File No.	130766	Committee Item No.	·
		Board Item No	20

## **COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 20 pages. The complete document is in the file.

## AMENDED IN BOARD 11/5/13 ORDINANCE NO.

FILE NO. 130766

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Ordinance amending the Park Code to establish hours of operation for City parks from 5:00 a.m. to midnight, with certain exceptions; and making environmental findings.

NOTE:

[Park Code - Hours of Operation for City Parks]

Additions are <u>single-underline italics Times New Roman</u>; deletions are <u>strike-through italics Times New Roman</u>. Board amendment additions are <u>double-underlined</u>; Board amendment deletions are <u>strikethrough normal</u>.

Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

Section 1. The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this ordinance comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.). Said determination is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 130766 and is incorporated herein by reference.

## Section 2. Findings and Policy.

- (a) The Board of Supervisors finds that vandalism of park property often occurs late at night and such vandalism is a serious problem that imposes substantial costs on the City in the form of maintenance and repairs, such as graffiti abatement. The Board finds that establishing uniform hours of operation for parks Citywide will help prevent vandalism and disruptive loitering by keeping persons out of the park during the late-night hours when such activities are most likely to occur.
- (b) The Board recognizes that effective enforcement of hours of operation in City parks may require additional City resources. Towards that end, the Board urges the Recreation and Park Department to increase the number of Park Patrol scheduled to patrol parks between

Supervisors Wiener, Farrell, Cohen BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

midnight and 5 a.m. and to request funding for additional Park Patrol to enforce this ordinance. The Board also urges the Recreation and Park Department to prioritize enforcement of park hours in smaller neighborhood parks and playgrounds, where the effects of vandalism and loitering are particularly disruptive to the neighboring community.

Section 23. The San Francisco Park Code is hereby amended by adding Section 3.21, to read as follows:

## SEC. 3.21. HOURS OF OPERATION.

- (a) Persons may enter and use any park from 5:00 a.m. to midnight daily, provided that (1) the Department may set different hours in a permit, contract or lease, and (2) whenever a threat to public health or safety exists in any park resulting from any natural cause, explosion, accident or any other cause, or by riot or unlawful assembly or activity, the General Manager may close the park or any part thereof to the public for such duration as he or she deems necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of the public. This subsection shall not apply to buildings, such as recreation centers, restrooms and clubhouses, or to athletic fields, which may have different hours of operation, as determined by the General Manager or the Commission, as the case may be.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), the Commission may by resolution and at any time set different hours of operation for any park or part thereof, based on operational requirements or neighborhood impacts.
- (c) No person shall enter or remain in any park without the permission of the Department outside of the hours open to the public as set in subsection (a) or under subsection (b), except that:
- (1) In the case of Balboa Park, Golden Gate Park, Lincoln Park, and McLaren Park, persons may use a vehicle (including but not limited to a car, truck, bicycle and motorcycle) on the roadway(s) in those parks or walk on paved sidewalks immediately adjacent to such roadways, at any time for purposes of transversing the park only;

(2) In the case of the Panhandle, persons m	ay walk or ride a bicycle on the bike paths
at any time for purposes of transversing the park only; and,	<u>,</u>

- (3) In the case of Union Square, Civic Center Plaza, and Justin Herman Plaza, persons may walk on the paved portions of those plazas at any time for purposes of transversing the plaza only.
- (d) (1) Except as provided in subsection (2). A a violation of subsection (c) shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Park Code Article 10.
- (2) A person who is found sleeping in a park outside of the hours open to the public in violation of subsection (c) shall not be cited under this section for being present in the park while sleeping. Such a person may be cited only under Section 3.13 of this Code.
- (e) The Department shall post the hours for each park (1) at the park in a location designed to provide notice to members of the public, and (2) on the Department's website.
- (f) The Department shall issue an annual report to the Board of Supervisors and Mayor by September 1 of each year providing the following information for the preceding fiscal year:

  (1) the number of citations issued by the Police Department and Park Patrol for violations of this section and the age and race of individuals cited, (2) the Department's costs for repairs and maintenance, including graffiti abatement, resulting from vandalism in parks, and (3) the Department's costs associated with enforcing this section.
- (g) Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of the General Manager and the Commission under section 3.03 of this Code.

Section 3<u>4</u>. <u>The San Francisco Park Code is hereby amended by revising Section</u> 3.03. to read as follows:

## SEC. 3.03. PUBLIC MAY BE EXCLUDED.

In case of an emergency, or when in the judgment of the Recreation and Park

Commission or the General Manager the public interest demands it, any portion of any park or

park building therein may be closed to the public until such park area or building is reopened to the public by the Recreation and Park Commission or the General Manager; provided, however, that nothing in this Section shall authorize the General Manager or the Commission to close any portion of any park or park building because of the content or viewpoint of expressive activities, existing or anticipated, to the extent such expressive activities, existing or anticipated, engaged in for the purpose of expressing ideas or causes, which activities are protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

<u>Section 5.</u> Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 30 days after enactment. Enactment occurs when the Mayor signs the ordinance, the Mayor returns the ordinance unsigned or does not sign the ordinance within ten days of receiving it, or the Board of Supervisors overrides the Mayor's veto of the ordinance.

APPROVED AS TO FORM: DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

By:

FRANCESCA GESSNEF Deputy City Attorney

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## LEGISLATIVE DIGEST (As amended 11/5/2013)

[Park Code - Hours of Operation for City Parks]

Ordinance amending the Park Code to establish hours of operation for City parks from 5:00 a.m. to midnight, with certain exceptions; and making environmental findings.

### Existing Law

The Recreation and Park Commission sets by resolution the hours that parks are open to the public. The Park Code authorizes the Recreation and Park Commission or the General Manager to temporarily close parks or park buildings to address emergencies or when the public interest demands it. The Park Code also prohibits sleeping in the park, but allows individuals violating this rule to avoid penalties for a first offense or if they seek social service assistance from the City within 30 hours of receiving a citation.

## Amendments to Current Law

The proposal is an ordinance that would amend the Park Code to provide that City parks would be open to the public from 5:00 a.m. to midnight daily, and prohibit any person from being in a City park outside of those hours. The Recreation and Park Commission could also set different hours of operation for any park by resolution based on operational needs or neighborhood impacts.

The proposal would not apply to buildings on park property, such as recreation centers and clubhouses, or to athletic fields. The Department would continue to set the hours of operations for those facilities. The proposal also would not apply in the following situations:

- Where someone is using a roadway or adjacent sidewalk to cross Balboa Park, Golden Gate Park, Lincoln Park, or McLaren Park;
- Where someone is using a bike path to cross the Panhandle;
- Where someone is using the paved areas to cross Union Square, Civic Center Plaza, or Justin Herman Plaza;
- Where the Department has set different hours in a permit, contract, or lease; or,

 Where the General Manager has temporarily closed a park to protect the safety and well-being of the public.

Violations of the proposal could be punished as a misdemeanor or an infraction. A person found sleeping in the park outside of the park's open hours could be cited for violating the Park Code prohibition on sleeping in the park but could not be cited under this ordinance for being present in the park while sleeping.

The General Manager and the Recreation and Park Commission would retain the authority to close the parks to address an emergency. The ordinance would clarify that the General Manager and the Commission could not close an part of a park or building because of the content or viewpoint of constitutionally protected expressive activities.

The ordinance would also require the Recreation and Park Department to issue annual reports to the Board of Supervisors and Mayor providing information about citations issued for violations of the ordinance, the costs of addressing vandalism in the parks, and the costs of enforcing the ordinance.

The ordinance would also urge the Recreation and Park Department to increase the number of Park Patrol scheduled to patrol parks.

## **Background Information**

This ordinance reflects amendments adopted by the Board at its regular meeting on November 5, 2013.

#### **BOARD of SUPERVISORS**



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July 30, 2013

File No. 130766

Sarah Jones Environmental Review Officer Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Ms. Jones:

On July 23, 2013, Supervisor Wiener introduced the following proposed legislation:

File No. 130766

Ordinance amending the Park Code to establish hours of operation for City parks from 5:00 a.m. to midnight, with certain exceptions; and making environmental findings.

This legislation is being transmitted to you for environmental review.

Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board

By: Alisa Miller, Committee Clerk

Land Use & Economic Development Committee

Attachment

c: Monica Pereira, Environmental Planning Joy Navarrete, Environmental Planning Non-Physical Gemption CERT Section 15060 (c)(2)

2013 11018

#### Miller, Alisa

From:

**Board of Supervisors** 

Sent:

Wednesday, November 13, 2013 2:17 PM

Γo:

BOS-Supervisors; Miller, Alisa

Subject:

Concerned Citizen oposing "Parks Code - Hours of Operation of City Park" -s File 130766

Attachments:

Exhibit\_A\_t\_oPark\_Code\_legislation\_letter.docx

**From:** carpihole@aol.com [mailto:carpihole@aol.com] **Sent:** Wednesday, November 13, 2013 12:26 PM **To:** Board of Supervisors; Commission, Recpark

Subject: oncerned Citizen oposing "Parks Code - Hours of Operation of City Park" -s File 130766

#### Dear RPD and BOS;

I would like to express deep concern relating to the Parks Closure proposal reintroduced by Supervisor Weiner this summer, and amended at the November 5, 2013 BOS meeting. More concerning is the presentation put forth by Rec & Park, which specifically intended to mislead this board in order to appease private interests. Government has a very specific responsibility to citizens, and supporting legislation that criminalizes simply being in a public space in the evening — with zero evidence of the inferred "bad behavior" which is the basis of this claim of need for park hours, is unconstitutional.

#### Specifically,

- (a) on Slide 2, RPD represents responsibility of 220 parks (with various amenities), but provides no supporting documentation to this claim. Per Wikipedia, there are less than 40 City Parks in San Francisco, so I would request a matrix of where the numbers presented came from in a format as presented in Exhibit A.
- (b) on Slide 3, "Park Safety a direct result of positive vs. negative park use.... outside of these permitted uses of parks, most of our parks landscapes are dark during nighttime hours which makes them inappropriate for *positive* park use." It would be interesting for the BOS to ask RPD to define "positive" vs. "negative" if it will be used to deter usage at any time...do they consider sitting or lying down negative use during the day time?
- (c) On Slide 5, "383 staff members (SF Jobs) whose job it is to make our parks clean and safe. Overwhelmingly, evidence of bad behavior is discovered upon staff arrival at a park each morning." It fails to present that RPD has 383 jobs for which cleaning the parks is a primary role of the position. They will not be terminated because the Parks are closed.....simply, they will still be required to clean the parks which equates to \$0 savings.
- (d) On Slide 6, "Vandalism & Illegal Dumping A \$1 Million Dollar Problem" (This statement is made for effect, not based on true savings or even the math on RPD proposes.....\$506,382 + \$400,000 = \$906,382....not \$1,000,000)
- (e) On Slide 7, it would be interesting to know what the last FY costs for graffiti and vandalism were, if insurance covered any of the costs, if the BID or CBDs covered any costs, and if the Graffitti Advisory Board covered any costs for a true representation of the costs not average but true costs of this year.
- (f) On Slide 16, RPD represents that "3.1 tons of garbage are collected each week from GGP. ...In GGP alone, our dumpster tipping fees are \$27,539 annually." It would be interesting to know how much of the "garbage collected" constitutes the belongings of the homeless who were arrested for sleeping or moved on in the middle of their sleep, where their property was left behind. Also, if RPD expects a decrease in garbage with the Park closure, they are incorrect....they can expect an increase as homeless are targeted even more. Another factor is that if the garbage goes away, so do some of the jobs created by garbage....but the number of cuts to staff were not presented ... what is the intent of RPD, as they are including the numbers for all staff time in their \$1M assessment.
- (g) On Slide 20, RPD presents that nearly \$1M in "needless annual expense to the department due to park misuse during the hours of darkness." this statement is misleading unless RPD does fully intend to rid the entire staff that maintain the parks during the daytime, as they are included in the dollar amounts they have presented to the BOS.

meone may want to bring this presentation to the Ethics Commission for evaluation of misconduct for the willful intent to mislead the BOS, as well as look into the potential conflicts of interests behind this proposed legislation.

As a citizen of the City and County of San Francisco, the issue of budget, responsibility, and accountability of the Rec & Parks Department is serious. While there have been great strides in transforming the parks in San Francisco over the last couple of years, these were presumably funded with Bond measures from 2008 (Proposition A – which stated \$185M will go towards city park improvement) and in 2012 (Proposition B – which stated \$195M would go towards clean and safe neighborhood Parks). Additionally, there were several other measures over the years (Prop C – Open Space Fund) and a "open-space set-aside" fund listed on revenue reports of the RPD. It is not clear if these are directly tied to RPD, but it would be helpful to have a city auditor look at all of the bond sales, appropriations, and expenditures and present a matrix to the BOS and the public for clarity prior to the next round of budget approvals.

The 2008 & 2012 Bond measures alone provides for \$390M specifically towards the cleanliness and safety of our parks. This amount does not take into account the various other sources of income from recreation and park revenues, nor grants and donations, nor volunteer hours, nor standard allocations of the General Fund to support this Department. The revenues and expenses are not easily discernable to the citizen based on the various reports posted to the RPD website.

Expenditures: In budget presentations posted on the RPD website, 2011-2012 a budget of \$127.8M, and in 2012 – 2013 a budget of \$138.5M, one must ask how and why this budget is so massive...but more importantly, what exactly are the roles, responsibilities, and budget for enforcement of Park Operations, Maintenance, and abatement per the City Code? It would be interesting to fully understand the line item of "Overhead" and what specifically this supports, and if this overhead or additional overhead is being requested when applying for state, federal, or private funds. If there are fee based programs, such as the Golf program, it is not clear that charging City Overhead is appropriate. Perhaps you can respond to this.

Making things more confusing, allocations of responsibility, services, and costs to parks in various BIDs/CBDs, Homeowner Associations, the Graffiti Abatement Advisory Board, and the newly formed Parks Alliance serve to add burdens to the SFPD, the BOS, and the citizens of the City and County of San Francisco in delineating and finally determining who to contact for concerns/questions/reporting in areas presumably under the jurisdiction of the RPD.

In briefly reviewing various news articles, budget information, and other City advertised programs, as a citizen, I am even more confused as to the responsibility of the stewardship of our City, State, and Federal Parks. The potential for conflict of interest violations, misuse/mismanagement, and fraud are also deeply concerning, as navigating responsibility is labyrinth-like. It would be interesting to know if this Department has enlisted the assistance of an auditing agency for an independent report.

Additionally, it is a bit deceiving to advertise that there are 220 City parks in San Francisco, where Wikipedia notes less than 40 official City Parks. It is misleading to include small easements in neighborhoods, commonly supported by neighborhood associations, and where BID expenses overlap with City resources in exchange for higher tax assessments of these business districts.....so clarity in these circumstances is of the utmost importance. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_parks\_in\_San\_Francisco).

Finally, it would be interesting to understand the roles and responsibilities that are shared for State and Federal Parks. As I understand it, Candlestick Point State Recreation Area and Angel Island are the only California State Parks located in San Francisco, yet we have received millions of dollars from State agencies which were allocated to our local parks. It would be a good idea to ensure program guidelines match the proposed usage, and if not, obtain evidence that the Sponsor approved reallocation of funds. More interesting, I did not see one grant application for the improvement of Candlestick Point State Recreation Area. It is important to note that the California State Rec & Parks is currently under investigation. (http://www.sacbee.com/parks/).

Additionally, the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, per an article on the Superintendent of the GGNRA (http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Profile-Frank-Dean-GGNRA-superintendent-2374746.php) has over 80,000 acres of land to manage, where his budget is \$26.8M to manage 30,000 volunteers and staff for this area. Why is San Francisco's budget 5 times higher to manage 1/20<sup>h</sup> of the acreage with multiple fee generating programs? These issues must be looked at and evaluated.

This legislation is curious and may not be applicable to State and Federal Parks. In light of State legislation (AB46) that is at present being proposed, it is certain that private companies will limit access. We are losing public lands to corporate and private interests, which essentially leads to the fundamental question of – what are regular people supposed to do when all of the land in San Francisco has been privatized, where students, renters, dog owners, limited and low-income residents are

required to pay membership fees and/or entry fees in order to use our city parks.... or be fined if found without a wristband? What is to become of the midnight stroll? The lover's picnic? A run with your dog? Stargazing with your child? If left to profit above people, what will the next limitation be? To those who want to report a Park Code violation, are they supposed to call RPD, SFPD, DPH, DPW, and the BID for one instance of true illegal dumping? To those victim to bogus citations under public-private arrangements, how is due process addressed? Does a person file suit against a BID? The City? The Parks Alliance? These aspects are not clear either.

