Plaza and not have it be pavers?

**Nick Perry:** It's tough with the farmer's market but it's something that at least we've talked about internally. We're looking at—I mean I think keeping that space flexible for the farmer's market is one of the top priorities we've heard from the broader community. We are looking at ways to better green the Leavenworth portion of UN Plaza, adding a dog park there and more neighborhood amenities.

**Stacy Bradley:** And the UN Fountain too.

**Jane Weil:** [unintelligible] But if you can have a soccer field on Fulton Street then you can have a green—I've been to farmer's markets that are green fields.

**Stacy Bradley:** It is very difficult to do that in a highly urban environment that's generally used for walking across. It's very difficult to keep those pathways looking nice especially in our environment. We would need to use a lot of water and we'd have to be—we close down our grass fields a couple of months every year to regenerate them so it's a loss space to the community as well. It's hard to keep grass up but doing more intense plantings around it can help provide that feel of more greenery and adding the trees that the plan is proposing I think will help as well. I think it is unlikely that we'll be able to completely green UN Plaza.

**Jane Weil:** And you wouldn't consider artificial turf?

**Stacy Bradley:** I think we could consider artificial turf although UN Plaza is challenging because of it's historic cultural significance.

**Nick Perry:** The design from a cultural resource standpoint you could probably swap out the paving material but to change it to green space would be a big departure from the historic design.

**Stacy Bradley:** Although [unintelligible] can be an artificial turf so keep thinking because I think that's going to be a bit of a hard sell but I think this would be very important and much more usable.

**Jane Weil:** As much green as possible.

**Nick Belloni:** I want to back up to Richard's comment about parking. We're talking about an area that is our biggest public building, City Hall, the State Building, the Federal Building, the Courts, the Health Department, I could go on and on. We're now taking [unintelligible].

**Stacy Bradley:** We're not taking away all the parking.

**Nick Belloni:** Well, we're taking away a lot of the parking.

**Stacy Bradley:** Some.

**Nick Belloni:** My question is going to be are you going to replace it somewhere because are we going to say we don't want you here.

**Stacy Bradley:** No, no, no. At the moment Civic Center Plaza is under utilized so the hope is that by encouraging people to park there it helps use a space that is dedicated just for parking and opening up the streets for other uses.

**Nick Belloni:** Great. But you see what I'm saying, we're talking about all of our parking.

**Stacy Bradley:** I see what you're saying but really it doesn't take away all of the parking. Fulton Street while it does hold parked cars it is under-utilized. Those people who are parked there are not—like the spaces aren't being used quickly and intermittently for users of those spaces. So I really think Civic Center Garage is an underused space and by making it more comfortable and accessible it will start to become more used and then most of the parking isn't going away.

**Nick Perry:** The main change is on Fulton Street. And then the other thing, this is a long-term vision, we're looking ahead twenty years from now how people get to Civic Center. There's a lot of curb management that we have to think about. There's going to be probably a shift from actually wanting to park on the streets to having drop-off zones in terms of how we use the curb spaces.

**Nick Belloni:** But it's our public buildings we don't want to say I don't want you.

**Stacy Bradley:** Absolutely and what Richard was saying blue zones are very [unintelligible] absolutely, and the loading zones, separating space, making sure that there's passenger drop-offs, you're comfortable, it's very important. And MTA is involved so that they're looking at it from that lens.

**Chair:** [unintelligible]

**Stacy Bradley:** The EIR will definitely analyze that, the transportation analysis will provide that level of detail.

**Nick Perry:** We have numbers from a couple years ago but [unintelligible]. One of the first things we did was a garage capacity analysis so we know that there was capacity when we started this plan, I'm assuming there still is.

[simultaneous comments]

**Anthony Cuadro:** District 7. So two quick questions. One, what is the long-term, this is like a ten-year—this hopes to be done in ten years sort of thing?

[simultaneous comments]

**Nick Perry:** Ten to fifteen years I think is when we would hope to have the vision implemented.

**Stacy Bradley:** To find financing is—it's still undetermined. We feel like that's one of the reasons why we're working on Fulton Mall first, it seems like that is sort of the lower-cost elements of it and by generating public interest and involvement in this way and through these pilots we're hoping to encourage more public spending and while some public spending is captured it's easier to get a little bit more [unintelligible]. It's so expensive that a completely separate bond could cover this effort but that's unlikely to happen.

