



MEETING OF THE CIVIC DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE

Monday, March 16, 2026
2 p.m.
City Hall, Room 416

Draft Minutes

Chair Walker called the meeting to order at **2:01** p.m.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Changes, Land Acknowledgment (0:03)

Commissioners Present

Patrick Carney, Chair
Chuck Collins
Jessica Rothschild
McKenna Quint
Janine Shiota
Seth Brenzel
Al Perez (arrived at 2:07 p.m.)

Commissioners Absent

n/a

Staff Present:

Sarah Hollenbeck, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration
Manraj Dhaliwal, Commission Secretary

Chair Carney asked for any agenda changes and no changes were suggested.

Commissioner Rothschild announced the public meeting instructions.

Commission Secretary Manraj Dhaliwal announced public comment instructions.

Commissioner Shiota began the meeting by reading the Arts Commission's land acknowledgment statement.

2. General Public Comment (5:30)

There was no public comment.

3. Lake Merced West Arborists Facility – Conceptual + Phase 1 Review (6:19)

The Commission reviewed the proposed Lake Merced West Arborist Facility, a new operations building for SFPUC staff who manage trees and vegetation across city watersheds. The project includes a small building with office and shop space, a utility yard for equipment and vehicles, and secure fencing. It will be located near Lake Merced and is designed primarily for staff use rather than public access. The team also noted that instead of placing public art at this facility, funding would be contributed to a larger future project on the site where it would be more visible.

The design focuses on a simple, functional building with materials and colors meant to blend into the natural surroundings. The building includes features like clerestory windows for natural light, a sloped roof, and screening elements to hide mechanical equipment. The landscape plan includes native plants, stormwater treatment features, and pathways, while also addressing site challenges like elevation changes and vehicle access for large trucks.

Commissioners generally supported the project but raised concerns about the visual impact of security fencing and the overall design quality of the building. They encouraged the team to refine elements such as the roof, façade details, and canopy to better integrate the building into its surroundings. There was also discussion about balancing security needs

with a more welcoming appearance, especially since the site may connect to future public amenities like a boathouse.

Commissioner Shiota, seconded by Commissioner Brenzel, moved to approve the combined phases Conceptual and Phase 1 Review for Lake Merced West Arborists Facility.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion to approve Conceptual and Phase 1 Review for Lake Merced West Arborists Facility.

4. Ingleside Police Station Replacement – Phase 2 Review (1:05:15)

The Commission reviewed the Ingleside Police Station Replacement Project at Phase 2. The project includes building a new two-story police station to meet modern needs while preserving and renovating the historic 1910 station. The new design improves public access by moving the main entrance outside the secure perimeter and closer to the street, making it more visible and welcoming to the community. The historic building will remain but be used for support functions such as locker rooms and wellness spaces.

The design aims to create a cohesive campus by visually connecting the new and historic buildings through similar materials, colors, and proportions. The new building uses a modern approach that complements, rather than replicates, the historic structure, including similar roof lines, window patterns, and overall scale. Landscape improvements include a palm-lined entry promenade, better pedestrian circulation, lighting, and outdoor gathering areas for staff and the public.

Commissioners generally supported the project, especially improvements to public access and safety. However, they raised concerns about design elements such as the roof form, massing, and how well the new building reflects the character of the historic station. Suggestions included exploring alternative roof designs, improving the entry experience, and strengthening the visual connection between the buildings.

Commissioner Collins, seconded by Commissioner Quint, moved to approve the Phase 2 Review for Ingleside Police Station Replacement.

There was no public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion to approve Phase 2 Review for Ingleside Police Station Replacement.

5. Crocker Amazon Baseball Renovation – Conceptual + Phase 1 Review (1:50:36)

The Commission reviewed the Crocker Amazon Park Renovation project at the conceptual and Phase 1 level. The project is a partnership between Rec & Park and the San Francisco Giants and includes major upgrades to athletic fields, new synthetic and natural turf fields, a community plaza, improved pathways, lighting, seating, and new amenities like batting cages, restrooms, and dog play areas. The goal is to increase field capacity, support youth sports, and improve overall access and usability of the park for the community.

Staff explained that the redesign would allow for significantly more play time by reducing weather-related closures and enabling multi-sport use on synthetic turf fields. The project also includes landscaping improvements, additional trees, and better circulation through the park. A new gathering

plaza is intended to support community events, while efforts will be made to include public art and reflect the surrounding neighborhood's identity. Commissioners generally supported the project and emphasized the importance of equity, youth recreation, and community access. They praised the partnership with the Giants and the broader investment in parks across the city. At the same time, they raised questions about synthetic turf impacts, tree removal, and the need for stronger design identity and cultural representation in the park's aesthetics.

Commissioner Brenzel, seconded by Commissioner Collins, moved to approve combined phases Conceptual and Phase 1 for Crocker Amazon Baseball Renovation.

Public Comment(s)

Nancy pili Hernández, Hummingbird Farm volunteer

Hernandez raised concerns about the environmental impact of expanding synthetic turf, stating it could harm local ecosystems and nearby community-led restoration efforts like Hummingbird Farm. Hernandez emphasized the importance of protecting native plants, wetlands, and community food resources. Hernandez also opposed tree removal and increased fencing, saying it would limit open access to the park.

Oscar Grande, SF resident, Colibri farms

Grande expressed concern that the redesign prioritizes baseball over general community use, with large portions of the park becoming fenced and restricted. Grande said the project could limit access for residents who use the park for everyday recreation. Grande also questioned whether community input was fully reflected and called for a better balance between sports use and open public space.

There was no additional public comment.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion to approve Conceptual and Phase 1 for Crocker Amazon Baseball Renovation.

6. New Business and Announcements *TABLED*
(3:02:12)

7. Adjournment
(3:02:23)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Posted 03/23/2026, 12:45 p.m., MD

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