

From: [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: CONCURRING WITH Rules Committee Agenda Item #6 and BOS Agenda Item #17 Authorizing Construction of an Observation Wheel Structure in Golden Gate Park File #210234
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 8:27:50 AM

Morning Victor,

For the file.

Eileen

From: aeboken <aeboken@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2021 8:40 PM
To: BOS-Supervisors <bos-supervisors@sfgov.org>; BOS-Legislative Aides <bos-legislative_aides@sfgov.org>; Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Subject: CONCURRING WITH Rules Committee Agenda Item #6 and BOS Agenda Item #17 Authorizing Construction of an Observation Wheel Structure in Golden Gate Park File #210234

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

TO: Board of Supervisors members

I am concurring with the resolution to retroactively approve the construction of an observation wheel in Golden Gate Park for a term starting February 28, 2020 with a one year extension ending February 7, 2022 with full removal by March 15, 2022.

Extending the contract by one year due to COVID-19 related issues is more than fair.

As Supervisor Chan has stated "While we all can agree Ferris wheels are fun, anti-corruption and good government policies are of utmost importance. "

Extending the contract by one year rather than four years avoids the perception of the privatization of public assets similar to professional soccer at Kezar Stadium.

Eileen Boken
Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods*

* For identification purposes only.

From: [Thomas Campbell](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment For 3/15/21 Rules Committee re: Sky Star Wheel
Date: Saturday, March 13, 2021 9:42:36 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Mr. Young,

Following is public comment for the March 15, 2021 Rules Committee meeting, item 6 on the agenda:

To the Rules Committee, Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco - the de Young and Legion of Honor - I am writing in support of the proposed extension of the SkyStar Wheel in Golden Gate Park.

The introduction of the Wheel as an attraction celebrating the 150th anniversary of Golden Gate Park was met with great excitement among SF residents, and when the Wheel and our museum were opened last Fall, the Music Concourse was filled with excitement and joy. We welcomed many visitors to the de Young who had combined their Wheel visit with coming to the museum and vice versa, and we see great benefit in continuing to have such a fun attraction right outside our doors.

Extending the permit for the Wheel will allow Golden Gate Park to continue playing an important role in supporting our city's economic recovery, as well as mitigating the financial hardships on our local businesses and the City's cultural institutions in the Park. With this understanding of the role that the Wheel can play in San Francisco's economic recovery, we also see the need for financial transparency, and we support disclosure of the financial details of the City's agreements regarding the Wheel.

We stand in favor of the proposal to extend the SkyStar Wheel and we thank you for this opportunity to express our support .

Sincerely,
Tom

--

Thomas P. Campbell

Director and CEO

(he, him, his)

Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco

de Young

Legion of Honor

Golden Gate Park | 50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive | San Francisco, CA 94118

p 415.750.3661

e tcampbell@famsf.org | famsf.org

Please consider making a donation to the [Fine Arts Museums Recovery Fund](#) today.
Any gift will make an impact.

From: [Mchugh, Eileen \(BOS\)](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: FW: CONCURRING WITH Rules Committee Agenda Item #6 and BOS Agenda Item #17 Authorizing Construction of an Observation Wheel Structure in Golden Gate Park File #210234
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 8:27:50 AM

Morning Victor,

For the file.

Eileen

From: aeboken <aeboken@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 14, 2021 8:40 PM
To: BOS-Supervisors <bos-supervisors@sfgov.org>; BOS-Legislative Aides <bos-legislative_aides@sfgov.org>; Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Subject: CONCURRING WITH Rules Committee Agenda Item #6 and BOS Agenda Item #17 Authorizing Construction of an Observation Wheel Structure in Golden Gate Park File #210234

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

TO: Board of Supervisors members

I am concurring with the resolution to retroactively approve the construction of an observation wheel in Golden Gate Park for a term starting February 28, 2020 with a one year extension ending February 7, 2022 with full removal by March 15, 2022.

Extending the contract by one year due to COVID-19 related issues is more than fair.

As Supervisor Chan has stated "While we all can agree Ferris wheels are fun, anti-corruption and good government policies are of utmost importance. "

Extending the contract by one year rather than four years avoids the perception of the privatization of public assets similar to professional soccer at Kezar Stadium.

Eileen Boken
Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods*

* For identification purposes only.

From: [Veronica Oliva](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Item 6 the St. Louis Wheel in Golden Gate Park
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 10:10:21 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Please accept my comment for this morning's meeting regarding the St. Louis Wheel that is disrupting the wildlife in our Golden Gate Park here in San Francisco.

