

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Christina Horrisberger](#); [Joanne Magrini](#); [Rendell Bustos](#); [Somer Smith](#); [PR Commission Mailbox](#)
Cc: [Patrice Olds](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Richard Hedges](#)
Subject: Parks & Rec Commission meeting on Fish Market Development - Green Space
Date: Friday, September 15, 2023 7:36:59 AM

Dear Parks & Recreation Commission:

My name is Danielle Cwirko-Godycki, lifelong resident of Shoreview, and neighborhood president for the Shoreview-Parkside area. I'm reaching out RE the meeting on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, about the use of green space around the proposed development at the Fish Market.

A couple comments/notes/recommendations:

1. As I've walked around the neighborhood, and spoken with fellow residents over the last year, particularly, in the Parkside area, there is a want for trading vegetables, shrubs, plants etc. I wonder if the parks and recreation commission/applicant would consider adding a small community garden or trading post, as part of the proposed development? I realize there are some risks like wild animals, scavengers etc., but believe this would be a great way to bring community members together, have residents spend more time outdoors, and, make the very eco-conscious community in Parkside happy. In addition, a community garden would act as force-function to get new residents in the development introduced to neighbors in Parkside. Other notes: As someone who has a career in design, if a community garden were added, it's important it be aesthetically and visually pleasing, and fit with the new development, no chain link fences.
2. The proposed development project sits at a critical entry point to the neighborhood. It would great for people driving by, or, waiting in traffic at the light, to have a line of sight to the lagoon, OR, a green lawn. This would make for a good focal point, and a better "welcome" to the neighborhood. I imagine the lawn could be used for picnics, walking dogs in the morning/evening, and would promote a positive feel/ambiance in the area. Maybe adding 1-2 picnic benches or park benches would be nice. Picnic benches /park benches would promote outdoor use, and community gatherings. Adjacent to the library could be a good space for a lawn, it would promote reading.
3. I heard that one of the proposed ideas for the space is recreational boating access to the lagoon, with a dock. I think that this is a lovely idea "in theory", however, as we've learned in the last year, the area where the Fish Market sits, is listed as 1 of 3 spots by the Department of Public Works and a 2018 hydrological study by Moffet & Nickels, requiring a critical spot dredge(due to build up of silt and debris). The community in D4 are hardcore boaters and would love more access points for recreational boating, or getting to the Parkside Shopping center via the water, but, currently their isn't enough depth to support this. Do we know if the applicant is planning to create a public fund or assist the city in any dredging related projects?
4. Trees, and I'm writing for myself, I personally don't like trees in this particular area. I worry about excess debris in the lagoon, and in storms trees fall over... it creates a mess and more work. Perhaps, small planters or a shrub garden? I'm assuming the building will have a fresh, modern design, so, shrubs would liven up the environment, and make residents spend more time outdoors.

5. Pedestrian walkway along the lagoon. I am in favor of this. I know our neighbors in Harbortown have questions about public access during the evening hours, so this should be investigated further, but, generally, a walkway promotes exercise, outdoor use, and would be a recreational benefit.

Thanks you for your consideration,

Danielle Cwirko-Godycki
Resident, Shoreview



From: [REDACTED]
To: [Richard Hedges; planningcommission@cityofsanmateo.or](mailto:planningcommission@cityofsanmateo.or); [PR Commission Mailbox](#); [Somer Smith](#)
Subject: Fish Market Green Space
Date: Monday, September 18, 2023 10:19:32 AM

Ideally, this land would have been saved for a park and not development. The lagoon is very special to a lot of residents in San Mateo. They have spent decades celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, weddings etc. at the Fish Market looking out into one of the only spaces on the Peninsula with a water view.

That said, please make sure that whatever planting goes around this place mitigates the huge structure. There are lots of trees running along the street now which is nice. I would also suggest that whatever plants are used that they do not attract geese.

