



Declaration of Commitment to Recreation and Parks as Mayor

As a candidate for Mayor of San Francisco, I, David Chiu, hereby agree to and recognize the following declarations regarding park, recreation and open space in San Francisco. The four primary tenets outlined herein are in reference to communication and outreach, planning and acquisition, stewardship and budget.

Communication and Outreach

I recognize that parks and recreation affect every resident of the city and are integral to the well-being of our people, neighborhoods, environment and economy.

I acknowledge that open and consistent communication between City departments managing parkland and the public is paramount to ensuring that our park system meets the needs of San Franciscans.

Therefore, I will ensure that community engagement occurs both at the point of initiation and throughout the lifetime of any planning process. I will maintain active points of contact within my administration to oversee the support of our parklands, facilities and recreational offerings. Consequently, I support regular surveys of the public to determine community needs and to ensure the survey data is integrated in planning for parkland including neighborhood plans, redevelopment plans, updates to the ROSE and similar processes.

Planning and Acquisition

I acknowledge the importance of planning for and acquiring parkland to respond to the needs of our constituents, ensuring equity in open space and recreation services in every neighborhood.

Therefore, I commit to pursuing acquisition opportunities outlined in RPD's acquisition policy, Neighborhood Plans, Blue Greenway Plan, NPC's Green Envy Report, and City department reports. In addition to utilizing the Open Space Acquisition Fund, I will pursue other funding sources and develop new financial support.

I commit to using the Recreation and Open Space Element (ROSE) of the General Plan as a guidance document for my administration and support the development of neighborhood specific action plans to implement the ROSE.

I will hold the City responsible as environmental stewards by investing in conservation efforts and sustainable practices.

Stewardship

I recognize that San Francisco residents work in conjunction with City staff to ensure our parks are well-maintained and cared for.

Therefore, I pledge to increase the role and visibility of park, open space and recreation volunteers as well as in-kind gifts by reducing red tape and institutional barriers associated with all donations.

I recognize that San Francisco's recreational needs shift with changing demographics and that we must maintain a relevant Recreation and Parks Department to meet all needs, including children, seniors and people with disabilities. To this end, my administration will commit to utilizing tools such as the controllers report and ParkScan.org to eliminate disparities in maintenance and programming levels in every neighborhood.

Budget

I acknowledge that a sustainable budget and public funding are essential to a healthy park system.

Therefore, I commit to changing the political budget dynamic to increase funding for our parks, recreation facilities and open spaces. As mayor, my budget will promote adequate and sustainable public funding for the Recreation and Park Department.

I commit to ensuring that all City land managers produce and disseminate regular reports regarding all budget processes. Therefore, my administration will enhance fiscal transparency and accountability of all departments managing and developing parkland by producing current audits of special funds and regular reporting on the use of public financing tools (such as bonds and tax increment financing).

I will support focused community process that leads to expedited capital projects and monitor implementation.



Signature

9/17/11

Date

David Chin

Printed Name