



Community
Planning
Discussion
on Parks and
Open Spaces
April 3, 2019
Bessie Carmichael
Elementary School

Key:

Yellow = Youth

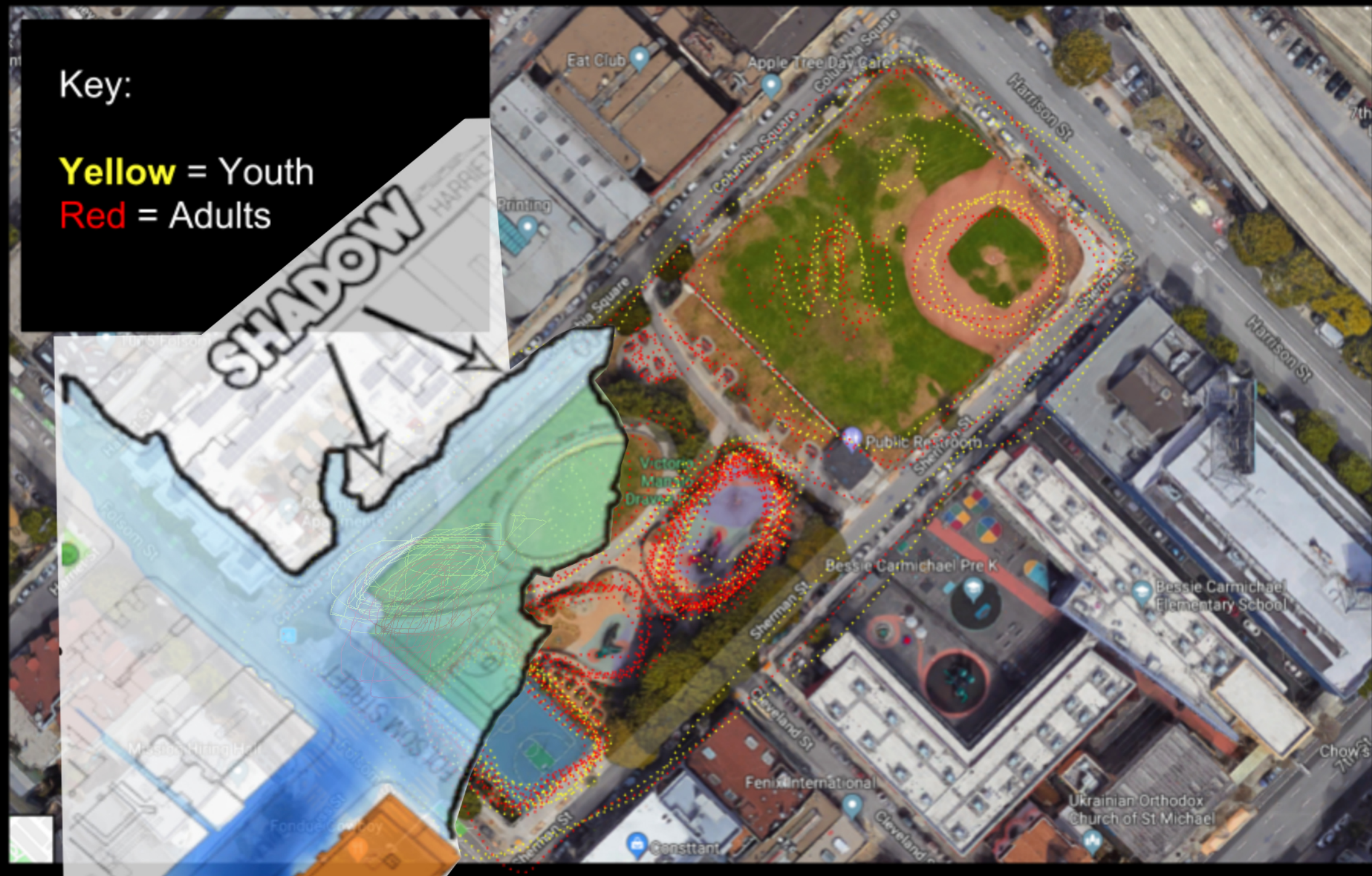
Red = Adults



Key:

Yellow = Youth

Red = Adults



New shadows over VMD will...