The wheel does not belong in our park. It belongs in an amusement park.

Golden Gate Park is our refuge. It is a refuge precisely because there is an environment that supports the wildlife.

The wheel disrupts the life cycles of wildlife from insects to mammals to birds and in that very process it steals the refuge that our park is for us. Including those who can't afford to leave the city for respite.

Who, which entities, are benefiting financially from the presence of this wheel in the middle of our urban refuge?
What does the contract stipulate?

We depend on all those who have the privilege of making decisions regarding our park, to make those decisions knowing the facts about what sustains the refuge that Golden Gate Park is and to protect and defend our refuge.

The wheel does not belong in our park. A vote to limit the wheel in all ways open to you is a vote to protect the park that belongs the people you represent.

Thank you.

Veronica Oliva
304 Lily Street
San Francisco



London N. Breed, Mayor
Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager

March 15, 2021

Dear Chair Peskin, Supervisor Chan and Mandelman,

Today you will hear a proposed resolution, file [21023](#), which asserts that Charter section 4.113 applies to the temporary installation of an observation wheel in Golden Gate Parks and attempts to modify the term of an agreement between the Recreation and Park Department and Skystar Wheel LLC which has been legally approved and authorized by the Recreation and Park Commission and the Historic Preservation Commission. As the Committee has taken the unusual step of not asking the affected Department to speak at the hearing, please accept this letter as a summary of our position.

Charter Section 4.113 Does Not Apply to Temporary Installations

We have regularly consulted with the City Attorney's Office and believe that Board of Supervisors approval is not required under Charter Section 4.113 for a temporary installation in the park. This consultation has been ongoing, from the outset of the Ferris Wheel's temporary placement in Golden Gate Park, through the discussion about a permit extension, and during the Recreation and Park Commission and Historic Preservation Commission approval process.

The purpose of 4.113 was to provide an extra layer of approval on permanent changes to Golden Gate Park and Union Square. In the time since Charter section 4.113 was adopted, the section has never been required or applied to temporary installations. A review of the legislative history shows that the Board approval has only been required for large and permanent structures under 4.113 including: the new Academy of Sciences Building (2003), an extension to the Academy of Sciences Building (2013), the new tennis clubhouse at the Goldman Tennis Center (2018), a Skate Park (2007), and large buildings and infrastructure associated with the PUC's recycled water project (2014 and 2016).

The proposed applicability of Section 4.113 to a temporary installation is precedent setting and will have a chilling impact on events and activations in the park, big and small. The Department issues over 30,000 permits per year for temporary installations including: bouncy houses, water stations, stages over 115 feet tall, multi - story tents, event and construction fencing, canopies, finish lines, bleachers, viewing areas, scaffolding for camera and sound equipment, video boards, art installations, and trailers.

The proposed application of this charter section to temporary installations endangers beloved events and adds time, expense and cost to an already rigorous process.

Further, while the Board of Supervisors may accept or reject certain types of agreements negotiated by operating departments, we question whether the Board of Supervisors is vested with the power to unilaterally impose its own term of agreement on behalf of the City. In this case, a term of agreement is being proposed by members of the Board of Supervisors with no involvement by either party responsible for negotiating, implementing and honoring any agreement between the City and Skystar. The term of the approvals associated with this resolution have not been negotiated by the parties themselves.



The Wheel is Temporary – HPC and RPC Approvals Contingent on Temporary Nature

The Wheel is a temporary, mobile installation. It is not built to be permanent and was located in three different cities before coming to San Francisco. It belongs to the operator and will be taken back once this is over. The CEQA document, Historic Preservation Commission and Recreation and Parks Commission all reviewed and approved a temporary project. The historical analysis specifically relied on the temporary nature of the installation to comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. The [transcript](#) of the March 3, 2021 Historic Preservation Commission unanimous approval discuss the temporary aspect of the wheel in detail.

The Wheel Brings People from all of the City and Region to San Francisco, Supports Economic Recovery

The wheel has been a welcome attraction in the park and a distraction from the dark days of COVID. About half of the tickets purchased have been from within San Francisco and about half from the region stretching from Santa Cruz to Sonoma. While the majority of the San Franciscan's purchasing tickets have been from the Richmond, a significant number of purchases have been made from all neighborhoods in the City including the Bayview and the Portola.

