

BOARD of SUPERVISORS



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Youth Commission
FROM: Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board
DATE: October 27, 2009
SUBJECT: REFERRAL FROM BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Board of Supervisors has received the following, which at the request of the Youth Commission is being referred as per Charter Section 4.124 for comment and recommendation. The Commission may provide any response it deems appropriate within 12 days from the date of this referral.

File: 091210

Turf Athletic Fields

Please return this cover sheet with the Commission's response to **Victor Young, Clerk, City Operations and Neighborhood Services.**

RESPONSE FROM YOUTH COMMISSION Date: _____

_____ **No Comment**

_____ **Recommendation Attached**

Chairperson, Youth Commission

1 [Recreation and Park Department—Turf Athletic Fields.]

2
3 **Ordinance repealing the portion of uncodified Ordinance No. 077-06 that authorizes the**
4 **Recreation and Park Department (RPD) General Manager to accept future gifts of the**
5 **synthetic athletic fields (“Turf fields”) without the approval of the Board of**
6 **Supervisors; and adding S.F. Park Code Section 3.21 to require RPD to submit an**
7 **annual report on the Turf fields to the Board of Supervisors.**

8 NOTE: Additions are *single-underline italics Times New Roman*;
9 deletions are *strike-through italics Times New Roman*.
10 Board amendment additions are double-underlined;
11 Board amendment deletions are ~~strikethrough-normal~~.

12 Be it ordained by the People of the City and County of San Francisco:

13 Section 1. Ordinance No. 077-06, is hereby amended by amending Section 2, to read
14 as follows:

15 **Ordinance No. 077-06 Accepting a gift to the Recreation and Park Department of**
16 **synthetic turf athletic fields valued at approximately \$4.5 million from the City Fields**
17 **Foundation.**

18 Section 1. Findings.

19 The Planning Department has determined that the actions contemplated in this
20 Ordinance are in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public
21 Resources Code section 21000 et seq.), such findings are on file with the Clerk of the Board
22 of Supervisors (“Clerk of the Board”) in File No. 060255, and are hereby incorporated by
23 reference.

24 The City, through the Recreation and Park Department, maintains and operates athletic
25 fields throughout the City, including the fields located at Garfield Square and Silver Terrace
Playground. RPD has a compelling need to renovate and maintain its ball fields so that its

1 residents, guests and especially its children can have a safe and aesthetically pleasing
2 environment where they can play soccer, baseball and other field sports. The existing City
3 ball fields cannot meet the demand for play and many have fallen into a state of disrepair in
4 part because of overuse, misuse and budgetary constraints. In recent years, manufacturers
5 have developed new artificial or synthetic turf products ("Turf") that permit year-round use of
6 ball fields unlike grass fields, thereby increasing the availability of these fields for public use,
7 provide cushioned play surfaces that minimize injuries, eliminate grass fields' need for
8 substantial water, and make use of recycled products.

9 RPD replaced two of its grass play fields with Turf and is interested in converting other
10 such fields to Turf, but cannot afford the necessary capital investment to build additional Turf
11 fields. The Foundation wants to renovate the grass athletic fields at Garfield Square and
12 Silver Terrace Playground with Turf and provide maintenance for these new fields. RPD will
13 continue to maintain the surrounding park area. RPD will provide training and the necessary
14 equipment to RPD staff for the maintenance of the existing Turf fields, Youngblood-Coleman
15 and Franklin Square. Any future gifts of Turf fields from the Foundation will not include a
16 maintenance contract if RPD demonstrates that it is maintaining Youngblood-Coleman and
17 Franklin Square turf fields to the manufacturers' highest recommended standards.

18 The terms and conditions of the gift, including cross-indemnification provisions, are
19 detailed the Agreement Between the City and County of San Francisco and the San Francisco
20 Fields Foundation ("Agreement"), on file with the Clerk of the Board in File No. 060255.

21 Through a series of community meetings, conceptual plans for the improvements at
22 these facilities were developed and approved by the Recreation and Park Commission
23 ("Commission") on February 16, 2006, Resolution No. 06002-005, on file with the Clerk of the
24 Board in File No. 060255. On February 16, 2006, the Commission approved this Agreement,
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1 and recommended that the Board of Supervisors accept this gift, Resolution Nos. 0602-005
2 and 0602-011, on file with the Clerk of the Board in File No. 060255.

3 Section 2. The Board of Supervisors hereby accepts the gift of the Turf fields, valued
4 at approximately \$4,500,000 from the City Fields Foundation, approves the accompanying
5 Agreement, including the cross-indemnification provisions, on file with the Clerk of the Board
6 in File No. 060255, and authorizes the RPD General Manager to sign the Agreement on
7 behalf of the City and County of San Francisco. ~~The Board further authorizes the RPD General~~
8 ~~Manager to accept future gifts of Turf fields from the Foundation. As of the effective date of this~~
9 ~~Amendment, dated for reference as October 20, 2009, all future gifts of Turf fields are subject to~~
10 ~~acceptance by the Board of Supervisors.~~ Additionally, the Board authorizes the RPD General
11 Manager to accept maintenance contracts from the Foundation with any future gifts of Turf
12 fields, if RPD has demonstrated that it is not maintaining the Youngblood-Coleman and
13 Franklin Square Turf fields to the manufacturers' highest recommended standards.

14 Section 3. This Section is uncodified. One year from the effective date of this
15 legislation and on an annual basis thereafter for the life of the abovementioned Agreement,
16 the General Manager of the Recreation and Park Department shall submit a written report to
17 the Board describing all actions taken in furtherance of said Agreement, including, but not
18 limited to, maintenance costs and savings.


19 Section 2. The San Francisco Park Code is hereby amended by adding Section 3.21,
20 to read as follows:

21 **SEC. 3.21. Turf Fields Report.**

22 Sixty (60) days after the effective date of this ordinance, and annually, thereafter, the
23 Recreation and Park Department shall submit a written report to the Board regarding construction of
24 fields made from synthetic turf products ("Turf fields"), including, but not limited to, capital costs,
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1 maintenance costs and savings, and information documenting health, safety and environmental
2 impacts.

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4 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
5 DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

6 By: 
7 VIRGINIA DARIO ELIZONDO
8 Deputy City Attorney

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LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Recreation and Park Department—Turf Athletic Fields.]

Ordinance repealing the portion of uncodified Ordinance No. 077-06 that authorizes the Recreation and Park Department (RPD) General Manager to accept future gifts of the synthetic athletic fields ("Turf fields") without the approval of the Board of Supervisors; and adding S.F. Park Code Section 3.21 to require RPD to submit an annual report on the Turf fields to the Board of Supervisors.

Existing Law

In April 2006, the Board of Supervisors accepted by an uncodified Ordinance No. 077-06, a gift of synthetic athletic fields from the City Fields Foundation valued at approximately \$4.5 million, for the creation of Turf fields on Recreation and Park property. That Ordinance also authorized the Recreation and Park Department (RPD) General Manager to accept future donations of Turf fields without returning to the Board for approval. The Ordinance also required the Recreation and Park Department to submit an annual written report to the Board describing actions taken in furtherance of the gift agreement, including the maintenance costs and savings of the Turf fields.

Amendments to Current Law

1. Requires Board acceptance of future gifts of Turf fields in conformance with S. F. Administrative Code.
2. Moves the requirement that RPD provide an annual written report to the Board from the uncodified Ordinance No. 077-06, to the S. F. Park Code, and requires that health, safety and environmental impacts be included in that report.