

1 [Removing Arguello Boulevard and a portion of Conservatory Drive West in Golden Gate Park
2 from the trial Saturday closure.]

3 **Ordinance amending the Park Code by amending Section 6.12 to remove Arguello**
4 **Boulevard and a portion of Conservatory Drive West in Golden Gate Park from the**
5 **Saturday motor vehicle traffic closure and making environmental findings.**

6 Note: Additions are *single-underline italics Times New Roman*;
7 deletions are *strikethrough italics Times New Roman*.
8 Board amendment additions are double underlined.
9 Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough normal~~.

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

10 Section 1. The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in
11 this Ordinance are in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (California
12 Public Resources Code sections 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of
13 the Board of Supervisors in File No. _____ and is incorporated herein by
14 reference.

15 Section 2. The San Francisco Park Code is hereby amended by amending Section
16 6.12 to read as follows:

17 **SEC. 6.12. PROHIBITION ON MOTOR VEHICLE TRAFFIC IN GOLDEN GATE PARK**
18 **ON SATURDAYS.**

19 (a) Findings and Purpose. (i) Golden Gate Park was created more than 100 years
20 ago to provide a sanctuary from the pressures of urban life. Golden Gate Park remains an
21 irreplaceable resource of open space for visitors to and residents of San Francisco, especially
22 those families for whom it is difficult to travel out of the City for recreation.

23 (ii) For more than 30 years, Sunday and holiday closure to motor vehicles of a portion
24 of John F. Kennedy Drive, approximately 1.5 miles in length, between Kezar Drive and
25 Transverse Drive, and closure of portions of adjacent roads connecting with that portion of

1 John F. Kennedy Drive, has been one of the most popular attractions in Golden Gate Park,
2 attracting hundreds of thousands of people each year from every neighborhood, racial/ethnic
3 group, age category, and income level.

4 (iii) Proposition J, the Golden Gate Park Revitalization Act of 1998, adopted by San
5 Francisco voters on June 2, 1998, has as one of its primary purposes to take steps to reduce
6 the impact of automobiles in Golden Gate Park while still providing long-term assurance of
7 safe, reliable, and convenient access for visitors to the Park. This goal remains of paramount
8 importance in ensuring that Golden Gate Park is scenically beautiful, environmentally
9 sensitive, culturally diverse, and accessible to all.

10 (iv) Concerns about ensuring automobile access to the cultural institutions in the
11 Golden Gate Park Concourse area, including the M.H. de Young Memorial Museum and the
12 California Academy of Sciences ("CAS"), are being addressed by the construction of an
13 underground parking garage in the Concourse area pursuant to the aforementioned
14 Proposition J.

15 (v) The public interest will be served by Saturday closure, on a trial basis, of John F.
16 Kennedy Drive, between Kezar Drive and Transverse Drive, and closures of portions of
17 adjacent roads connecting with that portion of John F. Kennedy Drive. The limited vehicular
18 access to the Golden Gate Park Concourse area and the CAS provide an opportunity to
19 extend to Saturdays the popular Sunday and holiday road closures in Golden Gate Park on a
20 trial basis. This coincides with the CAS' closure, and thus has no possible negative impact on
21 the CAS. This trial period of Saturday road closures will expand the possibilities for
22 recreational and other uses of Golden Gate Park during the six-month period of the road
23 closures, and will provide useful information to aid the City in making future decisions about
24 Saturday road closures in the Park.

25 (vi) This trial period of Saturday road closures is necessary for the safety and

1 protection of persons who would use these roads during the temporary closures.

2 (b) Saturday Road Closures. The following roads in Golden Gate Park shall be closed
3 to motor vehicle traffic on Saturdays, from 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time and
4 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time, regardless of weather conditions: John F.
5 Kennedy Drive between Kezar Drive and Transverse Drive; ~~Arguello Boulevard~~; Conservatory
6 Drive East; ~~and~~ Conservatory Drive West from John F. Kennedy Drive to approximately 420 feet to
7 the north just beyond the designated pedestrian cross walk; 8th Avenue; Bowling Green Drive
8 between John F. Kennedy Drive and Middle Drive East; and Stow Lake Drive between Stow
9 Lake Drive East and John F. Kennedy Drive. The Recreation and Park Department, with the
10 assistance, as needed, of other City departments, shall arrange for appropriate barriers to
11 motor vehicles to be placed at entrances to Golden Gate Park and within Golden Gate Park
12 so as to effectuate the aforementioned street closures. The Saturday road closures
13 mandated in this subsection (b) shall be in effect beginning the first Saturday after the
14 effective date of this legislation and continuing for six (6) months thereafter.

15 (c) Exempt Motor Vehicles. The following motor vehicles are exempt from the
16 Saturday road closures mandated in subsection (b): (i) emergency vehicles, including but not
17 limited to police and fire vehicles; (ii) official City, state, or federal vehicles, or any other
18 authorized vehicle, being used to perform official City, state, or federal business pertaining to
19 Golden Gate Park or any property or facility therein, including but not limited to vehicles of the
20 Recreation and Park Department and construction vehicles authorized by the Recreation and
21 Park Department; (iii) authorized intra-park transit shuttle buses or similar authorized vehicles
22 used to transport persons within Golden Gate Park.