Originally installed as part of the GGP 150 Anniversary Celebration, the wheel also supports a program to bring kids from all over San Francisco to Golden Gate Park to Ride the Wheel. Students that are a part of programs at Jamestown, APRI, Collective Impact, Youth First, United Playaz, the Boys and Girls Club and Mo Magic have all received free tickets to enjoy the wheel. In addition, it will provide funding to allowing small local musicians to perform at free concerts in the park.

We remain perplexed at the amount of attention a joyous temporary attraction has received. We believe the observation wheel and other temporary installations in the park are an important part of the social, economic and cultural fabric of our City and should be supported.

Respectfully,

Phil Ginsburg
General Manager

CC: Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board
Catherine Stefani, Member, Board of Supervisors
Gordon Mar, Member, Board of Supervisors
Dean Preston, Member, Board of Supervisors
Matt Haney, Member, Board of Supervisors
Myrna Melgar, Member, Board of Supervisors
Hilary Ronen, Member, Board of Supervisors
Shamann Walton, President, Board of Supervisors
Ahsha Safai, Member, Board of Supervisors
Victor Young, Clerk, Board of Supervisors, Rules Committee
Ashley Summers, Commission Secretary, Recreation and Park Commission
Manu Pradhan, Deputy City Attorney

From: [Mollie Gardner Hector](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#); [Peskin, Aaron \(BOS\)](#); [Chan, Connie \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment - Ferris Wheel
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 10:54:12 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

I am a resident in District 7, a native San Franciscan, and have been a volunteer member of the board of the Parks Alliance for 2 years. I'm on the board because parks, playgrounds, and shared open spaces transform cities, equalize residents, and are the best way to have fun in San Francisco. All of us here today - including every member of this committee - have benefited from the work of the Parks Alliance.

- The Parks Alliance is dedicated to transforming and activating public space throughout the city. I don't think it is an overstatement to say that public spaces in San Francisco would look very different today without the hard work of the San Francisco Parks Alliance and its many supporters.
- The GGP 150 was intended to be an equitable, open city event to celebrate the park. There were several initiatives dedicated to this, including shuttles running from libraries in the equity zones to bring children and families to Golden Gate Park. Additionally, the SkyStar Wheel has committed to San Francisco youth and families by offering 500 free rides per month. Attractions and initiatives like this should be supported by San Francisco, and we hope to be able to still do these programs once they are deemed safe by the department of public health.
- The Parks Alliance has nearly 100 partner groups, who entrust them to stay true to their mission, to support and activate public space.
- Through many of those partnerships, The Parks Alliance has invested more than \$100 million in parks and public spaces in the last 20 years. Some of the projects that would not exist without the Parks Alliance include the new tennis center, Washington Square Park playground, Joe Dimaggio Playground, Panhandle Playground, Eagle Plaza, Conservatory of Flowers, windmills, Beach Chalet and so many more.
- The wheel is a positive attraction for the community and is a vital tool that will aid the recovery of the broader business, tourism, and event production industries. We ask that you please consider the needs of San Francisco residents and workers in this regard.
- Members of the Board of Supervisors are spending an inordinate amount of time and energy to the extension of the Observation Wheel while our city faces much more challenging and pressing issues like COVID-19, mass vaccination roll out, schools remaining closed, homelessness at a fever pitch, small businesses struggling and a significant increase in crime especially in our neighborhoods.

All the best,

Mollie Gardner Hector
415.203.5638

mollie.gardner@mac.com

From: [Gina Eggert](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Authorizing Construction of an Observation Wheel Structure in Golden Gate Park
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 11:29:54 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Committee and Supervisors - Due to timing, I was not able to remain on SF GOV TV this AM to present a live commentary regarding this particular issue. However, as per the public comment participation rules at the lead in of the meeting agenda, I would like my comments to be read and made part of the public record. I am a longtime D7 resident, a frequent user of our City Parks and a supporter of the Parks Alliance and all that they do for our open spaces within this city. With regards to the Ferris Wheel, I feel that it is a very WELCOMED addition to our infamous and beautiful Golden Gate Park - for residents and visitors alike. I personally feel as though the supervisors should focus your time and energy on the much larger and pressing issues that are currently taking place in this city - reopening of schools, vaccination rollouts, the ever growing homelessness, the devastation and continuous loss of small businesses and the significant and widespread increase of crime throughout our city. **Please**, don't become a national spectacle much like our city's Board of Education has become as the nation mocked them while they focused on school name changes versus getting all of our city children back into the classrooms. Don't waste so much time on this Ferris Wheel because of birds and traffic. We live in an urban setting - there will be traffic regardless if a Ferris Wheel is in place or not. Do the right thing and let the Parks Alliance continue to brighten and enliven our open spaces. Give people a reason to come and visit San Francisco again.

