

1 [Charter Amendment - Park, Recreation and Open Space Fund]

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3 **Describing and setting forth a proposal to the voters to amend the Charter of the City and**
4 **County of San Francisco to require an annual baseline appropriation for the Park,**
5 **Recreation and Open Space Fund based on City spending for park and recreation purposes**
6 **in FY2015-2016, and modify the Recreation and Park Department’s planning obligations,**
7 **at an election to be held on June 7, 2016.**

8
9 Section 1. The Board of Supervisors hereby submits to the qualified voters of the City
10 and County, at an election to be held on June 7, 2016, a proposal to amend the Charter of the
11 City and County by revising Section 16.107, to read as follows:

12 NOTE: **Unchanged Charter text and uncodified text** are in plain font.
13 **Additions** are *single-underline italics Times New Roman font.*
14 **Deletions** are ~~*strike-through italics Times New Roman font.*~~
15 **Asterisks (* * * *)** indicate the omission of unchanged Charter
16 subsections.

17 **SEC. 16.107. PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE FUND.**

18 (a) Establishment of Fund. There is hereby established the Park, Recreation and Open
19 Space Fund ("Fund") to be administered by the Recreation and Park Department ("Department")
20 as directed by the Recreation and Park Commission ("Commission"). Monies *in the Fund*
21 ~~*therein*~~ shall be expended or used solely by the Department, subject to the budgetary and fiscal
22 provisions of the Charter, to provide ~~*enhanced*~~ park and recreational services and facilities. *The*
23 *Department embraces socio-economic and geographic equity as a guiding principle and*
24 *commits to expending the funds across its open space and recreational programs to provide park*
25 *and recreational access to all of San Francisco’s diverse neighborhoods and communities.*

1 (b) Annual Set-aside. The City will continue to set aside from the annual tax levy, for a
2 period of thirty years starting with the fiscal year 2000-2001, an amount equivalent to an annual
3 tax of two and one-half cents (\$0.025) for each ~~one hundred dollars (\$100)~~ assessed valuation.
4 Beginning in fiscal year 2016-2017, revenues from the set-aside, together with interest, shall be
5 deposited into the Park, Recreation and Open Space Fund. Revenues ~~obtained thereby from the~~
6 ~~set-aside~~ shall be in addition to the baseline appropriation required by subsection (c), and not in
7 ~~place of, any sums normally budgeted for the Department and, together with interest, shall be~~
8 ~~deposited into the Park, Recreation and Open Space Fund.~~

9 The Controller shall set aside and maintain such an amount, together with any interest
10 earned thereon, in the Fund, and any amount unspent or uncommitted at the end of the fiscal year
11 shall be carried forward to the next fiscal year and, subject to the budgetary and fiscal limitations
12 of this Charter, shall be appropriated then or thereafter for the purposes specified in this
13 Section 16.107.

14 (c) Baseline Maintenance of Effort. The annual set-aside shall be used exclusively to
15 increase the aggregate City appropriations to and expenditures by the Recreation and Park
16 Department for Department purposes. To this end, beginning in fiscal year 2016-2017 and
17 thereafter through fiscal year 2030-2031, the City shall not reduce the baseline general fund
18 support amount appropriated to the Department below the amount appropriated in fiscal
19 year 2015-2016, as calculated by the Controller, except that the baseline amount shall be
20 adjusted as follows:

21 (1) Each year in fiscal years 2016-2017 through 2025-2026, the City shall
22 increase the baseline appropriation by \$3 million over the prior year.

23 (2) Each year in fiscal years 2026-2027 through 2030-2031, the City shall adjust
24 the baseline by the percentage increase or decrease in aggregate City discretionary revenues, as
25 determined by the Controller, based on calculations consistent from year to year. In determining

1 aggregate City discretionary revenues, the Controller shall only include revenues received by
2 the City which are unrestricted and may be used at the option of the Mayor and the Board of
3 Supervisors for any lawful City purpose. The Controller is authorized to increase or reduce
4 budgetary appropriations as required by this subsection (c) to align the baseline amount to the
5 amount required by formula based on actual revenues received during the fiscal year.

