

Additional Vaillancourt Fountain Public Comments

(Received after 5:00 p.m. 10/03/2025 and before 11:30 a.m.10/20/2025 via Email sent to ART-info@sfgov.org or Phone Call to 415-252-2266)

From: Nadya Mikhaylovskaya <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 4, 2025 2:29 PM
To: Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; Ferras, Suzie (ART) <suzie.ferras@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; Madland, Sarah (REC) <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; Commission, Recpark (REC) <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>
Cc: info@docomomo-noca.org
Subject: Public Comment for Next SFAC meetings and RPD meeting

Arts Commission and Rec & Park Commission: Please include this as a public comment in or adjacent to the agendas for these three meetings: (1) the next SF Arts Commission - Visual Arts Committee meeting, (2) SF Arts Commission - Full Commission meeting, and (3) Rec & Park Commission meeting. Reply all when responding to this message. SF Recreation and Parks seeks Arts Commission approval to deaccession, remove, and demolish the Vaillancourt Fountain, accelerating their blank-slate, urban redevelopment plan. The Vaillancourt Fountain is an international landmark, symbolizing our city's diverse history, our relationship with Canada and Quebec, and countless gatherings and activist events. I oppose deaccession, removal, or demolition. Instead, I request: • You reject this attempt to follow the federal trend of history erasure; retain and rehabilitate this landmark for current and future generations. • You reject describing internationally renowned art as “a design constraint” to a redevelopment project. • You grant key international and national stakeholders ample time to attend any SFAC proceedings. Thank you.

I would love for the city to keep this beautiful and historic fountain rather than can host more and more tacky sculptures leftover from Burning Man.

-----Original Message-----

From: Laura Tejero <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, October 4, 2025 3:00 PM

To: Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; Ferras, Suzie (ART) <suzie.ferras@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; Madland, Sarah (REC) <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; Commission, Recpark (REC) <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>

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Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

-----Original Message-----

From: Christy Roettger <[REDACTED]@att.net>

Sent: Saturday, October 4, 2025 4:01 PM

To: Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; Ferras, Suzie (ART) <suzie.ferras@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; Madland, Sarah (REC) <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; Commission, Recpark (REC) <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>

Cc: info@docomomo-noca.org

Subject: Preserve Embarcadero Plaza & Vaillancourt Fountain and rightsize the project

I urge you to retain and rehabilitate Embarcadero Plaza and Vaillancourt Fountain.

Embarcadero Plaza, by renowned landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, is recognized by global experts for its historic significance. Vaillancourt Fountain, by renowned Québécois artist Armand Vaillancourt, is a key piece of San Francisco's urban history and is an internationally recognized Brutalist icon.

I support the stance of Docomomo US/NOCA, the artists, and various other local, national, and international organization on this matter. I ask that San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, San Francisco Arts Commission, the Board of Supervisors, and the project team consider:

- Rightsizing the project to better spend \$15-30+ million in public and private funds. This could include a more modest park refresh with a sustainable maintenance plan that would more effectively reflect the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors, and support downtown's economic recovery, while retaining our history and culture.
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Thank you for recognizing the established historical and cultural significance of Embarcadero Plaza and Vaillancourt Fountain.

Sent from my iPhone

-----Original Message-----

From: Jean Lee <[REDACTED]@ladiesandgentlemenstudio.com>

Sent: Saturday, October 4, 2025 4:17 PM

To: Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; Ferras, Suzie (ART) <suzie.ferras@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; Madland, Sarah (REC) <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; Commission, Recpark (REC) <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>

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Thank you.

-----Original Message-----

From: Liz Freeman <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, October 4, 2025 4:59 PM

To: Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; Ferras, Suzie (ART) <suzie.ferras@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; Madland, Sarah (REC) <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; Commission, Recpark (REC) <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>

Cc: info@docomomo-noca.org

Subject: Preserve Embarcadero Plaza & Vaillancourt Fountain and rightsize the project

Good Afternoon.

I'm sure you have received many emails about the Vaillancourt fountain and I would like to add my voice to the chorus. There is a tremendous need, now more than ever, for San Francisco to continue its long tradition as a place which values and encourages public art made by working artists. I am including the words of fellow concerned citizens, working artists and cultural figures below as I deeply agree with their sentiments. Please consider what it means to preserve this important work. Thank you.

I urge you to retain and rehabilitate Embarcadero Plaza and Vaillancourt Fountain.

