



Neighborhood Parks Council  
**2010 Board of Supervisors Candidate Questionnaire**

**District 10- Kristine Enea**

**1. In what ways do you feel parks contribute to San Franciscans' quality of life?**

Parks are the common ground where people of all backgrounds and income levels can come together. Parks provide the balance between the hardscapes of life – buildings, streets, earning a living, and taking care of business – and the softscape of nature, imagination, exercise, and play. Real community is formed on our playgrounds, ballfields, and dog parks, along our nature trails, among our park stewards, and within our park programs.

**2. What park in your district do you use most and tell us what you like most about it.**

I visit India Basin Shoreline Park regularly to picnic, take in the views, jog the Bay Trail, and launch my kayak. As an India Basin Neighborhood Association (IBNA) board member, I've served as a park steward for cleanup days and helped host the Spring Egg Hunt, now in its eleventh year. Look how much fun we have!

<http://www.vimeo.com/5891391> I've volunteered three years running for the America True Youth Sail days, which invite neighbors of all ages to sail and row on the Bay. The India Basin Shoreline Community Vision that I co-authored promotes expanding our park into a regional destination for recreation – including a dog agility course, a skate park, an urban bike park, a community farm, and a boating center – allowing visitors from all over to share San Francisco's sunniest waterfront.

**3. Which park in your district appears to need the most help and what do you propose to do about it?**

This is a tough question, as so many of our parks need help. However, one of San Francisco's greatest undervalued assets is District 10's McLaren Park, which deserves more love. I believe that the right mix of uses and events will help McLaren Park raise its profile and develop a deeper constituency throughout San Francisco. I look forward to working with support groups and neighboring Supervisors John Avalos and David Campos to establish more activities in the park such as:

- a. using the Jerry Garcia Amphitheater for more local music festivals, tying a portion of the use fees to McLaren Park maintenance
- b. creating a summer day camp modeled on Silver Tree at Glen Park, which just celebrated its 70<sup>th</sup> summer, to attract families from all over the City
- c. supporting new playgrounds for park patrons from surrounding neighborhoods

d. negotiating balanced land use between dogs and people

**4. From your observations, what are the 3 most important issues facing recreation and parks in San Francisco? How will you begin to address these issues if you are elected?**

Budget: I will scrutinize the Rec & Park Department's use of funds to make sure they're spent in San Franciscans' best interests. I will look especially carefully at how their new management structure and new model of more public/private partnerships is working both financially and programatically. I will discourage delayed maintenance as being penny wise and pound foolish.

Restrooms: As appropriate, I will encourage vendor contracts for park amenities such as coffee, sandwiches, cold drinks, and bike and kayak rentals, in exchange for vendors' maintaining public restrooms, either existing or portable, if that's what we need to start out with. Vendors and restrooms increase the eyes on the park, which makes parks safer, and encourages use for longer periods of time.

Dog Runs: I will work with Animal Care & Control to increase the currently very low rate of dog licensing in San Francisco, and will request fines for illegal dog activity, particularly off-leash dogs in on-leash areas. Income from both sources can be used for outreach on the importance of licensing and leash laws, and for the creation and maintenance of dog parks by RecPark, the Port, and the Redevelopment Agency.

**5. What is your view of the role of volunteer community park groups? What commitment do you make to working with these groups to improve our public open spaces?**

Volunteerism is vital. I joined my neighborhood association, which doubles as our community park group, as soon as I bought my home in Hunters Point. I will encourage RecPark, the Port, and the Redevelopment Agency to continue their support for volunteerism, including such support as an element of union negotiations. I would like to see volunteerism expand into some aspects of programming too, allowing registered volunteer coaches to lead basketball workouts in neighborhood parks, for example, making them a safe, fun activity for local youth on days when public gyms are closed. Last but not least, I will ensure that active and involved residents continue to serve on PROSAC, and will seek out and listen to their advice on park matters.

**6. ParkScan.org is a website that enables park users to report maintenance concerns to the Recreation and Park Department. If elected, how would you promote this tool?**

High-quality constituent communication will be a hallmark of my office. I look forward to being a source of information for all District 10 residents on many issues – including ParkScan. One of my communication strategies is to install a community kiosk/bulletin board in every District 10 park as soon as possible. If people want to know something – go to the park and the flyers will be there! Plus now you’re walking in the park! We can install the kiosks through community building days that I hope will foster ongoing park stewardship.

**7. NPC’s Green Envy study identified many neighborhoods that lack playgrounds and neighborhood parks. How would you address these park and open space deficiencies?**

I will continue my efforts as a communications bridge between the Planning Department, the Redevelopment Agency, RecPark, and the Port to foster cooperation in meeting recreational needs. I will continue to demand that quality parks and active recreation opportunities are planned with any new developments, and installed at the beginning of those developments, not added as an afterthought. The Community Vision that I helped develop for India Basin is an example of how to create an amazing recreation destination that generates income and interest in a new residential community: <http://www.indiabasin.org>.

**8. Deferred maintenance of things like irrigation systems continue to plague the park system. With little funding available to fix these types of problems, what would you propose to improve park maintenance?**

All remodeling and new construction must be designed with long-time maintenance in mind. We should plant drought-tolerant species to lessen the need for water, looking to more rustic and native plant options and rethinking the concept that only large swathes of grass make a park. Let’s expand the “friends of” mindset to encourage businesses large and small to support neighborhood parks with money, volunteer service, materials and expertise. Connecting local parks to specific public middle and high schools will encourage students and families to “own” their parks, directing student community service hours toward park maintenance and programming.

**9. San Francisco currently has no citywide open space requirement for new development. In areas such as the Eastern Neighborhoods, which are already deficient in open space and could see a tripling in residential density in the near future, this oversight could create unlivable communities severely deficient in parks. Would you support a citywide open space requirement for all new residential development so that every neighborhood can have green space for play, exercise, and respite from urban life?**

YES! This type of green fund has been my consistent ask throughout the Redevelopment Project Area planning process, including the community process for rezoning the India Basin Shoreline. It's appropriate for the Eastern Neighborhoods and throughout the southeast sector.