Darkens the area where our kids play and enjoy
Affect safety day-light saving time; have an effect to the kids well-being when at the park
Affect my garden
Compromise safety
Take away healthy sunlight
Block the sunlight
Contribute to depression and mental health problems
Unfairly impact our ONLY open space in SOMA
Attract homeless and drug addicts
Contribute to depression and reinforce white privilege
Make it colder and darker for the children, less fun for them
Make it cold
There will be no sunlight
No light
More dangerous
Limit our source of Vitamin D (sunlight)
Darkens area and makes it more dangerous for children
Ruin the space and park itself
Affect cleanliness and safety and take away a lot of light

I love VMD Park because...

It is our only park in SOMA

Named after a Filipina

It allows for a place for kids to play

Its accessible to the families and students of Bessie Carmichael

I can go there after work to relax, hang out, and get air fresh

I like the basketball court and the slide and playground

My child plays for recess

It allows my children to play

It is one of the landmarks in SOMA, close to school like an extension of the yard school

My kids feel free

I can go there after work and with my kids after school

VMD is Bessies kids park

It's convenient to take my daughter here after school and after a long day at work

The landscaping and infrastructure are new and modern

It was the only place close to take the children to play

Its location

Kids love it

Its close to Bessie

I play with my friends when my mom is off work and I can also play at the playground during school

It has a dog park

The environment and children's happy faces

Its accessible to the families and students of Bessie Carmichael

The lack of open space in SOMA will affect me and my family because...

We love the outdoors

It reinforces gentrification and pushes families out of SOMA & out of SF

Less outdoor space

We like to play

It will lessen outdoor activity options for our families

We love the sun and play outdoors the openness makes it safe

More danger for our kids less safer

It won't help the family to explore and learn for their physical development

My students will be impacted

Ye because I always gonna bring my kid's for enjoying so that there's affected to my family for lack of open space if there's a shadow

Kids won't have the place to play freely

Yes because I always am going to bring my kid's for enjoying so that there's affected to my family for lack of open space if there's a shadow

Open spaces is good for family bonding

We need peaceful open space for peace of mind. It's good for the soul

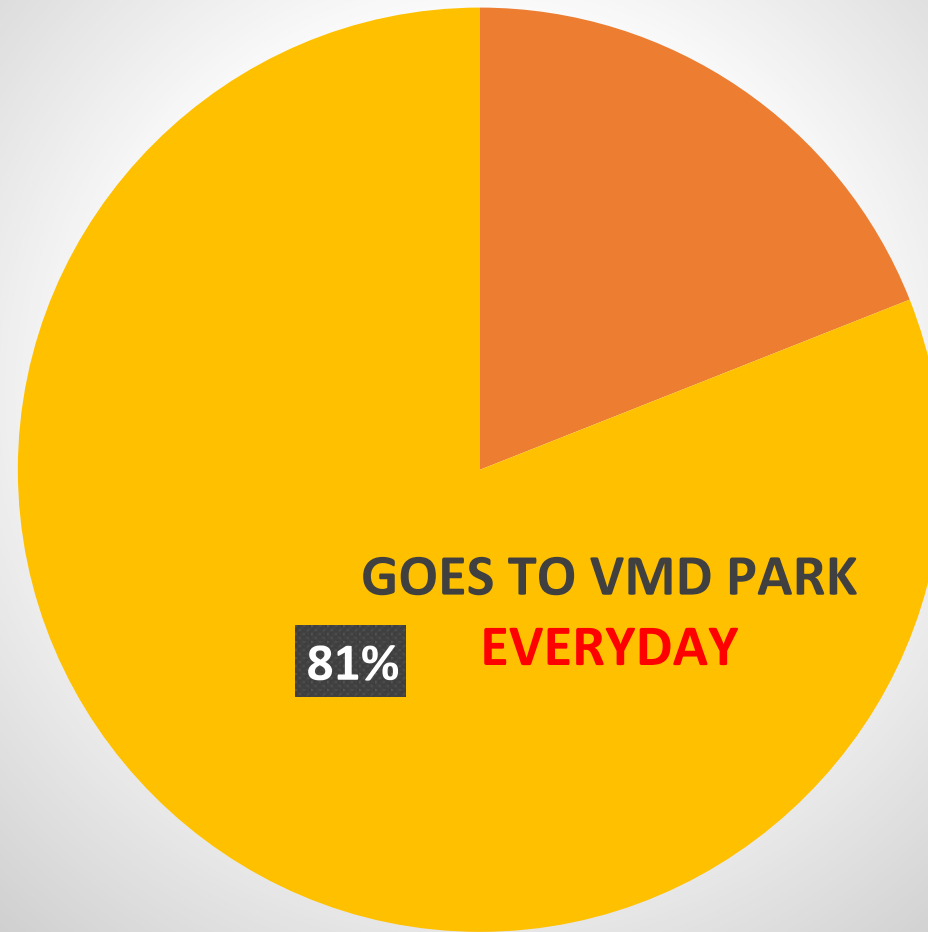
Rec and parks boasts having a park accessible to every SF residents within SOMA but they should consider population density

