

[Park Code - Petitioning, Leafleting, Picketing, and Soliciting in City Parks]

**Ordinance amending the San Francisco Park Code, Section 7.08, to repeal Subsection (d), which prohibits persons from petitioning, leafletting, demonstrating, or soliciting in designated areas of certain City parks while another event is in progress for which a permit has been issued by the Recreation and Park Department.**

NOTE: Additions are *single-underline italics Times New Roman*;  
deletions are ~~*strike-through italics Times New Roman*~~.  
Board amendment additions are double-underlined;  
Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough normal~~.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. The San Francisco Park Code is hereby amended by amending Section 7.08, to read as follows:

**SEC. 7.08. PETITIONING, LEAFLETING, PICKETING, SOLICITING.**

(a) No permit may be required to engage in petitioning, leafletting, demonstrating or soliciting so long as engaging in any of these activities, or any combination of these activities, does not involve 50 or more petitioners, leafletters, demonstrators, or solicitors at the same time within an area circumscribed by a 500-foot radius, provided, however, that a permit is required to solicit in the Music Concourse Area of Golden Gate Park.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in petitioning, leafletting, demonstrating or soliciting in such a manner as to substantially obstruct any traffic of pedestrians or vehicles after being warned by a peace officer or a member of the Park Patrol not to do so.

(c) No person may engage in petitioning, leafletting, demonstrating or soliciting inside the San Francisco Zoological Gardens.

1           ~~(d) Stern Grove, Justin Herman Plaza, Portsmouth Square, Union Square, Mission Dolores~~  
2 ~~Park, Civic Center, and the Music Concourse of Golden Gate Park are frequent sites for the issuance~~  
3 ~~of permits involving large groups of people. In order to prevent interference with the progress and~~  
4 ~~enjoyment of these events, no person may engage in petitioning, leafletting, demonstrating or soliciting~~  
5 ~~in these parks while an event is in progress for which a permit has been issued by the Recreation and~~  
6 ~~Park Department except in those areas described below as public assembly areas. No person shall be~~  
7 ~~considered in violation of the prohibition contained in this subsection until he or she has been informed~~  
8 ~~by a member of the San Francisco Police Department, a member of the Park Patrol, or a member of the~~  
9 ~~Recreation and Park Department who displays proper identification of such employment that the event~~  
10 ~~is being conducted pursuant to a valid permit or until the permit pursuant to which the event is being~~  
11 ~~conducted has been shown to such person. The areas in which petitioning, leafletting, demonstrating~~  
12 ~~and soliciting are prohibited during permitted events and the designated public assembly areas during~~  
13 ~~permitted events are described below.~~

14           ~~Stern Grove—The prohibited area is the open grassy area of the grove known as the "concert~~  
15 ~~green" which is reserved for performers and the audience. The public assembly area is comprised of all~~  
16 ~~areas outside the concert green, beginning beyond the hedges that delineate the east and west~~  
17 ~~entrances to the concert green.~~

18           ~~Justin Herman Plaza—The prohibited area is that portion of the Plaza located at the east end~~  
19 ~~below street level, including the steps leading down to that area. The public assembly area is the~~  
20 ~~western portion of the Plaza at street level.~~

21           ~~Portsmouth Square—The prohibited area is within 50 feet of the elevator. The public assembly~~  
22 ~~area is any portion of the Square beyond a 50-foot radius of the elevator.~~

23           ~~Union Square—The prohibited area is the western half (Powell Street side) of the Square. The~~  
24 ~~public assembly area is the eastern half (Stockton Street side) of the Square.~~

1           ~~Mission Dolores Park—The prohibited area is the central portion of the Park extending to any~~  
2 ~~point 50 or more feet from the perimeter of the Park. The public assembly area is the perimeter of the~~  
3 ~~Park extending from the edges of the Park 50 feet inward.~~

4           ~~Civic Center—The prohibited area is the central portion of the park which includes the fountain~~  
5 ~~and paved areas surrounding the fountain and extends to the lawned areas to the north (McAllister~~  
6 ~~Street) and south (Grove Street). The public assembly area includes the lawned portions at the northern~~  
7 ~~and southern ends of the park and the sidewalks internal to the northern and southern lawned areas.~~  
8 ~~Also included in the public assembly area are, (1) as to the southern portion of the park, the Grove~~  
9 ~~Street exterior sidewalk and the Larkin Street exterior sidewalk immediately east of the lawned areas~~  
10 ~~and the Polk Street exterior sidewalk immediately west of the lawned area and, (2) as to the northern~~  
11 ~~portion of the park, the McAllister Street exterior sidewalk and the Larkin Street exterior sidewalk~~  
12 ~~immediately east of the lawned areas and the Polk Street exterior sidewalk immediately west of the~~  
13 ~~lawned area.~~

14           ~~Music Concourse of Golden Gate Park—The prohibited area is the stage area, within 100 feet~~  
15 ~~of the stage, and the central depressed portion below street level, including the steps leading down to~~  
16 ~~the depressed portion. The public assembly area is any area of the Music Concourse at street level~~  
17 ~~except for any area within 100 feet of the stage.~~

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19           Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days from the  
20 date of passage.

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22           Section 3. This section is uncodified. In enacting this Ordinance, the Board intends to  
23 amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles, numbers,  
24 punctuation, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent part of the Park Code that are explicitly  
25 shown in this legislation as additions, deletions, Board amendment additions, and Board

1 amendment deletions in accordance with the "Note" that appears under the official title of the  
2 legislation.

3  
4 APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
5 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

6 By: Francesca Gessner  
7 FRANCESCA GESSNER  
8 Deputy City Attorney  
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**City and County of San Francisco**  
**Tails**  
**Ordinance**

City Hall  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

**File Number:** 120819

**Date Passed:** September 25, 2012

Ordinance amending the San Francisco Park Code, Section 7.08, to repeal Subsection (d), which prohibits persons from petitioning, leafletting, demonstrating, or soliciting in designated areas of certain City parks while another event is in progress for which a permit has been issued by the Recreation and Park Department.

September 10, 2012 Land Use and Economic Development Committee - RECOMMENDED

September 18, 2012 Board of Supervisors - PASSED ON FIRST READING

Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Cohen, Elsbernd, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Olague and Wiener

September 25, 2012 Board of Supervisors - FINALLY PASSED

Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Campos, Chiu, Chu, Cohen, Elsbernd, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Olague and Wiener

File No. 120819

I hereby certify that the foregoing  
Ordinance was **FINALLY PASSED** on  
9/25/2012 by the Board of Supervisors of the  
City and County of San Francisco.

Angela Calvillo  
Clerk of the Board

  
Mayor

Date Approved