



# SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

**MEMO**

**DATE:** June 19, 2020  
**TO:** Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Joy Navarrete, Principal Environmental Planner  
**RE:** CEQA Determination for  
BOS File Nos. 200478 and 200279, General Obligation  
Bond Election - Health and Recovery - Not to Exceed  
\$438,500,000

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As explained below, the Planning Department finds that Mayor London N. Breed's introduction of BOS File Nos. 200478 and 200279 for the purpose of submitting to San Francisco voters a proposition to incur bonded indebtedness of not to exceed \$438,500,000 to finance the acquisition or improvement of real property for the November 3, 2020, Election, are covered under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as follows:

**FACILITIES TO DELIVER SERVICES FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES, SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER, AND/OR HOMELESSNESS:** The proposed funding described in Section 3A of the Ordinance is excluded from CEQA because such funding is not defined as a "project" under CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(4), but is the creation of a government funding mechanism that does not involve any commitment to any specific projects at any specific locations.

**PARK, OPEN SPACE, AND RECREATION FACILITIES:**

For the improvements to the India Basin Open Space (as defined in Section 3B of the ordinance), the Board of Supervisors, in Motion No. 18-136, affirmed certification of the India Basin Mixed-Use Project Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) (State Clearinghouse Number 2016062003) and, in Ordinance No. 252-18, adopted findings under CEQA related to approvals in furtherance of the project and Development Agreement, including adoption of a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program ("MMRP"), and a Statement of Overriding Considerations. The proposed funding would implement the project as previously described and evaluated in the FEIR. Therefore, pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15162, the Planning Department hereby determines that no further environmental review for this proposal is required because there are no changes to the approved Project or its surrounding circumstances that would necessitate additional environmental review.

Four other Neighborhood Park projects, the Gene Friend Recreation Center (2018-012920ENV), the Herz Playground Recreational Center (2019-022397ENV), Buchanan Street Mall (2019-020014ENV), and the Japantown Peace Plaza (2019-000895ENV), each have been determined to be categorically exempt under CEQA.

The separate projects located at the Gene Friend Recreation Center and the Herz Recreational Center were each determined to be exempt as Category 32 exemptions for Infill Development Projects, and the separate projects located at the Buchanan Street Mall and the Japantown Peace Plaza were each determined to be exempt as a Category 1 exemption as a minor alteration to an existing facility, with Buchanan Street Mall also determined to be exempt as a Category 4 exemption as a minor alteration to existing land. The Planning Department hereby determines that no further environmental review for these four projects is required because there are no changes to the projects or their respective surrounding circumstances that would necessitate additional environmental review.

The remaining proposed Parks, Open Space and Recreation Facilities funding identified in Section 3B2 to 3B10 (the "Program Funding") would provide funding for: Citywide Parks, such as McLaren Park (including adjacent parks), Golden Gate Park, Lake Merced or other city parks; Recovery Parks, including Crocker Amazon and Buena Vista parks; Playground improvements; Sustainability efforts; creation of Community Opportunity Fund; Mini parks; Trail improvements; Community Gardens; creation of a Contingency Fund; and Administrative efforts. None of the identified funding would involve a commitment of the Bond proceeds to a particular project at a particular site. Instead, the Program Funding provides a financing mechanism to fund potential projects that would fall within these programs. Specific projects would be identified, reviewed, approved and funded under these programs after the Bond is passed.

The Planning Department has determined the Program Funding itself is excluded from CEQA because it is the creation of a government funding mechanism that does not involve any commitment to any specific projects at any specific locations and is not defined as a "project" under CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(4)..

**STREETS, CURB RAMPS, STREET STRUCTURES AND PLAZAS:** The proposed funding described in Section 3C of the Ordinance is excluded from CEQA because such funding is not defined as a "project" under CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(4), but is the creation of a government funding mechanism that does not involve any commitment to any specific projects at any specific locations.

**CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE:** The funding described in Section 3D of the Ordinance is excluded from CEQA because the funding is not defined as a "project" under CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5), but is organizational activity that does not result in a direct or indirect impact on the environment.