An Audit on Compensation, Dual Appointments, Conflicts of Interest, Responsibility for maintenance and enforcement, All Fee based Programs, Overhead Application, Bond and Grant Funding, and other factors for analysis must be completed prior to moving forward on any legislation relating to limiting public access to city property further. The BOS needs to have a firm grip of what the true budget is, where it is coming from, and why it is needed....especially after improvements have been made, a budget per park should be substantially decreased in future years and supplemental funds for a "parklet" should be easily discernable and transparent.

Reports on damage incidents of over \$5,000 should be reported on, as well as any insurance coverage for damage that we have. An investigative report on actions taken to identify the vandal should be mandatory from RPD as well, where hotlines for tips could be posted in targeted areas.

Reports on the average annual cost of addressing graffiti, wire theft, and vandalism per park, so that a percentage can be applied as a line item for repair, insurance, and additional security can be assigned as needed. Ownership, easement, and responsibilities need to be very clear and specific. It is not clear if the Graffiti Advisory Board is City funded, and if so, what is the progress of this group besides attending conferences and traveling and holding meetings? Have they worked with the RPD to assist neighborhood parks?

It would be interesting to see maintenance records per park as well, from DPW, BIDs, Urban Forestry, and other entities that are involved in maintenance of property assigned to Rec & Park. Also, the NOVs issued to residents and costs/revenue associated with the issuance of those NOVs. Fines collected from homeowners, as well as the tax increases to the individual for purchasing or inheriting a house in a BID.

While I understand that acts of vandalism are of concern....what has been done to prevent it? To follow up on major damage? To investigate? Relying on SFPD not only adds to their workload for RPD responsibility, it provides a deterioration of accountability. If I was given a budget of \$128M, I can guarantee that I could come up with a better solution, including having a line item for vandalism. It is reasonable for the City to encounter vandalism....it will happen...we should budget for it.

In the same vein, citizens that try to help are deferred when RPD says they don't handle it..... and then they are transferred to SFPD and they don't handle it ....and then transferred to the Parks Alliance...and they don't handle it....how many people will have the wherewithal to put the effort in to call yet another department.....and to another entity depending on what has been vandalized and where. As Supervisor Breed and others clearly articulated....the tools are there.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter in opposition of the proposed park closure ordinance.

Sincerely,

Diane Carpio
The Red-Headed Step Child of the SF City Family

## **EXHIBIT A**

Park Name	Acreage	Playground/ area	Tennis Court	Rec Center /club house	Basketball Court	Soccer/ Play fields	Ball Fields	Comm. Gardens	Off- leash dog parks	Staff Assigned (FTEs)	Maint. Schedule (Daily, Weekly, Monthly)
										-	in one in y

Clear and separate reports on these, including the above and program fee revenue for recovery per area within:

- Golden Gate National Recreation Area
- Candlestick Point State Recreation Area
- Marina Slips
- Camp Mather
- Sharp Park

- Swimming Pools
- Golf Courses
- Stadiums

## Miller, Alisa

From:

**Board of Supervisors** 

Sent:

Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:25 PM

To:

Miller, Alisa

Subject:

File 130766: CLEAN UP THE MESS

From: Jerbo43@aol.com [mailto:Jerbo43@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 2:15 AM

To: Yee, Norman (BOS); Cohen, Malia; Avalos, John; Kim, Jane; Board of Supervisors; Campos, David; Farrell, Mark; Mar,

Eric (BOS); Wiener, Scott; Chiu, David; Breed, London; Tang, Katy

Subject: CLEAN UP THE MESS

Dear Supervisors,

It's time to close the parks, at least for a while. Thanks to too much tolerance of bad behavior San Francisco's parks are no longer either safe or sanitary. When some people start acting like wild beasts it spoils it for everyone else.

CLOSE THEM!

AND ENFORCE THE CLOSURES.

Respectfully,

Ben Hayashi

#### Miller, Alisa

From:

Board of Supervisors

Sent:

Tuesday, November 12, 2013 1:26 PM

To:

BOS-Supervisors; Miller, Alisa

Subject:

File 130766: Communication of Concern to the new ordinance 130766 [Park Code - Hours of

Operation for City Parks approved at BOS 11/5/13 meeting

Attachments:

Breed Opinion.pdf

From: carpihole@aol.com [mailto:carpihole@aol.com]

Sent: Monday, November 11, 2013 11:44 AM

To: SFPD, Commission; Suhr, Greg; Board of Supervisors; Lee, Mayor

Subject: Communication of Concern to the new ordinance 130766 [Park Code - Hours of Operation for City Parks]

approved at BOS 11/5/13 meeting

#### Dear SF Police Commission & Chief Suhr;

While I understand the philosophies of San Francisco City Family and the desire to support legislation that involves proposals to provide the SFPD with "tools" to curb crime, the Park Hours Legislation introduced first in December 14, 2010 by the Mayor to the City Operations and Neighborhood Services Committee, and more recently on July 23, 2013 by Supervisor Weiner assigned to the Land Use and Economic Development Committee is simply an irresponsible law.

This legislation was approved (6 ayes/ 5 nos) with amendments on November 5, 2013 to be presented as a second reading by the Board of Supervisors to be heard on November 19, 2013. The Police Commission and SFPD <u>must publicly oppose this</u> legislation. This legislation is discriminatory and only serves to convolute and skirt enforcement responsibility for crimes that occur in City parks and to continue diminishing the rights of all San Franciscan's – especially those who rely on public parks as their one last place of respite. More curiously, it places the SFPD in a position to execute this legislation indiscriminately and/or at the will of any given Mayor solely for political means.

At the November 5, 2013 BOS hearing, amendments to the legislation made for overly complicated legislation that adds the burden of (1) training costs to officers; (2) independent interpretation and application of law to officers resulting in an increase in OCC complaints, jail, legal costs; (3) an increase of unfair and unnecessary marks against officer personnel record for inaccurately/inconsistently applying the law; (4) adding stress to SFPD officers (as well as Park Rangers, Ambassadors of BID/CBDs); (5) erroneous citations being issued to otherwise innocent people and duplicative citations being issued to indigent people; and (6) I personally feel would jeopardize the safety of both officers and citizens due to increase in altercations and use of force – as a citizen may exert the right to be in public space where the officer may feel that they are just doing their job well.

It feels like San Francisco has evolved into a City that in order to survive, a person must be a lawyer, politician, City Department Head, or an officer in order to feel safe enough to simply live. I know that Chief Suhr will communicate the nuances of this law if it passes....however what about interpretation/application of this law if — God forbid — anything happens to him and a new Chief is not as understanding or compassionate about the circumstances of over 7,000 homeless/residents of San Francisco have found themselves to be? Or worse, at times of political importance, it is mandated that enforcement be a "priority"?

The Police Commission and Chief should demand more from the BOS and the Mayor prior to supporting any proposed legislation that they mandate (at will) the San Francisco Police Department enforce/report on — including requesting analysis from their offices on (1) potential of violations of civil and human rights as a result of law, (2) conflicts with state, federal, and international laws; (3) complexity of enforcement due to overlapping laws/DGOs currently in existence; (4) costs for training, enforcement, and in turn staffing of SFPD, and litigation; (5) the impact on officer and public safety; (6) COP reporting requirements; and (7) cost/benefit if implemented.

It would also be interesting to perform an anonymous survey of all SFPD officers to gain their perspectives on how any such legislation would impact their ability to enforce prior to supporting legislation that involves SFPD enforcement — as they are impacted the most. If officers do not have clear expectations of how to "manage" a law, then that is a huge problem. And Finally, it is important and relevant to note that one amendment (of several) requires the COP to submit yet another report.. by law ...after the fact ....again.

Please find attached an Opinion piece by Supervisor Breed that beautifully articulates the citizen impact – from home owners, to the average joe, to the homeless. SFPD is the fourth and arguably the most important piece. Please send a message to the BOS and Mayor that any new laws must be clear and consistent with State, Federal, and International law, Civil and Human rights laws, and enforceable at all times if they want the support of the SFPD and the Police Commission. *I urge you to* 

contact Supervisor Weiner to inform  $h_{ini}$  of the concerns for your officers if this legislation passes and to <u>not</u> support this legislation.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter in opposition of the proposed park closure ordinance.

Sincerely,

Diane Carpio

The Red-Headed Step Child of the SF City Family:)

**OPINION** I have great respect for Recreation & Park General Manager Phil Ginsburg, my colleague Sup. Scott Wiener, and my constituents and friends who support the parks closure legislation. I certainly share their concerns about damage to our parks. But I do not think this law is the appropriate means to address it.

I have six fundamental problems with the legislation.

My first concern is the impact this could have on our neighborhoods. There are an estimated 7,350 homeless youth and adults in San Francisco. Many find a shelter bed; some wind up in jail or a hospital. Over 4,300 people, though, have nowhere to sleep.

As the supervisor for District 5, it would be irresponsible for me not to think about this, not to consider what will happen if homeless people are evicted from the parks and wind up sleeping on the doorsteps of my constituents in the Haight, Inner Sunset, or Buena Vista. This would be unjust for the homeless and worse for the neighborhoods.

Second, we have an enforcement problem, not a regulation problem. The Park Code already prohibits: camping, sleeping between 8pm-8am, dumping, drinking (in most parks), being under the influence, damaging the parks, or making loud, "unreasonable" noises.

Unfortunately, at night there are only two or three park patrol officers on the beat for all 220 parks across 3,500 acres.

We can't enforce the codes we have. Rather than adding a broad, redundant code, I would like targeted improvements to the codes and their enforcement.

Third, it could cost more to enforce this law than we would actually save. Vandalism is distributed all over the park system and does not all occur between midnight and 5am. A dramatic increase in officers could decrease vandalism, but that would cost more than any savings realized.

Fourth, I am sympathetic to the almost-Libertarian argument made by some constituents that: "My tax dollars pay for those parks and if I want to use them at 4am, that is my prerogative."

[more]

Firefighters and others who work late shifts should be allowed to walk their dogs in the park when they get off work. Whenever I raise this point, I am told by the law's supporters, "Oh it won't be enforced against them."

This is exactly the problem, and my fifth concern — that this law will be selectively enforced. If it's not intended to target the homeless, the firefighter, or the well-groomed neighbor, who is the law designed to target? Suspicious looking people? Teenagers? Young men in hooded sweatshirts?

Lastly, I think there are perfectly legitimate reasons to use the parks at night, and I don't think our government should be admonishing us otherwise.

Acts can be criminal. Vandalism, dumping, drug use — those are acts. I am not comfortable preemptively criminalizing a person's presence, or everyone's presence, in order to deter the few who commit those acts. I am not comfortable limiting everyone's freedom in order to deter those who abuse that freedom.

But frankly, I am also not comfortable with how politically charged the issue of homelessness has become in San Francisco. Whether this particular law passes or fails, 7,350 people will wake up tomorrow morning not knowing where they will sleep tomorrow night.

We must be creative, unconventional. For example, we could repurpose fallow city buildings as temporary shelters. Would this idea be received as an opportunity or an insult? I hope the former, but I suspect the latter.

We have a political climate in this city which, for a variety of reasons, seems to default to the status quo on homelessness. Well, we need change. We need to acknowledge that not every call for service is a "handout," nor every call for enforcement a "criminalization."

Relegating 4,300 people to a cold spot of concrete or grass every night is not compassion; working creatively to change it is not malice. It is leadership. And it is exactly what we need.

London Breed is the District 5 supervisor. Visit sfbg.com/politics for the latest on this issue.

We can defeat this invidious legislation before or at Second Reading, <u>Nov. 19</u>. Please lobby Sups. Chiu, Tang, Yee, Cohen, Kim, Farrell to kill it. Thank you.

-John C Diamante, 415.392 3111

(11.8, jcd) - 30 -

#### Miller, Alisa

From:

**Board of Supervisors** 

Sent:

Tuesday, November 05, 2013 2:06 PM

To:

BOS-Supervisors; Miller, Alisa

Subject:

File 130766: Vote No On Measure To Close Public Parks In San Francisco.

From: bill piltdown [mailto:bpiltdown@gmail.com] Sent: Tuesday, November 05, 2013 1:17 PM

To: Board of Supervisors

Subject: Vote No On Measure To Close Public Parks In San Francisco. Attn: John, Office of the Clerk Of The Board Of

Supervisors

Nov. 5, 2013

Chris Farris 81 Pleasant Street San Francisco CA 94109

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place City Hall, Room 244 San Francisco, Ca. 94102-4689

Re: Measure to close SF public parks Midnight to 5 AM File #130766

Greetings Supervisors,

I'm writing to express my strong opposition to Scott Wiener's proposed measure to close all parks from midnight to 5 AM, which will transform the harmless act of enjoying public space into a crime. It is important to note that this opposition is shared by many of my friends and neighbors, a number of whom have taken the time to express their opposition by telephoning or e-mailing the office of Supervisor David Chiu.

This measure seems to be a solution in search of a problem.

The two problems it supposedly solves are:

- 1) Acts of vandalism and dumping in public parks and
- 2) Many other cities have similar laws

I'd like to address the "All the other cities are doing it" argument first:

Why should San Francisco pass this measure, simply because other cities have something similar?

San Francisco has a long proud tradition of not being exactly like any other city, of making choices for ourselves based on right and wrong, on common sense and a famously historic live and let live approach to civic life.

San Francisco is not Los Angeles.

San Francisco is not New York.

San Francisco is not Danville or Walnut Creek.

Passing laws simply because other cities have passed them, without first identifying a real cause to exclude the public from public space and transform ordinary law abiding people into criminals is obviously terrible, terrible logic.

"Everyone else is doing it" is not a sound rationale for legislation.

Secondly, this measure supposedly addresses vandalism and dumping in parks, yet we are presented with only the most general and nonspecific supporting information regarding the problem.

Both of dumping and vandalism are already against the law and it has not been explained why the existing laws are not sufficient. For instance, exactly how little of the vandalism has occurred between the hours of 12 Am and 5 Am? If the vandalism or dumping occurred during the other 19 hours of the day, then this measure will do NOTHING to address that.

, fact, it is far more likely that less vandalism occurs in public space that is being enjoyed and is populated by the public, by people. Where is crime most likely to occur?

In places where people are present, or deserted areas with no potential witnesses or people to alert the authorities? The answer is obvious.

Additionally, if someone is breaking any of our already existing laws in a public park we have a police department to address that. In my opinion they do a good job of this without another redundant measure that would distract them from more important needs on the part of San Franciscans.

The representatives of the people of San Francisco should be encouraging MORE people to enjoy our public parks and all of our public spaces, our parklets, our streets, and our neighborhoods, MORE often.

Not making it a crime for someone to simply walk their dog, or sit on a park bench talking with friends or looking at the stars.

What if a person wants some fresh air, or a moment of peace and quiet after midnight and enters a public park?

Is that person a criminal? If you pass this measure they will be.

Many of my friends and neighbors enjoy public parks after a late dinner out at a restaurant or walking home from a neighbor's house. Why should Washington Square Park or Dolores Park be closed at midnight while neighboring restaurants are still open and people are out enjoying the evening?

Tourists from all over the world stop at Coit Tower and Twin Peaks and admire the sweeping views of our gorgeous city.

What impression will we leave our guests from other countries with, when a police officer arrives to chase them out of a public space for no discernible reason?

What will they tell their friends and family when they return home after being kicked out of Union Square by police? Can we reasonably expect them to ever return after having been treated so rudely? Can they really be expected to believe we value their visits and all of their spending that supports this city?

It is nearly impossible to wrap one's head around the notion that the only way to preserve public space is to prevent the public from entering and enjoying it.

The same terrible logic would lead us to conclude that ALL public space would be better kept and all citizens more safe if we simply passed a law creating a dusk to dawn curfew.

There would certainly be less crime.

But at what point are we no longer a society that values the freedom of individuals to move about and to enjoy the public spaces they pay for with their taxes?

I would argue that this measure is a step in that very wrong direction, and that there has been very little specific factual support given for it's necessity.

Spending precious tax dollars on sending police into parks to chase, arrest or issue citations to people who are doing nothing wrong makes no sense whatsoever and the Board Of Supervisors should reject this measure that seems to solve none of our existing problems, but will succeed in creating many new ones.

