



San Francisco Recreation and Park Department
 Capital Improvement Division
 30 Van Ness Avenue, 5th Floor
 San Francisco, CA 94102



2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond

Lafayette Park

www.parks.sfgov.org

April 2010

LAFAYETTE PARK RENOVATION: A NEW VISION FOR A LONG-TIME FAVORITE

Get Involved with Lafayette Park

- **JOIN US FOR OUR FIRST MEETING; THURSDAY, APRIL 22 AT 6 P.M. AT STEWART HALL HIGH SCHOOL**
- Join the “Friends of Lafayette Park” and other local park community groups
- Attend a park meeting
- Volunteer for a clean up day on May 1 (9 a.m.- 12 noon)

About the 2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond

In 2008, San Francisco voters passed Proposition A, a \$185 million General Obligation Bond known as the 2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond (Bond). The Bond’s vision is to improve and revitalize our City’s most in-need parklands, contributing to a cleaner, safer San Francisco.

The majority of bond funding has been allocated to fund improvements at Neighborhood Parks and Waterfront Parks. The remaining funds have been allocated to programs focused on improvements to the following:

- Park Restrooms \$11.4 million
- Park Playfields \$8.5 million

- Park Forestry \$4 million
- Park Trails \$5 million
- Community Opportunity Grants \$5 million

As part of the City and County of San Francisco’s 10-year capital plan, Bond projects aim to improve public safety and well-being, employing a transparent process that incorporates public oversight and accountability measures while exercising fiscal restraint and responsibility.

For more information on the 2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond, please visit our website at: <http://parkbonds.sfgov.org/2008>.

Contact Information

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Thanks to the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department (SFRPD) 2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond, the Lafayette Park renovation will be ramping up soon. \$10.8 Million dollars have been secured through the bond to fund the basic improvements identified within the bond itself as well as other park upgrades that meet the needs and wants of the community. These improvements will ensure the continued enjoyment of the park for years to come.

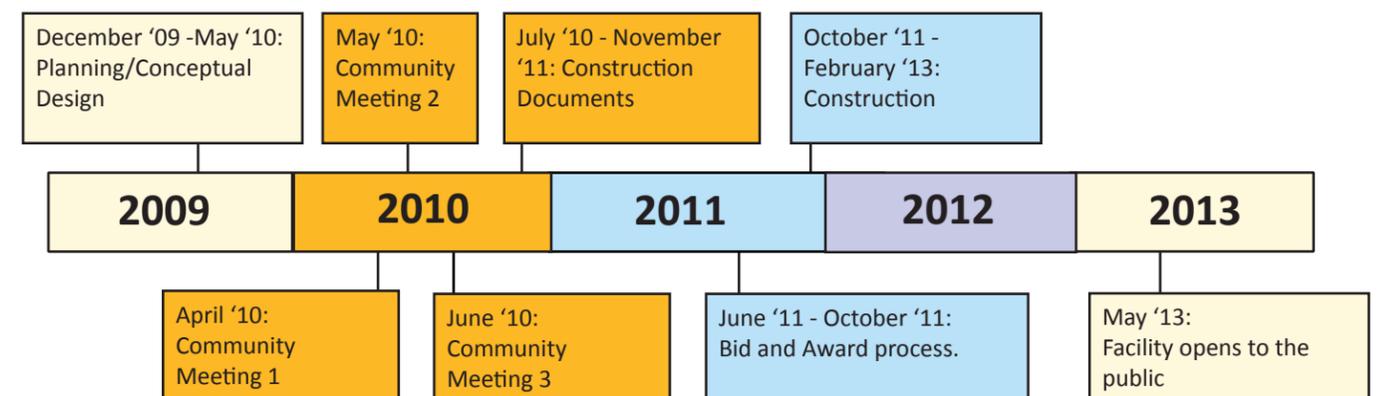
The planning phase of the renovation is set to begin this month and the SFRPD is committed to engaging the community both early on and throughout the process to help tailor the renovation to Lafayette Park’s users needs. In the upcoming months, during the project’s planning phase, we will be looking to you to help make this project one that serves your community best. Look forward to a series of public meetings where you can communicate your thoughts, concerns, and ideas directly to the project team, helping create the final vision of your new park. The first of these public meetings is scheduled for April 22, 2010 at 6pm at Stewart Hall High School.



For the duration of the project, we encourage you to get involved by attending meetings, volunteering at the park, or joining one of the affiliated Lafayette Park groups. The project is anticipated to enter the design phase in October of 2010 and last through October of the following year. Construction of the project is estimated to begin in March of 2012.

