

[Split appointments to the Recreation and Park Commission; Recreation and Park Department and Commission special event permit and license decisions appealable to the Board of Appeals.]

CHARTER AMENDMENT

PROPOSITION \_\_\_\_\_

Describing and setting forth a proposal to the qualified voters of the City and County of San Francisco to amend the Charter of the City and County of San Francisco by amending Sections 4.106 and 4.113, to split the power to make appointments to the Recreation and Park Commission between the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors, and to make Recreation and Park Department and Commission decisions regarding special event permits and licenses that significantly impact park property or the surrounding neighborhood appealable to the Board of Appeals.

The Board of Supervisors hereby submits to the qualified voters of the City and County, at an election to be held on November 2, 2010, a proposal to amend the Charter of the City and County by amending Sections 4.106 and 4.113 to read as follows:

NOTE: Additions are *single-underline italics Times New Roman*; deletions are ~~*strike through italics Times New Roman*~~.

**SEC. 4.106. BOARD OF APPEALS.**

(a) The Board of Appeals shall consist of five members nominated and appointed pursuant to this section. Three of the members shall be nominated by the Mayor, and two of the members shall be appointed by the President of the Board of Supervisors. Charter Section 4.101 shall apply to these appointments. Vacancies shall be filled by the appointing officer.

Each nomination of the Mayor and the President of the Board of Supervisors is subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors, and shall be the subject of a public hearing and vote within 60 days. If the Board fails to act on the nomination within 60 days of the date the nomination is transmitted to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, the nominee shall be deemed

approved. The appointment shall become effective on the date the Board adopts a motion approving the nomination or after 60 days of the date the nomination is transmitted to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

Members may be removed by the appointing officer only pursuant to Section 15.105.

In order to stagger the terms, three members shall initially serve two-year terms, and two members shall initially service four-year terms. The initial two and four-year terms of office shall be instituted as follows:

1. The respective terms of office of members of the Board of Appeals who hold office on the first day of July, 2002, shall expire at 12 o'clock noon on that date, and the three members appointed by the Mayor and the two members appointed by the President of the Board of Supervisors shall succeed to said offices at that time.

2. The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall determine by lot which two of the three Mayoral appointees shall serve an initial two-year term, and which one of the two appointees of the President of the Board of Supervisors shall serve an initial two-year term. The remaining appointees shall serve four-year terms. All subsequent terms shall be four years.

The Board shall appoint and may remove an executive secretary, who shall serve as department head.

(b) The Board shall hear and determine appeals with respect to any person who has been denied a permit or license, or whose permit or license has been suspended, revoked or withdrawn, or who believes that his or her interest or the public interest will be adversely affected by the grant, denial, suspension or revocation of a license or permit, except for a permit or license under the jurisdiction of the Recreation and Park Commission or Department, or the Port Commission, or a building or demolition permit for a project that has received a permit or license pursuant to a conditional use authorization.

(c) Notwithstanding subsection (b), above, the Board shall hear and determine appeals with respect to special event permits or special event licenses under the jurisdiction of the

Recreation and Park Commission or Department, if the special event permit or special event license significantly impacts Recreation and Park property or the surrounding neighborhood. "Special event" permits and "special event" licenses shall be defined by ordinance. Provided, however, that a permit or license applicant is not required to submit an appeal to the Board in order to seek judicial review of a denial of a special event permit or license application by the Recreation and Park Commission or Department. The filing of an appeal shall not stay the decision of the Recreation and Park Commission or Department. No rehearing of such appeals shall be allowed.

(d) The Board of Appeals shall hear and determine appeals:

1. Where it is alleged there is error or abuse of discretion in any order, requirement, decision or determination made by the Zoning Administrator in the enforcement of the provisions of any ordinance adopted by the Board of Supervisors creating zoning districts or regulating the use of property in the City and County; or

2. From the rulings, decisions and determinations of the Zoning Administrator granting or denying applications for variances from any rule, regulation, restriction or requirement of the zoning or set-back ordinances, or any section thereof. Upon the hearing of such appeals, the Board may affirm, change, or modify the ruling, decision or determination appealed from, or, in lieu thereof, make such other additional determinations as it shall deem proper in the premises, subject to the same limitations as are placed upon the Zoning Administrator by this Charter or by ordinance.