This is a measure that makes criminals out of ordinary law abiding people who are using public space in a lawful and reasonable manner, and that is a terrible thing to do.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

-Chris Farris

#### Miller, Alisa

From: Board of Supervisors

Sent: Wednesday, November 06, 2013 4:12 PM

fo: BOS-Supervisors; Miller, Alisa

**Subject:** File 130766: Communication of Concern to the new ordinance 130766 [Park Code - Hours of

Operation for City Parks] approved at BOS 11/5/13 meeting

**From:** carpihole@aol.com [mailto:carpihole@aol.com] **Sent:** Wednesday, November 06, 2013 11:47 AM

**To:** Board of Supervisors

**Subject:** Communication of Concern to the new ordinance 130766 [Park Code - Hours of Operation for City Parks]

approved at BOS 11/5/13 meeting

Dear Supervisors,

I applaud the efforts of those who opposed this legislation. I know it must feel futile, as the majority of the board is blinded and misguided all in the name of "progress". I pray for you ... to give you strength and courage to continue as you are on the right track. Thank you for not sitting idly by.

Those who voted for this legislation in the name of progress, I remind you that those who live by the sword, die by the sword. Keep in mind the old saying that the pen is mightier than the sword, so those who use a pen to penalize indiscriminately versus eliminate bad laws, will inevitably become victims of their own works. I pray for you......that sooner rather than later your shortsightedness abates enough to see the immediate impacts on humanity from these types of irresponsible legislation - I pray you become progressive enough to see beyond the mere vision of money, power, mine and my own philosophies, and the "glory" of all things new. Strike one.

The price of continuing to create legislation that serves corporate and faceless entities, who have abused the privilege of nonymity and skirted accountability through LLCs and corporate structure, rhetoric, and lawyers, re-defining "community enefit" to be self-serving, one-sided benefit to property owners and corporate entities only and re-defining "stakeholders" as anyone but the people who are directly impacted by the very laws that are promoted through false advertising will become evident. (per SEC. 456. FALSE STATEMENTS RELATING TO MERCHANDISE OR SERVICES PROHIBITED-PENALTY, punishable by a fine of no less than \$25, no more than \$500).

For those who are interested, feel free to check out this article on the history of politics and homelessness in San Francisco. History does not have to repeat itself....it is not too late to undo this damage. I am confident that your names will be added to the next historical account of a San Franciscan administration that makes policy condoning cruelty to those most in need... if you don't.

http://www.welcomeministry.org/resources/history/

One of the many clear, substantial, and valid points made at yesterday's meeting is that passing duplicative, confusing, and ambiguous laws only add stress and confusion to those who are charged with enforcing the laws......has anyone of you read the Charter? If so, has anyone tried to navigate the charter with the 250+ laws that are passed each and every year? Commissions cannot even keep up with the rule making..... how are they expected to know, abide by, work within, and enforce?

Please consider declaring November "Be kind to the Homeless" month - allowing usage of the Parks from 12am - 5 am for sleep only;

- a) Require the YMCA to open their doors back up to the indigent for restrooms, showers and exercise facilities as originally intended;
  - b) Require store owners to allow use of their bathrooms to all;
  - c) Require the City to provide free transportation to those who simply state that they cannot afford it;
  - d) Require citizens to offer excess food or money or a hug or a handshake or a ride to a homeless person;
  - e) Require the City to keep park restrooms open 24/7 and hire homeless persons to manage;
- f) Require the City to add/maintain needle disposal receptacles in parks with posted info for needle exchanges locations and times;
  - g) Require the City to add storage facilities in various parts of the City for the homeless to store their belongings;

- h) Require that Ambassadors of BIDs and CBDs, officers, and city workers who take personal property that is unattended for more than 20 minutes to post a location for lost and found for each district to enable people to collect their belongings;
- I) Create walk-in counseling centers where no information is collected or sold....just a center with people who listen, validate, and understand;
  - j) Allow sitting down on sidewalks if there are no benches available;
  - k) Have the SFPD and communities sponsor BBQs in the parks weekly;
- I) Create a program that provides incentives for interested people in the park that are witnesses to crimes in parks to encourage reporting (give them a phone with a camera so they can report it through 311 and send evidence for prosecution);
- m) Waive and Expunge all existing camping, sit/lie, aggressive soliciting citations and records to all interested in doing so and provide \$100 per ticket turned in to the person who received it. (this will cost the City less than it would for the costs for prosecution, jail, court, etc.);
- n) Add a bonus to all who have been falsely accused of a crime, falsely arrested, and incarcerated for months/years, later released without a dime of compensation, much less an apology.... who come forward and can verify this.

We cannot assume that our homeless are all persons with criminal intent (sitting on sidewalks), or drug dependent (needles could be from insulin), or "severely mentally ill" (though the stress of being homeless is a reasonable assumption, this latest propaganda seeks to promote fear instead of instill respect and compassion)..... they are a product of Corporate America and Public - Private governments, who are simply trying to navigate in a City with thousands of laws and hundreds of dead ends as it relates to the services that are advertised for them....and zero accountability. Many have been repeatedly injured, cited, arrested, failed, beaten down, looked upon with disgust.......but continue to live in this City that proclaims to be a World Class City of Human Rights and a sanctuary to all.

I remind the Board that false advertising could cost the City no less than \$25.00 for making these claims.

The homeless are not statistics or collateral damage....they are human beings.

I propose a challenge.....if anyone is interested, please feel free to contact me. It will be worth the hour.

Blessings,

Diane Carpio

----Original Message----

From: carpihole <carpihole@aol.com>

To: Board.of.Supervisors <Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org>

Sent: Thu, Oct 17, 2013 1:31 pm

Subject: Communication in Opposition to File 130766 [Park Code - Hours of Operation for City Parks] for BOS 10/29/13 meeting

Dear Supervisors;

This letter is to express a great concern about the proposed Park Hours Legislation introduced first in December 14, 2010 by the Mayor to the City Operations and Neighborhood Services Committee, and more recently on July 23, 2013 by Supervisor Weiner assigned to the Land Use and Economic Development Committee.

As stated at the Land Use and Economic Development Committee meeting on October 7, 2013, I strongly oppose this legislation. I understand this legislation has been forwarded without recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to be heard on October 29, 2013. This legislation is discriminatory and only serves to convolute and skirt enforcement responsibility for crimes that occur in City parks and to continue diminishing the rights of all San Franciscan's — especially those who rely on public parks as their one last place of respite.

This proposed legislation and other laws and ordinances that have been enacted over the years directly contradict and conflict with upcoming legislation...specifically CA AB 5, The Homeless bill of rights (Attached hereto for your convenience) which supports the constitutional rights of the poor and indigent. San Francisco

must evaluate many current laws, systems, and accepted practices in all City Departments, that conflict with this new law.

Let's talk about obvious common sense concerns should the proposed legislation governing Park Hours reintroduced by Supervisor Weiner be enacted:

- The burden of knowing whether park hours apply to any given park lies on every single US citizen and tourist;
- Inconsistencies (carve outs) in the law would add fear (and stress) to all citizens of being targeted simply for being in the wrong place at the wrong time;
- In effect, imposes a curfew on the City subjecting anyone out after midnight to police scrutiny;
- The homeless would crowd the parks with exemptions to the law (thereby making attacks on homeless more efficient and profiling practices increased with zero citizen recourse); and,
- Dumping/Graffiti/Vandalism will still occur.

Prior to introducing any legislation relating to limiting civil rights under the guise of curbing crime are unacceptable without first providing the public common sense analysis' and reports that exhibit at bare minimum a modicum of need and alternate efforts taken to mitigate an issue (evidence of increased security in parks during those hours, specific numbers of incidents per park, enlisting assistance from homeless for reporting, evaluation of City Department practices, etc) prior to proposing to impose more rules and laws on the citizens of San Francisco. Without these efforts, submitting legislation that blatantly limit civil and human rights to be in public places and afford police/rangers the ability to indiscriminately target any occupant of any public space can be construed as an abuse of power and conflict of interest, and should be investigated as discriminatory and/or as crimes against humanity.

`are minimum Analysis/Reports for this legislation should be mandatory prior to assuming that closing the parks for certain hours will allay the basis of this legislation:

- 1) # of incidents (dumping; vandalism; graffiti; underage drinking) per park per month from 1/1/2013 9/30/2013; how they would be prevented with this new legislation?
- 2) Parks & Rec costs for security at parks per year for 2010, 2011, & 2012 per park;
- 3) Vandalism & Graffiti costs with allocations per salary/vandalism/graffiti for 2010, 2011, &2011 per park;
- 4) # of Park Rangers assigned per park per month during the hours of proposed closure from 1/1/13 9/30/13;
- 5) # of police reports/calls for any crime park per month from 1/1/13 9/30/13;
- 6) # of citations issued at parks, times of issuance per park per month from 1/1/13 9/30/13;
- 7) # of arrests (description of crime charged including 5150s and Aggressive Solicitation which are not technically arrests) in parks from 1/1/13 9/30/13;
- 8) Are the Roles/responsibilities including enforcement of all parties clear and uniform;
- 9) A list of current laws that overlap with proposed legislation;
- 10) Alternate mitigation efforts and/or resolutions to a given issue;
- 11) A summary of all prior analysis performed on quality of life issues in San Francisco since 1990; and,
- 12) Proposed reporting requirements if enacted. (ie updated # of incidents, costs, arrests of homeless as a result, impacts on legal system and hospitals, etc.)
- 13) Blocking Public rights of way look at citations issued to individuals versus trucks/advertising boards
- 14) Public urination/excrement Report on public restroom maintenance/availability; accessibility of public restroom hours/locations

Penalizing the general public for City deficiencies in providing facilities for basic human care under the guise of random crime is not acceptable and will lead to a militarized city that specifically targets the homeless, poor, and indigent and allows for individual (potentially renegade) discretion of authority — leaving little to no remedy or defense against false and discriminatory actions of officers/rangers as a result of this legislation. Additionally, costs to litigate the impacts of the legislation would surely cost tax payers more than adding security cameras or other measures that should reasonably be taken prior to even introducing such legislation. Let's not forget about the impact on the individuals who have been subject to the existing laws.

Some of the current laws that serve target the poor and indigent population and warrant analysis are:

012-08 – prohibits camping/sleeping in parks 8pm-8am (3.12;3.13) 1/24/08 Newsom

MPC 120.2 – Aggressive Solicitation Ban/ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Diversion Program (Formerly Aggressive Panhandling –MPC 120.1. This has been repealed due to law suits and civil rights issues) it is curious that this does not apply to healthcare professionals; businesses spamming; restaurants leaving door hangers weekly who are able to repeatedly violate this law)

File # 120124 Large Vehicle Parking Restrictions 9/28/12 Chu/Cohen – Should look at studies of the prior proposed legislation (report on costs applied to fixing roads/contractors/ assessment)

Prop L - Sit/Lie 11/2010 (absolutely used against the homeless—should evaluate # of people with homes that have been cited (ages/disability/construction workers)

File # 120191 Building Code amending definition of Efficiency Unit 2/25/12 Weiner which reduces the size of affordable housing units living spaces by 70 square feet (from 220sqft to 150sqft).

0015-12 – Public Guardian/Public Administrator Gift Fund - Financial Management with "Voluntary" Informed Consent – the catch is, if a person is referred to a program in SF from drug court vs. jail, they are required to sign a document that gives authority to a person to collect their GA check and charge them a monthly fee for management – with zero oversight. This program must be audited and evaluated for legal issues.

5150 (CIT) – Individual rights, Patient rights and due process violations are all accepted practices in San Francisco

In summary, I urge this Board to focus on legislation that will provide incentive for our City's Board of Supervisors, Mayor, and Department Heads to center their legislative focus on holding all bad actors (including corporations) accountable for crimes against the public – not promoting the restriction of basic civil and human rights based on random acts of a few bad actors who have violated **criminal** laws - which the City failed to investigate or enforce.

City leaders who choose to waste the public's time and money attempting to target the neediest in our city should be personally fined for the costs of litigation associated with a discriminatory law, the public's time and effort in having to divert focus from their own pursuit of happiness, and costs to non-profit and other organizations that are forced to divert their focus from helping individuals to fighting discriminatory legislation from becoming law. Repeat offenders should be subject to a three strikes provision.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter in opposition of the proposed park closure ordinance.

Sincerely,

Diane Carpio

This land is your land, this land is my land.....this land was made for you and me.

# File 130766

From:

Board of Supervisors BOS-Supervisors

To: Cc:

jim@pathways.com

Subject:

FW: Daily Public park closure effort

Mr. Nemerovski:

Your email has been forwarded to the Board of Supervisors and placed in File 130766.

**From:** Jim Nemerovski [mailto:jim@pathways.com] **Sent:** Wednesday, October 30, 2013 3:41 PM

To: Board of Supervisors

Subject: Fwd: Daily Public park closure effort

Attention: Clerk:

Please add to public record, in addition to previous message emailed to you, yesterday.

Please advise this will be received by and ideally thoroughly reviewed by those considering the nightly park closure efforts.

Thank you.

My best,

Jim

Jim Nemerovski jim@pathways.com (415) 387-8185 - Land line (415) 385-0643 - Mobile California Time - PST

#### Begin forwarded message:

From: Jim Nemerovski < <u>jim@pathways.com</u>>
Date: October 30, 2013 at 11:15:51 AM PDT
To: "Wiener, Scott" < <u>scott.wiener@sfgov.org</u>>
Subject: Re: Daily Public park closure effort

Thanks for replying, Scott.

I am wondering what your original, personal motivation was to implement this radical change and how you are addressing the feedback I see in the press, including sleep-ins.

This idea may be mainstream but there must be a reason San Francisco has not had park closure hours, which are or are not being addressed in the current effort.

It is stated that the effort will not impact those in need discovered in the park, including the homeless: that this might be better for them?

How does this actually change the equation regarding trash? Does this fund increasing the coverage by police in the late hours? If items are disposed of inside a park won't it require the police to travel deeper into the park during normal rounds rather than being visible on the streets deterring crime; able to observe and deter?

This idea seems to imply that the cost to remove refuse will go down or the cost of coverage by police will not go up; and any agencies who help the homeless to enter temporary housing facilities (if there are vacancies: what is the rate of access to those in need?) – or other intended facilities to address otherwise previously-unrecognized emergencies:

other than the implied reduced access to parks by law-abiding citizens this effort does not seem to address the likely pitfalls and excessive costly downsides without having in place the funding up front to address the needs which will be revealed.

Does the city have the funding and the will to arrest and incarcerate individuals in combination with citing with penalty fee?

Those who need and only have parks as refuge from personal situations, including youth in personal, abusive life situations, will not be deterred but likely find themselves confronted by abuse of authority rather than an opportunity to address their private situation in a meaningful and productive way:

unless this effort by the Board of Supervisors is not merely about handing refuse, but, a subversive method for helping the disenfranchised people to find the necessary refuge and resources they need to turn their lived around:

is that something this effort has adequate funding of the mandate and the will of all city and it's citizens and NGOs affiliated?

San Francisco is actually known as a city of compassion not just enforcement: it seems to also get us in trouble as a city visible to the world, when we live up to that reputation.

As it was recently revealed in the mainstream press, Nevada mentally-ill with no safety net provided one-way bus tickets to San Francisco; this story, whether or not true, has come up a number of times in the press, seemingly, an urban myth.

ssuming it is true: it is just one example of how we are viewed by those who are not will in to help compassionately and with adequate funding in place to actually help.

Under strains and constraints of the ongoing economic national crisis, while San Francisco seems to have been far less impacted than other cities, both large and small, we are unique in how we address homelessness, as a most contemporary example, as mandated under the Newsom administration.

Yet, as our economic growth offers challenges and opportunities, including real estate for the workers who commute to the Peninsula, many of whom now live in your own district, and the quality of life will continue to escalate due to that infusion of talent and means, the dynamic, including care for the less fortunate, will put pressure on you and your colleagues to find ways to solve persistent challenges, such as the pickup and disposal of refuse and care for the needy and challenged who occupy the public facilities.

I think you believe your idea is a good one.

I don't think however \$1,000,000 spent arbitrarily on the set of issues we are faced with truly addresses the source of the issues; it diverts attention from the truly meaningful and critical ones; there is no set of contingencies discussed that fund beyond the limited scope the \$1,000,000 could address.

I also do not see the real benefit in citing and extracting excessive funds from those who do not have the means, the likely candidates for your new program.

Will they be arrested and take up time in the courts at the city taxpayers' expense to contend with unpaid citations? Or, as most will be without residence, how will you follow up and use the citations as deterrent: how will you ensure recovery of penalties to find the basic intentions of your program?

Thank you, Scott – or Aid – for the time and consideration in reading and considering this through to the end.

My best,

Jim

Jim Nemerovski
jim@pathways.com
(415) 387-8185 - Land line
(415) 385-0643 - Mobile
California Time - PST

On Oct 30, 2013, at 8:36 AM, "Wiener, Scott" < scott.wiener@sfgov.org> wrote:

Cameras on public property in San Francisco always cause a political explosion. I agree with you that they could be very useful here. As for other cities, they all have park hours - every single one - ranging from the big ones like New York and Chicago to the medium ones like Austin, Portland, and Seattle to the smaller ones like Berkeley and Santa Monica. We are out of step in a negative way for our park system.