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Thank you for recognizing the established historical and cultural significance of Embarcadero Plaza and Vaillancourt Fountain.

-Elizabeth Freeman, co owner East Bay Booksellers

From: P B <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, October 4, 2025 7:50 PM

To: Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; Ferras, Suzie (ART) <suzie.ferras@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; Madland, Sarah (REC) <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; Commission, Recpark (REC) <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>

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Thank you.

From: michel stong <[REDACTED]@icloud.com>

Sent: Sunday, October 5, 2025 9:04 AM

To: Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; Ferras, Suzie (ART) <suzie.ferras@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; Madland, Sarah (REC) <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; Commission, Recpark (REC) <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>

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Thank you.

Michel Stong

@miniaturemusuemofmodernartist

welcome to the universe

From: Matthew Castillon <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 5, 2025 8:31 PM
To: ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>
Subject: Supporting a Vibrant Future for Embarcadero Plaza

To the Honorable Commissioners of the San Francisco Arts Commission,

My name is Matthew Castillon, a resident of the Embarcadero neighborhood. I am writing today to urge you to approve the plans for the redesign of Embarcadero Plaza, including the removal of the Vaillancourt Fountain, a project essential for the revitalization of our downtown core.

Living here, I have seen the direct impact of our struggling public spaces. I watched with disappointment as local businesses like Wheelhouse closed, unable to attract the necessary foot traffic to survive. This is not an isolated incident but a symptom of a larger problem: Embarcadero Plaza, in its current form, is a barrier to the thriving, active waterfront our city deserves. The fountain, while historic, creates significant challenges related to safety, circulation, and accessibility, making the area feel disconnected and uninviting.

The effort to redesign this space is not a referendum on art, but a necessary and forward-thinking urban planning initiative. We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to create an inclusive, vibrant, and functional public square that serves both residents and visitors, and in turn, supports our local economy. The Embarcadero is the gateway to our city; it must be a reflection of our commitment to clean, safe, and prosperous public life.

This project represents deeply needed progress for San Francisco. I strongly urge the Commission to support this vital work and help us build a waterfront that will be cherished for generations to come.

From: N. Fee <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, October 5, 2025 9:05 PM

To: Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; charles.collins@sfgov.org; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>

Subject: Preserve Embarcadero Plaza and Vaillancourt Fountain and rightsize the project

As a San Franciscan who remembers the Vaillancourt fountain as a functioning interactive fountain, as monumental and dynamic as whimsical and enlivening, I urge you to preserve Embarcadero Plaza and Vaillancourt fountain. My son had the same privilege of exploring this urban space as he came of age; moving through the “grotto” like area under the water tube cascades was akin to a San Francisco rite of passage for him and his friends. One could liken the experience to a modernist, rectilinear translation of walking under the Oval Fountain in Tivoli, Italy - but here at home. As Ted Barrow so aptly wrote in his editorial in the SF Chronicle last month, the Vaillancourt fountain is integral to the Embarcadero Plaza and “wholly San Franciscan.” As architect James Garland said, “It’s controversy is an asset, not a demerit...We need vibrant places that connect us to each other, to our past, and to our future.” Embarcadero Plaza, by renowned landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, is recognized by global experts for its historic significance. Vaillancourt Fountain, by renowned Québécois artist Armand Vaillancourt, is a key piece of San Francisco's urban history and is an internationally recognized Brutalist icon.

I support the stance of Docomomo US/NOCA and the expert assessments of local, national, and international organizations from SF Heritage to the Society of Architectural Historians to the Musée des Beaux Arts du Canada on this matter. My family and I recognize the vital importance of parks and adaptable, accessible outdoor spaces in our city but why demolish the existing Halprin-designed plaza with its accompanying signature iconic fountain to create a park that looks like it could be anywhere? As a native San Franciscan, architectural historian, and new SF City Guide, I ask that San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, San Francisco Arts Commission, the Board of Supervisors, and the project team consider:

- Rightsizing the project to better spend \$15-30+ million in public and private funds. This could include a more modest park refresh with a sustainable maintenance plan that would more effectively reflect the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors, and support downtown’s economic recovery, while retaining our history and culture.