(e) After a hearing and any necessary investigation, the Board may concur in the action of the department involved, or by the affirmative vote of four members (or if a vacancy exists, by a vote of three members) overrule the action of the Department.

Where the Board exercises its authority to modify or overrule the action of a department, the Board shall state in summary its reasons in writing.

**SEC. 4.113. RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION.**

~~*The Recreation and Park Commission shall consist of seven members appointed by the Mayor, pursuant to Section 3.100, for four-year terms. Members may be removed by the Mayor only pursuant to Section 15.105.*~~

*The Recreation and Park Commission shall consist of seven members, who shall each serve a four-year term. The Mayor shall nominate three members, pursuant to Section 3.100, the Rules Committee of the Board of Supervisors, or any successor committee thereto, shall nominate three members, and the Mayor and the President of the Board of Supervisors shall jointly nominate one member, all subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors. If the Board fails to act on the nomination within 60 days of the date the nomination is transmitted to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, the nominee shall be deemed approved. The appointment shall become effective on the date the Board adopts a motion approving the nomination or after 60 days of the date the nomination is transmitted to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.*

*Members may be removed by the appointing authority pursuant to Section 15.105.*

*The respective terms of office of members of the Recreation and Park Commission who hold office on February 1, 2011, shall expire at noon on that date, and the members appointed pursuant to the amendments to this Section approved at the November 2010 election shall succeed to said office at that time. To stagger the terms of the seven members, of the three members nominated by the Mayor, one member shall serve a term of two years, one member shall serve a term of three years, and one members shall serve a term of four years; of the three members nominated by the Rules Committee, one member shall serve a term of two years, one member shall serve a term of three years, and one member shall serve a term of four years; and the member nominated jointly by the Mayor and the President of the Board of Supervisors shall serve a term of four years. The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall designate such initial terms by lot. All subsequent appointments to the Commission shall be for four-year terms.*

Pursuant to the policies and directives set by the Commission and under the direction and supervision of the General Manager, the Recreation and Park Department shall manage and direct all parks, playgrounds, recreation centers and all other recreation facilities, avenues and grounds under the Commission's control or placed under its jurisdiction thereafter, unless otherwise specifically provided in this Charter.

The Department shall promote and foster a program providing for organized public recreation of the highest standard.

The Department shall issue permits for the use of all property under the Commission's control, pursuant to the policies established by the Commission.

As directed by the Commission, the Department shall administer the Park, Recreation and Open Space Fund pursuant to Section 16.107 of this Charter.

The Department shall have the power to construct new parks, playgrounds, recreation centers, recreation facilities, squares and grounds, and to erect and maintain buildings and structures on parks, playgrounds, square, avenues and grounds, except as follows:

1. No building or structure, except for nurseries, equipment storage facilities and comfort stations, shall be erected, enlarged or expanded in Golden Gate Park or Union Square Park unless such action has been approved by a vote of two-thirds of the Board of Supervisors;

2. No park land may be sold or leased for non-recreational purposes, nor shall any structure on park property be built, maintained or used for non-recreational purposes, unless approved by a vote of the electors. However, with permission of the Commission and approval by the Board of Supervisors, subsurface space under any public park, square or playground may be used for the operation of a public automobile parking station under the authority of the Department of Parking and Traffic, provided that the Commission determines that such a use would not be, in any material respect or degree, detrimental to the original purpose for which a park, square or playground was dedicated or in contravention of the conditions of any grant under which a park, square or playground might have been received. The revenues derived from

any such use, less the expenses incurred by the Department of Parking and Traffic in operating these facilities, shall be credited to Recreation and Park Department funds.

3. The Commission shall have the power to lease or rent any stadium or recreation field under its jurisdiction for athletic contests, exhibitions and other special events and may permit the lessee to charge an admission fee.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
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