Scott Wiener Supervisor, District 8 (415) 554-6968

To read or subscribe to my monthly newsletter or to follow me on Facebook or Twitter, go to <a href="https://www.scottwiener.com">www.scottwiener.com</a>.

On Oct 29, 2013, at 1:16 PM, "jim@pathways.com" < jim@pathways.com> wrote:

To:scott.wiener@sfgov.org

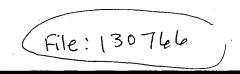
Email:jim@pathways.com

NAME:James S Nemerovski

PHONE:415-387-8185

EMAIL VERIFY:jim@pathways.com

COMMENTS:Rather than impose constraints and restraints on the pubic, in a city which is NOT like other cities across the USA, let alone, of similar size: I would recommend a comprehensive monitoring system including cameras to guide law enforcement. There is likely an incredible amount of illegal and inappropriate activity which takes place on city properly. Proper placement could help identify vehicles. Connecting Park-specific monitoring with other cameras could piece together a web or trail to locate and question and incarcerate actual offenders, including paid, city staff. The example of the tragic loss of life near Cortland Ave, where the city employee has still yet to be prosecuted, comes to mind... Also, as enforcement becomes more viable, cameras will become the only means for a check and balance to protect citizens from possible abuse of power by security and law enforcement.



C-PAhis BOS-11 (electronically)

From: Sent: Jim Nemerovski [jim@pathways.com] Tuesday, October 29, 2013 12:38 PM

To:

Board of Supervisors

Subject:

Please submit this email into the record regarding the matter coming up today for public

comment regarding daily park closures: Re: How would you spend \$1 million?

To Clerk:

Please submit this email into the record regarding the matter coming up today for public comment, as I will not be able to attend.

Note: this message was originally sent to members of the Board of Supervisors: I was advised by Supervisor Wiener's office to submit this direct to the Clerk to ensure it will be included in the conversation.

Thank you.

My best,

Jim

-==-

Jim Nemerovski jim@pathways.com (415) 387-8185 - land line - Pacific Standard Time

(415) 385-0643 - mobile

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jim Nemerovski < iim@pathways.com > Subject: Re: How would you spend \$1 million? Date: October 18, 2013 at 11:00:33 AM PDT

To: "advocacy@sfparksalliance.org" <advocacy@sfparksalliance.org>,

"feedback@sfparksalliance.org" <feedback@sfparksalliance.org>

Cc: Phil Ginsburg <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>, Eric Mar <Eric.L.Mar@sfgov.org>, Peter Lauterborn

<peter.lauterborn@sfgov.org>, "Scott.Wiener@sfgov.org" <Scott.Wiener@sfgov.org>

Thank you for making us aware.

I would recommend a comprehensive monitoring system including cameras to guide law enforcement.

There is likely an incredible amount of illegal and inappropriate activity which takes place on city properly.

Proper placement could help identify vehicles. Connecting Park-specific monitoring with other cameras could piece together a web or trail to locate and question and incarcerate actual offenders, including paid, city staff.

The example of the tragic loss of life near Cortland Ave, where the city employee has still yet to be prosecuted, comes to mind...

Also, as enforcement becomes more viable, cameras will become the only means for a check and balance to protect citizens from possible abuse of power by security and law enforcement.

My best.

Jim

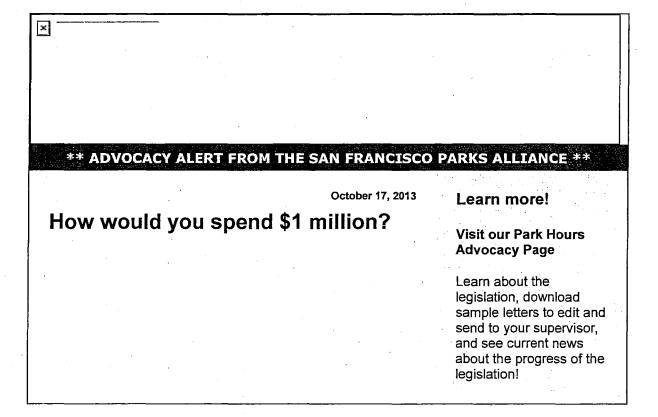
Jim Nemerovski jim@pathways.com (415) 387-8185 - Land line (415) 385-0643 - Mobile California Time - PST

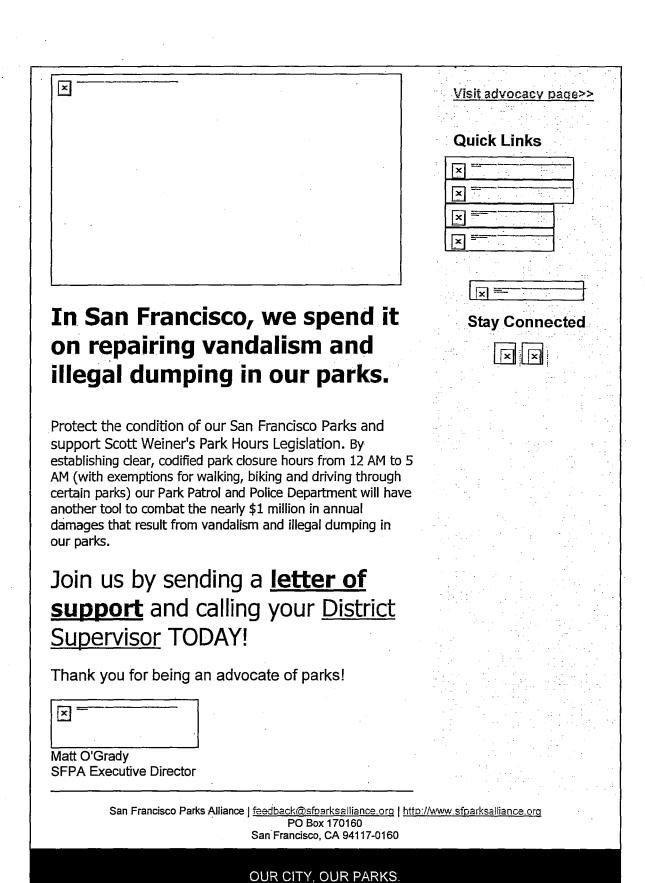
My best,

Jim

Jim Nemerovski
jim@pathways.com
(415) 387-8185 - Land line
(415) 385-0643 - Mobile
California Time - PST

On Oct 18, 2013, at 10:31 AM, San Francisco Parks Alliance <a href="mailto:advocacy@sfparksalliance.org">advocacy@sfparksalliance.org</a> wrote:





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Forward this email



This email was sent to jim@pathways.com by advocacy@sfparksalliance.org | Update Profile/Email Address | Instant removal with SafeUnsubscribe™ | Privacy Policy. San Francisco Parks Alliance | PO Box 170160 | San Francisco | CA | 94117-0160

Communications W of Par 10/29/12

Box.11

Costs

Costs

Copage

File: 130766

October 28, 2013 RECEIVED

SAN FRANCISCO

2013 CCT 29 PH 12: 07

In the view of this citizen, Supervisor Scott Weiner's proposed nighttime curfew on access to parks would not only confiscate, that is, steal our liberty fully to enjoy nature in our City of St Francis.

It would be an abdication of Supervisors' governmental role to supervise.

Are Park & Rec's rangers, Police Department patrols and Sheriff's remits not qualified to cope with homeless encampments in Golden Gate Park? Law enforcers unable to identify and constrain a known, repeat vandalizer of Portsmouth Square? Lacking imagination and initiative to enlist talent and resources in the world's capital of technology, for example, to deploy inexpensive ad hoc cameras at McLaren Park sites of materials theft? Too squad-car-captive, politically intimidated or untrained to curtail public sexual activity in Buena Vista Park? I don't think so. Imagination, art and benevolence made our parks. Supervision is indicated.

"Every other city does it"—an easy but bootless fix to timeless nuisances and episodic problems which challenge competence, compassion and capability—is a feckless, unworthy reason for curtailing a basic freedom: to enjoy at will our parks.

Slippery slope— Prohibiting anytime use\* of City parks could be an enclosures precedent for, say, the Presidio Trust, then, perhaps GGNRA some day, for reasons of budget economies, tidiness or simply sloth further to restrict citizens to the built, paved, increasingly dense and regulated, unequally privileged environment.

Our urban green commons whether pocket-sized, neighborhood or magnificent require dedicated, determined stewardship of these horticultural and recreational oases and escapes. Not forfeit of civic liberty and pleasures to illusory security.

Any one of our parks *should* be as safe a place as any corner or sector of the City! *That's* our challenge, in this unique city of possibilities beloved by the world.

For the Board of Supervisors to outsource a failure of management and oversight to the (burdened as well as cluttered) justice system would be inappropriate, a shirking of responsibility. Closing our City & County's parks at night is an ill-advised, myopic, immature idea. Please reject this proposed legislation. Thank you,

Achn Scamman

\*A poet's walk; evening-shift worker's run; lovers' stroll; bereaved's consolation; citizen's meditation; scientist's or coder's inspiration; even youth's exploration....

John C Diamante 268 Bush St, PMB 1009 San Francisco 94104 415,392 3111

[Native. Owns a business in the City. Long active in civic affairs. Ran for mayor,1971 (by bicycle), 1975 (with stage-coach), on an independent, details-specific, low-carbon, post-automotive, housing, social justice and arts platform.]

#### Miller, Alisa

From:

Board of Supervisors

Sent:

Monday, October 21, 2013 2:31 PM

Го:

BOS-Supervisors; Miller, Alisa

Subject:

File 130766: Communication in Opposition to File 130766 [Park Code - Hours of Operation for

City Parks] for BOS 10/29/13 meeting

Attachments:

homeless\_bill\_of\_rights.docx

From: carpihole@aol.com [mailto:carpihole@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, October 17, 2013 12:31 PM

To: Board of Supervisors

Subject: Communication in Opposition to File 130766 [Park Code - Hours of Operation for City Parks] for BOS 10/29/13

meeting

#### Dear Supervisors;

This letter is to express a great concern about the proposed Park Hours Legislation introduced first in December 14, 2010 by the Mayor to the City Operations and Neighborhood Services Committee, and more recently on July 23, 2013 by Supervisor Weiner assigned to the Land Use and Economic Development Committee.

As stated at the Land Use and Economic Development Committee meeting on October 7, 2013, I strongly oppose this legislation. I understand this legislation has been forwarded without recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to be heard on October 29, 2013. This legislation is discriminatory and only serves to convolute and skirt enforcement responsibility for crimes that occur in City parks and to continue diminishing the rights of all San Franciscan's — especially those who rely on public parks as their one last place of respite.

This proposed legislation and other laws and ordinances that have been enacted over the years directly contradict and conflict with upcoming legislation...specifically CA AB 5, The Homeless bill of rights (Attached hereto for your convenience) which supports the constitutional rights of the poor and indigent. San Francisco must evaluate many current laws, systems, and accepted practices in all City Departments, that conflict with this new law.

Let's talk about obvious common sense concerns should the proposed legislation governing Park Hours reintroduced by Supervisor Weiner be enacted:

- The burden of knowing whether park hours apply to any given park lies on every single US citizen and tourist;
- Inconsistencies (carve outs) in the law would add fear (and stress) to all citizens of being targeted simply for being in the wrong place at the wrong time;
- In effect, imposes a curfew on the City subjecting anyone out after midnight to police scrutiny;
- The homeless would crowd the parks with exemptions to the law (thereby making attacks on homeless more efficient and profiling practices increased with zero citizen recourse); and,
- Dumping/Graffiti/Vandalism will still occur.

Prior to introducing any legislation relating to limiting civil rights under the guise of curbing crime are unacceptable without first providing the public common sense analysis' and reports that exhibit at bare minimum a modicum of need and alternate efforts taken to mitigate an issue (evidence of increased security parks during those hours, specific numbers of incidents per park, enlisting assistance from homeless for eporting, evaluation of City Department practices, etc) prior to proposing to impose more rules and laws on

the citizens of San Francisco. Without these efforts, submitting legislation that blatantly limit civil and human

rights to be in public places and arrord police/rangers the ability to indiscriminately target any occupant of any public space can be construed as an abuse of power and conflict of interest, and should be investigated as discriminatory and/or as crimes against humanity.

Bare minimum Analysis/Reports for this legislation should be mandatory prior to assuming that closing the parks for certain hours will allay the basis of this legislation:

- 1) # of incidents (dumping; vandalism; graffiti; underage drinking) per park per month from 1/1/2013 9/30/2013; how they would be prevented with this new legislation?
- 2) Parks & Rec costs for security at parks per year for 2010, 2011, & 2012 per park;
- 3) Vandalism & Graffiti costs with allocations per salary/vandalism/graffiti for 2010, 2011, &2011 per park;
- 4) # of Park Rangers assigned per park per month during the hours of proposed closure from 1/1/13 9/30/13;
- 5) # of police reports/calls for any crime park per month from 1/1/13 9/30/13;
- 6) # of citations issued at parks, times of issuance per park per month from 1/1/13 9/30/13;
- 7) # of arrests (description of crime charged including 5150s and Aggressive Solicitation which are not technically arrests) in parks from 1/1/13 9/30/13;
- 8) Are the Roles/responsibilities including enforcement of all parties clear and uniform;
- 9) A list of current laws that overlap with proposed legislation;
- 10) Alternate mitigation efforts and/or resolutions to a given issue;
- 11) A summary of all prior analysis performed on quality of life issues in San Francisco since 1990; and,
- 12) Proposed reporting requirements if enacted. (ie updated # of incidents, costs, arrests of homeless as a result, impacts on legal system and hospitals, etc.)
- 13) Blocking Public rights of way look at citations issued to individuals versus trucks/advertising boards
- 14) Public urination/excrement Report on public restroom maintenance/availability; accessibility of public restroom hours/locations

Penalizing the general public for City deficiencies in providing facilities for basic human care under the guise of random crime is not acceptable and will lead to a militarized city that specifically targets the homeless, poor, and indigent and allows for individual (potentially renegade) discretion of authority – leaving little to no remedy or defense against false and discriminatory actions of officers/rangers as a result of this legislation. Additionally, costs to litigate the impacts of the legislation would surely cost tax payers more than adding security cameras or other measures that should reasonably be taken prior to even introducing such legislation. Let's not forget about the impact on the individuals who have been subject to the existing laws.

Some of the current laws that serve target the poor and indigent population and warrant analysis are:

012-08 - prohibits camping/sleeping in parks 8pm-8am (3.12;3.13) 1/24/08 Newsom

MPC 120.2 – Aggressive Solicitation Ban/ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Diversion Program (Formerly Aggressive Panhandling –MPC 120.1. This has been repealed due to law suits and civil rights issues) it is curious that this does not apply to healthcare professionals; businesses spamming; restaurants leaving door hangers weekly who are able to repeatedly violate this law)

File # 120124 Large Vehicle Parking Restrictions 9/28/12 Chu/Cohen – Should look at studies of the prior proposed legislation (report on costs applied to fixing roads/contractors/ assessment)

Prop L - Sit/Lie 11/2010 (absolutely used against the homeless—should evaluate # of people with homes that have been cited (ages/disability/construction workers)

File # 120191 Building Code amending definition of Efficiency Unit 2/25/12 Weiner which reduces the size of affordable housing units living spaces by 70 square feet (from 220sqft to 150sqft).

0015-12 — Public Guardian/Public Administrator Gift Fund - Financial Management with "Voluntary" Informed Consent — the catch is, if a person is referred to a program in SF from drug court vs. jail, they are required to sign a document that gives authority to a person to collect their GA check and charge them a monthly fee for management — with zero oversight. This program must be audited and evaluated for legal issues.

5150 (CIT) – Individual rights, Patient rights and due process violations are all accepted practices in San Francisco

In summary, I urge this Board to focus on legislation that will provide incentive for our City's Board of Supervisors, Mayor, and Department Heads to center their legislative focus on holding all bad actors (including corporations) accountable for crimes against the public – not promoting the restriction of basic civil and human rights based on random acts of a few bad actors who have violated **criminal** laws - which the City failed to investigate or enforce.

City leaders who choose to waste the public's time and money attempting to target the needlest in our city should be personally fined for the costs of litigation associated with a discriminatory law, the public's time and effort in having to divert focus from their own pursuit of happiness, and costs to non-profit and other organizations that are forced to divert their focus from helping individuals to fighting discriminatory legislation from becoming law. Repeat offenders should be subject to a three strikes provision.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter in opposition of the proposed park closure ordinance.

