

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Dhaliwal, Manraj \(ART\); ART-Info](#)
Subject: Crocker Amazon Park on the agenda
Date: Monday, March 16, 2026 2:43:41 PM

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Hi Manraj,

I'm on the Civic Alert mailing list for the Crocker Amazon Baseball and Softball Fields Renovation Project.

The notification that the RPD project manager would be presenting at today's Civic Design Review meeting was sent on Friday at 4:28pm. That gave me no time to submit a public comment for the commission to consider in advance of voting to approve the design.

I see that capital projects must improve the public realm, enhance the city and respect the natural environment.

The Recreation and Parks Department project for Crocker Amazon Park actually **degrades** the public realm, **damages** the city, and thoroughly **debases** the natural environment.

Currently, the 20-acre grass lawns at Crocker Amazon Park are used by a large multiethnic and multigenerational community. It provides an accessible meadow ringed in grand old-growth trees for that part of town akin to the meadows of Golden Gate Park. There is nothing else like it.

RPD started working on this project in 2021. They chose artificial turf, hired Verde Design to design the sports complex to replace the 20 acres of meadow, hired an arborist consultant to determine which trees would be removed, all in 2021. The neighborhood was first notified of the project in 2025 a few weeks before the first community meeting in February.

They received immense negative feedback yet, when they presented the second design in November, they enlarged the parking lot and increased the footprint of the artificial turf.

The arborist surveyed 173 trees and determined that only 45 could remain. 128 trees would be removed.

This project violates the goals and sentiment of RPD's own "Connecting Children with Nature." It pollutes an area already within the city's Environmental Justice areas. It closes the park to the public -- all fields will be fenced. It undermines the "Zero Waste" goals of the city since these rolls of plastic carpeting cannot be recycled and will go into landfill. RPD will say that the turf manufacturer will take back the turf and promises to recycle it, but this is not true: it cannot be recycled. Through a public records request I have found out that the turf removed from two fields was shipped to Malaysia, and the rest have been shipped to Oregon when they sit outdoors indefinitely.

I contacted the project manager about tree replacement and he could not confirm that they would replace the trees 2-for-1. Given how much of the space will be plastic or concrete, there won't be enough space for 256 trees.

The stormwater runoff from four of RPD's artificial turf fields have been tested and shown to leach toxins, including carcinogens. They did not close the fields for remediation, nor did they post Prop 65 warnings. See <https://keepcrockerreal.com/docs>

Turf fields must be tested each year for hardness to meet safety standards for impact. We submitted a public records request for the test results. We were only given results for 4 years of the 24 years that there have been artificial turf fields in the city. All fields failed the impact tests.

Given that the Crocker Amazon Baseball & Softball project debases the natural world, RPD developed the plan without community involvement, and RPD's history of hiding problems, I ask you to REJECT the design. Unfortunately, by keeping their work opaque, your committee has not had oversight "prior to the expenditure of large amounts of time and capital" (quote from your website). But that should not allow RPD to follow through with this project.

The \$15 million allocated to Crocker Amazon in the 2020 Health and Recovery Bond should be spent according to the people's goals and needs. Currently the [Jackson Playground project](#) has been community-led. The Crocker Amazon project must also be community-led.

Thank you,
Susan Mullaney

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2026 11:44 AM
To: ART-Info <ART-Info@sfgov.org>
Subject: Crocker Amazon Park demolition plan

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Dear Arts commission,

The SFRPD plan has many flaws not the least of which is an extremely bland design. The unimaginative renderings produced by Verde are in sharp contrast to the existing WPA era elements still in place.

The largest and most egregious flaw is the lack of community input in the overall process. RPD has only held two community meetings instead of the usual five plus. Neither of these meetings involved giving open ended design input from the community so much as asking the community to comment on the plans as presented. I assume this is why the design does not incorporate any of the rich cultural tapestry of the surrounding neighborhoods as much as reflect the beige suburban corporate thought process as presented by Verde design.

I ask you to reject the current plan and insist on a more inclusive community led design process.

Thank you for your time,
Wesley Saunders
D11

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Dhaliwal, Manraj \(ART\)](#)
Subject: Public comment: Item 5. Crocker Amazon Baseball Renovation
Date: Monday, March 16, 2026 10:23:06 AM

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Reject Rec/Park's Crocker Amazon Baseball and Softball Field Renovation plan. It dishonors William Merchant's WPA-era vision of design that enhances rather than imposes on the landscape, and contradicts every principle of climate responsibility and public health.

The plan adds 20 acres of plastic turf to an already over-paved park, eliminates 120 trees, and encircles fields in chainlink fencing that reads as exclusion, not welcome. The synthetic turf supply chain spans three continents and the materials cannot be recycled at end of life.

PFAS forever chemicals in the turf are linked to cancer, thyroid disease, and immune dysfunction. Microplastics shed into Bay waterways daily. Surfaces temps soar on hot days — unconscionable in a low-income neighborhood amid a climate crisis.

No CEQA environmental review has been conducted. Until it is, this project should not advance. San Francisco deserves better than plastic dressed up as progress.

Bob Hall

Keep Crocker Real

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