

Request for Review Form
San Francisco Arts Commission
Civic Design Review

Project Information

Project Title: Embarcadero Plaza and Sue Bierman Park Renovation Project

Date: 9/21/26

Client Department: San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

Project Address: 1 Clay Street, San Francisco

District Number: 3

Is this part of a multi-site project, bond or capital improvement program? If yes, which program?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Project Team

Project Designer: Brian Jencek, HOK

Project Designer Email: brian.jencek@hok.com

Project Manager: Eoanna Goodwin

Project Manager Email: eoanna.goodwin@sfgov.org

Architect: Jeffrey Stafford, HOK

Architect Email: jeffrey.stafford@hok.com

Landscape Architect: Brian Jencek, HOK

Landscape Architect Email: brian.jencek@hok.com

Dates of Review (select all that apply)

☐ Conceptual/Information Presentation

☒ Phase 1: Schematic Design

☐ Phase 2: Design Development

☐ Phase 3: Construction Documents

☐ Other

☐ Small Project Review

☐ Plaque Review

For requests for Administrative Review, please use the Administrative Review Form

Project Delivery Method (select all that apply)

☐ Design, Bid Build (traditional)

☐ Fast Track

☐ Design-Build

☐ Bridging

☒ Other CMGC

☐ Construction Commencement: 12/1/26

☐ Construction Completion: 12/15/27

☐ Structure Size: 1500 SF

Budget

Budget Construction Cost: \$28m

Art Enrichment Budget: N/A

Please attach the official line-item construction budget for the project and provide an explanation if the Art Enrichment budget is less than 2% of the total construction cost including above and below ground construction unless exempt per the Art Enrichment Ordinance.

Design Concept

Please provide a succinct description of the design concept or idea (not the functional goals). Attach additional page if needed.

See attached.

Additional Information

Is this project on a City-designated landmark or in a City-designated historic district? If yes, please contact Richard Sucré of the Historic Preservation Commission to determine whether a certificate of appropriateness is required. (Richard Sucré contact information: richard.sucré@sfgov.org/628-652-7364)

☐ Yes

☒ No

Community Outreach

It is your obligation to notify the community (by mail or email) that there is opportunity for public comment at the Civic Design Review Meeting. This is an important part of the public process. What has been done in this regard?

Will send email to 1,000+ community members who have signed up for project updates.

Fees

Civic Design Review Base Fee: **\$17,900**

Projects are charged on a per project basis. Complex projects or projects involving more than one building may be charged a higher fee. The Small Project Review fee is \$8,250 and the Administrative Review fee is \$1,500.

Interdepartmental Fund Transfer should use the following codes for SFAC’s chart fields:

Revenue Account ID: **460127**

Department ID: **163649**

Project ID: **10022393**

Fund ID: **11740**

Authority ID: **16577**

Activity ID: **0001**

Write checks to: San Francisco Arts Commission

Attention Kevin Quan

401 Van Ness, Suite 325, San Francisco, CA 94102

Design Concept

The reimagined Embarcadero Park transforms five acres of fragmented public open space into a unified, connected, and welcoming waterfront civic green at the foot of Market Street. By eliminating legacy visual and physical barriers, the proposed design establishes a direct, intuitive pedestrian connection between San Francisco's downtown and the iconic Ferry Building shoreline. The layout dissolves the former boundary between Embarcadero Plaza and Sue Bierman Park, replacing them with a continuous tapestry of flexible multi-use lawns, active park programming rooms, native coastal plantings, and accessible, tree-shaded walking promenades designed to anchor everyday community life and revitalize the downtown realm.

At the physical and social heart of the park sits a dynamic multi-use event zone anchored by a contemporary pavilion and integrated performance stage. The pavilion serves as a central civic element within the larger landscape, framing views toward San Francisco Bay and establishing a focal point for the park while linking the civic and neighborhood edges of the site. Surrounding this central lawn, programmatic zones extend outward to support diverse day-to-night activation, featuring interactive play spaces, a dedicated dog play area, fitness areas, flexible dining terraces adjacent to the Embarcadero Center, and designated festival plazas optimized for seasonal markets and public art installations. A consistent landscape and architectural language of planting, paving, furnishings, and park structures ties these varied spaces together and reinforces the park's identity as one cohesive waterfront landscape.