- Adaptive reuse of the Vaillancourt Fountain in any form, such as a backdrop to the much-discussed central stage.
- Adaptive reuse of Embarcadero Plaza to address accessibility issues while retaining the existing Lawrence Halprin design that is in the spirit of flexible, multi-use, world-renowned Spanish plazas and Italian piazzas.
- The plaza's preexisting world-class status, as demonstrated by the national and international support for retaining the plaza in its current form, such as from the Centre international d'art contemporain de Montréal, the Québec government, The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF), the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), and the international skateboarding community.

Thank you for your consideration and for recognizing the historical and cultural significance of Embarcadero Plaza and Vaillancourt Fountain,

Nancy Fee, Ph.D.

-----Original Message-----

From: Stuart Maclure <[REDACTED]@icloud.com>

Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 12:46 AM

To: Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; Ferras, Suzie (ART) <suzie.ferras@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; Madland, Sarah (REC) <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; Commission, Recpark (REC) <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>

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Thank you.

From: MCKNHM Architekten <[REDACTED]@mcknhm.com>

Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 1:44 AM

To: Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; Ferras, Suzie (ART) <suzie.ferras@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; Madland, Sarah (REC) <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; Commission, Recpark (REC) <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>

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Thank you for recognizing the established historical and cultural significance of Embarcadero Plaza and Vaillancourt Fountain.

MCKNHM
Mückenheim Architekten
Mark Mückenheim

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CALIFORNIA USA
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www.mcknhm.com

*This message was sent from a mobile device and may contain short concise text.

-----Original Message-----

From: Ben Fisher <[REDACTED]@fisher.to>

Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 8:57 AM

To: Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; Ferras, Suzie (ART) <suzie.ferras@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; Madland, Sarah (REC) <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; Commission, Recpark (REC) <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>

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Thank you.

Ben Fisher

-----Original Message-----

From: Peter Platt <[REDACTED]@barnard.edu>

Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 11:57 AM

To: Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; Ferras, Suzie (ART) <suzie.ferras@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; Madland, Sarah (REC) <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; Commission, Recpark (REC) <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>

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From: David Harrison <[REDACTED]@sfchamber.com>

Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 12:38 PM

To: Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>

Subject: SF Chamber of Commerce Letter re: Vaillancourt Fountain/Embarcadero Plaza Renovation

Hello,

Please find the attached letter from the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce regarding the Vaillancourt Fountain and the Embarcadero Plaza renovation. Thank you!

All the best,



David Harrison (*He/Him*)
Director of Public Policy
(O) 415 [REDACTED] (C) 202 [REDACTED]
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
[REDACTED]
San Francisco, CA 94104

ENC: PDF

From: Carla Laurel <[REDACTED]@westbaycentersf.org>

Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 1:06 PM

To: ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>;
Shiota, Janine (ART) <janine.shiota@sfgov.org>

Subject: West Bay Letter for Item 7: Vaillancourt Fountain

Dear Commissioners,

Please find our letter from West Bay supporting removal of Vaillancourt Fountain.

Thanks,
Carla

ENC: PDF

From: Elizabeth Kuntze <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 7:52 PM

To: Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; Ferras, Suzie (ART) <suzie.ferras@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; Madland, Sarah (REC) <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; Commission, Recpark (REC) <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>

Cc: info@docomomo-noca.org

Subject: Public Comment for SFAC meetings

Arts Commission and Rec & Park Commission:

Please include this as a public comment in or adjacent to the agendas for these three meetings: (1) the next SF Arts Commission - Visual Arts Committee meeting, (2) SF Arts Commission - Full Commission meeting, and (3) Rec & Park Commission meeting. Reply all when responding to this message.

SF Recreation and Parks seeks Arts Commission approval to deaccession, remove, and demolish the Vaillancourt Fountain, accelerating their blank-slate, urban redevelopment plan.

The Vaillancourt Fountain is an international landmark, symbolizing our city's diverse history, our relationship with Canada and Quebec, and countless gatherings and activist events.

I oppose deaccession, removal, or demolition. Instead, I request:

- You reject this attempt to follow the federal trend of history erasure; retain and rehabilitate this landmark for current and future generations.
- You reject describing internationally renowned art as “a design constraint” to a redevelopment project.
- You grant key international and national stakeholders ample time to attend any SFAC proceedings.

Thank you.