Thank you ALL for your continued service to our city.

Best regards,
Gina Eggert
415.577.1216

From: [Late For Yoga](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public Comment for Rules Committee / item 6
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:10:49 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good afternoon -

My name is Lee Anne Weldon and I'm a resident of District 1 and I have been a volunteer and board member of the San Francisco Parks Alliance and advocate for parks and playgrounds for nine years.

I have two sons and our family consider ourselves "power users" of the parks, playgrounds and open spaces in the city.

Our family was looking forward to the Golden Gate Park 150 celebration in our neighborhood and I was particularly proud of the Parks Alliance's dedication to creating an equitable open city event to celebrate the park. Including the ferris wheel.

The pandemic has highlighted for everyone how important it is to invest in our parks and public spaces - which is work the Parks Alliance does, in support of over 100 partner groups and investing over \$100 million in the last twenty years to support multiple playground renovations, the Conservatory of Flowers and fostering community by bringing people together in the great outdoors - even before the pandemic, but especially this past year.

This should be a time of unity and recovery and a time to lift spirits and come together as community.

I support the FOUR YEAR extension, as already approved by the transparent process via the RPD and Historic commissions. And I ask you to expand the opportunity for San Franciscans and visitors to enjoy this great city of ours, when it is safe to do so.

Thank you.

Lee Anne Weldon
834 27th Avenue
SF CA

From: [Timothy Seufert](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Rules Committee meeting today on March 15, 2021
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 12:14:03 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello San Francisco neighbors,

Regarding item number 6, we are longtime residents of San Francisco, and live in D5. We love our parks, both the busy places and quiet contemplative ones.

We find it outrageous really that this Committee is taking its time and our precious tax dollars to take this political. The expert commissions have weighed in unanimously that the Wheel is an appropriate situation. Please stop this and focus on the substantive issues facing our City.

PLEASE stop deliberations on this item, make this non-problem go away, and attack our substantive issues.

All good, Tim Seufert

"We can treat each other with respect" - President Joe Biden, January 20, 2021

From: [Robert Gamble](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [Liz Farrell](#)
Subject: Comments Regarding Item 6 on March 15 Rules Committee
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 12:27:23 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Mr. Young,

I am writing to offer comments regarding Item 6 on the Rules Committee – Authorizing Construction of an Observation Wheel in Golden Gate Park.

My name is Robert Gamble, and I am a long-time resident of San Francisco who also worked as a city employee for many years, and I am a member of the Board of the Parks Alliance.

I support the extension of the wheel in the Park. The arrangement for the wheel was constructed originally with all appropriate and necessary approvals earlier, in full and open discussion before the Recreation and Park Commission.

The Parks Alliance has provided tens of millions of dollars to support to the Recreation and Park Department over the last decade, at a time when the City has continued to underfund the Department. The Alliance's support for the Department's activities have been critical to maintaining the public's access to recreational activities at a critical time in our history.

The attempt to conflate the City's corruption scandal with the Alliance is wrong and irrelevant. The Alliance has fully cooperated with the City's investigation and no wrongdoing was found. The City would be wise to work cooperatively with the Alliance on this and other matters.

Thanks for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert Gamble

From: [Shannon O'Neill](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Support of SkyStar Wheel
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:16:23 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello this is Shannon O'Neill a District 2 Resident and long time supporter of Parks Alliance. I am in strong support of the 4-year extension.

The Park should be as diverse as our city.

It is big enough to provide BOTH the quiet respite for residents AND attract visitors that will bring in much needed funds for C19 recovery.

We heard commentary on "Original Intent" but C19 has changed all that. And like we've had to adjust plans and expectations across the board, we need to do that here as well.

We are not talking about a permanent fixture here but a 4-year temporary, stop-gap measure to assist economic recovery. Not to mention a recovery of joy for residents and children!

Further, I find it disturbing, but unfortunately not surprising, that the Board is spending so much time fighting this fun and festive attraction when we still have rampant homelessness, kids not in school, and worrisome recovery for our economy.

Letting them get a "win" here will set a disturbing precedent for more waste-of-time bureaucratic moves like this.

Let's focus on those more critical problems. Thank you!