23 (d) Disability Access. This Subsection shall apply to Saturday road closures during the
24 six (6) month trial closure. This Subsection also shall apply to Sunday road closures at all
25 times.

1 (i) All vehicular access points to the areas of closure shall contain directional signage
2 that describes all access points and accessible surface parking areas for people with
3 disabilities and the underground parking facility in the Music Concourse. Signage also shall
4 include telephone and TDD/TTY contact numbers where callers can obtain information on
5 disability access during the closure period.

6 (ii) Eight (8) accessible parking spaces shall be provided on 8th Avenue between
7 Fulton Street and John F. Kennedy Drive during the closure period.

8 (iii) An additional ten (10) accessible parking spaces shall be provided on a temporary
9 or permanent basis to assist with access to the road closure areas.

10 (iv) A signed drop-off zone for people with disabilities shall be located on Bowling
11 Green Drive as close as practicable to its intersection with John F. Kennedy Drive.

12 (v) Pursuant to the Golden Gate Park Revitalization Act of 1998 and to the maximum
13 extent practicable, disability access shall be provided that affords access to the closed
14 sections of John F. Kennedy Drive. An authorized intra-park transit shuttle that is accessible
15 and operates frequently on the closed sections of John F. Kennedy Drive, additional
16 accessible parking spaces, and additional signed drop-off zones for people with disabilities
17 shall provide such access.

18 (e) Departmental Reports. (i) The Recreation and Park Department, in consultation
19 with such other departments as it deems appropriate, shall conduct a study of the impact of
20 the Saturday road closures on use of Golden Gate Park, including particularly disability
21 access and recreational and other use of the roads closed to motor vehicle traffic. By no later
22 than February 1, 2007, the Recreation and Park Department shall transmit to the Board of
23 Supervisors a written report detailing the results of its study, including any recommendations it
24 deems appropriate.

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1 (ii) The Department of Parking and Traffic, in consultation with such other departments
2 as it deems appropriate, shall conduct a study of the impact of the Saturday road closures on
3 parking and traffic patterns in neighborhoods adjacent to Golden Gate Park and on patterns of
4 cross-traffic in the Park. By no later than February 1, 2007, the Department of Parking and
5 Traffic shall transmit to the Board of Supervisors a written report detailing the results of its
6 study, including any recommendations it deems appropriate.

7 (iii) Within two (2) weeks after the initial three (3) months of the Saturday closure, the
8 Department of Park and Recreation and the Department of Parking and Traffic shall submit to
9 the Board preliminary reports addressing the issues identified in subsections (e)(1) and (e)(ii)
10 above. The reports also shall describe problems observed during this initial closure period
11 and any actions taken to abate such problems.

12 (iv) The Golden Gate Park Concourse Authority shall cooperate with the Recreation
13 and Park Department and the Department of Parking and Traffic in connection with the
14 studies mandated in subsections (e)(i)-(iii), by sharing data and reports of its own that are
15 relevant to those respective studies.

16 (f) Board of Supervisors Hearing. The Board of Supervisors or a committee thereof
17 shall conduct a hearing on the Saturday road closures within two months of receiving the
18 reports required by subsections (e)(i) and (e)(ii).

19 (g) Effect on Sunday and Holiday Road Closures. Except as provided in subsection
20 (d), this section is not intended to have any effect on street closures in Golden Gate Park on
21 Sundays and holidays, or to limit the authority of the Recreation and Park Commission to
22 expand road closures in Golden Gate Park on Sundays and holidays beyond their present
23 scope or to extend road closures in Golden Gate Park to other days.

24 (h) Emergency Authority. The General Manager of the Recreation and Park
25 Department shall have the authority to allow traffic on roads that would otherwise be closed in

1 accordance with this section in circumstances which in the General Manager's judgment
2 constitute an emergency such that the benefit to the public from the street closure is
3 outweighed by traffic burden or public safety hazard created by the emergency
4 circumstances.

5 (i) Conflict With Other Provisions of Law. If any provision of this section conflicts with
6 an earlier enacted provision of this Article or of any other earlier enacted provision of law, and
7 the conflict cannot be reasonably reconciled, the provision of this section shall govern.

8 (j) Severability. If any provision, sentence, clause, or other part of this section is held
9 to be invalid or unlawful, such a holding shall not limit or abrogate other parts of this section
10 that can be given effect independently of the invalid or unlawful provision, sentence, clause, or
11 part. If the application of a provision, sentence, clause, or other part of this section to a
12 person or class of persons, or to a specific circumstance, is held to be invalid or unlawful,
13 such a holding shall not limit or abrogate other applications of the same provision, sentence,
14 clause, or part that can be given effect independently of the invalid or unlawful application.

15 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
16 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

17 By: _____
18 John D. Malamut
19 Deputy City Attorney

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