**Nick Perry:** And a huge part of the expense as I mentioned earlier is the Civic Center, it's the [unintelligible] so getting those facilities up to code is where a lot of the expense is driven.

**Chair:** Any other comments from the committee about the Civic Center? My one comment is I really like the idea of [unintelligible].

**Julia Pfeifferberger:** District 4. Just getting back to what Jordyn was saying [unintelligible] this is kind of the front yard for everyone in the city, everyone who goes downtown this could be a huge draw. And you could be proud of it instead of being like oh God, how do I get out of here. How about people who don't live [unintelligible] provide feedback on some of these concepts?

**Nick Perry:** In about a week from now we're going to overhaul our website so all of this information will be there in a really nice pleasant way, you won't have to download a pdf, you can like click and [unintelligible] it will be pretty cool. Our graphic center is doing a great job. It's civiccentersf.org. And you can sign up for the mailing list there. There will also be a comment [unintelligible] you can fill out at the bottom of the page where all the designs are on or you can just hit send and it will get send directly to me. And then also if you have a community group that you'd like me to come to [unintelligible].

**Chair:** Thank you Nick and thank you Susan. [unintelligible] Is there any public comment on this item? I see none so we can move forward with the capital planning and general monthly update from Stacy.

**Stacy Bradley:** So I think you've actually covered a lot of the stuff that we've been working and your presentation earlier also covered the other elements [unintelligible]. The Let's Play S.F. initiatives are really moving forward well. [unintelligible] The tennis center is going to have a [unintelligible] this month. I was going through the list from month and not too much has changed.

So I think that—I fell like that kind of covers everything, so if you have any questions feel free to ask me and [unintelligible].

**Chair:** Does anyone have any questions about this item for Stacy? Hearing none, this item is closed. Now we're on agenda Item #7, new business and agenda setting.

**Robert Brust:** I have a couple items.

**Chair:** [unintelligible]

**Robert Brust:** [unintelligible]

**Male Speaker:** I like that one.

**Chair:** You like that one? Why do you want to leave it off?

**Robert Brust:** [unintelligible]

**Chair:** [unintelligible] We're working with MTA and Supervisor Fewer's office.

**Robert Brust:** Okay, well then leave it on there.

**Chair:** We're going to leave Golden Gate Park edge [unintelligible] off this list. Is there anything else that needs to be removed and is no longer relevant for this committee? Thoughts? We were planning to have vandalism and crime prevention as part of our April meeting, unfortunately we needed to postpone that until June to make sure that we do have it at June's meeting.

Now I'd like to reopen this discussion for Richard who would like to propose a couple of items.

**Robert Brust:** Three. The first is the Golden Gate Park Concourse Authority. I just want to know what—I know what they are, I know that we have the secretary sitting in the room here so I just want to know about how many ADA spaces and why aren't they part of Recreation and Park [unintelligible].

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Chair:** So maybe we need to know the status of it.

**Robert Brust:** The webpage is still up there. I think they're still there.

**Female Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Robert Brust:** [unintelligible]

**Chair:** And when we reach out to this authority how does it become [unintelligible].

**Richard Rothman:** It's in Golden Gate Park. I mean where does the revenue go, why aren't they part of Recreation and Park. Do they have public [unintelligible].

[simultaneous comments]

**Steven Currier:** Point of order, we can bring this up but we can't discuss it.

[simultaneous comments]

**Chair:** [unintelligible]

**Steven Currier:** No, I understand that. We don't want to discuss the item.

**Richard Rothman:** Then the second item is the shuttle bus service in Golden Gate Park [unintelligible]. The third one is related to SFMTA when they last came and talked to us about Golden Gate Park they left some items off, 43<sup>rd</sup> and Fulton and Chain of Lakes Drive. Apparently they made some improvements [unintelligible].

**Chair:** And this item about SFMTA this would be a follow-up regarding [unintelligible].

**Richard Rothman:** Yeah.

**Chair:** So I have a couple of items from [unintelligible] which is the Golden Gate Park Concourse Authority, the shuttle bus in Golden Gate Park, and then following up with SFMTA regarding [unintelligible].