6 (3) The City may suspend growth in the baseline funding pursuant to
7 subsection (c)(1) in fiscal year 2016-2017 if the City's projected budget deficit for that year at
8 the time of the Joint Report or Update to the Five Year Financial Plan as prepared jointly by the
9 Controller, the Mayor's Budget Director, and the Board of Supervisors' Budget Analyst exceeds
10 \$200 million. For fiscal year 2017-2018 through fiscal year 2030-2031, the City may suspend
11 growth in baseline funding pursuant to subsections (c)(1) and (c)(2) when the projected budget
12 deficit for the upcoming fiscal year at the time of the Joint Report or Update to the Five Year
13 Financial Plan as prepared jointly by the Controller, the Mayor's Budget Director, and the
14 Board of Supervisors' Budget Analyst exceeds \$200 million adjusted annually by changes in
15 aggregate City discretionary revenues.

16 (4) Monies from the baseline appropriation required by this subsection (c) shall
17 not be appropriated or expended for services provided to the Recreation and Park Department
18 by other City departments and agencies unless: (1) the City department or agency charged the
19 Recreation and Park Department for that service in fiscal year 2015-2016 and the amount the
20 Recreation and Park Department paid the City department or agency for that service was
21 included in the baseline amount for fiscal year 2015-2016, although increases in the cost of such
22 services may be paid out of the baseline appropriation, or (2) the Recreation and Park
23 Department requests or agrees to a new service from a City department or agency.

24 (5) At the end of the fiscal year 2015-2016 and every year thereafter, any excess
25 general fund Departmental revenue, including any Department expenditure savings or revenue

1 surpluses deposited prior to fiscal year 2015-2016, shall be reserved to be used for one-time
2 Departmental expenditures. "General fund Departmental revenue" is defined as all revenues
3 credited to the Department's general fund budget other than the baseline contribution defined in
4 subsection (c).

5 ~~(e) Enhanced Revenue and Efficiency Incentives for the Department. It is the policy of~~
6 ~~the City and County of San Francisco to give the Department greater incentives to improve~~
7 ~~operational efficiencies and to increase revenue. Increases in revenues and savings shall be~~
8 ~~dedicated as follows:~~

9 ~~1. Actual net increases in Department-generated revenues, compared to the~~
10 ~~previous fiscal year, shall be dedicated to capital and/or facility maintenance improvements to~~
11 ~~park and recreational facilities; and,~~

12 ~~2. New revenues from outside sources, such as grant or foundation support, shall~~
13 ~~be used only for enhancement of park and recreational programs, including, but not limited to,~~
14 ~~capital and/or facility maintenance improvements ; and~~

15 ~~3. Overall Department expenditure savings shall be retained by the Department~~
16 ~~to be dedicated to one-time expenditures.~~

17 (d) The City shall implement its efforts to increase revenues in a manner consistent with
18 the City's policy of charging City residents a lower fee than that charged nonresidents for the use
19 and enjoyment of Department property.

20 (e) ~~(d)~~ Revenue Bond Authority. Notwithstanding the limitations set forth in
21 Sections 9.107, 9.108, and 9.109 of this Charter, the Commission may request, and upon
22 recommendation of the Mayor the Board of Supervisors may authorize, the issuance of revenue
23 bonds or other evidences of indebtedness, or the incurrence of other obligations, secured by the
24 Park, Recreation and Open Space Fund for acquisition, construction, reconstruction,
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1 rehabilitation and/or improvement of real property and/or facilities and for the purchase of
2 equipment.

3 ~~(f)~~ ~~(e)~~ Fund Expenditures on Commission Property. Any real property acquired with
4 monies from the Fund, including the proceeds of obligations issued pursuant to subsection ~~(e)~~
5 ~~(d)~~, above, shall be placed under the jurisdiction of the Commission within the meaning of
6 Section 4.113. Fund expenditures to improve, construct, reconstruct or rehabilitate real property
7 shall be limited to property under the jurisdiction of the Commission or property under the
8 jurisdiction of another City department or public agency and subject to an agreement with the
9 Department for its use, management and maintenance.