-----Original Message-----

From: Christine E. Sherry <[REDACTED]@sherryconsulting.com>

Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 8:34 PM

To: Collins, Charles (ART) <charles.collins1@sfgov.org>; Dhaliwal, Manraj (ART) <manraj.dhaliwal@sfgov.org>; Ferras, Suzie (ART) <suzie.ferras@sfgov.org>; ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>; SauterStaff <SauterStaff@sfgov.org>; Madland, Sarah (REC) <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; Ginsburg, Phil (REC) <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; Goodwin, Eoanna (REC) <eoanna.Goodwin@sfgov.org>; Commission, Recpark (REC) <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>

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- You grant key international and national stakeholders ample time to attend any SFAC proceedings.

Thank you.

--

Christine Sherry
Principal, Sherry Consulting

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

California 94028

650 [REDACTED]
sherryconsulting.com

From: ryan cummings <[REDACTED]@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, October 7, 2025 3:26 PM

To: ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>

Subject: Save Vaillancourt Fountain

I love Vaillancourt Fountain. I love it.

Sincerely,

Ryan Cummings

Appendex



West Bay Pilipino Multi Service Center

██████████, San Francisco, CA 94103

(415) ██████████

www.westbaycenter.org

10/06/25

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of West Bay, I am writing to express our support for the removal of the Vaillancourt Fountain to make way for a reimagined and renovated public space.

West Bay is San Francisco's longest-standing Filipino-American community-based organization. For over 50 years, we have served families, immigrants, and young people in the South of Market (SoMa) neighborhood. Today, our programs focus on children and youth—providing after-school enrichment, cultural programming, and family support services. Our mission is to create a safe, nurturing environment where children and families can thrive, while honoring the vibrant cultural heritage of our community.

From this perspective, we see firsthand how critical public spaces are to the health of families and children. Unfortunately, the Vaillancourt Fountain has long ceased to function as a welcoming gathering place. Its design, scale, and condition create barriers rather than opportunities for community life. For many families—especially those with young children—the space feels uninviting and disconnected from the needs of a diverse and growing San Francisco.

We understand the Vaillancourt Fountain's contribution into the beauty of San Francisco and are confident BXP will meaningfully incorporate elements of Vaillancourt's legacy into the renovation of the plaza. We want to highlight the role of BXP, the project sponsor, which has been a long-standing partner to West Bay. Over the years, BXP has demonstrated authentic community engagement—listening to residents, supporting local programming, and investing in initiatives that directly benefit SoMa families and children, thus making me confident in them incorporating elements of it in a way that brings vibrancy to the plaza but also understands how to honor the artist and fountain, even if it no longer is there. Their involvement gives us confidence that the reimagining of this site will be guided by genuine collaboration and inclusivity.

We urge the Commission to move forward with the removal and to prioritize community input in shaping what comes next. Feel free to reach me here or at 415-758-4864 for further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carla Laurel", written in a cursive style.

Carla Laurel,
Executive Director

SAN FRANCISCO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

October 6, 2025

San Francisco Arts Commission
401 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 325
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Support for the Embarcadero Plaza and Sue Bierman Park Renovation Project

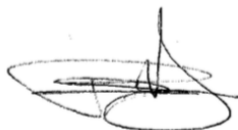
Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to express our strong support for the Embarcadero Plaza and Sue Bierman Park Renovation Project. This project is deeply needed as our City works to revitalize its downtown core. The Embarcadero is the premier entry to downtown San Francisco, and it must reflect the clean, safe, and thriving public space that our residents, workers, and visitors deserve.

This redesign is not about liking or disliking a fountain. It is about ensuring this space functions as an inclusive, vibrant hub that supports circulation, accessibility, and safety. By modernizing and reimagining these public spaces, the City has a once in a generation opportunity to create a waterfront environment that serves both the surrounding neighborhood and the broader city.

San Francisco's future depends on our ability to bring life back to our civic and commercial heart. The renovation of Embarcadero Plaza and Sue Bierman Park is a vital step toward making downtown San Francisco more inviting, accessible, and economically vibrant.

We strongly urge the Commission to support this project and not stand in the way of the progress our City so urgently needs. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rodney Fong', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rodney Fong
President & CEO
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce

From: [Ale Bandala](#)
To: [Ginsburg, Phil \(REC\)](#); [Goodwin, Eoanna \(REC\)](#); [Collins, Charles \(ART\)](#); [Dhaliwal, Manraj \(ART\)](#); [ART-Info; SauterStaff](#)
Subject: Preserve Embarcadero Plaza & Vaillancourt Fountain and rightsize the project
Date: Thursday, October 16, 2025 8:30:47 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I urge you to please preserve Embarcadero Plaza and most importantly, Vaillancourt Fountain!

