SUPPORT THE SUSTAINABLE PARKS FUNDING MEASURE!

The Sustainable Parks Funding Measure provides just over $1 billion in new park funding for 30 years, without raising taxes.

The San Francisco Parks Alliance and Supervisor Mark Farrell worked together to draft the charter amendment that will provide the sustainable funding needed to maintain and improve our parks, playgrounds and open spaces essential to San Franciscans’ quality of life.

The Board of Supervisors voted to place the measure on the June 7, 2016 ballot.

WHY WE NEED THE SUSTAINABLE PARKS FUNDING MEASURE

The Sustainable Parks Funding Measure builds upon the Open Space Fund set aside that was overwhelmingly passed by voters in 2000. That fund set aside 2.5 cents for every $100 of property value and is currently set to expire in 15 years. The proposed Charter Amendment would extend the funding to 2045-46.

Under the Sustainable Parks Funding Measure, the City’s General Fund contribution to the Recreation and Park Department (RPD) would gradually increase over time, and cannot fall below 2015-16 funding levels, fulfilling voters’ original intent in 2000 to provide a sustainable funding source for parks.

San Francisco’s population is expected to grow 28% by 2040, increasing the need to maintain our open space more than ever. The Sustainable Parks Funding Measure will increase RPD funding, stabilize department revenues, and protect RPD General Fund revenues.

In its report “Still Seeking Green,” the Parks Alliance analyzed RPD funding for the 15 years since the Open Space Fund was last authorized by voters. The organization found that while the Fund has remained a stable source of income for RPD, the Department’s annual allocation from the General Fund has eroded as a share of the City’s total budget.

The Sustainable Parks Funding Measure ensures our parks receive the share of the revenue our parks need and that voters support.

“Our parks and playgrounds are essential to our quality of life, often serving in this dense urban environment as our own backyards. The Sustainable Parks Funding Measure will protect and improve our open spaces for all San Franciscans in every neighborhood.”

–SUPERVISOR MARK FARRELL

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