Sincerely,

Diane Carpio

This land is your land, this land is my land.....this land was made for you and me.

# A Homeless Bill of Rights



March 30, 2013

## California Homeless Bill of Rights Fact Sheet

Laws that segregate, that make criminals of people based on their status rather than their behavior, or that prohibit certain people's right to be in public spaces are not just sad relics from the past: Today, numerous laws infringe on poor people's ability to exist in public space, to acquire housing, employment, and basic services, and to equal protection under the law. The California Homeless Bill of Rights is a response that can help alleviate poverty and homelessness while protecting homeless people from discrimination and ensuring their right to privacy and to their personal property.

Assemblymember Tom Ammiano (D, San Francisco) is the author of AB 5, the "California Homeless Person's Bill of Rights and Fairness Act". The bill is co-sponsored by, Western Regional Advocacy Project, Western Center on Law and Poverty, JERICHO: A Voice for Justice, and the East Bay Community law Center.

#### The following rights of homeless people are enumerated in the bill:

#### The right to

- move freely in public spaces
- rest and sleep in public spaces
- have personal property in public space, and restitution for any property taken or destroyed
- share food in public spaces
- protection by law enforcement
- seek an income, including through recycling
- pray in public
- turn down offers of services based on one's own judgment
- sleep in one's car
- equal access to education for homeless schoolchildren and youth
- confidentiality in social service records.

The bill creates a right to sufficient health and hygiene centers available 24 hours, including bathrooms and showers.

The bill forbids law enforcement from enforcing laws that prohibit sleeping, sitting, lying down, standing, eating, panhandling, or sharing food in public spaces (or in one's car in a public space) *unless* that area:

- offers General Assistance for twelve months out of the year
- and has an unemployment rate below 120% the Federal average
- and has a public housing waitlist of fewer than 50 people.

The bill gives people the right to counsel—provided by the county—whenever the District Attorney is present in court to prosecute. (*Currently, this does not happen with infraction cases.*)

The bill protects public employees from retaliation by their employer if they offer public resources to a homeless person.

WRAP ◆ Western Regional Advocacy Project ◆ 2940 16th Street, Suite 200-2, San Francisco, CA. 94103 ◆ 415.621.2533



## A Homeless Bill of Rights



March 30, 2013

The bill requires law enforcement agencies to compile every year the number of citations and arrests for laws that prohibit:

- obstructing sidewalks
- loitering
- sitting
- lying
- camping
- "lodging" in public
- sleeping in public
- asking for donations
- bathing in public
- sharing or receiving food
- sleeping or living in a vehicle
- violating park closure laws
- jaywalking
- trespassing
- other local or state laws as requested by the Attorney General, city attorney, or any non-profit that assists, reaches out to, or advocates for poor and homeless people.

#### The following rights are aspirational in the bill:

- Right to shelter.
- Right to basic services, housing, income, and medical care.
- The right of **homeless schoolchildren** to be provided the supplies necessary for academic success (backpacks, textbooks, notebooks, pencils, pens, and appropriate academic technology).

#### <u>Definition of Homelessness:</u>

For the purposes of this bill, "homeless" means lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, or having a primary nighttime residence in a shelter, on the street, in a vehicle, in an enclosure or structure that is not authorized or fit for human habitation, substandard apartments, dwellings, doubled up temporarily with friends or families, staying in transitional housing programs, staying anywhere without tenancy rights, or staying with one or more children of whom they are the parent or legal guardian in a residential hotel whether or not they have tenancy rights.

Regional Contact	Local Contact		
Western Regional Advocacy Project Paul Boden (415) 621-2533 pboden@wraphome.org			

WRAP ◆ Western Regional Advocacy Project ◆ 2940 16th Street, Suite 200-2, San Francisco, CA. 94103 ◆ 415.621.2533



October 18, 2013

San Francisco Board of Supervisors City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

Re: Support for Park Hours Legislation

Dear Supervisor supervisors,

I am a long time elected official at the Auburn Area Park and Recreation District (aka ARD) here in the Sierra Foothills. I want to send my full support for the proposed Park Hours Legislation.

While I do not live in San Francisco, I do utilize your parks on a regular basis, be it for a day under the trees in my favorite destination, or perhaps a live music event or festival. Alas I must admit as a visitor the results of jerks and the damage they cause has become much more apparent, and a bit of a deterrent at some locations.

I also know the costs associated. Unfortunately we are not immune to the ill effects of Vandals, Delinquents, Transients and others who do not show respect for our facilities. The cost to our district is high. We are in the process of working with local law enforcement agencies (we do not have Rangers and work with the Auburn Police & Placer Sheriffs Department). To facilitate enforcement the need for Ordinances / Codes has to be in place, allowing for law enforcement to better protect our resources.

I thank you for all you do to make San Francisco such a wonderful place & your hopeful support of the changes to the Park Hours, I know while it will not fix all problems, it is a necessary step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Scott Holbrook
Past President and Member – Auburn Recreation District (For ID Purposes Only)
3698 Country Meadow Ct
Auburn, CA 95602
530-906-7441
auburnscott@netscape.net







FRANCISCO Our City. Your Business.

October 10, 2013

The Honorable David Chiu, President Sam Francisco Board of Supervisors 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, #244 San Francisco, CA 94102

RE:

Support File#130766; Hours of Operation for City Parks

#### Dear President Chiu:

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, representing over 1500 local businesses, strongly supports Supervisor Scott Wiener's proposed ordinance to close San Francisco city parks between midnight and 5:00 a.m. daily.

Most vandalism of our parks happens at night, under cover of darkness. The Recreation and Park Department spends over \$1 million each year repairing the extensive damage of our parks, recreation centers, play fields. es and grass. These funds could be used to hire more gardeners and recreation center staff if the constant Landalism that plagues our parks each night is prevented. Establishing and enforcing consistent overnight closing hours is a vital step in curbing this activity and keeping our parks safe, healthy and usable for everyone.

Many cities in the Bay Area and across the U.S. close their parks at night, including Berkeley, Portland, New York and Boston. This policy is long overdue in San Francisco and should be implemented as soon as possible.

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce urges the Board of Supervisors to support this important piece of legislation that will protect our city's precious parks and preserve them for everyone to enjoy.

Sincerely,

Jim Lazarus

Senior Vice President for Public Policy

cc: Clerk of the Board (to be distributed to all members of the Board of Supervisors); Sup. Scott Wiener; Phil Ginsburg, General Manager, Recreation and Park Department; Mark Buell, President, Recreation and Park nmission; Mayor Ed Lee

From: To:

Subject:

Board of Supervisors

**BOS-Supervisors** 

Support for City Park Hours, File No. 130766

From: David Burke [mailto:burkenet@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, October 07, 2013 9:07 AM

To: Wiener, Scott; Chiu, David; Kim, Jane; Board of Supervisors

Cc: Taylor, Adam; Rauschuber, Catherine; Veneracion, April; Farrell, Mark; Breed, London; Miller, Alisa; Corrales, Greg;

Ballard, Sarah; Randolph, Alex; BVNA@ix.netcom.com Subject: Support for City Park Hours, File No. 130766

#### Honorable Supervisors,

I wanted to let you know that as a resident and home owner in the Buena Vista neighborhood, you have my full support to establish consistent San Francisco park hours of operation as covered in File No. 130766 - Park Code-Hours of Operation for City Parks. Over the last year it seems the park and adjoining neighborhood vandalism has increased partly due to late night use of the Buena Vista park. It's my understanding that establishing consistent park hours of operation will assist the SFPD and SFRPD Park Patrol with all they are doing to keep our parks safe and healthy.

Thank you for your consideration and ongoing support, David Burke

545-547 Buena Vista Ave. West San Francisco, CA 94117 415-990-4456 burkenet@yahoo.com

From:

Board of Supervisors
BOS=Supervisors

To: Bubject:

File 130766: This Monday Hearing - SUPPORT for Park Hours proposal - No. 130766

----Original Message----

From: Karen Crommie [mailto:kcrommie@aol.com]

Sent: Sunday, October 06, 2013 12:15 PM

To: Wiener, Scott; Chiu, David; Kim, Jane; Board of Supervisors

Subject: This Monday Hearing - SUPPORT for Park Hours proposal - No. 130766

Dear Supervisors,

As a longtime panelist on the Park/Northern Neighborhood Court, I can't stress enough the problem of ejudicating cases of park camping when each park has different opening and closing hours.

Apart from the opportunity for vandalism, destruction of established plants, concealing runaway minors, the nightime activity in the parks includes illegal drug use, stashing of stolen bicycles and the building of dangerous campfires. So long as the parks exude an atmosphere of jeopardy, their use by the general public will diminish. Having uniformed open/closing hours will be a first step in protecting the parks for everyone.

Karen Crommie Haight Ashbury From: To:

Subject:

Board of Supervisors BOS-Supervisors

File 130766: SUPPORT Park Code-Hours of Operation for City Parks

From: Joan Downey [mailto:jdowney324@outlook.com]

**Sent:** Friday, October 04, 2013 10:19 PM

To: Wiener, Scott; Chiu, David; Kim, Jane; Board of Supervisors; Breed, London

Subject: SUPPORT Park Code-Hours of Operation for City Parks

Honorable Supervisors,

Please SUPPORT Park Code-Hours of Operation for City Parks legislation (File No. 130766) to clarify the operating hours of all City parks.

Currently-legislated Park hours are inconsistent and unclear confusing the public and hampering enforcement. To effectively combat vandalism, we need clear and consistent Citywide park operating hours. This legislation provides needed support for SFPD and SFRPD Park Patrol efforts to help keep our parks safe and healthy.

Regards,

Joan Downey 324 Carl Street

#### Miller, Alisa

From:

Alisa Cordesius [alisa@sfparksalliance.org]

Sent:

Monday, October 07, 2013 4:51 PM

To:

Miller, Alisa

Cc:

Ana Vasudeo; Matthew O'Grady; Rachel Norton

Subject:

SFPA Petition Letters of Support

Attachments:

Petition Letter Support\_Park Hours\_SFPA\_10.07.2013.pdf

Hello Alisa,

Please find attached a PDF document that compiles all of the support letters we've received in favor of Supervisor Weiner's Park Hours legislation over the past two weeks. Feel free to reach out with any questions. Thank you!

Best,

Alisa Cordesius
San Francisco Parks Alliance
T: 415.621.3260
www.sfparksalliance.org



P.O. Box 170160 San Francisco, CA 94117-0160 415.621.3260 www.sfparksalliance.org

October 7, 2013

Members of the Board of Supervisors City Hall I Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

Re: Letter of Support for Park Hours Legislation

Dear Supervisor:

I am writing to ask for your support for the proposed Park Hours legislation, which would amend the city's Park Code to close the city's parks between 12:00 am and 5:00 am, with certain exceptions.

As a parks advocacy organization, the San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) is deeply concerned about safety issues in our parks. We are constantly approached by neighborhood groups asking us to help them lobby for cameras, increased park patrol, security and flood lighting, as well as other safety measures in their parks. My organization supports this legislation because it will play a vital role in decreasing the amount of vandalism and illegal dumping that occurs in our city's parks. Currently, half of the maintenance work orders for the Recreation and Parks Department (RPD) relate to vandalism, most of which occurs between 12:00am to 5:00am.

Furthermore, this legislation will help save the city nearly \$1 million that it currently spends annually to address late night vandalism and dumping in our parks. Our parks have historically been underfunded and we know the money that the Recreation and Parks Department (RPD) is using to address late night vandalism should be used for more pressing maintenance issues, such as playground repairs – according to RPD estimates, \$1 million could fund 10 more gardeners, or 13 more afterschool sites.

San Francisco is the 14<sup>th</sup> largest city in the country and yet it is the only major city without uniform park hours. Cities both larger and smaller have set reasonable park hours (New York: 6 a.m. to 1 a.m.; Seattle: 4:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Austin, TX: 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.). What's more, over the years individual parks in San Francisco have been assigned conflicting and confusing operating hours – rendering posted closures all but unenforceable.

Supervisor, I am concerned that this legislation is being perceived by some as an anti-homeless; Section 3.13 of the Parks Code already addresses illegal camping/sleeping in the parks. Homeless residents have also been victims of serious attacks while they sleep in parks late at night. Limited overnight park closures will enhance everyone's safety and provide police and park patrols with an additional tool to deter vandalism in parks. I urge you to help us carry this reasonable, commonsense legislation forward and to help us create safer parks for all San Franciscans.

Sincerely,

Matt O'Grady Executive Director

Matt O Grady

September 30, 2013

Supervisor Mark Farrell City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

#### Re: Support for Park Hours Legislation

Dear Supervisor Farrell,

Thank you for your continued support of our parks, we truly appreciate your leadership and vision on park issues. I am writing today to ask for your support for the proposed Park Hours legislation, which would amend the city's Park Code to close the city's parks between 12:00 am and 5:00 am, with certain exceptions.

I support this legislation for a number of reasons. First, this legislation will play a vital role in decreasing the amount of vandalism and illegal dumping that occurs in our city's parks. Currently, half of the maintenance work orders for the Recreation and Parks Department relate to vandalism that occurs between 12:00am to 5:00am. Secondly, this legislation will save the city nearly \$1 million that it currently spends annually to address late night vandalism and dumping in our parks. These funds could be used for more pressing maintenance issues, such as playground repairs. Lastly, this legislation would not restrict the use of Golden Gate Park, McLaren Park, Balboa Park, or Lincoln Park for commuting purposes.

Furthermore, I am concerned that this legislation is being perceived as an anti-homeless. It is already illegal to sleep or camp in the parks between 8:00 pm and 8:00 am pursuant to Section 3.13 of the Park Code – passage or failure of this legislation will not change this. Moreover, as a San Francisco resident, I am also concerned that there is not enough proper housing for our homeless population – everyone deserves a warm, safe, and humane place to sleep, something that cannot be offered by a poorly lit park. Homeless residents have also been victims of serious attacks while they sleep in parks late at night. Limited overnight parks closures will enhance everyone's safety.

Supervisor Farrell, I urge you to help us carry this legislation forward and to help us create safer parks for all San Franciscans.

Sincerely,

Kelly Nice Green Street resident President – San Francisco Parks Alliance





## **Support for Park Hours Legislation**

1 message

Joel Susal <joelsusal@gmail.com>

To: eric.l.mar@sfgov.org

Cc: advocacy@sfparksalliance.org

Fri, Oct 4, 2013 at 3:43 PM

October 4, 2013

Supervisor Eric Mar

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

Re: Support for Park Hours Legislation

Dear Supervisor Mar,

As a concerned park user—and someone who lives across the street from Golden Gate Park—I am writing to ask for your support for the proposed Park Hours legislation, which would amend the city's Park Code to close the city's parks between 12:00 am and 5:00 am, with certain exceptions.

I support this legislation for a number of reasons. First, this legislation will play a vital role in decreasing the amount of vandalism and illegal dumping that occurs in our city's parks. Currently, half of the maintenance work orders for the Recreation and Parks Department relate to vandalism that occurs between 12:00am to 5:00am. Secondly, this legislation will save the city nearly \$1 million that it currently spends annually to address late night vandalism and dumping in our parks. These funds could be used for more pressing maintenance issues, such as playground repairs. Lastly, this legislation would not restrict the use of Golden Gate Park, McLaren Park, Balboa Park, or Lincoln Park for commuting purposes.

Furthermore, I am concerned that this legislation is being perceived as anti-homeless. However, Section 3.13 of the Parks Code already addresses illegal camping/sleeping in the parks. Rather, I believe that limited overnight parks closures will enhance everyone's safety and provide police and park patrols with an additional tool to better deter vandalism in parks. Supervisor Mar, I urge you to help us carry this legislation forward and to help us create safer parks for all San Franciscans.

Sincerely,

dation

Joel Susal

2638 Fulton St. (between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Aves)





## **Support for Park Hours Legislation**

1 message

Geoffrey R. Smith <grsmithz@pacbell.net>

Thu, Oct 3, 2013 at 8:52 PM

Reply-To: "Geoffrey R. Smith" <grsmithz@pacbell.net>

To: "Scott.Wiener@sfgov.org" <Scott.Wiener@sfgov.org>

Cc: "advocacy@sfparksalliance.org" <advocacy@sfparksalliance.org>

October 3, 2013

Supervisor Scott Wiener City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

#### Re: Support for Park Hours Legislation

Dear Scott,

As a concerned park user and one who walks daily through Buena Vista Park, I am writing to ask for your support for the proposed Park Hours legislation, which would amend the city's Park Code to close the city's parks between 12:00 am and 5:00 am, with certain exceptions.

