

April 2, 2026

Ms. Ashley Tomerlin, Board Secretary
San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development
Commission Design Review Board
375 Beale St., Ste. 510
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Public Comment Agenda Item San Francisco Marina Improvement & Remediation
Project, San Francisco; Second Review

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for soliciting comments from area residents about the plans for the San Francisco Improvement & Remediation Project. This stretch of historic shoreline and open space is one of our city's crown jewels, and it is certainly worth taking the time to carefully consider any proposed changes. As a resident of the Marina for nearly three decades, I am grateful that the city is attending to needed repairs and environmental remediation in this area, and I am generally in favor of the plan prepared by Recs and Parks, but I have several serious concerns that I would like to bring to the attention of the board.

Repair Existing Pathways along Water's Edge of Marina Green

The report does not seem to contemplate repairing the walkways and edging in the West Harbor between Marina Green and the water's edge. These walkways, part of the historic Marina Green promenade, are in desperate need of repairs. (See Figure 1, 2, and 3.) These walkways are a center piece of the Marina, frequently used by residents and visitors alike and a very popular place to view the sunset, take photos, sit on a bench and chat, et cetera. Indeed, residents of the Marina so value this particular space, with its direct, unimpeded proximity to the water and views of the Golden Gate Bridge, that they organized and fought hard to save it from enclosure with additional boat berths. Perhaps this needed repair is so self-evident that it is not obviously called out in the report, but I urge Parks and Rec and the Planning Board to talk about this and amend the plan as needed. It seems that before adding new things we should make sure that the basic existing infrastructure is in top-notch shape.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

Recreation Facility Proportions / Installation of Sand Volleyball Courts and Tree Plantings.

I am concerned that about 40 percent of the now wide-open green space of Marina Triangle is to be given over to sand volleyball courts and what seem to be trees or high plantings. While it is nice that a portion of lawn area will be left on the Marina Triangle, installing permanent playing fields on previously open space seems contrary to the goal of this project, which is to provide better access to the water and repair and enhance existing shoreline facilities. Why do we need these facilities that serve a special interest group at the expense of all?

Moreover, it is very difficult to tell from the plans circulated to Marina residents how high the trees and new plantings will be and if they will impede views of the water from Marina Boulevard for motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians, and residents.

The maintenance of open green space for respite is particularly important in this highly trafficked area which, on top of already vibrant casual recreational use, hosts many, many events throughout the year and especially on weekends: the Blue Angels, 4th of July festivities; a popular Sunday Farmers market; numerous festivals, conferences, performances, concerts, and craft fairs at Fort Mason; recreational and youth soccer leagues on Marina Green; sailboat races; and most recently Formula One racing demonstrations. Future re-zoning plans for the immediate neighborhood contemplate an enormous skyscraper at the sight of the current Marina Safeway, bringing thousands of new residents to this already very busy area. The establishment of new, permanent recreational facilities which will draw in organized league play and volleyball tournaments. Please do permanently erase the unique and historic open green space of the Marina Triangle and further burden this densely used area with noise and traffic for the benefit of a few. (See Video Clip 1 of a typical Sunday in the Marina [here](#) and Figure 4.)



Figure 4

Trash Cans. It is difficult to tell from the plans circulated to Marina residents where trash receptacles will be located. Despite its heavy weekend use, there are very few trash cans in this area, and every weekend the can at the corner of Marina and Buchanan is filled to overflowing. (See Figure 5) I hope that the new plan will ensure adequate facilities for trash disposal and removal.



Figure 5 Trash Can on Marina and Buchanan on a Typical Sunday. This is minor.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments and for all that you are doing to make our city a great place to live and visit. Please feel free to contact me to discuss.

Sincerely,

Natalie Marine-Street

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