



Mayor London Breed  
Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager

Ralph Remington  
Director of Cultural Affairs  
San Francisco Arts Commission  
401 Van Ness, Suite 325  
San Francisco, CA 94102

May 27, 2021

Dear Director Remington,

I'm writing to request the removal of existing public art at the Gene Friend Recreation Center.

Our team at the Recreation and Park Department has been working in partnership with Arts Commission staff for several years, during an extensive community outreach and planning process. This planning culminated in a concept design that has been approved by the Recreation and Park Commission and the Arts Commission's Civic Design Review Committee. The project will entail a full replacement of the site, including a brand new, larger recreation center and all new landscape and site improvements.

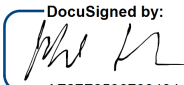
Rec and Park supported the Arts Commission and consultants in assessing the cost of removing, conserving, and restoring the existing artwork on site. The cost estimates were very high, in excess of the value of the art. There were also questions as to whether the artwork could survive conservation.

The project budget includes hundreds of thousands of dollars for new public art as part of the Art Enrichment Allocation. We are excited to work with Arts Commission staff, artist(s), and community members to integrate significant and meaningful artwork with the new facility.

Rec and Park has reached out to core community stakeholders, as well as the project outreach email list developed over the last several years, to alert community members to the possibility of deaccessioning the existing public art. No opposition has been encountered as part of this process.

We therefore request that your staff move forward with the Arts Commission's process for deaccessioning, in conjunction with the critical path for delivery of the capital renovation.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Philip A. Ginsburg  
General Manager

5/27/2021

Cc: Susan Pontious, Program Director  
Allison Cummings, Senior Registrar