I support this legislation for a number of reasons. First, this legislation will play a vital role in decreasing the amount of vandalism and illegal dumping that occurs in our city's parks. Currently, half of the maintenance work orders for the Recreation and Parks Department relate to vandalism that occurs between 12:00am to 5:00am. Second, this legislation will save the city nearly \$1 million that it currently spends annually to address late night vandalism and dumping in our parks. These funds could be used for more pressing maintenance issues, such as playground repairs. Third, this legislation would not restrict the use of Golden Gate Park, McLaren Park, Balboa Park, or Lincoln Park for commuting purposes.

Section 3.13 of the Parks Code already addresses illegal camping/sleeping in the parks, but limited overnight parks closures mandated by the Park Hours legislation will enhance everyone's safety and provide police and park patrols with an additional tool to deter vandalism in parks.

Scott, I urge you to help carry this legislation forward and to help create safer parks for all San Franciscans.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey R. Smith 1482 Masonic Avenue San Francisco, CA 94117





## **Support for Park Hours Legislation**

3 messages

Alisa Cordesius <alisacord@gmail.com>
To: London.Breed@sfgov.org, advocacy@sfparksalliance.org

Thu, Oct 3, 2013 at 4:11 PM

10/3/2013

Supervisor Breed

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

Re: Support for Park Hours Legislation

Dear Supervisor Breed,

As a concerned park user, I am writing to ask for your support for the proposed Park Hours legislation, which would amend the city's Park Code to close the city's parks between 12:00 am and 5:00 am, with certain exceptions.

I support this legislation for a number of reasons. First, this legislation will play a vital role in decreasing the amount of vandalism and illegal dumping that occurs in our city's parks. Currently, half of the maintenance work orders for the Recreation and Parks Department relate to vandalism that occurs between 12:00am to 5:00am. Secondly, this legislation will save the city nearly \$1 million that it currently spends annually to address late night vandalism and dumping in our parks. These funds could be used for more pressing maintenance issues, such as playground repairs. Lastly, this legislation would not restrict the use of Golden Gate Park, McLaren Park, Balboa Park, or Lincoln Park for commuting purposes.

Furthermore, I am concerned that this legislation is being perceived as an anti-homeless, since Section 3.13 of the Parks Code already addresses illegal camping/sleeping in the parks. In fact, limited overnight parks closures will enhance everyone's safety and provide police and park patrols with an additional tool to deter vandalism in parks. Supervisor Breed, I urge you to help us carry this legislation forward and to help us create safer parks for all San Franciscans.

Sincerely,

Alisa Cordesius

886 Greenwich Street



## Park Hours Legislation

1 message

Sonia Suresh <soniansuresh@gmail.com>

Thu, Oct 3, 2013 at 3:24 PM

To: London.Breed@sfgov.org Cc: advocacy@sfparksalliance.org

Dear Supervisor Breed

As a concerned park user and resident of District 5, I am writing to ask for your support for the proposed Park Hours legislation, which would amend the city's Park Code to close the city's parks between 12:00 am and 5:00 am, with certain exceptions.

I support this legislation for a number of reasons. First, this legislation will play a vital role in decreasing the amount of vandalism and illegal dumping that occurs in our city's parks. Currently, half of the maintenance work orders for the Recreation and Parks Department relate to vandalism that occurs between 12:00am to 5:00am. Secondly, this legislation will save the city nearly \$1 million that it currently spends annually to address late night vandalism and dumping in our parks. These funds could be used for more pressing maintenance issues, such as playground repairs. Lastly, this legislation would not restrict the use of Golden Gate Park, McLaren Park, Balboa Park, or Lincoin Park for commuting purposes.

Furthermore, I am concerned that this legislation is being perceived as an anti-homeless, since Section 3.13 of the Parks Code already addresses illegal camping/sleeping in the parks. In fact, limited overnight parks closures will enhance everyone's safety and provide police and park patrols with an additional tool to deter vandalism in parks. Supervisor Breed, I urge you to help us carry this legislation forward and to help us create safer parks for all San Franciscans.

Sincerely,

Sonia Suresh



Thu, Oct 3, 2013 at 2:49 PM

## Park Hours Legislation

1 message

Jack Barber <jdbarber@sbcglobal.net>

Reply-To: Jack Barber <idbarber@sbcglobal.net>

Control of the Contro

To: "Norman.Yee@sfgov.org" <Norman.Yee@sfgov.org>
Co: "advocacy@sfparksalliance.org" <advocacy@sfparksalliance.org>

a. advocacy corpanicamanos.org

October 3, 2013

Supervisor Norman Yee City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

Re: Support for Park Hours Legislation

Dear Supervisor Yee,

As a concerned park user, I am writing to ask for your support for the proposed Park Hours legislation, which would amend the city's Park Code to close the city's parks between 12:00 am and 5:00 am, with certain exceptions.

I support this legislation for a number of reasons. First, this legislation will play a vital role in decreasing the amount of vandalism and illegal dumping that occurs in our city's parks. Currently, half of the maintenance work orders for the Recreation and Parks Department relate to vandalism that occurs between 12:00am to 5:00am. Secondly, this legislation will save the city nearly \$1 million that it currently spends annually to address late night vandalism and dumping in our parks. These funds could be used for more pressing maintenance issues, such as playground repairs. Lastly, this legislation would not restrict the use of Golden Gate Park, McLaren Park, Balboa Park, or Lincoln Park for commuting purposes.

Furthermore, I am concerned that this legislation is being perceived as an anti-homeless, since Section 3.13 of the Parks Code already addresses illegal camping/sleeping in the parks. In fact, limited overnight parks closures will enhance everyone's safety and provide police and park patrols with an additional tool to deter vandalism in parks. SupervisorYee, I urge you to help us carry this legislation forward and to help us create safer parks for all San Franciscans.

Sincerely,

Jack Barber 420 Moraga Street

9 of 19 https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/?ui=2&ik=db99aefcaf&view=pt&search=inbox&th=141804c103088549

673

San Francisco, CA 94122 jdbarber@sbcglobal.net (415) 759-1281 Home (415) 609-6087 Cell



## **Support Parks Hours legislation**

Pat Kenealy pkenealy1@yahoo.com>

Thu, Oct 3, 2013 at 2:03 PM

Reply-To: Pat Kenealy <pkenealy1@yahoo.com>

To: "Mark, Farrell@sfgov.org" < Mark, Farrell@sfgov.org>

Cc: "advocacy@sfparksalliance.org" <advocacy@sfparksalliance.org>

Supervisor Mark Farrell
City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

As a 20-year resident of your district, and a concerned park user, I am writing to ask for your support for the proposed Park Hours legislation, which would amend the city's Park Code to close the city's parks between 12:00 am and 5:00 am, with certain exceptions.

The legislation will cut vandalism and illegal dumping that occurs in our city's parks, and set uniform expectations for kids and others who use the City's parks. It will leave the parks "clear" for normal overnight maintenance and give police a reason to stop those in the parks late at night.

I urge you to help us carry this legislation forward and to help us create safer parks for all San Franciscans.

Sincerely, Patrick Kenealy 2464 Broadway San Francisco, CA 94115

Dear Supervisor Farrell:





Thu, Oct 3, 2013 at 2:01 PM

## **Support for Park Hours Legislation**

Vivian Anthony <vivian.anth@yahoo.com>

To: Jane.Kim@sfgov.org

Cc: advocacy@sfparksalliance.org

10/03/13.

Supervisor Jane Kim

City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Re: Support for Park Hours Legislation

Dear Supervisor Ms. Kim,

As a concerned park user, I am writing to ask for your support for the proposed Park Hours legislation, which would amend the city's Park Code to close the city's parks between 12:00 am and 5:00 am, with certain exceptions.

I support this legislation for a number of reasons. First, this legislation will play a vital role in decreasing the amount of vandalism and illegal dumping that occurs in our city's parks. Currently, half of the maintenance work orders for the Recreation and Parks Department relate to vandalism that occurs between 12:00am to 5:00am. Secondly, this legislation will save the city nearly \$1 million that it currently spends annually to address late night vandalism and dumping in our parks. These funds could be used for more pressing maintenance issues, such as playground repairs. Lastly, this legislation would not restrict the use of Golden Gate Park, McLaren Park, Balboa Park, or Lincoln Park for commuting purposes.

Furthermore, I am concerned that this legislation is being perceived as an anti-homeless, since Section 3.13 of the Parks Code already addresses illegal camping/sleeping in the parks. In fact, limited overnight parks closures will enhance everyone's safety and provide police and park patrols with an additional tool to deter vandalism in parks. I urge you to help us carry this legislation forward and to help us create safer parks for all San Franciscans.

Sincerely,

Vivian Anthony

Jation

88 King Street

San Francisco, CA 94107



## Fwd: Urging your support of regular park hours legislation

1 message

Rachel Norton <racheln@sfparksalliance.org> To: advocacy@sfparksalliance.org Thu, Oct 3, 2013 at 1:23 PM

----- Forwarded message ------From: **Teri Olle** <teriolle@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 3, 2013 at 1:06 PM

Subject: Fwd: Urging your support of regular park hours legislation

what i sent i also sent around to a few other d5ers

From: Teri Olie <teriolle@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 3, 2013 at 1:01 PM

Subject: Urging your support of regular park hours legislation

To: London Breed <londonbreed@yahoo.com>, "Brown, Vallie" <Vallie.Brown@sfgov.org>,

london.breed@sfgov.org

Dear Supervisor Breed,

I write to urge you to support the park hours legislation carried by Supervisor Weiner. I considered this carefully, as I generally do not like to support legislation when there are already enough tools in the toolbox that could be used — more tools don't help. At first I thought, well, vandalism and theft are already illegal, as is sleeping in the park, so why do we need a new law? In this case, however, I was swayed by the need for consistency and public notice. I think that this benefits everyone — the public, the parks department and law enforcement. If it's the same everywhere, people start to adjust their behavior. There are many analogies in other areas of city living, like cleaning up dog waste, for example: the law is the same everywhere, and there are signs posted in enough places that everyone really is on notice that that's the law no matter where you go. As well, if the parks are closed in the middle of the night, law enforcement doesn't have to wait for someone to vandalize or steal to act.

I also find it compelling that similarly situated cities have a park hours law in place already. It strikes me as a reasonable and common sense measure to have consistent open/close hours in all of our public spaces.

I urge you to support this proposed legislation. Thank you for consideration of my views.

Best.

Teri Olle 574 Belvedere Street

Teri Olle 415,377,4698

 $\alpha$  hours legislation

Teri Olle 415.377.4698

Rachel Norton
Director of Communications
SF Parks Alliance
racheln@sfparksalliance.org
P.O. Box 170160
San Francisco, CA 94117-0160



## Park Hours Legislation - comments from 'Friends of Oak Woodlands GG Park'

Robert Bakewell <rcbakewell@gmail.com>

Mon, Sep 30, 2013 at 10:52 PM

To: Supervisor Eric Mar < Eric.L.Mar@sfgov.org>

Cc: "Scott Wiener, Supervisor District 8" <Scott.Wiener@sfgov.org>, London Breed <London.Breed@sfgov.org>, Peter Zepponi <peter@zepponi-architects.com>, Peter Zepponi <peter@sfhorseshoepitching.com>, Advocacy Cordesius <advocacy@sfparksalliance.org>

Supervisor Eric Mar City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

Re: Support for Park Hours Legislation

Dear Eric,

I am emailing you to ask for your support for the proposed Park Hours legislation, which would amend the city's Park Code to close the city's parks between 12:00 am and 5:00 am, with certain exceptions.

I appreciate your ongoing support for our Oak Woodlands Natural Area restoration and stewardship that is continuing to bring increased value to our remnant indigenous environment, Golden Gate Park and to our Richmond community.

I support this legislation for a number of reasons.

First, this legislation will play a vital role in decreasing the amount of vandalism and illegal dumping that occurs in our city's parks. Currently, half of the maintenance work orders for the Recreation and Parks Department relate to vandalism that occurs between 12:00am to 5:00am.

Secondly, this legislation will save the city nearly \$1 million that it currently spends annually to address late night vandalism and dumping in our parks. These funds could be used for more pressing maintenance issues, such as playground repairs.

Lastly, this legislation would not restrict the use of Golden Gate Park, McLaren Park, Balboa Park, or Lincoln Park for commuting purposes.

Today while visiting McLaren Lodge and passing by the Conservatory of Flowers entry station I was witness to the replacement by City workers of several windows and doors that were shattered overnite by vandals.

Recently, we have had to contend with the vandalizing of our indigenous and historic coast live oaks including breakage, cutting and graffiti painting and continuing trash

deposition in the Horseshoe Courts.

10/7/13

I am concerned that this legislation is being perceived as an anti-homeless.

It is already illegal to sleep or camp in the parks between 8:00 pm and 8:00 am pursuant to Section 3.13 of the Park Code - passage or failure of this legislation will not change this.

Of course, I am also concerned that there is not enough suitable housing for the various groups of transients and homeless population.

Everyone deserves a warm, safe, and humane place to sleep, something that cannot be offered in a park at night...

Homeless residents have been victims of serious attacks while they sleep in parks late at night.

Furthermore, a large number of overnight residents in Golden Gate Park are opportunistic young transients - many of them suffering from various drug addictions, including methamphetamine use.

Warehousing this population in any park, including GG Park, is not acceptable public health policy!

Limited overnight parks closures will enhance everyone's health and safety. I also recommend that law enforcement in our City's parks be applied diligently! There is too much anecdotal evidence that park security is low priority, such as in regard to Section 3.13 of the Park Code.

I encourage you to support this legislation and would be pleased to offer you specifics as to how this will help us in the Oak Woodlands Golden Gate Park.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Bakewell Co-founder of 'Friends of Oak Woodlands Golden Gate Park' SFPA Park Partner 863 Arguello Blvd. #5 SF, CA 94118 415-710-9617





## Support for Park Hours Legislation

1 message

Leah Pimentel <leah.pimentel@vahoo.com>

Mon, Sep 30, 2013 at 2:55 PM

Reply-To: Leah Pimentel <leah.pimentel@yahoo.com>

To: "Malia.Cohen@sfgov.org" <Malia.Cohen@sfgov.org>

Cc: "advocacy@sfparksalliance.org" <advocacy@sfparksalliance.org>, "Andrea.Bruss@sfgov.org"

<Andrea.Bruss@sfgov.org>, "Yoyo.Chan@sfgov.org" <Yoyo.Chan@sfgov.org>, "Mawuli.Tugbenyoh@sfgov.org" <Mawuli.Tugbenyoh@sfgov.org>

September 30, 2013

Supervisor Malia Cohen City Hall 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244 San Francisco, Ca 94102-4689

#### Re: Support for Park Hours Legislation

Dear Supervisor Malia Cohen.

As a concerned park user, I am writing to ask for your support for the proposed Park Hours legislation, which would amend the city's Park Code to close the city's parks between 12:00 am and 5:00 am, with certain exceptions.

I support this legislation for a number of reasons. First, this legislation will play a vital role in decreasing the amount of vandalism and illegal dumping that occurs in our city's parks. Currently, half of the maintenance work orders for the Recreation and Parks Department relate to vandalism that occurs between 12:00am to 5:00am. Secondly, this legislation will save the city nearly \$1 million that it currently spends annually to address late night vandalism and dumping in our parks. These funds could be used for more pressing maintenance issues, such as playground repairs. Lastly, this legislation would not restrict the use of Golden Gate Park, McLaren Park, Balboa Park, or Lincoln Park for commuting purposes.

Furthermore, I am concerned that this legislation is being perceived as an anti-homeless. It is already illegal to sleep or camp in the parks between 8:00 pm and 8:00 am pursuant to Section 3.13 of the Park Code - passage or failure of this legislation will not change this. Moreover, as a San Francisco resident, I am also concerned that there is not enough proper housing for our homeless population – everyone deserves a warm, safe, and humane place to sleep, something that cannot be offered by a poorly lit park. Homeless residents have also been victims of serious attacks while they sleep in parks late at night. Limited overnight parks closures will enhance everyone's safety.

Supervisor Malia Cohen, I urge you to help us carry this legislation forward and to help us create safer parks for all San Franciscans.

Sincerely,

Jation

Leah Pimentel 1795 Silver Avenue San Francisco, CA 94124

Leah Pimentel

Vice Chair, San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee San Francisco Park Alliance, Board of Directors Commissioner, Local Agency Fornation Commission Emerge California Class of 2011

#### Hark Closure FACT SHEET

Coalition On Homelessness, SF

File No. 130766
10/7/13 Received in
Committee

San Francisco Supervisor Scott Wiener has introduced legislation to close all of SF's Public Parks from 12 midnight until 5am. This proposed law will further criminalize people sleeping in parks and negatively impact the entire city of San Francisco.