For more information about the Lafayette Renovation, please contact the San Francisco Recreation & Parks Capital Improvement Division at 415-581-2558 or visit <http://parkbonds.sfgov.org/2008/neighborhoodparks.htm>

CURRENT LAFAYETTE PARK RENOVATION TIMELINE



2008 CLEAN AND SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS BOND - LAFAYETTE PARK

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS AT LAFAYETTE PARK



Areas of Lafayette Park of note for possible improvements:

1. Dog Play Area - Fixing drainage issues, possible expansion.
2. Playground - New and improved play equipment.
3. Tennis Courts - Possible court re-surfacing.
4. Meadow - Improved irrigation and drainage.
5. Picnic Area - Improving infrastructure
6. Summit - Landscaping for better access and usage.
7. Sun Bathers Area - Improving infrastructure and irrigation.

Main objectives of the Lafayette Park Renovation Project:

- Improve courts
- Renovate fields and clubhouse
- Improve existing roads, pathways, and accessibility
- Improve infrastructure, irrigation, and drainage
- Renovate lighting and landscape

HISTORY OF LAFAYETTE PARK



Lafayette Park - Refugee Camps from the 1906 Earthquake
Source: San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

Named after the Revolutionary French general Marquis de Lafayette, Lafayette Park is an 11.5-acre multi-use park. Rich with a history that spans back to the 1860s, Lafayette

Park has hosted a myriad of “owners” over time, from former City Attorney, Samuel Holladay; to University of California professor, George Davidson; to real estate mogul, Louis Lurie; to condominium developer, Alexander Wilson – all of whom contended with the City of San Francisco for rights to the area. It was not until 1936 that the City of San Francisco secured Lafayette Park as purely public space with the exception of the St. Regis Apartments, which remains the only privately-owned building in a San Francisco public park.

Today, Lafayette Park serves one of the densest urban areas in the city. Local residents enjoy four long blocks of children’s playgrounds, tennis

courts, picnic areas, walking/running paths, open lawn space, perennial gardens and planting areas, and dog play areas.

Over time, the extended community use of Lafayette Park’s facilities and site has taken its toll. General renovations and site improvements are necessary to restore the park. Thanks to the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department’s 2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond, these improvements will soon become a reality.

For more information about the history of Lafayette Park please visit <http://www.sfnpc.org/lafayetteparkhistory>.

LAFAYETTE PARK ACTIVITIES

Upcoming Events

- April 22 (6pm - 8pm)
First 2008 CSP Bond Community Meeting
- May 1 (9am - 12pm)
Lafayette Cleaning and Greening



Enjoying the park playground



Volunteers on a Clean Up Day



A “Clean and Green” Day



A dog friend of Lafayette Park



Tennis players enjoying the courts



Friends of the Playground meeting

GET TO KNOW YOUR FRIENDS OF LAFAYETTE PARK

For all the years that Lafayette Park has served its community, the community is giving back in ways that are truly making a difference. The Friends of Lafayette Park (FoLP) is a well-organized and highly motivated community-run groups dedicated to ensuring the enjoyment, safety and improvement of Lafayette Park. The group represents various park user subgroups and incorporates a variety of interests into its mission, gaining the consensus of various interests necessary to accomplish big picture goals.

There is a group for everyone in the Friends of Lafayette Park. Dog owners can join the Dog Friends of Lafayette Park, a group with more than 100 members that is concerned with the park’s dog-related amenities, such as the dog play area, drainage issues, lighting and pathways. For tennis enthusiasts, the Tennis Friends of Lafayette Park was recently formed to help drive improvements to the

tennis courts. For families with children, the Friends of Lafayette Park Playground is a group dedicated to making the Lafayette Park children’s play area one of the best in San Francisco.

Each of these sub-groups is active and dedicated to making their neighborhood park better. Many, including the playground and tennis groups, are even raising funds on their own to help support their park causes.

We are thrilled to be working with the Friends of Lafayette Park and its associated subgroups in making this renovation most meaningful to the community.

For more information about the Friends of Lafayette Park and any of the other park groups associated with FoLP and to find out ways to participate, please visit their website at www.friendsoflafayettepark.com.

Friends of Lafayette Park Board

Lynne Newhouse Segal - Board Chair

Art Persyko - Public Outreach

Corrina Bonomo - Treasurer

James Sievert - Online Communications

Dede Kramer - Friends of Lafayette Park Playground Chair

Shila Clement - ‘Clean and Green’ Committee Chair

Steffen Franz - Dog Friends of Lafayette Park

Check out our website for project updates:

http://parkbonds.sfgov.org/statusreports/CRPNPGFLPG_0366.pdf