**Richard Rothman:** And 43<sup>rd</sup> and Fulton.

**Chair:** 43<sup>rd</sup> and Fulton. Thank you, Richard.

**Female Speaker:** [unintelligible] District 10. The programs [unintelligible] as it relates to equity [unintelligible] and when it would be discussed.

**Chair:** This agenda item was brought up by a member Wendy Aragon who's not here in this meeting today. However we have not yet [unintelligible].

**Female Speaker:** So is programs and permitting one thing or programs is one thing and permitting another? Okay, so what is programs?

**Chair:** The programs would be [unintelligible].

**Female Speaker:** So two items, Stacy. I don't know if it's—I don't know where this goes, but just so [unintelligible] we are revisiting the potential acquisition of some [unintelligible] but there's a very small site in District 6 that we looked at acquiring once before and we were revisiting that now so Recreation and Park has engaged in [unintelligible]. So is that a new item?

**Female Speaker:** Yeah, make it an item.

**Chair:** [unintelligible]

**Female Speaker:** Potential acquisition of—

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible]

[simultaneous comments]

**Female Speaker:** But there's actually an expansion to it so revisiting potential acquisition in District 6.

[simultaneous comments]

**Female Speaker:** 1133/1139 [unintelligible].

**Male Speaker:** Is that the big one or the small one? [unintelligible].

**Female Speaker:** But there actually is a very small piece next to it that a separate owner is offering to sell so it would be slightly bigger. But anyway just—

**Chair:** [unintelligible] you know we'll get it separately because this one is 1133 and 1139 but we're just [unintelligible]. So we need to update this so that—update the acquisition roster so [unintelligible]. [simultaneous comments]

**Female Speaker:** And then the other is the difficulty that people have had signing up for the recreation programs, the website is very difficult to navigate and all that. Is there—can we add that as a discussion item?

**Chair:** Yeah, I think we can [unintelligible].

[simultaneous comments]

**Male Speaker:** I'm just thinking we'd have to get Dana for half of that and then permitting and then somebody from the website for the other.

**Chair:** [unintelligible] Steven, did you want to add anything?

**Steven Currier:** Yes. Well, so in February I brought up the issue District 9 regarding RV parking in University Mound that abuts McLaren Park so there's been a lot of talk, the folks there wanted it to be brought up in PROSAC and it's never been on the agenda. Part of it SFMTA has put up some no parking signs but I guess there still needs to be a discussion with the Recreation and Park on parking in McLaren Park or overnight parking in McLaren Park and we need Recreation and Park.

**Chair:** Okay, so it sounds like the agenda item you're requesting is related to parking.

**Steven Currier:** RV parking, overnight parking, long-term parking.

**Chair:** There shouldn't be any overnight parking but [unintelligible].

**Steven Currier:** But the thing is with McLaren Park is they weren't locking the gates and there are gates in McLaren Park.

**Chair:** [unintelligible]

**Steven Currier:** Well you know it always can come back to crime but it's just long-term living conditions in RVs.

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Steven Currier:** I'm more specific on parking.

**Chair:** Thank you bring up that item. [unintelligible]

**Female Speaker:** I wanted everyone else's perspective on this. I've been a member for the last eight months now and I wanted to suggest that for the docket on the agenda we open a conversation about [unintelligible] and ask clarifying questions to but have a discussion around in addition to what is in the mandate, in the written mandate from PROSAC what are some of our goals. I feel like there's so much incredible intellect and experience in this room, we have such an amazing multi-disciplinary group, what if we were to set aside some time to have a discussion around what are some goals. What is the impact that we want to have as an organization in addition to attending ribbon cuttings and asking clarifying questions to members of RPD? What do we want to accomplish? And maybe I can help organize and facilitate but what do we want to get done? What impact do we want to have looking back a year from now, two years from now on what we want to do other than be an advisory committee or maybe what do we want to advise on in greater depth than just posing a clarifying questions in this context?

**Steven Currier:** Have you and I been talking?

**Female Speaker:** No.

[simultaneous comments]

**Chair:** [unintelligible]

**Nick Belloni:** District 2. That sounds great and I like the idea. We just have to make sure that it fits within our charter.