It is inequitable most neighborhoods have many open spaces we only have ONE

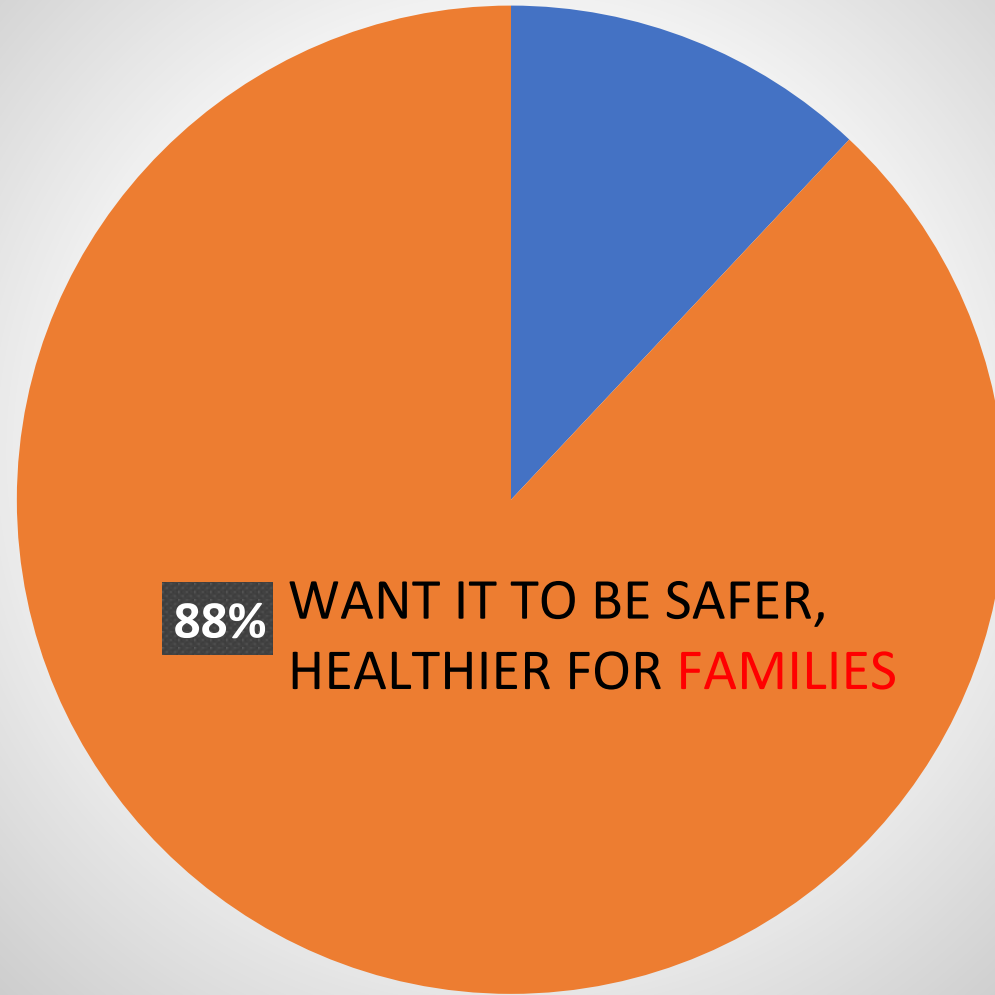
We live in a small apartment and we need a place where we can just relax

