



# Meeting the Open Space Challenges of the Future

September 22, 2008

Dear Community Member,

We are soliciting your participation and opinions about the future of Open Space in San Francisco at a choice of meetings and venues listed below.

The Planning Department, the Mayor's Office of Greening and the Recreation and Parks Department have been working closely with other city agencies, as well as with our nonprofit partner, the Neighborhood Parks Council, to create an Open Space Framework for the City of San Francisco.

The Open Space Framework aims to provide all the elements needed to achieve San Francisco's goal of a comprehensive open space network, one that is made up of local, citywide, regional and even national destinations, and that provides space for people in every neighborhood to relax, recreate and enjoy the natural beauty of our city on a daily basis. The Open Space Framework will include many different components:

- The first will be a **Vision Map** for open space for the City for the next 100 years – a broad outline of what the City's ideal open space network would look like.
- The second will be the City's guiding policy document, a revised **Recreation and Open Space Element (ROSE)**, which is part of the City's General Plan and will guide open space development, acquisition and priorities for the City of San Francisco for the next 25 years.
- The final component will be a short-term **Action Plan** – a set of five and ten year implementation programs.

While the Open Space Framework cannot guide specific site acquisition or renovation, it will provide a roadmap for policy makers, City agencies and our open space partners in setting overall citywide priorities for open space.

We would like to hear from you and your neighborhood organizations about your priorities for open space. There are many ways in which you and your organization can participate.

- Join us at a public meeting: We'd like to hear from you in person, so join us at one of the venues listed below.
  - Neighborhood Parks Council Launch - Our partner organization, the Neighborhood Parks Council, will be hosting a **Community Forum October 15, 2008**, where staff will solicit feedback on open space priorities. Please check our website [www.openspacesf.org](http://www.openspacesf.org) for time and venue. Please email [kedwards@sfnpc.org](mailto:kedwards@sfnpc.org) to RSVP.

- Open Space Task Force Meeting: The Open Space Task Force is a group of over 80 landscape architects, park advocates, academics, community and business leaders, and residents who are interested in open space. The next meeting of the **Open Space Task Force** will be open for all to attend and will be held on **November 13, 2008** in the Bayside Conference Room in Pier 1 from 3-5pm. Please sign up to get on our mailing list (either via the website or by contacting staff) and we will make sure to inform you of the details of the November Task Force meeting.
- Provide **feedback online, at <http://www.openspacesf.org>**: Our website is updated regularly and provides information about upcoming public events, ways to provide feedback online, and the opportunity to get on our mailing list. Please also take a minute to fill out our short survey about open space priorities.
- Attend a meeting in your neighborhood: Our project team, along with our community partners in your neighborhood, will be hosting a series of **community meetings throughout the city from mid-October through February 2009**. Please continue to check the calendar of events at <http://www.openspacesf.org/event> as we update the list of the community meetings.
- Attend a Hearing
  - **Planning Commission Hearing** - The Planning Commission will kick-off the outreach process for the Recreation and Open Space Element on **October 2nd at 1:30pm** at City Hall Room 400 (Please check the Planning Department's calendar for updated time information [www.sfgov.org/planning](http://www.sfgov.org/planning)). Additional hearings will be held in the Spring, so if you are unable to attend this first hearing, get on the email list or check our website for commission presentations.
  - **Recreation and Parks Commission Hearing**—The Recreation and Parks Department will hold an informational hearing on the Recreation and Open Space Element on, **November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008** at 2:30pm (Please check the Recreation and Park Commission calendar for updated Agenda information, [www.parks.sfgov.org](http://www.parks.sfgov.org))
- Contact a member of our team: Our project team is made up of staff from the Mayor's Office on Greening, the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Planning Department, the Neighborhood Parks Council (NPC), and our partners in the community. **Call or email us to learn more about the project and how to get involved! We'd love to hear from you.**

Thanks in advance for participating; your feedback and engagement is very valuable to this process.

Sincerely,

**The Open Space Planning Team**

*Mayor's Office of Greening*

*Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services*

*Planning Department*

*Recreation and Park Department*

*Neighborhood Parks Council*

**Contact Information:**

**Websites**

[www.openspacesf.org](http://www.openspacesf.org) (Open Space Framework and outreach process)

<http://openspace.sfplanning.org> (Recreation and Open Space Element)

**For general inquiries or comments,**

Email: [Openspace@sfgov.org](mailto:Openspace@sfgov.org)

**For questions about the outreach or how to get involved,**

Email: [kedwards@sfnpc.org](mailto:kedwards@sfnpc.org)

Phone: 415-621-3260

**For specific questions about the Recreation and Open Space Element,**

Email: [Susan.Exline@sfgov.org](mailto:Susan.Exline@sfgov.org)

Phone: 415-558-6332

**Other parks and open space resources for your convenience:**

Neighborhood Parks Council Website [www.sfnpc.org](http://www.sfnpc.org)

Survey your Neighborhood Park with ParkScan [www.parkscan.org](http://www.parkscan.org)

Recreation and Parks Department Website [www.parks.sfgov.org](http://www.parks.sfgov.org)

Planning Department Website [www.sfgov.org/planning](http://www.sfgov.org/planning)