**Female Speaker:** Absolutely!

**Nick Belloni:** Because if we don't, if we get off that [unintelligible] and I think it's a great idea, I like it, it's just we have to keep focused on what is in that charter amendment because if we don't then we get into legislative—and it's happened before where we've had to go in front of the legislative review with the Board of Supervisors legislative review people.

**Female Speaker:** For overstepping our boundaries as a Commission?

**Nick Belloni:** Yes. So I don't want to put you guys through what I had to go through. It was a fun little grilling to say the least.

**Chair:** [unintelligible] I do want us to explore this idea of having [unintelligible]. Julia if it's possible maybe you can lead this [unintelligible] and review it as a committee whether that's [unintelligible].

**Steven Currier:** District 11. In saying that it's very—it's wise, it's probably obligatory to have the City Attorney sit in on that meeting because then the City Attorney would know what our charter is and what we can and cannot discuss or what we can ask and not ask and I think that would be very appropriate to have the City Attorney there.

**Chair:** Okay, so I think from this idea Julia if you could work with others that may be of interest in facilitating [unintelligible] to create that agenda maybe by next month we have the proposal [unintelligible].

**Female Speaker:** [unintelligible] District 10. So with the charter and the Strategic Plan [unintelligible].

[simultaneous comments]

**Female Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Chair:** [unintelligible] I think they incorporated it into how we update the Strategic Plan and the Operations Plan and the Capital Plan every year and then we provide those to the [unintelligible].

All right, so are there any other items that we would like to approve as new business?

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible]

**Chair:** Okay, thank you. This item is closed. Does anyone on the committee have any announcements?

**Ana Gee:** District 2. Just to invite you guys once again from MaCaulay Park groundbreaking on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11:00 in the morning on Larkin and O'Farrell.

**Chair:** Anything else?

**Female Speaker:** Can I speak as a member of the public about a frustration that I've had with Recreation and Park?

**Chair:** I don't think that's part of the announcements.

**Female Speaker:** I'll wait until the next agenda item.

**Chair:** And so [unintelligible]. Any other discussions or announcements? Okay, this item is closed.

**Female Speaker:** I can't represent myself as both a member of the committee and as a member of the public?

**Male Speaker:** [unintelligible]

[simultaneous comments]

**Chair:** We have to first through agenda Item 9, public comment. Is there any public comment? I see none. So that Item is closed. Now let's move to items not listed on the agenda.

**Julia Fifenberger:** District 4. I wanted to share an experience I recently had. I have a two-and-a-half-year-old daughter and she and other parents in the daycare that I'm a part of wanted to reserve a green field to have a soccer get-together for her and other members of her daycare. So that would have a private coach who we would hire, facilitate like a one-hour long soccer lesson for the kids. I called Recreation and Park and I had a really disappointing experience. First of all, they told me that any reservations that happened before 6:00 p.m. were limited to leagues which means multiple teams, multiple schools. They were not open to members of the public. After 6:00 p.m. is really difficult for young kids who have to come home, have dinner, do their homework, go to bed. So I want to mention that was a frustration regulation for members of the public. Secondly, they told me that in order to get an understanding of whether or not there was availability I couldn't actually get an answer on the phone. For certain things I would have to show up before 6:00 p.m. at their office near Stow Lake in Golden Gate Park to understand whether or not there were fields open for availability which for a lot of people who work 9:00 to 5:00 is really difficult. So I don't know whether there are security and privacy regulations that justified that regulation being put into place in the past but I couldn't show up in person and I couldn't get an answer. So I just wanted to put that on the record. Maybe we could have a conversation with Recreation and Park about those things and understand the rationale.

**Chair:** It could potentially be part of the discussion around [unintelligible].

[simultaneous comments]

**Male Speaker:** Is Dana still in charge of the Department there?

**Male Speaker:** Yes.

**Male Speaker:** Dan Ketchum. Tell her who you are.

**Male Speaker:** And she will only respond to you by email. She will not return phone calls.

**Chair:** So are there any other items not listed on the agenda that anyone on the committee would like to bring up? Okay, this item is close. And the next item is adjournment. Thank you all for being here.

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