



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Executive Summary

HEARING DATE: APRIL 3, 2014

Date: March 27, 2014
Case No.: 2010.0641 M
Project: **Recreation and Open Space Element Update**
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Recommendation: **Adoption of Proposed General Plan Amendments related to the update to the Recreation and Open Space Element**

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Recreation and Open Space Element of the General Plan is one of the ten elements of the San Francisco General Plan, guiding the City to “to ensure that the qualities that make San Francisco unique are preserved and enhanced.” Each element of the General Plan signifies the City’s overarching strategies and goals in the underlying matters. The Recreation and Open Space Element (ROSE) of the General Plan was last updated in 1986 and California State law requires all jurisdictions to maintain an up-to-date a relevant recreation and open space element.

In November 2007, the Mayor’s Office launched the Mayor’s Open Space Task Force, composed of over 80 landscape architects, open space advocates and residents from around the City. Their goal was to develop supportive open space policies, coordinate resources towards achieving open space goals, and create strategies to acquire, develop, renovate and maintain open space opportunities in every neighborhood. The work of this task force highlighted the need to update the Recreation and Open Space Element (ROSE) of the General Plan in order to address current opportunities and challenges to meeting the recreation and open space needs of the City today.

Public Outreach

After meeting for almost a year, the Task Force developed a series of overarching themes which provided direction for an update of the ROSE, and staff from the Planning Department, Recreation and Parks Department, and the Neighborhoods Parks Council (the City’s nonprofit partner at the time) embarked upon a series of meetings with neighborhoods, organizations, and City departments to develop open space goals, policies and objectives.

After 17 meetings Planning staff developed the first *Draft Recreation and Open Space Element*. This Draft was released in May 2009 and reflected input and contributions from the Open Space Task Force, the community meetings and numerous city agencies. The Department received numerous comments from the community as well as public agencies. A revised Draft was published in June 2011, incorporating all comments and input received, followed by a hearing at the Planning Commission on August 4, 2011 to initiate adoption of the updated ROSE. The Commission and staff heard further comments at and

subsequent to the hearing from certain stakeholders. In the following months, the Department worked closely with these stakeholders to understand their remaining concerns through multiple targeted working group meetings. This final round of community outreach along with further coordination with public agencies resulted in further edits and a publication of an updated "Final" Draft ROSE in December 2013. This draft was presented first in a stakeholder meeting in November and then in a public open house in December.

Following the release of the draft in December 2013, Planning Department staff attended the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, attended a Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods meeting, presented once at the Recreation and Parks Commission and twice at the Historic Preservation Commission, and has held one-on-one meetings with stakeholders. The Department has received several comments and staff has carefully considered each comment, made some additional edits to the Draft ROSE, and prepared detailed responses to each comment in the Public Comments Response to those Comments Document (included in the commission packet on March 13, 2014), indicating how the proposed Draft ROSE addresses each comment.

REQUIRED COMMISSION ACTION

Adopt amendments to the Recreation and Open Space Element of the General Plan.

The resolution for adoption, draft ordinance, and Final Negative Declaration are included in this Commission packet. On March 13, 2014 staff provided copies of the Final Draft Recreation and Open Space Element and a copy of all public comments and staff's response to those comments. The Final Draft ROSE and the public comments and our responses to those comments are also available online at <http://www.openspace.sfplanning.org> or by contacting staff.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The Final Negative Declaration was published on March 27, 2014 and is included in this Commission packet.

RECOMMENDATION:	Adoption of General Plan Amendments related to the update to the Recreation and Open Space Element
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Attachments:

1. Resolution for Adoption
2. Legislative Digest
3. Ordinance for Adoption
4. Final Negative Declaration