10 ~~(g)~~ ~~(f)~~ Use and Allocation of the Fund. Each year, the Commission shall adopt a budget
11 for the allocation and expenditure of the Fund in compliance with the budget and fiscal
12 provisions of the Charter; ~~which shall be adopted by the Commission only after a written~~
13 ~~determination by the Planning Department of conformity with the City's General Plan.~~

14 The annual budget for allocation of the Fund that is adopted by the Commission and
15 submitted by the Mayor to the Board of Supervisors shall include:

16 ~~(1-)~~ Allocations for after-school recreation programs, urban forestry, community
17 gardens, volunteer programs, and a significant natural areas management program in the amounts
18 allocated for each of those programs from the Park and Open Space Fund in the Department's
19 fiscal year 2015-2016 ~~1999-2000~~ budget, to the extent that such programs are not so funded in
20 the Department's operating budget or in the budget of another City department.

21 ~~(2-)~~ An allocation necessary to ensure that 3% of the monies to be deposited in
22 the Fund during the upcoming fiscal year pursuant to subsection (b), above, be available at the
23 start of the fiscal year as an undesignated contingency reserve. No later than September 1, 2017,
24 the Commission shall adopt a policy for expenditures from the contingency reserve. Thereafter,
25 the Commission shall submit a report to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors on any

1 expenditures from the contingency reserve during the previous budget cycle along with its
2 proposed budget for allocation of the Fund.

3 (3-) An allocation of not less than 5% of the monies to be deposited in the Fund
4 during the upcoming fiscal year pursuant to subsection (b), above. These monies shall be
5 dedicated to the acquisition of real property identified in the Capital Plan discussed in
6 subsection (h)(2) (g), below. Any portion of these monies that remains unspent or uncommitted
7 at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward, with interest thereon, to the next fiscal year
8 for the purposes set forth herein. ~~The 5% allocation need not be included in the budget~~
9 ~~submitted to the Board of Supervisors for an upcoming fiscal year to the extent that the total City~~
10 ~~expenditure for acquisition of property to be placed under the jurisdiction of the Commission for~~
11 ~~the period commencing with fiscal year 2000-2001 2000-01 and ending with the close of the~~
12 ~~immediately preceding fiscal year exceeds an amount equal to 5% of the total amount~~
13 ~~appropriated, or to be appropriated, to the Fund for the period commencing with fiscal~~
14 ~~year 2000-2001 2000-01 and ending with the close of the upcoming fiscal year.~~

15 Prior to the adoption of the annual budget by the Recreation and Park Commission, the
16 Department, in conjunction with the Citizens Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory
17 Committee discussed in subsection (i) (h), below, shall conduct two public hearings in the
18 evenings or on weekends to permit the public to comment on the Department's full budget and
19 programming allocations.

20 (h) (g) Planning and Reporting Measures. The Commission shall adopt several
21 long-term plans that include, but are not limited to, the following:

22 (1-) Strategic Plan. By January 1, 2017, and every five years thereafter
23 ~~December 1, 2000~~, the Department shall prepare, for Commission consideration and approval, a
24 five-year Strategic Plan, ~~to be updated annually~~, that establishes or reaffirms the mission, vision,
25 goals and objectives for the Department. The Department shall submit the proposed Strategic

1 Plan to the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Committee for its review and comment
2 before submitting the Plan to the Commission for its approval.

3 The Department will use the approved Strategic Plan to guide its work over each
4 five-year period. Every two years after the approval of a Strategic Plan, the Department shall
5 report to the Commission on the Department's progress under the Plan and, subject to the
6 Commission's approval, shall amend the Plan as appropriate. This Strategic Plan will be used
7 to guide the Department's work over the next five years.