#### This law would:

- fine and jail people who are living/resting in public parks because they have nowhere else to go;
- waste precious city funds on signs, fences, and costs of enforcement;
- result in a greater police presence in the parks.

#### Park Closures Force People Onto Streets

- We have 1,339 shelter beds for single adults in San Francisco and over 7,350 people experiencing homelessness on any given night. There is no where for the unsheltered homeless people to go. We already have a crisis further homeless sweeps will only increase the crisis on our streets.
- -Los Angeles adopted uniform park closures and as a result forced park dwellers in to the city's downtown Skid Row neighborhood. As a result, the city was forced to legalize sleeping on public sidewalks in Skid Row to respond to the mass displacement post-park closure implementation. Park closures in San Francisco will also displace homeless people from parks to the neighborhood sidewalks.
- Arresting people for being in the park creates and perpetuates a homeless person's "criminal" status, preventing a person from ever being able to access housing, financial assistance, and employment all necessary to transition out of homelessness.
- Displacing park dwellers to the city streets will have overall negative impacts for our city, including concentrating more poverty to certain neighborhoods already carrying the social burden of providing basic needs services.

#### Park Closure As An LGBT Issue

- We know that the 29% of the City's homeless population that is LGBT are targets for hate crimes moving LGBT folks away from their communities will only make them more vulnerable.
- Park dwelling provides necessary shelter for LGBT people and people living with HIV, especially youth and seniors.
  - While 24% of LGBT seniors need housing assistance, the majority of LGBT seniors report having been discriminated against in social services.
  - 20.4% of people living with HIV/AIDS were displaced from SF from 2006 2011 and housing support and resources continues to dwindle.
- Wiener's district has the highest rate of no-fault evictions in the City and LGBT folks are 258% as likely to be homeless as the general population why is Wiener attacking the LGBT community?

## Park Closure Is A Waste of City Funds

- This legislation is redundant and has been explored in our past. The City already bans criminal acts in parks, already has hours of operations for parks, and already has signs showing hours. Additionally, SF has already determined that uniformly closing parks would have disastrous repercussions and has voted this down before.
- Increased policing of parks diverts police resources away from criminal activity and increases workload and billed hours of police labor. Funds spent on law enforcement would be much better used

to create housing.

- Increased policing of parks means tax dollars will be used for fences, signs, barriers, and on-going maintenance of these new materials funds that would be much better used to create housing.
- The city already spends millions of dollars criminalizing sleeping and sitting in public. This strategy has been tried and failed, proven too costly and an ineffective response to homelessness.

#### Homelessness is not a lifestyle choice—it is the result of extreme poverty

- Since 1976, the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) department's total budget has reduced by more than \$45 billion per year, with the biggest drop occurring between 1980 and 1983 (National Low Income Housing Coalition, 2001).
- The average rent in San Francisco for a two-bedroom apartment is \$3,425 or \$1,668 for a studio, far exceeding a service sector employee 's paycheck (\$10.55/hour gross or \$1,495 /month net) and more than three times a monthly public assistance check (\$723 for family of three).
- People are sleeping in the parks because there is no affordable housing. In San Francisco, there are 40,000 people on the combined waitlist for public housing and Section 8. The waitlist for Section 8 was last open for one month in 2001. The waitlist for public housing closed February 1, 2010.
- Thousands of San Franciscans have been displaced over the past three years, as rents have risen dramatically and real estate speculators take advantage of low-income tenants.
- There is 1 shelter bed in San Francisco for every 5.4 homeless individuals. The wait for family shelter in San Francisco exceeds 6 months.

#### Our Demands

- As the elected representative of the Castro, the community demands that Supervisor Wiener create an accountable and actionable plan to reduce LGBT homelessness by 50% in 5 years.
- We demand an end to criminalization efforts as the response to larger societal problems. In the past dozen years in San Francisco, more than 167,074 citations were given out for sleeping and sitting in public (San Francisco Municipal Court). We need permanent solutions to homelessness: affordable housing and increased supportive services, specifically in the Haight, where many park dwellers seek support.
- We demand a NO vote on this legislation and seek to build solutions to our city's collective problems that include the voices of those most impacted by homelessness and poverty.

## **Fark Closure Talking Points**

Coalition On Homelessness, SF

San Francisco Supervisor Scott Wiener has proposed legislation to close all of SF's Public Parks from 12 midnight until 5am.

#### This law would:

- fine and jail people who are living/resting in public parks because they have nowhere else to go;
- waste precious city funds on signs, fences, and costs of enforcement:
- result in duplicative laws that don't offer real solutions.

#### Park Closure is Waste of City Resources

- The intention of the park closure legislation is to address vandalism and theft in our city's parks.
   There are already laws that make it illegal to vandalize or steal from the parks. Making a duplicative law will do nothing to address the problem.
- The city already spends millions of dollars criminalizing sleeping and sitting in public. New laws targeting poor people have proven too costly and have increased hate and targeting of poor and homeless people.
- Hundreds of thousands of dollars would be wasted on signage alone. Resources would be better spent on expanding affordable housing, basic needs services, and increased gardeners and beautification of the parks.

#### Park Closures Limit Public Space

- San Francisco's access to public space is quickly diminishing. The onslaught of laws like Sit/Lie show a city-wide move to criminalize the use of public space. This proposed legislation follows that path, a path that paves the way for gentrification, elimination of a working class in San Francisco, and an increase of poor people in prison and jail.
- San Francisco's parks are a critical amenity for all San Francisco residents. Limiting and enforcing park hours limits access for all.

## Park Closures Force People Onto Streets

- With over 6,000 homeless individuals in San Francisco and only 1,339 shelter beds, thousands
  of people are forced to sleep outside every night. The city's parks offer necessary safety from
  the conditions on the streets, including violence and exploitation.
- Increased police and patrol presence, including increased ticketing and incarceration of people sleeping in parks, will only push people to our neighborhood streets and doorsteps and further entrench poor people in the criminal justice system.
- With 29% of SF's homeless population identifying as LGBTQ, the park closures would have detrimental impacts on the safety of LGBTQ homeless individuals. Not only are they highly vulnerable to violence and exploitation but they are often elders, youth, living with HIV, and victims of no-fault evictions from the Castro neighborhood.

This fact sheet brought to you by the Coalition on Homelessness, San Francisco The Coalition on Homelessness is committed to ending homelessness through organizing homeless people while protecting the human rights of those forced to remain on the streets.

## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 4, 2013

CONTACT: Lisa Marie Alatorre Coalition on Homelessness, SF Cell: (510) 982-9275

## Community Outrage Over Controversial Park Closure Legislation

What: Land use and Economic Development Committee Hearing.

When: Monday, October 7, 2013, 1:30pm.

Where: City Hall Room #236.

San Francisco, CA - On Monday, October 7, 2013 at 1:30pm, the San Francisco Land Use and Economic Development Committee of San Francisco's Board of Supervisors will review proposed legislation from Supervisor Scott Wiener to enforce and uniform closing hours at all of San Francisco parks. Members of the community will be present at the hearing to show broad-based opposition and community concern regarding this legislation.

"We have over 5,000 homeless people sleeping outside on any given night," says Jennifer Friedenbach, Executive Director of the Coalition on Homelessness. "With only 1,339 shelter beds available, the parks offer necessary safety from the streets for many people, including a large community of LGBTO homeless folks and homeless youth. Increasing criminalization and duplicative laws will simply increase our homeless crisis and drain city resources."

The proposed legislation would make park closing hours uniform and limit access to the city's parks for all San Francisco residents. The stated intention of the legislation is to address vandalism and theft that happens in our city parks, however opponents of the legislation point out that there are already laws on the books outlawing vandalism and theft. New laws targeting homeless people have raised the level of hate and targeting of the homeless population in the past. Resources would be better spent on expanding affordable housing, basic needs services, and increased gardeners and beautification of the parks.

"When we can't sleep in the parks of our city, we have no choice but to sleep on the streets," says one houseless citizen, currently residing in one of SF's city parks. "If I have any hopes of coming up out of this temporary situation, tickets and fine are nothing but another barrier between me and getting and holding a job in hopes of getting housing. This legislation won't push people out of our city. It will only make life more difficult."

Park dwellers and their supporters will be available for interviews and will be making public comment during the hearing.

###

#### Miller, Alisa

From:

David Burke [burkenet@yahoo.com] Monday, October 07, 2013 9:07 AM

Sent: To:

Wiener, Scott; Chiu, David; Kim, Jane; Board of Supervisors

Cc:

Taylor, Adam; Rauschuber, Catherine; Veneracion, April; Farrell, Mark; Breed, London; Miller,

Alisa; Corrales, Greg; Ballard, Sarah; Randolph, Alex; BVNA@ix.netcom.com

Subject:

Support for City Park Hours, File No. 130766

#### Honorable Supervisors,

I wanted to let you know that as a resident and home owner in the Buena Vista neighborhood, you have my full support to establish consistent San Francisco park hours of operation as covered in File No. 130766 - Park Code-Hours of Operation for City Parks. Over the last year it seems the park and adjoining neighborhood vandalism has increased partly due to late night use of the Buena Vista park. It's my understanding that establishing consistent park hours of operation will assist the SFPD and SFRPD Park Patrol with all they are doing to keep our parks safe and healthy.

Thank you for your consideration and ongoing support, David Burke

545-547 Buena Vista Ave. West San Francisco, CA 94117 415-990-4456 <u>burkenet@yahoo.com</u>

#### Miller, Alisa

From:

Karen Crommie [kcrommie@aol.com] Sunday, October 06, 2013 12:15 PM

Sent:

Wiener, Scott, Chiu, David; Kim, Jane; Board of Supervisors

Subject:

This Monday Hearing - SUPPORT for Park Hours proposal - No. 130766

Dear Supervisors,

As a longtime panelist on the Park/Northern Neighborhood Court, I can't stress enough the problem of ejudicating cases of park camping when each park has different opening and closing hours.

Apart from the opportunity for vandalism, destruction of established plants, concealing runaway minors, the nightime activity in the parks includes illegal drug use, stashing of stolen bicycles and the building of dangerous campfires. So long as the parks exude an atmosphere of jeopardy, their use by the general public will diminish. Having uniformed open/closing hours will be a first step in protecting the parks for everyone.

Karen Crommie Haight Ashbury



# File 130766 - Land Use Clerk, Members

## LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA

- LOCAL UNION NO. 261

October 1, 2013

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR
SAMFRANCISCO

2013 OCT-3 PH 3: 39

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SAN MATEO COUNTY 300 7th Avenue San Mateo, CA 94401

Phone: (650) 344-7168 Fax: (650) 344-5357

MARIN COUNTY 4174 Redwood Highway San Rafael, CA 94903

Mail P.O. Box 4250 San Rafael, CA 94913

Phone: (415) 492-0936 Fax: (415) 492-8233 Honorable Supervisor Scott Wiener
Honorable Supervisor Jane Kim
Honorable Supervisor David Chiu
Land Use & Economic Development Committee
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
City Hall, Room 244
San Francisco, California 94102

Re: Ordinance Amending Park Code – Hours of Operation for City Parks

Dear Supervisors:

On behalf of Laborers Local 261 and especially our members who are employed in the parks and open spaces of San Francisco, I am writing in support of the ordinance which will amend the Park Code to establish hours of operation for City parks from 5:00 AM to midnight.

This legislation will promote the health and safety of the citizens of San Francisco through the setting of reasonable hours and restrictions for access to the parks. The restrictions are not onerous and do not substantially limit the public's access. On the other hand, the legislation will help us preserve and maintain the parks in good condition, protect the City's assets and minimize the risks to public safety associated with allowing unrestricted and unnecessary access all night.

This legislation will be of benefit to our members, to all of the citizens of San Francisco and to the many visitors who use and enjoy our valuable recreational and open space.

Yours truly

RAMON HERNANDE

**Business Manager** 

#### Miller, Alisa

From:

Jarie Bolander [jarie.bolander@gmail.com]

Sent:

Friday, October 04, 2013 11:31 AM

Го:

Wiener, Scott, Chiu, David; Kim, Jane; Board of Supervisors

Cc:

Taylor, Adam; Rauschuber, Catherine; Veneracion, April; Farrell, Mark; Breed, London; Miller,

Alisa; Corrales, Greg; Ballard, Sarah; Randolph, Alex

Subject:

Please SUPPORT File No. 130766 - Park Code-Hours of Operation for City Parks

#### Honorable Supervisors-

I urge all of you to support Supervisor Wiener and Farrell's legislation to clarify the operating hours of all City parks.

As a new resident of the Haight-Asbury who lives a block away from Buena Vista Park, I feel that this legislation will aid SFPD and SFRPD in their Park Patrol efforts to help keep our parks clean, safe and vandalism free.

Thanks in advance for your time and consideration.

#### Jarie Bolander

Interim Chair of the District 5 Neighborhood Action Committee (D5NAC) \* Past President of the North Panhandle Neighborhood Association \*

\* For identification purposes only.



#### BUENA VISTA NEIGHBURHOOD ASSOCIATION

555 Buena Vista West #601 San Francisco CA 94117-4143

Phone/Voicemail 415/431-2359
Email <u>Info@BVNASF.com</u>

<u>www.BVNASF.com</u>

BVNA is a San Francisco Parks Alliance Park Partner

October 4, 2013

San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Land Use and Economic Development Committee
Supervisors Wiener, Kim, Chiu
City Hall – 1 Dr. Carleton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco CA 94102-4689

Re: Hearing Scheduled for October 7, 2013

File No. 130766 - Park Code-Hours of Operation for City Parks

Honorable Supervisors,

The Buena Vista Neighborhood Association (BVNA) strongly SUPPORTS the above-referenced legislation proposed by Supervisors Wiener and Farrell, to clarify the operating hours of all City parks.

Currently-legislated Park hours are inconsistent and unclear in many instances, confusing the public and hampering enforcement. To effectively combat vandalism (including costly metal theft, graffiti, illegal dumping, etc.), we need clear and consistent Citywide park operating hours. That provides needed support for SFPD and SFRPD Park Patrol efforts to help keep our parks safe and healthy.

We ask the Board Clerk's Office to please assure that this letter is brought to the attention of all Board Members and their staff when the matter is being considered by them, and that it be included in the matter's permanent file.

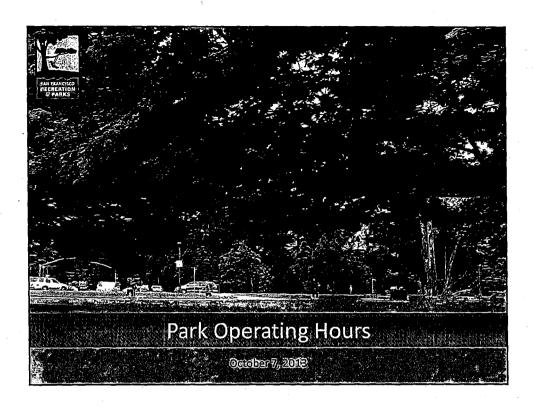
BVNA has about 400 current, dues-paying Members and serves about 4,500 households in neighborhoods around Buena Vista Park, from Oak Street/Panhandle on the north; Divisadero/Castro on the east; up to (but not including) 17<sup>th</sup> Street on the south; and Ashbury Street on the west.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Respectfully,
/s/ Richard Magary
Richard Magary, BVNA Steering Committee Chair

email cc: Full Board of Supervisors via Office of the Clerk Staff for Supervisor Scott Wiener SFPD Park Station Captain Gregory Corrales Sarah Ballard, Alex Randolph - SFRPD

BvnaLtrBoSParkHours100413

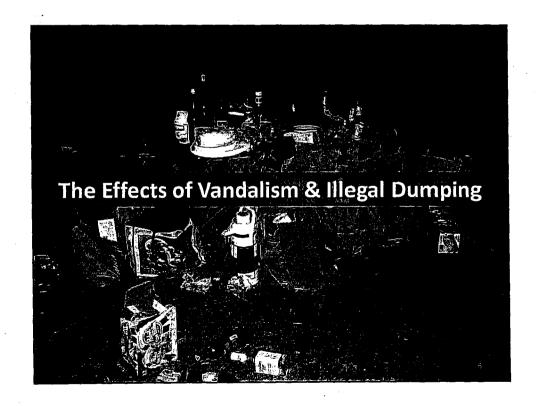












## **Property Crime**

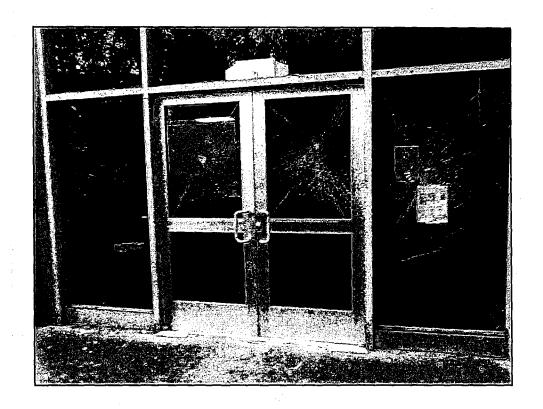
# Vandalism & Graffiti

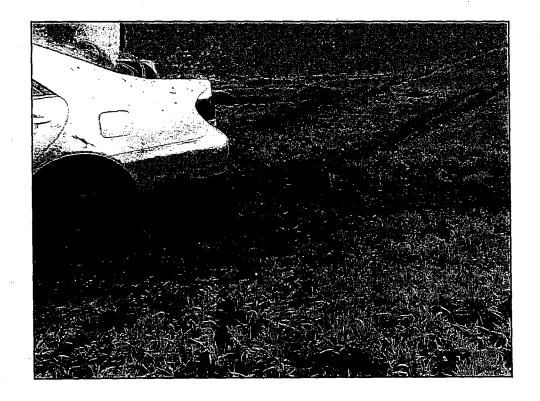
Damage to public restrooms; irrigation heads; broken windows; cut fences; stolen copper wire and metal; smashed or burned playground equipment; park benches; street light poles; arson; cut trees; stolen plant material; off-road vehicle damage to turf.