It wont help the family to explore and learn for their physical development

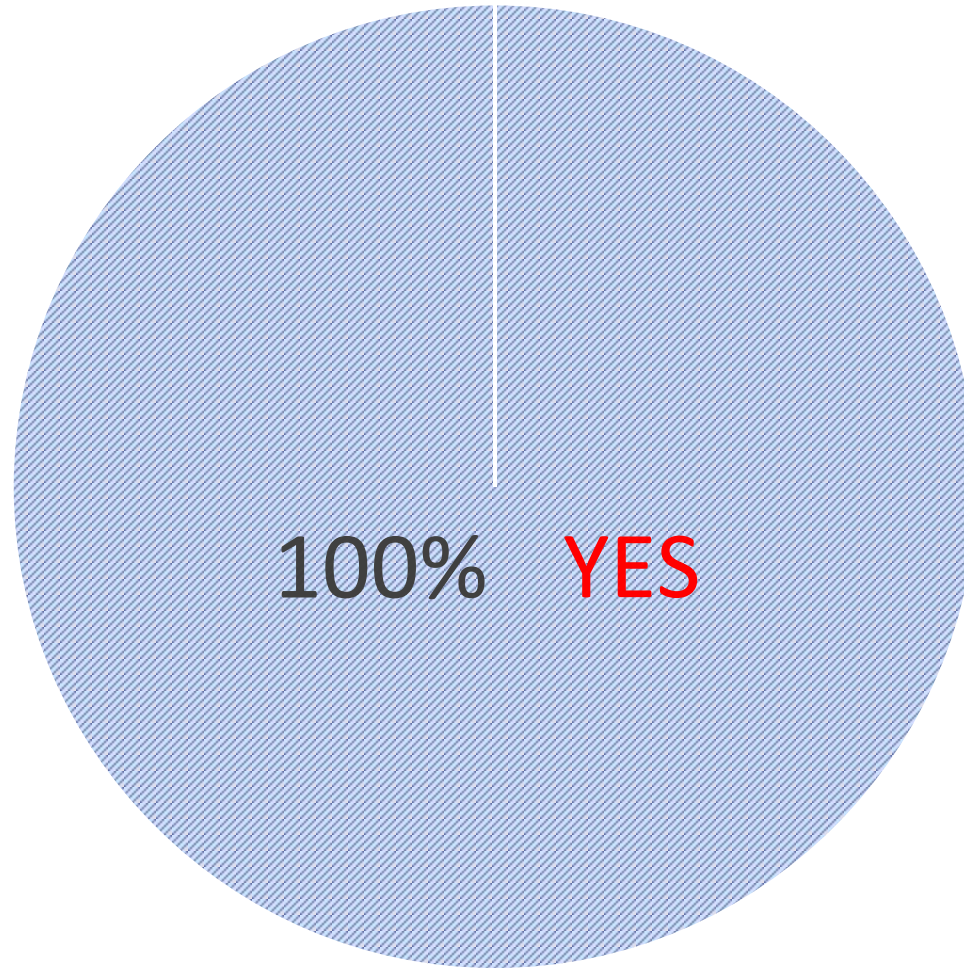
HOW OFTEN DO YOU GO TO VMD PARK?



WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE AT VMD PARK?



WILL YOU BE AFFECTED BY AN INCREASED SHADOW
NEGATIVELY?



From: Board of Supervisors, (BOS)
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 3:31 PM
To: BOS Legislation, (BOS)
Subject: FW: Letter Regarding 1052-1060 Folsom & 190-194 Russ St Appeal
Attachments: Letter of Support soma filipina2 .docx.pdf

From: Tyra Fennell <tyra@imprintcity.org>
Sent: Monday, April 8, 2019 9:50 PM
To: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Subject: Letter Regarding 1052-1060 Folsom & 190-194 Russ St Appeal

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

Dear President Yee and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

As a community steward, I wanted to write a letter **to urge you to support the 1052-1060 Folsom & 190-194 Russ St Appeal**. I am writing to express our great concern and opposition to the proposed 1052-1060 Folsom Street & 190-194 Russ Street project which will shadow VMD Park and will have a significant adverse impact on quality of life for SOMA residents and all users of VMD Park.

I am the founding director of Imprint City, an organization that cultivates art to activate community with an acute focus in the Bayview Hunters Point and the Southeast sector of San Francisco. I am also a member of the leadership team for the African American Cultural District and stand in solidarity with the residents and community members of the South of Market and all users of the Victoria Manalo Draves Park.

As you know, the project was denied in 2015 based on shadow impacts, and now the shadow and the project are both larger (0.07% shadow in 2015 VS 0.38% shadow currently). If this project is passed, it will set a dangerous precedent for future developments to further encroach upon access to sunshine at VMD – and other treasured City parks.

This issue is a matter of access to open space for a community that is park-starved. We are counting on you to uphold equity and champion our community efforts to protect our neighborhood.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at tyrafennellsf@gmail.com or call (415) 857-0638. Thank you.

Warmest Regards,

Tyra Fennell
CEO

Phone: 415-857-0638

Email: tyra@imprintcity.org

Website: imprintcity.org
bayviewlive.com

Personal Blog: Tyrafennell.com

Click here to "like" our [Facebook](#)

Twitter: @Imprintcity

Website: Imprintcity.org

Instagram: Imprint.City



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

April 8, 2019

Dear President Yee and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

As a community steward, I wanted to write a letter **to urge you to support the 1052-1060 Folsom & 190-194 Russ St Appeal**. I am writing to express our great concern and opposition to the proposed 1052-1060 Folsom Street & 190-194 Russ Street project which will shadow VMD Park and will have a significant adverse impact on quality of life for SOMA residents and all users of VMD Park.

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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at tyrafennellsf@gmail.com or call (415) 857-0638. Thank you.

Sincerely,
DocuSigned by:

Tyra Fennell

57BE640D8FE40D
Tyra Fennell

From: Board of Supervisors, (BOS)
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 2:55 PM
To: Brown, Vallie (BOS); Fewer, Sandra (BOS); Haney, Matt (BOS); Mar, Gordon (BOS); Mandelman, Rafael (BOS); Ronen, Hillary; Safai, Ahsha (BOS); Stefani, Catherine (BOS); Walton, Shamann (BOS); Yee, Norman (BOS); BOS Legislation, (BOS)
Subject: FW: District 3 constituent email: please vote yes on 63 units of housing at Russ and Folsom

-----Original Message-----

From: Brittany Shoot <bearinmind@brittanysshoot.com>
Sent: Monday, April 8, 2019 6:53 PM
To: Peskin, Aaron (BOS) <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>
Cc: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Subject: District 3 constituent email: please vote yes on 63 units of housing at Russ and Folsom

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

Hello,

I'm a longtime San Francisco resident in District 3, where I live and work. I am writing to ask that members of the Board of Supervisors, including Supervisor Peskin, approve the 63-unit housing project at Russ and Folsom at their meeting on April 9, 2019.