8 (2-) Capital Plan. The Department shall cooperate in the development of the
9 City's Capital Expenditure Plan under Administrative Code 3.20, as amended, or any successor
10 legislation. Before the Department submits its capital priorities for consideration as part of the
11 Capital Expenditure Plan, the Department shall propose a plan, including development,
12 renovation, replacement and maintenance of capital assets and acquisitions, to the Parks,
13 Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Committee discussed in subsection (i) for review and to
14 the Commission for approval. The Capital Plan shall include the deferred maintenance plan,
15 which takes into consideration the following: (A) physical condition of Department assets;
16 (B) needs that, if continued to be left unaddressed, would result in additional costs and hazards
17 in the future; (C) prioritization of highly utilized assets; (D) Citywide community input;
18 (E) geographic equity; and (F) socio-economic equity. The Capital Expenditure Plan shall also
19 address irrigation, water conservation, and urban forestry, on park lands.

20 By December 1, 2000, the Department shall prepare, for Commission
21 consideration and approval, a five-year Capital Plan, to be updated annually, for the
22 development, renovation, replacement and maintenance of capital assets, and the acquisition of
23 real property. In its Capital Plan the Department shall propose specific properties to be
24 acquired for open space, recreation facilities, significant natural areas, and other recreational
25 purposes and shall prioritize capital and maintenance improvements and provide budgets

1 ~~associated with such improvements. Capital and acquisition projects will be designated by the~~
2 ~~Department based upon needs identified by the Department and the community. Capital projects~~
3 ~~will include the planning, design and construction of projects that rehabilitate, restore or~~
4 ~~replace existing facilities or that develop new facilities. Acquisition projects will include, but~~
5 ~~will not be limited to, purchase, lease, exchange, eminent domain, license or any other vehicle~~
6 ~~giving the City a right, whether revocable or not, to use real property, or any interest therein, or~~
7 ~~any improvement or development rights thereon, for recreational purposes, including, but not~~
8 ~~limited to, protection of natural resources, development of community gardens and development~~
9 ~~of urban trails, provided that, notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, no acquisition of~~
10 ~~less than fee simple title may be for a term of less than ten years.~~

11 (3-) Operational Plan. By February 1, 2017, and for each annual or biennial
12 budgetary cycle thereafter, as determined under Charter Section 9.101, the Department shall
13 prepare, for Commission consideration and approval, an Operational Plan. The Department
14 shall base the Operational Plan on the then-current Strategic Plan, and the Operational Plan
15 shall be in addition to the Department's budget. The Department shall include in the
16 Operational Plan a statement of the objectives and initiatives within the Strategic Plan that the
17 Department plans to undertake and/or accomplish during the next budgetary period, including
18 performance indicators and targets. The Operational Plan shall include an equity analysis of
19 Recreation and Park Department programs and resources. The analysis shall compare existing
20 and proposed programs and resources for low-income neighborhoods and disadvantaged
21 communities with programs and resources available to the City as a whole. Each Operational
22 Plan shall include an assessment of the Department's progress on the previous Operational
23 Plan.

24 The Department shall submit the proposed Operational Plan to the Parks,
25 Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Committee for its review and comment before submitting

1 the Plan to the Commission for its approval. Following Commission approval, the Department
2 shall file a copy of the Operational Plan with the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors.

3 The Department shall allocate and the Board of Supervisors shall appropriate, as a
4 separate line item, funds required for preparation, monitoring, and evaluation of the plans
5 required under this subsection (h).

6 ~~By December 1, 2001, the Department shall prepare, for Commission~~
7 ~~consideration and approval, a five-year Operational Plan, to be updated annually, detailing~~
8 ~~proposed improvements to the Department's services and responsiveness to customer needs. The~~
9 ~~annual Operational Plan will serve as a tool for improving the operational efficiency of the~~
10 ~~Department and will include measurable performance standards for the Department. The~~
11 ~~Department shall prepare the initial Operational Plan after conducting a performance audit of~~
12 ~~Departmental operations. Thereafter, the Department will conduct periodic performance audits.~~

13 The Commission shall establish a community input process, which shall may include the
14 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Citizens Advisory Committee discussed in section (i) ~~(h)~~,
15 below, through which citizens of the City and County of San Francisco will provide assistance to
16 the Commission as it develops criteria and establishes the plans required by this subsection.
17 Prior to the adoption of any Strategic Plan each five-year plan, the Department shall conduct at
18 least five hearings in locations distributed geographically throughout the City to receive and to
19 consider the public's comments upon the plan. The Commission shall ensure that at least two of
20 these hearings are held in the evenings or on weekends for the public's convenience.

