



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

L0030

1650 Mission St.
Suite 400
San Francisco,
CA 94103-2479

Reception:
415.558.6378

Fax:
415.558.6409

Planning
Information:
415.558.6377

March 5, 2014

Members, San Francisco Planning Commission
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103-2479

RE: **Recommendations for Preservation Policy language in the
Recreation and Open Space Element of the San Francisco General Plan**

President Wu and Members of the San Francisco Planning Commission:

On February 5th and February 19th, 2014 the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) held public hearings and took public comment on the department's proposed November 2013 Draft Recreation and Open Space Element (ROSE), the HPC arrived at the comments below:

1. The HPC and Planning Department (Department) staff discussed adding the following policy language to the draft ROSE:

NEW POLICY 1.12

Recognize the value of historic buildings and cultural landscapes.

Historic and cultural resources are an important element of our park system. The value of these resources should be celebrated as they provide an important link to the significant events, people, places or design that they represent.

NEW POLICY 1.13

Preserve and protect character-defining features of historic and cultural resources in City parks, when it is necessary to make alterations to accommodate new needs or uses.

The City should identify, evaluate, and preserve historic and cultural resources in City parks. Prior to any project that involves the alteration or replacement of any of these resources, the City should conduct a comprehensive survey and analysis to identify resources and associated character-defining features within the vicinity of the proposed project. The removal of distinctive materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize the resource should generally be avoided. All options to retain the resource should be considered prior to the replacement of historic and cultural resources.

New bullet point under a new sustainability policy:

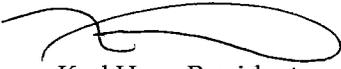
POLICY 4.4

**Include environmentally sustainable practices in construction, renovation, management and maintenance of open space and recreation facilities.
Historic Preservation.**

Appropriate repair and retrofitting of existing historic resources is an inherently sustainable strategy and ensures that the character and integrity of significant historic resources is maintained. Adaptive reuse, such as for new programming, accessibility, life and safety, and systems upgrades, is a strategy that can be used to conserve materials, minimize impacts to the environment, promote a sense of place, and improve livability.

Today, the HPC held its final public hearing on the department's draft Recreation and Open Space Element. The HPC appreciates the opportunity to participate in the review of the update to the Element.

Sincerely,



Karl Hasz, President
Historic Preservation Commission