Please vote for this for the same reasons I urge you to vote in favor of other new housing developments in the city: longtime members of this community, including some of my dearest friends, are being priced out because there is not enough housing in San Francisco, at any market level except the very highest rates available only to the very wealthiest individuals. It is negligent, harmful, and against the best interests of this entire city to not build more housing units during the ongoing housing crisis, which the Board of Supervisors is uniquely able to help solve. Please do your jobs as Supervisors and vote to approve more housing developments, including the 63 unit apartment complex at Russ and Folsom, as these choices directly impact your constituents and our city.

Thank you,
Brittany Shoot
A voter and resident in District 3, San Francisco

From: Board of Supervisors, (BOS)
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 2:45 PM
To: BOS Legislation, (BOS)
Subject: FW: Please SUPPORT Russ & Folsom project

From: Charles Whitfield <whitfield.cw@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 8, 2019 3:39 PM
To: Haney, Matt (BOS) <matt.haney@sfgov.org>
Cc: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Subject: Please SUPPORT Russ & Folsom project

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

Dear Supervisor Haney,

My name is Charles Whitfield. I'm a renter living in D6, and I'm writing to urge you to support the proposed housing development at the corner of Russ & Folsom streets in my neighborhood.

This project is a great opportunity to add much-needed housing without displacement. As a renter in D6, I see first-hand the rent increases that come when the new housing isn't built to keep up with job growth. Please help the renters in D6 and across the city by supporting this project!

Additionally, I would love to see you and your team work to allow more housing to be built all across the city, especially in historically exclusionary neighborhoods. I've been really impressed by your commitment to improving non-car transportation in the district, and by your support of the Seawall Navigation Center on the Embarcadero. In your comments about the Nav Center, you voiced support for the center but also stressed the importance of all 11 districts of San Francisco doing their part to support individuals experiencing homelessness.

The same is true of the housing crisis! New housing in D6 is helpful and should be approved, but other districts are not doing enough. Most districts across the city are able to avoid new housing by virtue of their exclusionary zoning. I hope you'll approach the housing crisis with the same attitude and perspective that you've applied to the Nav Center issue.

Sincerely,

Charles Whitfield

From: Meagan Levitan <meaganlevitan@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 12:59 PM
To: normn.yee@sfgov.org; Jalipa, Brent (BOS)
Cc: smw@stevewilliamslaw.com; Walton, Shamann (BOS); Safai, Ahsha (BOS); Fewer, Sandra (BOS); Ronen, Hillary; Brown, Vallie (BOS); Haney, Matt (BOS); Mar, Gordon (BOS); Stefani, Catherine (BOS); Peskin, Aaron (BOS); MandelmanStaff, [BOS]
Subject: Today's hearing on the Folsom/Russ project appeal

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

Dear President Yee:

I am writing to urge you and your colleagues to grant the appeal of the Folsom/Russ project at today's meeting.

I served on the Recreation and Parks Commission for twelve years. In that time, we had a handful of votes asking to allow exemptions to the shadow ordinance in the case of projects that either had 'minimal' impact on parks properties or had minimal impact but whose project's benefit to the community allowed us, as a commission, to agree to an exemption.

This project, in a far smaller iteration, came before us in 2015. There was no question the impact on the park was significant AND the benefit of the project to the community so insignificant that rejecting their request to waive the shadow law arguably was one of our easier votes as a commission.

Now the project is far bigger, far denser and the shadow impact considerably greater than in 2015. Sadly, and almost inexplicably, my colleagues on the Recreation and Park Commission saw fit to approve the project nonetheless.

I urge you to take a stand, to respect that we have a law that protects light in our parks and that the public's trust of longstanding laws intended to serve the good of our citizens (and parks) are worth fighting for. This project has nothing compelling to it to suggest it deserves an exemption. Increasing the number of affordable housing units appeases concerns as to the project's density, NOT to its shadow impacts.

