File No. 120694

Committee Item No. _____
Board Item No. 43

COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Completed by: Derek Evans Date 7/5/2012
Completed by: _____ Date _____

An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 25 pages.
The complete document can be found in the file.

[Preparation of Findings to Reverse Certification of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project FEIR]

Motion directing the Clerk of the Board to prepare findings reversing the certification by the Planning Commission of the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields Renovation Project.

WHEREAS, The proposed Project involves the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department's renovation of the Beach Chalet Athletic Fields facility, an approximately 9.4-acre public sports field facility located at 1500 John F. Kennedy Drive, along the western edge of Golden Gate Park. The Project site currently include four grass turf athletic fields surrounded by an 8-foot-tall metal chain link fence, an approximately 25,320 square-foot, 50-space asphalt parking lot (including one disabled-accessible space), a restroom building, and a cargo container being used as a maintenance shed. The Project would include replacing the existing grass turf fields with synthetic turf, installing field lighting, renovating the existing restroom building, installing player benches and seating, and completing other modifications for parking, circulation, and spectator amenities; and

WHEREAS, The Planning Department determined that an environmental impact report was required for the Project and issued a Notice of Preparation ("NOP") of an Environmental Impact Report on February 2, 2011, analyzing the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project; and

WHEREAS, On October 26, 2011, the Department published the Draft Environmental Impact Report ("DEIR") for the Project (Planning Department Case No. 2010.0016E); and

WHEREAS, The Planning Commission held a duly advertised public hearing on the DEIR, on December 1, 2011, at which time opportunity for public comment was provided on the DEIR, and written comments were received through December 12, 2011; and

WHEREAS, The Department prepared responses to comments received at the public hearing on the DEIR and submitted in writing to the Department, prepared revisions to the text of the DEIR and published a Comments and Responses Document; and

WHEREAS, A Final Environmental Impact Report ("FEIR") for the Project was prepared by the Department, consisting of the DEIR, any consultations and comments received during the review process, any additional information that became available and the Comments and Responses document, all as required by law; and

WHEREAS, On May 24, 2012, the Planning Commission reviewed and considered the FEIR and, by Motion No. 18637 found that the contents of said report and the procedures through which the FEIR was prepared, publicized and reviewed complied with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines and Chapter 31 of the San Francisco Administrative Code; and

WHEREAS, By Motion No. 18637 the Planning Commission found the FEIR to be adequate, accurate and objective, reflected the independent judgment and analysis of the Department and the Planning Commission and that the Comments and Responses document contained no significant revisions to the DEIR, adopted findings relating to significant impacts associated with the Project and certified the completion of the FEIR in compliance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, On May 24, 2012, the Planning Commission and the Recreation and Parks Commission at a duly noticed joint hearing each adopted CEQA Approval Findings, including a statement of overriding considerations and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and approved the Project; and

WHEREAS, By letter to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors dated June 12, 2012, Richard Drury of Lozeau Drury LLP, on behalf of SF Ocean Edge, the Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter, the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Sunset Parkside Education and Action Committee, the Richmond Community Association, Golden Gate Park Preservation Alliance, and Katherine Howard (collectively "Appellants"), filed an appeal of the FEIR to the Board of Supervisors, which the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors received on or around June 12, 2012; and

WHEREAS, On July 10, 2012, this Board held a duly noticed public hearing to consider the appeal of the FEIR certification filed by Appellant; and

WHEREAS, This Board has reviewed and considered the FEIR, the appeal letter, the responses to concerns document that the Planning Department prepared, the other written records before the Board of Supervisors, and heard testimony and received public comment regarding the adequacy of the FEIR; and

WHEREAS, The FEIR files and all correspondence and other documents have been made available for review by this Board and the public. These files are available for public review by appointment at the Planning Department offices at 1650 Mission Street, and are part of the record before this Board by reference in this motion; now, therefore, be it

MOVED, That this Board directs the Clerk of the Board to prepare findings specifying the basis for its reversal of the certification of the FEIR by the Planning Commission.