Shannon O'Neill

From: [JOHN WARE](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Ferris Wheel in GGP
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:35:46 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Supervisors,

I have lived in San Francisco for 31 years and have been an avid park supporter, volunteer and board member of the San Francisco Parks Alliance for nearly 20 years. I am also the founding member of the Friends of the Japanese Tea Garden which is working with RPD right now to restore the 100+ year old pagoda and improve the landscaping in the Japanese Tea Garden to enhance one of the jewels of Golden Gate Park

I am writing in support of the 4 year extension for the following reasons:

- 1) The Ferris Wheel brings people, especially children, into the park for a special and memorable experience after a year of sheltering in place, living in fear and with depression for so many of our citizens of all ages.
- 2) It provides jobs and support for small businesses around the park.
- 3) It celebrates Golden Gate Park and was to be one of the icons of the 150th anniversary celebration, specifically for families, which the pandemic forced to be largely cancelled.
- 4) It has been endorsed by the Historic Preservation Commission and the Recreation and Parks Commission - two citizen/volunteer commissions appointed by the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor to advise the City. They both had extended sessions of public comment and considered the pros and cons in much greater detail than the Board could possibly afford to do. Unless the Board wishes to take over the responsibilities of both of these advisory groups, they should seriously respect their work and their decisions. Your actions at this committee hearing suggest you are doing neither. Why should anyone want to serve the long hours and make the commitment of personal time, if the Board regularly undercuts their work?
- 5) Finally, in light of the pandemic, shouldn't the Board's time be focused on getting our kids back to school, protecting the health of all San Franciscans and working to ensure our businesses can survive and rebound once the pandemic passes? In this light, your time could be much better spent on behalf of the people who elected you than on this small issue.
- 6) Concerns about noise and light of the ferris wheel have been received positively by the vendor and compromises have been initiated. Compromise is a good thing. It would be good to see the Board support the system of compromise and the commission volunteers who give countless hours to the City.

Respectfully,

John Ware
District 2

Friends of the Japanese Tea Garden
San Francisco Parks Alliance

From: [Susan Christians](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Support of 4 year GGP wheel
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:23:52 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi! I am a Richmond district long time resident and support the four year extension of the wheel for our economic recovery and the health and happiness of our children.

Thank you!

Susan Christians

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Michelle Hughes](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Support for 4 year extension of the Sky Star Wheel in Golden Gate Park
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:24:38 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Good afternoon Mr. Young,

I was on the Board of Supervisors call this morning from 10:30am – 1:00pm and I could not stay on for my public comment time any longer.

My name is Michelle Hughes and I am a long time resident of District 2 as well as a longtime supporter of the San Francisco Parks Alliance. I strongly support the 4 year extension as proposed and I strongly oppose the 1 year extension. As mentioned multiple times this has already been approved.

The Parks Alliance is dedicated to transforming and activating public space through out the city. I don't think it is an overstatement to say that public spaces in San Francisco would look very different today without the hard work of the Parks Alliance and its many supporters.

The Golden Gate Park 150th anniversary was intended to be an equitable open city event to celebrate the park. There were several initiatives dedicated to this including shuttles running from libraries in equity zones to bring children and families to Golden Gate Park. Additionally, the Sky Star Wheel has committed to San Francisco youth and families by offering 500 free rides per month. Attractions and initiatives like this should be supported by San Francisco and we hope to be able to continue with these programs once they are deemed safe by the Department of Public Health.

Members of the Board of Supervisors are spending an inordinate amount of time and energy on the extension of the Sky Star Wheel while our city faces so many other challenging and pressing issues like Covid-19, mass vaccination roll out, schools remaining closed, homelessness at its worst, small businesses struggling and crime just to name a few. Please extend the contract for the full 4 years as it was approved and get back to the real work that needs to be done.

Thank you,
Michelle Hughes
2400 Vallejo Street
San Francisco, CA 94123
408-835-9639

From: [Louise A.MOZINGO](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting 4 year extension of Skywheel
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:38:04 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

As a more than two decade resident of District 1, I write in support of maintaining the 4 year extension of the SkyStar Wheel contract. All the considerations in this decision—financial, environmental, and administrative—have been thoroughly reviewed and documented and passed by two SF city boards. Documentation is available to anyone who wishes to review it. The idea that the lights are somehow impacting wildlife is disingenuous. Some 300 yards from the wheel are the brilliant street lights of Fulton Street, not to mention the lights surrounding the museum cluster which is where the ferris wheel sits.

To suggest that corruption is in play in the original contract or the decision to extend is utterly false and a disappointing focus of the new Supervision Chan. Focus on real issues in District 1 like pedestrian safety and traffic management !!