We cannot continue to say we care about communities of color and care about our open space and care about ensuring some element of a quality of life in neighborhoods that are fast becoming overbuilt when votes like this go in favor of developers. PLEASE think of the South of Market neighborhood and the impact this has on the Manalo Draves Park and the community it so significantly serves.

Think, too, the impact of your vote today, in the long term. I have long felt allowing exemptions for shadow impacts is a slippery slope. Obviously we're already at the bottom of that slope. But at least when we have allowed shadows in the past, the community benefited in a real and meaningful way. This is not one of those instances.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Meagan Levitan
Recreation and Parks Commissioner, 2004-2016

From: Board of Supervisors, (BOS)
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 10:38 AM
To: BOS-Supervisors; BOS Legislation, (BOS)
Subject: FW: Neighbor support for 1052 Folsom Street project

Categories: 190097, 190093

From: Hunter Oatman-Stanford <hoatmanstanford@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 12:29 AM
To: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Subject: Fwd: Neighbor support for 1052 Folsom Street project

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

Hi there,

I just wanted to voice my support for the housing project still attempting to receive approval at 1052 Folsom St.

As a neighbor in a BRM unit, we desperately need more housing in SoMa's underutilized lots, even if it means a few minutes of shadows on our parks. This particular project comes with so many great community benefits (from affordable housing to support for park staff) that it will certainly benefit all of SoMa's residents.

Please share this comment with whomever is appropriate at the Planning Department; thanks,

Hunter Oatman-Stanford
855 Folsom St. #502
SF CA 94107

From: Board of Supervisors, (BOS)
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 10:38 AM
To: BOS-Supervisors; BOS Legislation, (BOS)
Subject: FW: 1052-1060 Folsom & 190-194 Russ St Appeal
Attachments: scan0125.pdf

Categories: 190097, 190093

From: Bob Goldfarb <bob.goldfarb@sflcd.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 12:15 AM
To: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Cc: rlastimosa@somapilipinas.org
Subject: 1052-1060 Folsom & 190-194 Russ St Appeal

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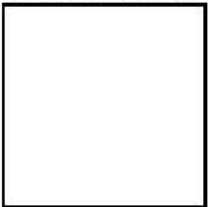
Dear Supervisors:

I am writing to support appeal of the 1052-1060 Folsom & 190-194 Russ St permits. Please see the attached letter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bob Goldfarb
Chairperson
Leather & LGBTQ Cultural District



**Leather & LGBTQ
Cultural District**

4/8/2019

Dear Supervisors:

Thank you for your commitment to equity and quality of life for all San Franciscans.

We urge you to support the 1052-1060 Folsom & 190-194 Russ St Appeal.

We are writing to express our great concern and opposition to the proposed 1052-1060 Folsom Street & 190-194 Russ Street project which will shadow VMD Park and will have a significant adverse impact on quality of life for SOMA residents and all users of VMD Park.

The Leather & LGBTQ Cultural District is a SOMA-based organization, and we are greatly disappointed that this 7 story luxury market-rate housing project will be allowed to shadow our beloved park. VMD Park is our only community park in SOMA, which has the lowest per capita of open space in the whole City. New shadows would occur for eight months out of the year, affecting heavily used areas including the basketball court, children's play area, grassy areas, benches, and park entry.

As you know, the project was denied in 2015 based on shadow impacts, and now the shadow and the project are both larger (0.07% shadow in 2015 VS 0.38% shadow currently). If this project is passed, it will set a dangerous precedent for future developments to further encroach upon access to sunshine at VMD – and other treasured City parks.