Embarcadero Plaza, by renowned landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, is recognized by global experts for its historic significance. Vaillancourt Fountain, by renowned Québécois artist Armand Vaillancourt, is a key piece of San Francisco's urban history and is an internationally recognized Brutalist icon.

I support the stance of Docomomo US/NOCA on this matter and ask that San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, San Francisco Arts Commission, the Board of Supervisors, and the project team consider:

- Rightsizing the project to better spend \$15-30+ million in public and private funds. This could include a more modest park refresh with a sustainable maintenance plan that would more effectively reflect the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors, and support downtown's economic recovery, while retaining our history and culture.
- Adaptive reuse of the Vaillancourt Fountain in any form, such as a backdrop to the much-discussed central stage.
- Adaptive reuse of Embarcadero Plaza to address accessibility issues while retaining the existing Lawrence Halprin design that is in the spirit of flexible, multi-use, world-renowned Spanish plazas and Italian piazzas.
- The plaza's preexisting world-class status, as demonstrated by the national and international support for retaining the plaza in its current form, such as from the Centre international d'art contemporain de Montréal, the Québec government, The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF), the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), and the international skateboarding community.

Thank you for recognizing the historical and cultural significance of Embarcadero Plaza and Vaillancourt Fountain.

- Alejandra Bandala

From: [Don Lucchesi](#)
To: [Collins, Charles \(ART\)](#); [Dhaliwal, Manraj \(ART\)](#); [Ferras, Suzie \(ART\)](#); [ART-Info](#); [SauterStaff](#); [Madland, Sarah \(REC\)](#); [Ginsburg, Phil \(REC\)](#); [Goodwin, Eoanna \(REC\)](#); [Commission, Recpark \(REC\)](#)
Cc: info@docomomo-noca.org
Subject: Preserve Embarcadero Plaza & Vaillancourt Fountain and rightsize the project
Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2025 3:36:52 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

As a lifelong San Francisco resident, I understand the controversy and negative opinions this fountain has generated. But it is an important part of our past and it should be preserved. Perhaps not in its present location, but it certainly could find a home in some of the eastern shore developments off Third St. Please consider saving what is an important part of 1970's SF architecture by not demolishing the fountain but simply moving it to another location.

Embarcadero Plaza, by renowned landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, is recognized by global experts for its historic significance. Vaillancourt Fountain, by renowned Québécois artist Armand Vaillancourt, is a key piece of San Francisco's urban history and is an internationally recognized Brutalist icon.

I support the stance of Docomomo US/NOCA, the artists, and various other local, national, and international organization on this matter. I ask that San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, San Francisco Arts Commission, the Board of Supervisors, and the project team consider:

- Rightsizing the project to better spend \$15-30+ million in public and private funds. This could include a more modest park refresh with a sustainable maintenance plan that would more effectively reflect the needs of residents, businesses, and visitors, and support downtown's economic recovery, while retaining our history and culture.
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Please include this as a public comment in or adjacent to the agendas for these three meetings: (1) the next SF Arts Commission - Visual Arts Committee meeting, (2) SF Arts Commission - Full Commission meeting, and (3) Rec & Park Commission meeting. Reply all when responding to this message.

Thank you for recognizing the established historical and cultural significance of Embarcadero Plaza and Vaillancourt Fountain.

My iPhone says hi.

From: [Haley Pratt](#)
To: [Collins, Charles \(ART\)](#); [Dhaliwal, Manraj \(ART\)](#); [Ferras, Suzie \(ART\)](#); [ART-Info](#); [SauterStaff](#); [Madland, Sarah \(REC\)](#); [Ginsburg, Phil \(REC\)](#); [Goodwin, Eoanna \(REC\)](#); [Commission, Recpark \(REC\)](#)
Cc: info@docomomo-noca.org
Subject: Preserve Embarcadero Plaza & Vaillancourt Fountain and rightsize the project
Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 6:22:54 AM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I live in North Carolina but visit San Francisco often and have family that lives there. I absolutely love the Vaillancourt fountain. While some have commented that it is run down. I believe that its aging appearance only adds to its already beautiful vintage aesthetic. A city filled only with shiny new things has absolutely no character at all. San Francisco is the most beautiful city I have ever seen because it is unique and filled with history. I can understand if restoring it as working fountain is cost-prohibitive. I think it has plenty of inherent beauty even as a dry sculpture, and that there are ways to preserve it respectfully even if it isn't returned to full working condition. For me it would be an absolute tragedy to tear this down. I hope so much you reconsider and that I can visit this singular work of art for many years to come.