The Parkside neighborhood is a very busy area with lots of pedestrians with children and dogs. Also, there are a lot of bicyclists. Please make sure they can stop off at this location to enjoy the lagoon view with safe and easy access. A lot of folks walk to and from Bridgepoint and on the path on opposite side of lagoon.

I can see library patrons especially the parents and tots going from the library to get coffee at the cafe that this development proposes or sitting and playing with the lagoon in the background. Picnic tables or game tables would be great and benches. I am sure folks that came to the Fish Market for celebrations would want to visit this spot. Perhaps, some monument or reference to the Fish Market. Also, memorial bricks.

A spot for exercises for yoga etc would be great like at the base of the old trash hill. And to lock up bikes.....

A spot for a farm market vendor or two would be wonderful. Like they have at the PJCC. Mini Farmers market.

If you could work something out with the developer, for public access to the rooftop during certain hours that would be huge bonus to the community which is very dense already. Especially, with the increase in adu's in this district. Or perhaps, they could develop the area in front of the library for beach access and a walkway from deck. The Aquatic Park is overrun most of the year due to its popularity. That is why use of this space in an inviting manner would be wonderful.

View of the lagoon from the street would be great....

Thank you for taking this into consideration.

Laura Wood-Parkside resident

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PR Commission Mailbox](#)
Cc: [Planning Commission](#)
Subject: green space around the Fish Market Development
Date: Monday, September 18, 2023 11:45:15 AM

Hello Parks and Recreation Commission,

Please consider building a park so there is a park near the Marina library and benches do people can check our books and read at the park. Also, a coffee shop so it can be one stop outing for the community!

Thank you,

Ashley Jerome

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Liliana Gray](#)
To: [Liliana Gray](#)
Subject: Outdoor space - The Fish Market
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 11:49:56 AM

From: Johanna Hercules [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2023 12:31 PM
To: PR Commission Mailbox <PRCommissionMailbox@CityofSanMateoOrg.onmicrosoft.com>
Cc: Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@cityofsanmateo.org>
Subject: Outdoor space - The Fish Market

Hello Parks and Recreation Commission,

I'm a resident of San Mateo, Ca and live 0.3 miles from The Fish Market. As a resident and recent home owner in San Mateo, I would like to see the space around The Fish Market developed into a park with a grassy field, with a designated paved walking/bike path along the waterfront. Parks are limited in San Mateo and it would be great to have more places to safely enjoy the outdoors and

Thank you,
Johanna

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PR Commission Mailbox](#); [Planning Commission](#)
Subject: Fish Market Development
Date: Monday, September 18, 2023 9:50:35 PM

Hello City Planners,

I am a San Mateo resident and live very close to the Marina Library and the Fish Market. I'm excited for the new development.

I ask that you please consider having public access along the lagoon. In our busy lives, we need places to connect with nature. Being able to see water, even a functional lagoon whose main purpose is to prevent flooding, can bring added peace and tranquility to our community. Having access to safe public paths is important to our health, and helps provide a sense of community.

Please support designs that have public access to the lagoon.

Best,
Nicola

Nicola Cadenas
Shoreview Resident, in San Mateo.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PR Commission Mailbox](#); [Planning Commission](#); [Richard Hedges](#)
Cc: [Joanne Magrini](#); Chortisberger@cityofsanmateo.org; [Rendell Bustos](#); [Somer Smith](#); [Patrice Olds](#)
Subject: Fishmarket Green Space Feedback
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 2:30:59 PM

Dear Parks & Rec Commission:

I will contain my remarks to ONLY green space allocation regarding public use for this location, specifically:

1.) If the developer/applicant seems to think a dockside water feature is a viable element to include, which sounds nice for library access and quiet pedestrian trail walks and/or even access to Parkside retail errands, I'd strongly urge the developer to form a dredging fund surrounding this immediate expanse as there is no way it currently has the capacity/public safety elements in place to execute on this idea.