This issue is a matter of access to open space for a community that is park-starved. We are counting on you to uphold equity and champion our community efforts to protect our neighborhood.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Bob Goldfarb
Leather & LGBTQ Cultural District, Chairperson

From: Board of Supervisors, (BOS)
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 10:37 AM
To: BOS-Supervisors; BOS Legislation, (BOS)
Subject: FW: Subject line: 1052-1060 Folsom & 190-194 Russ St Appeal

Categories: 190097, 190093

From: Runa Miah <runamiah003@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 2:28 AM
To: Ronen, Hillary <hillary.ronen@sfgov.org>; Fewer, Sandra (BOS) <sandra.fewer@sfgov.org>; Peskin, Aaron (BOS) <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>; Safai, Ahsha (BOS) <ahsha.safai@sfgov.org>; Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>; Stefani, Catherine (BOS) <catherine.stefani@sfgov.org>; Brown, Vallie (BOS) <vallie.brown@sfgov.org>; Haney, Matt (BOS) <matt.haney@sfgov.org>; Mar, Gordon (BOS) <gordon.mar@sfgov.org>; Yee, Norman (BOS) <norman.yee@sfgov.org>; MandelmanStaff, [BOS] <mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org>
Cc: rlastimosa@somapilipinas.org; paul@somapilipinas.org; Vida K <vidak013@gmail.com>
Subject: Subject line: 1052-1060 Folsom & 190-194 Russ St Appeal

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

Dear President Yee and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

Thank you so for your commitment to equality, fairness, and making San Francisco a great city to live in.

I am writing urge you to support the 1052-1060 Folsom & 190-194 Russ St Appeal.

I am writing to express my great concern and opposition to the proposed 1052-1060 Folsom Street & 190-194 Russ Street project which will shadow VMD Park and will have a significant adverse impact on quality of life for SOMA residents and all users of VMD Park.

I have lived in SOMA for over 10 years and am heart-broken to hear that this 7 story luxury market-rate housing project will be allowed to shadow our beloved park. My siblings who attend and have attended Bessie Carmichael Elementary school, often play at this park. It is saddening to learn that they may have to play in the shadows and darkness.

Not only will this make it more unsafe to play in but also uninviting. I can foresee VMD Park becoming barren and lonely due to the gentrification and hostile environment.

VMD Park is our only community park in SOMA which has the lowest per capita of open space in the whole City. New shadows would occur for eight months out of the year, affecting heavily used areas including the basketball court, children's play area, grassy areas, benches, and park entry.

As you know, the project was denied in 2015 based on shadow impacts, and now the shadow and the project are both larger (0.07% shadow in 2015 VS 0.38% shadow currently).

If this project is passed, it will set a dangerous precedent for future developments to further encroach upon access to sunshine at VMD. Children already do not go out enough to get sunshine. Passing this project will make it easier for our kids and younger generations to dismiss the park as a place to go.

This issue is a matter of access to open space for a community that is park-starved. We are counting on you to uphold equity and champion our community efforts to protect our neighborhood.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Runa Miah

From: Board of Supervisors, (BOS)
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 10:36 AM
To: BOS-Supervisors; BOS Legislation, (BOS)
Subject: FW: Support the Russ and Folsom Street Project

Categories: 190097, 190093

From: Sabeek Pradhan <sabeekpradhan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 7:19 AM
To: Haney, Matt (BOS) <matt.haney@sfgov.org>
Cc: Board of Supervisors, (BOS) <board.of.supervisors@sfgov.org>
Subject: Support the Russ and Folsom Street Project

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

Dear Supervisor Haney,

My name is Sabeek Pradhan, and I'm a D6 resident and voter. I urge you to support the Russ and Folsom Street project today before the Board of Supervisors. The housing crisis is the single greatest problem facing the city, and it will soon get worse in Soma in particular as the Central Soma plan worsens our jobs to housing imbalance. In such times, we need more projects like this one, which adds 59 net new rental units, goes above and beyond the city's inclusionary zoning mandates, and provides ample accommodation for the existing tenants. An hour of shade on a local park should not take precedence over making a dent in the housing crisis that casts a shadow over the entire city, and indeed the entire Bay Area.

I look forward to your support for this crucial housing project, and for many more to come.

Thanks,

Sabeek Pradhan