I urge you to retain and rehabilitate Embarcadero Plaza and Vaillancourt Fountain.

Embarcadero Plaza, by renowned landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, is recognized by global experts for its historic significance. Vaillancourt Fountain, by renowned Québécois artist Armand Vaillancourt, is a key piece of San Francisco's urban history and is an internationally recognized Brutalist icon.

I support the stance of Docomomo US/NOCA, the artists, and various other local, national, and international organization on this matter. I ask that San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, San Francisco Arts Commission, the Board of Supervisors, and the project team consider:

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Thank you for recognizing the established historical and cultural significance of Embarcadero Plaza and Vaillancourt Fountain.

From: [Elizabeth Kuntze](#)
To: [Collins, Charles \(ART\)](#); [Dhaliwal, Manraj \(ART\)](#); [Ferras, Suzie \(ART\)](#); [ART-Info](#); [SauterStaff](#); [Madland, Sarah \(REC\)](#); [Ginsburg, Phil \(REC\)](#); [Goodwin, Eoanna \(REC\)](#); [Commission, Recpark \(REC\)](#)
Cc: info@docomomo-noca.org
Subject: Public Comment for SFAC meetings
Date: Monday, October 6, 2025 7:52:16 PM

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Arts Commission and Rec & Park Commission:

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The Vaillancourt Fountain is an international landmark, symbolizing our city's diverse history, our relationship with Canada and Quebec, and countless gatherings and activist events.

I oppose deaccession, removal, or demolition. Instead, I request:

- You reject this attempt to follow the federal trend of history erasure; retain and rehabilitate this landmark for current and future generations.
- You reject describing internationally renowned art as “a design constraint” to a redevelopment project.
- You grant key international and national stakeholders ample time to attend any SFAC proceedings.

Thank you.

From: [Christine E. Sherry](#)
To: [Collins, Charles \(ART\)](#); [Dhaliwal, Manraj \(ART\)](#); [Ferraz, Suzie \(ART\)](#); [ART-Info](#); [SauterStaff](#); [Madland, Sarah \(REC\)](#); [Ginsburg, Phil \(REC\)](#); [Goodwin, Eoanna \(REC\)](#); [Commission, Recpark \(REC\)](#)
Cc: info@docomomo-noca.org
Subject: Public Comment for SFAC meetings
Date: Monday, October 6, 2025 8:34:17 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Arts Commission and Rec & Park Commission:

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Thank you.

--

Christine Sherry
Principal, Sherry Consulting
4670 Alpine Road
Portola Valley California 94028
650.454.7867
sherryconsulting.com

From: [Yury Bekerman](#)
To: [Collins, Charles \(ART\)](#); [Dhaliwal, Manraj \(ART\)](#); [Ferraz, Suzie \(ART\)](#); [ART-Info](#); [SauterStaff](#); [Madland, Sarah \(REC\)](#); [Ginsburg, Phil \(REC\)](#); [Goodwin, Eoanna \(REC\)](#); [Commission, Recpark \(REC\)](#)
Cc: info@docomomo-noca.org
Subject: Public Comment for SFAC meetings
Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2025 6:39:28 PM

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

The fountain is hideous and in disrepair. Tear it down. It's completely idiotic that I received a sponsored post about this on ig, urging me to send a message requesting the opposite. Thank you.

Yury Bekerman

From: [REDACTED]
To: [ART-Info; Dhaliwal, Manraj \(ART\)](#)
Subject: Vallaincourt Fountain: Lest We Forget
Date: Monday, October 13, 2025 8:47:18 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

I hope you will not destroy the Vallaincourt Fountain.

The NY Times published an article about it this morning saying Herb Caen called it a 10 on the Richter scale.

Which is precisely correct: it celebrates the destruction of the old Embarcadero Freeway, a high-rise structure that ran along the Embarcadero ruining the view of the Bay. The fountain depicts the collapsed columns and turned them into a representation of the beauty of the event.

The young folk do not remember the freeway, but the historical memory the fountain represents should be continued. A tag on it explaining its relationship to the freeway destruction would help, as would repair of the water part that added beauty.

Save the Vallaincourt Fountain.

David Salmon





p.s. Your website doesn't really have a way to contact the Arts Commissioners. Please forward this to them.