21 ~~The Department shall report regularly annually, as a part of the City's budget process, to~~
22 ~~the Mayor and to the Board of Supervisors, on the status of the plans and on the status of~~
23 ~~Department goals, objectives and capital project timelines for the current fiscal year, as well as~~
24 ~~provide reports on performance measures required by this Section.~~

1 In the fourth year of each Strategic Plan under subsection (h)(1), the Controller's City
2 Services Auditor shall conduct a performance audit of the Department to assess the
3 Department's progress under the Strategic Plan and to inform the development of the
4 Department's next Strategic Plan. The audit shall include an analysis of the Department's
5 compliance with the planning and reporting measures in this subsection (h). The costs of the
6 audit may be charged to the baseline established in subsection (c).

7 If the audit finds that the Department has not complied with the requirements in this
8 subsection (h), the Board of Supervisors may place up to 5% of the baseline appropriation under
9 subsection (c) for the next fiscal year on reserve, pending subsequent release of the reserve by
10 Board action upon finding progress toward these requirements. The preceding sentence is not
11 intended to modify the Board's authority under the fiscal and budgetary provisions of the
12 Charter.

13 The Commission may modify any deadlines contained in this subsection (h) by resolution
14 adopted by a two-thirds vote of its members, and a resolution adopted by the Board of
15 Supervisors and approved by the Mayor.

16 (i) (~~h~~) Parks, Recreation, and Open Space ~~Citizens~~ Advisory Committee. The Board of
17 Supervisors shall establish, by ordinance, a Parks, Recreation, and Open Space ~~Citizens~~
18 Advisory Committee, such as the committee established in Park Code Section 13.01, as
19 amended, or any successor legislation.

20 (j) (~~i~~) Environmental and Design Guidelines. The Department ~~Commission~~ shall
21 maintain ~~adopt~~ written environmental and design guidelines for new facilities, parks, and open
22 spaces and the renovation or rehabilitation of existing facilities, parks, and open spaces. These
23 guidelines shall be consistent with any applicable standards of the Art and Planning
24 Commissions.

1 ~~(k) (j)~~ Capital Projects. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 3.104 of this Charter,
2 the Commission shall have the authority to prepare and approve the plans, specifications and
3 estimates for all contracts and orders, and to award, execute and manage all contracts and orders,
4 for capital projects on real property under its jurisdiction or management. Capital projects
5 supported by the Fund, other than those projects identified by the Department as long-term
6 projects, must be fully constructed within three years of the initial budget allocation for those
7 projects. Long-term projects must be fully constructed within five years of the initial budget
8 allocation. Any exceptions to this provision must be authorized by a two-thirds vote of the
9 Commission.

10 ~~The Recreation and Park Department and the Department of Public Works ("DPW")~~
11 ~~shall establish a committee to develop a written, capital implementation program, for the~~
12 ~~consideration of both Departments, that will govern DPW's involvement in capital projects~~
13 ~~undertaken by the Recreation and Park Department. In developing this program, the committee~~
14 ~~shall consider the Capital Plan discussed in subsection (g), above, staffing levels in both~~
15 ~~Departments, and the availability of other resources.~~

16 ~~(k) Unspent Funds. All unspent funds in the Park and Open Space Fund on June 30,~~
17 ~~2000 shall continue to be held for the use and benefit of the Department. These monies shall be~~
18 ~~expended in a manner consistent with the general purposes for which they were originally~~
19 ~~appropriated.~~

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1 (L) In addition to the requirements set forth by this Section 16.107, all expenditures from
2 the Fund shall be subject to the budget and fiscal provisions of the Charter.

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5 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
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8 By: _____
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 Deputy City Attorney

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