Louise A. Mozingo

From: [Lateefah Gainey](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Supporting the Approved 4 year Extension of the Observation Wheel in Golden Gate Park
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 1:57:16 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To Whom it May Concern, My name is Lateefah Baxter and I'm writing to support the approved decision to extend the contract for the Observation Wheel in Golden Gate Park for another 4 years.

I live in District 1 with my family and we are avid users of the Golden Gate Park. I'm also a volunteer with the SF Park Alliance and hold this organization in very high regard. We were thrilled for the 150 year Anniversary celebration and the Observation Wheel and other installations and events that were due to take place. Unfortunately the pandemic put everything on hold.

I encourage the Board of Supervisors to focus on the homelessness, crime and much more important issues that need their attention.

Thank you.

From: [Ricky Alexander](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Public comment on Item 6 - Rules Committee this morning
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 3:13:40 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi Mr. Young,

I was on the call for over 3 hours this morning (the Rules Committee), and unfortunately had to go to work at 1 PM. I wasn't able to offer my public comment in person as a result.

Please include my comment in the record and forward to the Committee members, Supervisors Peskin, Mandelman, and Chan:

I'm in full support of the existing 4-year extension of the SkyStar ferris wheel in Golden Gate Park. It is bringing a must-needed boost of joy and revenue during these difficult times.

My grandmother, a 91-year-old Holocaust survivor and refugee, has lived in the Sunset District of SF for over 70 years and had the pleasure of riding on the SkyWheel before the winter lockdown. It was a wonderfully joyous experience for her, a much needed respite from the pandemic. This attraction brings joy and fun at a time when so many, including our senior citizens, desperately need a distraction from the social isolation.

The ferris wheel will also bring in much needed revenue and attract tourism at a time when SF will hopefully be rebounding from the pandemic recession. Boosting opportunities for recreation and amusement will help the City attract more visitors, local and international. The city, GGP vendors, and businesses will benefit immensely. This recovery will not happen in one year's time. Four years is a more plausible timeframe, and the ferris wheel can be a big draw through 2025.

The environmental concerns are legitimate. They have been vetted, and the lights are turned off at night as they should be. The ferris wheel is confined to one spot in the park. If there were 5 ferris wheels, a roller coaster, and other noisy machinery, that would be a different story, but this is a singular attraction with mitigated environmental impacts and the ability to bring joy to so many.

Please uphold the HCP and RPC decisions and extend this contract for 4 years.

Respectfully,
Ricky Alexander Bac

--

Richard C. Alexander Bac
650.722.1454
Richard.c.alexander@gmail.com

From: [Rosemary Cameron](#)
To: [Young, Victor \(BOS\)](#)
Cc: [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Waltonstaff \(BOS\)](#)
Subject: Support for 4-year Extension of Observation Wheel in Golden Gate Park
Date: Monday, March 15, 2021 2:42:29 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

To Members of the Rules Committee:

I am writing to express my full and enthusiastic support for a 4-year extension of the contract for the operation of the Observation Wheel in Golden Gate Park, which has already been fully vetted and unanimously approved by both the Recreation and Park and the Historic Preservation Commissions. The Wheel is a positive attraction for residents and a key tool to aid recovery of tourism, event production and Golden Gate Park-adjacent businesses.

I am a 40-year resident of District 7 and a volunteer member of the San Francisco Parks Alliance's Board of Directors. I am extremely proud of all that the Parks Alliance has been able to accomplish on behalf of San Franciscans of all ages including such very recent accomplishments as 7 new playgrounds throughout the City and the new Golden Gate Park Tennis Center and many, many other projects and programs. There is no question that public spaces in San Francisco would look very different today without the hard work of the Parks Alliance and its many supporters.

I am troubled that a couple of members of our Board of Supervisors are fabricating an issue where there is none rather than focusing on tackling truly high priority issues facing our City such as

COVID-19 mass vaccinations roll-out, homelessness, small businesses struggling and a neighborhood crime wave. I resent this attempt to try to tarnish the good name and reputation of the Parks Alliance as part of what should be straightforward contract review and renewal process. This is not an example of the ethical practice of good government.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my views on the Rules Committee's disingenuous deliberations and my support for a 4-year extension of the contract for the Observation Wheel in Golden Gate Park.

Sincerely
Rosemary Cameron

Rosemary L. Cameron
Public Affairs Consulting

pronouns: she/her/hers

rlcameron@comcast.net

415.218.5180