1a.) Taking it one step further, I strongly feel any developer adding resource drain/stressors to this fragile lagoon area allocate their public goodwill toward creating funding for dredging any/all nearby areas so there is capacity given the flood basin is already full and infrastructure has been neglected for 40+ years due to same. This goes not just for the Fishmarket development, but for any/all developments in the planning phase, as the city dropped the ball on maintenance/allocation for these imperative services and this is one way to start to earmark funds properly for same.

2.) If we are 'revisualizing' altogether in a dreamscape, I'd like to see nothing BUT green space...in the form of an edu/opportunity for the public to immerse in nature to offset some of the gridlock we're already experiencing impinging on local lifestyles. Specifically:

a.) An expansive, large open lawn area/green space overlooking the lagoon perfect for sprawling blankets and calm, tranquil picnics/family park time and maybe a few benches or outdoor education hubs that would encourage reading circles, community meetups, etc.

b.) Expansion/redevelopment of the adjacent library into a community learning center...including features like 'school garden' types of projects to 'bio/life sciences' study of the lagoon/silt/soils itself and a community produce swap of flora/fauna/food homegrown akin to the small 'take one/donate one' book nooks we've seen pop up in neighborhoods.

c.) I could also see a kind of a CurioOdyssey style nature/nurture green space area to enhance the SMFC public school district offerings...where educators could bring their students to 'learn in the outdoors' in a library/field trip type of offering...as studies have shown this engages and connects students at a much deeper learning level.

3.) GREEN pedestrian paths and perhaps a small area for local pickleball courts on the far side of any development (away from the library, toward the traffic area) would be a nice activity bonus given the east side has very few open spaces for nature/sports/activities and it's the fastest

growing sport in the nation. Sound barriers via rubber netting would preclude any 'bounce' onto the lagoon and public use would be ongoing vs work hour jams of peak traffic, so much more viable.

4.) Community garden and vegetable swaps would be a nice touch as well akin to Beresford's plots..we don't have enough of this type of green space use and it serves as both an eco/soot barrier C02/carbon offset AND an active edu and interactive community hub.

Rather than resurrect my prior emails from a year ago with Rendell, Somer et al about massive traffic concerns regarding the Fishmarket app/development rezoning requests being inappropriate for the space/gridlocked environs already in effect, and additional water/sewage/resource stressors on the neighborhood and lagoon, I'll just close by saying 'all parks and rec, destination dining and library services' like a Santana Row and relo the housing idea elsewhere where it can serve nearby transit access instead (El Camino, station park green, etc.) to create truly 'affordable' mixed use planning, not market rate rentals and transient traffic snarls.

Thanks...Amy

Amy Jussel Bedard



From: [REDACTED]
To: [PR Commission Mailbox](#)
Subject: Green Space Redevelopment of Fish Market Site
Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 3:48:49 PM

Hello.

I am a life-long Parkside resident. The conversion of The Fish Market site to housing concerns me, as I do not believe that the current infrastructure can support the additional traffic and parking requirements. Roberta Street, Norfolk Street, and 19th Avenue are already difficult to navigate at peak times, impacting access to and from Highway 101; construction will only make it harder and the final result is unknowable, no matter how optimistic the projections.

I am pleased, however, that green space - vital to the well-being of our entire city - is being considered.

- The safety of the lagoon is critical. The lagoon is long over-due for dredging. Any development under consideration must make this top priority, one on which any subsequent steps is dependent.
- The Marina Branch of the library must be, at a minimum, preserved and maintained; even better, it should be enhanced. Last year, the library received funds for renovation, but this cannot be a short-term fix, a stop-gap on the way to elimination by other development. I grew up attending reading time and puppet shows there and it was a vital resource for books and videos years later when young family members came to visit. We used the copier and other equipment. I've relied on the branch for copies of tax forms and instruction booklets. Libraries are much more than the books they hold; they are community centers, safe spaces, and learning hubs.
- Walking paths and benches along that side of the lagoon would be highly desirable.
- Trees and gardens have been proven to help mental and physical health outcomes. Green space must be green in fact, not just word, so that residents can walk through them and rest at tables and benches among them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

IB

Isabelle Briand

[REDACTED]