

January 29, 2024 Rules Committee Meeting
Joshua Klipp Public Comment re: Agenda Item 1 No. 240017

I submit this public comment in opposition to an Ordinance requiring that the new Public Library branch serving the Oceanview, Merced Heights, Ingleside, and Lakeview neighborhoods be built on the City-owned parcel of land at 100 Orizaba Avenue.


(1) This parcel is currently an open green space, home to dozens of large, healthy trees - including native species such as Coast Live Oak that support native ecosystem. Unlike newly planted trees elsewhere in the City, we are not required to expend resources and fossil fuels pruning and maintaining these trees because they are in an open space with perfect growing conditions. It's unconscionable that, with alternatives sites available, we are considering an ordinance aimed at destroying this healthy green open space.

(2) In 2019, you - our Board of Supervisors - declared that we are in a Climate Emergency. The primary aim of your declaration was to create a new Climate Action Plan. In 2021, the City released that well-researched, highly sourced Climate Action Plan (CAP). This updated CAP that called for, *inter alia*:

- **HE.5-4. By 2023, create a policy to require preservation of mature trees during development or infrastructure modifications and for planting of basal area equivalent of mature trees whose removal is unavoidable.”¹**

It's 2024, and you are proposing an ordinance directly contrary to the Climate Action Plan, which in turn perpetuates the climate emergency you declared. Our Board of Supervisors should not write ordinances which contravene the CAP, but instead do everything in your power to model and comply with the CAP. I respectfully request you put your actions behind your 2019 declaration of a climate emergency. Do not refer this to the full Board for consideration, and find an alternative site that does not destroy a healthy open green space and living ecosystem.

Thank you,
Joshua Klipp

¹  cap_fulldocument_wappendix_web_220124.pdf at p. 120

January 29, 2024

San Francisco Supervisors
c/o Clerk Victor Young
Rules Committee
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Dear Chair Ronen and members of the Rules Committee,

The Friends and Foundation of the San Francisco Public Library (Friends) regrets that, due to very short notice of this hearing and illness among our leadership, we are not able to attend today's hearing.

Our Board of Directors has not taken a formal position on today's legislation, but we would like to share the following:

Friends supports building a new Library branch in the Ocean View neighborhood. We believe that the Ocean View neighborhood deserves an outstanding Library branch.

Friends has a long history of fundraising for furniture, fixtures and equipment (FF&E) for newly constructed and renovated Library branches. We are poised and ready to do this again when the new Ocean View branch location has been chosen.

Friends values its long partnership with the San Francisco Public Library and other members of the San Francisco family. Since 1961, we have been supporting the Library and its users. Our most recent effort in collaboration with the Board of Supervisors—including members of this committee—the Library, and the mayor resulted in a renewal of the Public Library's set-aside for another 25 years. We look forward to celebrating this new milestone when the time is right.

Our apologies again for not being able to speak in person.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Charnas Grant
Board Chair
Friends and Foundation of the San Francisco Public Library