

AMENDMENT OF THE WHOLE  
1/22/07

FILE NO. 061645

RESOLUTION NO.

1 [Camp Mather-Private Public]

2 **Resolution opposing privatization of Camp Mather operations and any further**  
3 **franchising out of services or concessions at Camp Mather.**

4  
5 WHEREAS, Camp Mather offers an affordable, unique Sierra experience for San  
6 Francisco's families and children, including activities such as learning how to ride a bike,  
7 horseback riding, collecting tadpoles, swimming in a mountain lake, stargazing, hiking in a  
8 high sierra meadow or canyon, learning about the environment and the Hetch Hetchy  
9 watershed area, and discovering the peace of a starry night; and,

10 WHEREAS, Stewardship of the planet is learned from experiences in the Sierra; and,

11 WHEREAS, In the words of John Muir, "Thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-  
12 civilized people are beginning to find out that going to the mountains is going home; that  
13 wilderness is a necessity; and that mountain parks and reservations are useful not only as  
14 fountains of timber and irrigating rivers, but as fountains of life;" and,

15 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Recreation and Park Department has been a publicly-  
16 run agency managing Camp Mather superbly in an environmentally aware, low-impact and  
17 green manner; and,

18 WHEREAS, Camp Mather is the property of the City and County of San Francisco;  
19 and,

20 WHEREAS, It is important for residents to retain control over the City's property and  
21 have access to it for generations to come; and,

22 WHEREAS, The unique experience that is Camp Mather has been created and  
23 nurtured for 80 years by dedicated employees of the City and County of San Francisco; and,

24 WHEREAS, Many of the appurtenances and activity enhancements to Camp Mather  
25 activities are from charitable donations of former campers and the Friends of Camp Mather,

1 which cooperatively works with the Recreation and Park Department to support the publicly-  
2 run camp; and,

3 WHEREAS, The services complementary to the core operations of Camp Mather are:  
4 The Barnes Family Stable, Strawberry Music Festival, The General Stores, Nature Educators,  
5 and Friends of Camp Mather Volunteer Leaders, all which have been provided by private  
6 individuals, families, volunteer camp doctors and nurses, and non-profit and for-profit  
7 business; and,

8 WHEREAS, These entities have enhanced the camp experience for tens of thousands  
9 of San Francisco families and should stay as part of the Camp Mather experience; and,

10 RESOLVED, That the Board opposes privatization of Camp Mather or of Camp Mather  
11 operations, and any further franchising and/or contracting out of current services or  
12 concessions at Camp Mather or for Camp Mather; and, be it,

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That it is the policy of the Board of Supervisors of the City and  
14 County of San Francisco that the operation and management of Camp Mather remain the  
15 responsibility of the Recreation and Park Department, assisted by other employees of the City  
16 and County of San Francisco as needed; and, be it

17 FUTHER RESOLVED, That it is the policy of the Board of Supervisors of the City and  
18 County of San Francisco that the core operations and provision of recreational activities, food  
19 service, routine upkeep and maintenance, staffing, facility and program management at all  
20 levels at Camp Mather be performed by City employees in order to keep Camp Mather  
21 accessible to San Francisco families and individuals; and, be it

22 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board opposes working with private sector property  
23 developers on any plans for Camp Mather in the future.

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