Annual cost to abate vandalism and graffiti

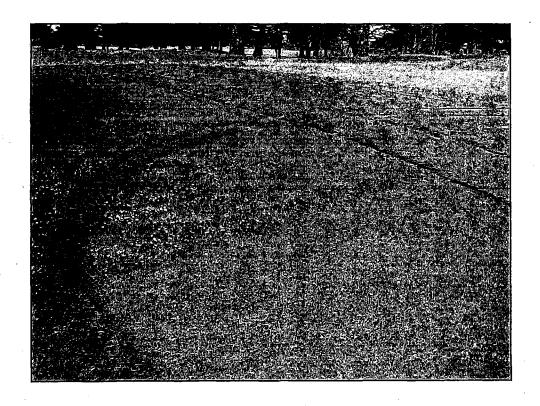
\$506,382





















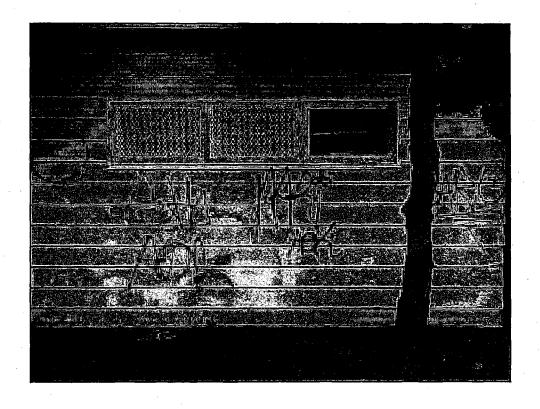


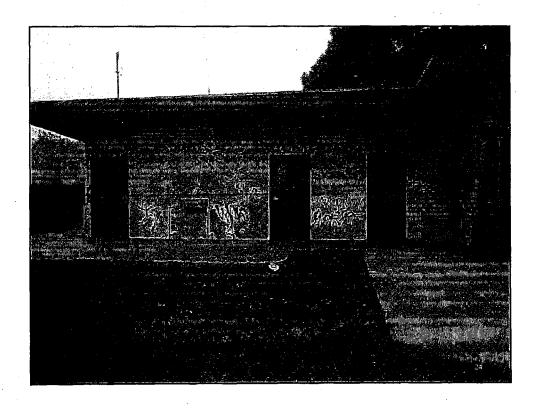


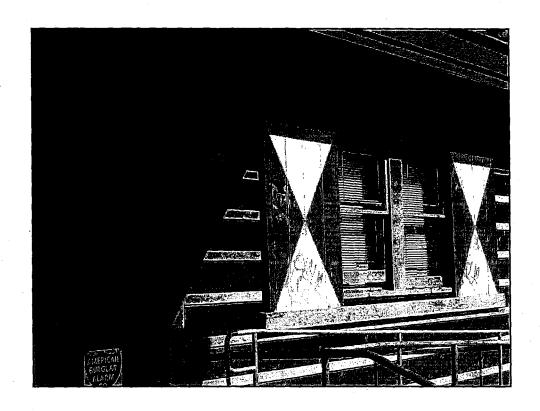




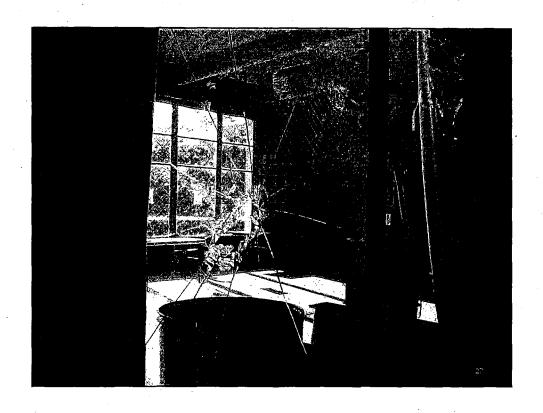


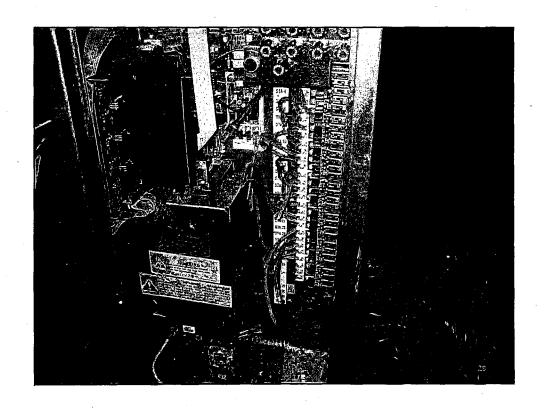


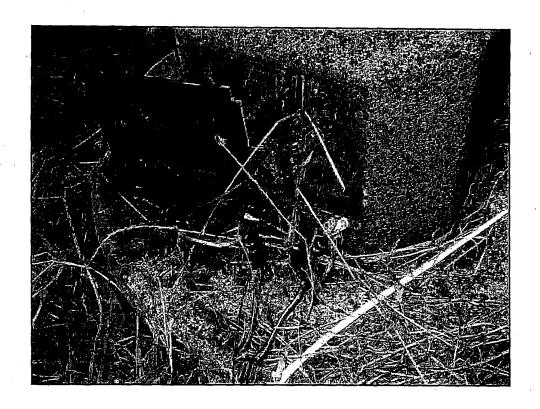


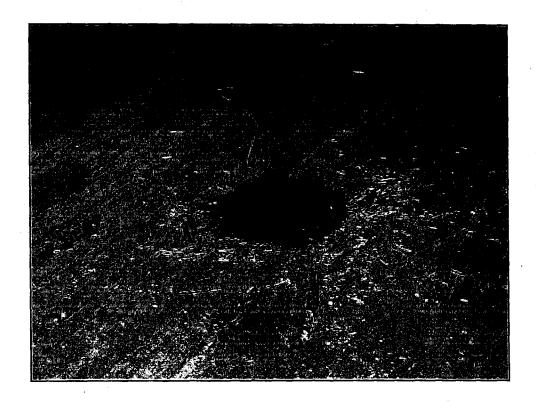






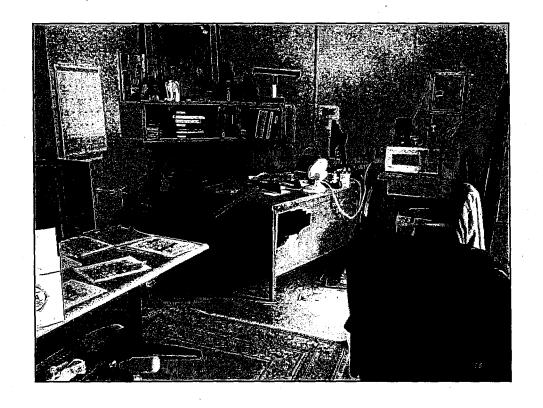


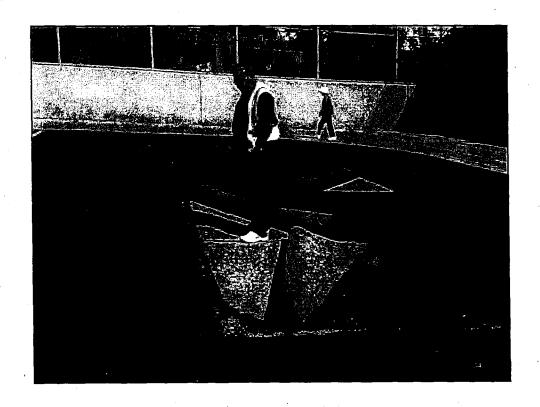


















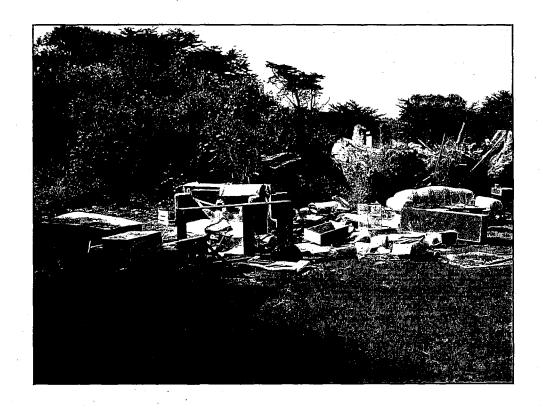
## Property Crime

# Illegal Dumping

In Golden Gate Park alone, <u>3.1 tons</u> of illegally dumped trash and debris is collected every week. Many of our other city parks, including McLaren Park, Mission Dolores Park, Washington Square, have similar incidence.

Annual cost to abate illegal dumping

\$400,000

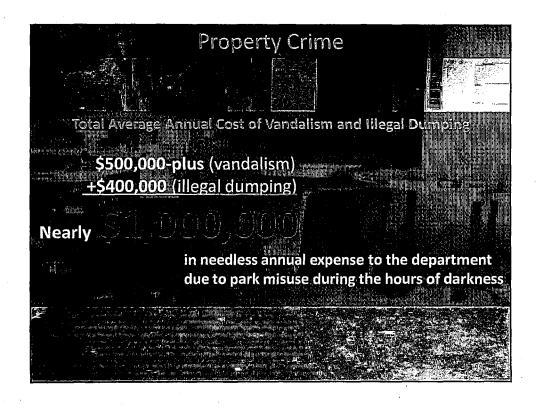


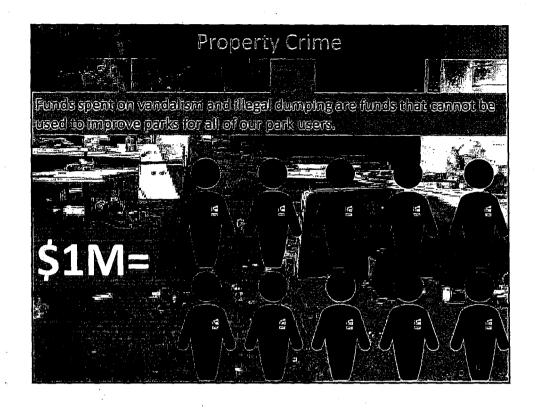


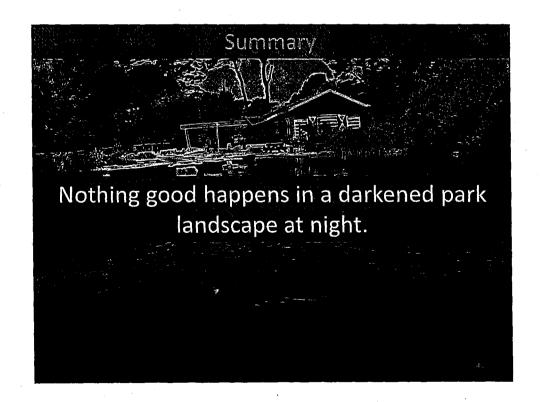














#### **BOARD of SUPERVISORS**



City Hall
Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco 94102-4689
Tel. No. 554-5184
Fax No. 554-5163
TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

July 30, 2013

File No. 130766

Sarah Jones Environmental Review Officer Planning Department 1650 Mission Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Ms. Jones:

On July 23, 2013, Supervisor Wiener introduced the following proposed legislation:

File No. 130766

Ordinance amending the Park Code to establish hours of operation for City parks from 5:00 a.m. to midnight, with certain exceptions; and making environmental findings.

This legislation is being transmitted to you for environmental review.

Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board

By: Alisa Miller, Committee Clerk

Land Use & Economic Development Committee

Attachment

c: Monica Pereira, Environmental Planning Joy Navarrete, Environmental Planning

#### **BOARD of SUPERVISORS**



City Hall
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TDD/TTY No. 554-5227

### MEMORANDUM

TO:

Phil Ginsburg, General Manager, Recreation and Park Department

FROM:

Alisa Miller, Clerk, Land Use and Economic Development Committee

**Board of Supervisors** 

DATE:

July 30, 2013

SUBJECT:

LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

The Board of Supervisors' Land Use and Economic Development Committee has received the following proposed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Wiener on July 23, 2013:

#### File No. 130766

Ordinance amending the Park Code to establish hours of operation for City parks from 5:00 a.m. to midnight, with certain exceptions; and making environmental findings.

This matter is being forwarded to your department for informational purposes. If you have any comments or reports to be included with the file, please forward them to me at the Board of Supervisors, City Hall, Room 244, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, San Francisco, CA 94102.

c: Sarah Ballard, Recreation and Park Department

### CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO



DENNIS J. HERRERA City Attorney

### OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY

THOMAS J. OWEN
Deputy City Attorney

Direct Dial:

(415) 554-4679

Email:

thomas.owen@sfgov.org

### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Hon. Scott Wiener

Member, Board of Supervisors

FROM:

Thomas J. Owen

Deputy City Attorney

DATE:

October 1, 2013

RE:

Hours of Operation for City Parks

Substitute Ordinance, dated 10/1/2013

(Board File No. 130766; Our File No. 1300343)

Here are a signed original and copies of the substitute ordinance, dated October 1, 2013, as well as a legislative digest.

I will also send electronic copies to your office this morning.

Encl.

cc (by e-mail):

Jeff Cretan

Sarah Ballard

Jon Givner

Francesca Gessner

Print Form

# **Introduction Form**

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):	Time stamp or meeting date
☐ 1. For reference to Committee.	
An ordinance, resolution, motion, or charter amendment.	
2. Request for next printed agenda without reference to Committee.	
☐ 3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.	
4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor	inquires"
5. City Attorney request.	
☐ 6. Call File No. from Committee.	
7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).	
8. Substitute Legislation File No. 130766	
9. Request for Closed Session (attach written motion).	
☐ 10. Board to Sit as A Committee of the Whole.	
11. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on	,
Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following Small Business Commission	•
☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commis	ssion
lote: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperat	ive
ponsor(s):	·
Wiener	
Subject:	
Park Code - Hours of Operation for City Parks	
The text is listed below or attached:	
Ordinance amending the Park Code to establish hours of operation for City parks from 5:00 a. certain exceptions; and making environmental findings.	m. to midnight, with
	•
	/
Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:	: enon
For Clark's Use Only.	!

# **Introduction Form**

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):	or meeting date
<ul> <li>I. For reference to Committee.</li> <li>An ordinance, resolution, motion, or charter amendment.</li> <li>□ 2. Request for next printed agenda without reference to Committee.</li> </ul>	
3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee.	
4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor	inquires"
5. City Attorney request.	
6. Call File No. from Committee.	
7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).	•
8. Substitute Legislation File No.	
9. Request for Closed Session (attach written motion).	
☐ 10. Board to Sit as A Committee of the Whole.	
11. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on	
□ Small Business Commission □ Youth Commission □ Ethics Comm	nission
Planning Commission Building Inspection Commission  Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a Imperative	
Sponsor(s):	
Supervisor Wiener, Farrell	
Subject:	
Park Code – Hours of Operation for City Parks	
The text is listed below or attached:	
Ordinance amending the Park Code to establish hours of operation for City parks from 5:00 a.m. certain exceptions; and making environmental findings.	to midnight, with
Mad	
Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:	
For Clerk's Use Only:	

130766