

# MAJOR CHANGES PROPOSED FOR THE GOLDEN GATE PARK BEACH CHALET SOCCER FIELDS AT OCEAN BEACH, ADDING ARTIFICIAL TURF AND INTENSE 60 FT. SPORTSFIELD LIGHTING

The Recreation and Park Department is planning to build a soccer complex at the western end of Golden Gate Park near Ocean Beach, replacing the current grassy practice meadow with expanded artificial turf fields and intensive sportsfield lighting on 60 foot poles. The lights will be on from before sunset until 10:00 p.m. most nights, all year. Paving will be increased. More lighting will be added at the parking and around the fields. Planning documents show the eventual addition of a fifth and sixth field. This project will change the western edge of Golden Gate Park from a pastoral landscape to an urbanized space extending over one-half the width of the Park, an area larger than Candlestick Park.

No environmental impact report has been done for this project. Yet, potential impacts are a degraded wildlife habitat, loss of trees and natural grass lawn, an increase in traffic in the Park and the neighborhoods, decreased available parking at Ocean Beach for beach visitors, bright lights at Ocean Beach with decreased night sky darkness, and infringement on the wild nature of Ocean Beach and on the natural landscape of the western end of Golden Gate Park .

Outreach has been limited to a few meetings at the western edge of the Park. Most San Franciscans do not know anything about this project – with the exception of the soccer community, which has been gathering support since last spring. SF Ocean Edge is not against active recreation, but Golden Gate Park is everyone's park. A change of this magnitude must have a full public review process as well as a full environmental review before it is approved.

Please contact your representatives and ask that approval for this project be put on hold for six months, so that these issues can be investigated. San Franciscans need the opportunity to learn about this major change to Golden Gate Park and to express their concerns or support. See our website for more information.

[sfoceanedge@earthlink.net](mailto:sfoceanedge@earthlink.net)

[www.sfoceanedge.org](http://www.sfoceanedge.org)

## **THIS PROJECT IS ON A FAST TRACK FOR APPROVAL. PLEASE WRITE TODAY!**

**Express your concern. Request a delay of project approval and a full Environmental Impact Report. BE SURE TO COPY US ON YOUR LETTERS!**

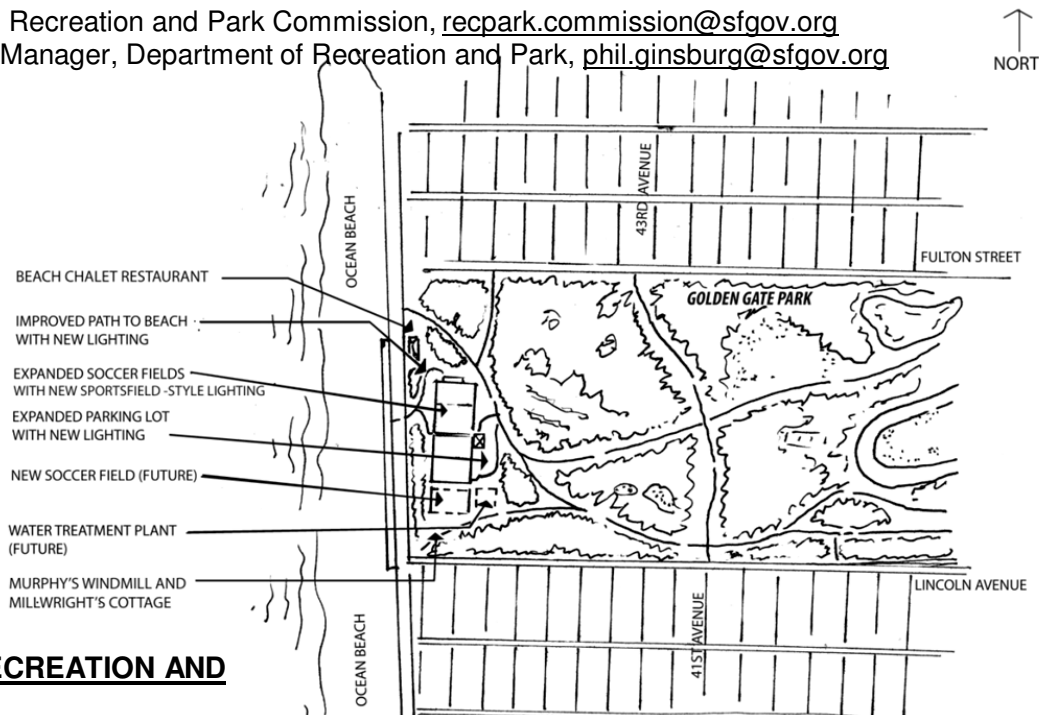
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- Phil Ginsburg, General Manager, Department of Recreation and Park, [phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org](mailto:phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org)

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### **PLAN TO ATTEND THE NEXT RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION MEETING:**

January 21, 2009, City Hall  
See our website or [www.sfgov.org](http://www.sfgov.org) for final date, agenda, time, and room number.



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[WWW.SFOCEANEDGE.ORG](http://WWW.SFOCEANEDGE.ORG)

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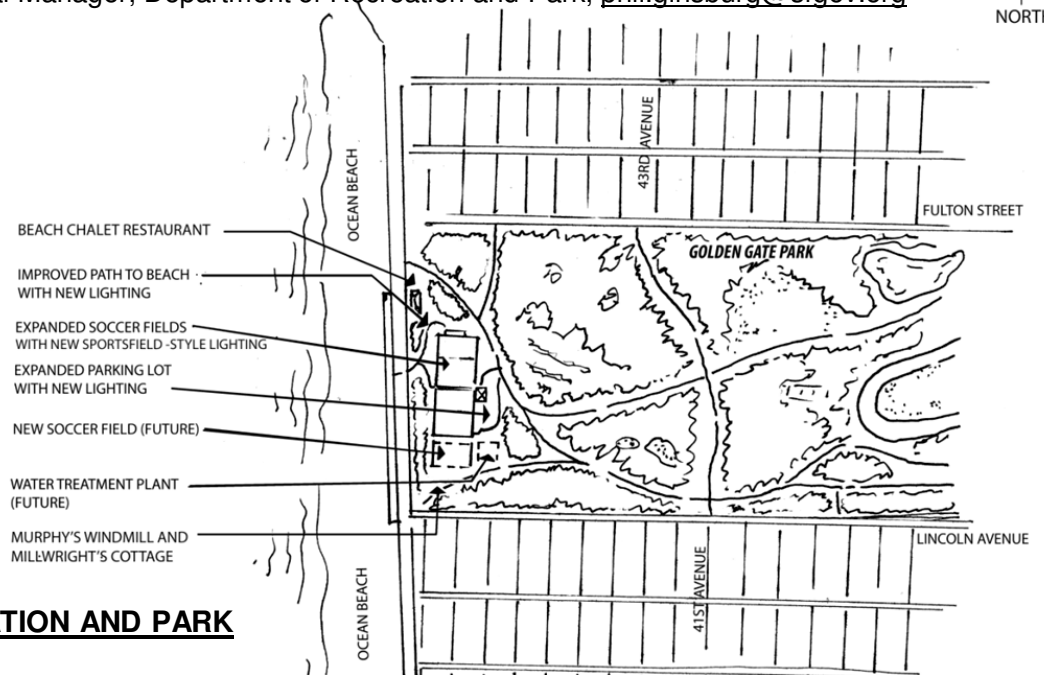
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Mayor Gavin Newsom:  
[gavin.newsom@sfgov.org](mailto:gavin.newsom@sfgov.org)

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