



**SAN BRUNO CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

**March 28, 2023**

**7:00 PM**

**Public Comment for Items Not of the Agenda**

March 28, 2023  
General Public Comment  
Re: City Parkway

Dear San Bruno City Council,

The recent unveiling of City Parkway was underwhelming and concerning as a resident. As the City continues to respond to questions about the width of City Parkway, it falls short of the simple fact that it is too narrow. The width is felt by all who have driven along the previous welcoming and unassuming path as you are now required to ensure the person in the other lane is not even slightly over the dividing line because there is no room for error, no room to slightly shift for that senior driving to the Senior Center, individual text messaging, new student driver or parent rushing to get their child to school; crossing over the lane divider is more likely to end in an accident now than ever before.

Traffic mitigation being the reason provided by the City Manager, and seemingly acceptable by the sitting City Council in a recent meeting for the deceptively narrow streets, can only be justified when not tailored to reasonableness. The new and narrow lanes don't account for the fact that this lane is in the middle of a widely utilized park. It has no path for a bicycle, skateboarders or other standard recreational uses by children and other members of our community. Having attended all public meetings regarding City Park wherein various options were presented to the public, the significant narrowing of the street was not highlighted. Had it been, residents may have raised a greater need for a bike lane to ensure our children and adult riders remain safe while using City Parkway or prioritized maintaining a wider lane for practical reasons including access by emergency vehicles.

What is further concerning is the expectation that the City of San Bruno (City) will regularly rent out the Recreation and Aquatic Center auditorium for functions of upwards of 200 people in addition to the various private picnics and other community functions occurring in and around the popular park. The recently opened City Parkway is not inviting to the crowds that the new Recreation and Aquatic Center is anticipated to attract and will end up with City Parkway becoming a parking lot during highly attended events.

The recent storms only highlighted the need to immediately review the current design while still under construction and in contract. The park's prior design provided that when flooding occurred, it would overflow into the parking spaces in front of the snack shop and Diamond 1. Even when blocking off the parking space, drivers were still able to drive through the park. Whether designed in that way intentionally or not, it was functional without causing inconvenience to the public. With the new design, the water overflowed and flooded the now narrow street with no room for error and no option left to the City but to close the street. Even in these heightened storms, a new and modern system should not be functioning in this way. The realization that flooding is occurring, at this time, during construction should cause the City pause and take this opportunity to review all of its contracts to address these issues now and directly with the contractors. It is possible that these storms are the beginning of storms to come in future years and should be seen as a base, not an extreme, as we build out the Recreation and Aquatic Center.

Lastly, the potholes driving through City Park toward Capuchino high school are inexcusable. It is unfathomable how the City could fund the majority of City Parkway leaving our residents short just 10 feet at the end of the park where the street, clearly visible, most needs attention? While there may be an answer to this, it simply does not make sense to not complete the street at one time for cost and efficiency. Provided the fact that the rest of the street was just paved, the number of existing potholes, and the funds the City has, there is simply no justification to have reopened City Parkway without having addressed these potholes going towards De Soto as well.

The City Council approved a fair contingency at the time the contractors entered into an agreement. If the City and Contractor are unable to make the changes needed at no additional cost to the City pursuant to the existing contract with the City, then the City should consider utilizing some of its contingency for what it is intended – not new additions to the project that were fixed and certain at the time of contracting – but uncertain such as the effects of the new systems in high storm conditions. Once addressed, the City can revisit the remaining contingency for other additions.

The City of San Bruno gets one opportunity for a new Recreation and Aquatic Center and should ensure the roads in and out are safe to the entire community and accessible, even in high storm conditions...especially now that we have just had a test run.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

In service,

/s/

Linda Mason

cc: Traffic, Safety, Parking and Committee (TSPC)  
Recreation and Aquatic Center Committee  
San Bruno Community Foundation



**SAN BRUNO CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

**March 28, 2023**

**7:00 PM**

**Public Comment for Item 8b**

March 28, 2023

San Bruno City Council Meeting

Public Comment re:

1. Restore Funding for the Florida Avenue Park Construction CIP Project Through an Appropriation of \$2,000,000 From the Development Impact Fees Community Facilities Impact Fees Subaccount

It's exciting to see this project move forward for the residents that currently utilize the space and will continue to do so in its intended capacity. Thank you to the staff who made attempts to garner State grants over the last four years without awards. These opportunities allow Cities to improve and replace parks without tapping into City resources. Although the City of San Bruno was not awarded the funds, the efforts of staff to attain them are to be acknowledged as is the work done in recent years to increase revenue generation to allow this project to now move forward.

A special thank you also goes out to the Friends of Florida Park who worked to ensure that "new" does not replace "old." We saw first-hand the value of a pocket park and tree during the COVID pandemic where outdoor space was a lifeline for so many. This sole remaining tree in Florida Park is the place so many sit under on a sunny day, where the announcements at the opening of Florida Park took place instead of under the hot sun, and where kids love to roam; the value of a tree is not to be undervalued. In fact, the Friends of Florida Park did not delay the project as stated in the staff report; but instead ensured that an area of underinvestment by leadership over 20+ years and desolate of trees maintained one... single... tree.

You cannot build a park without funds and the City did not have the funds until recently due to the work of leadership over the past few years. Why it took leadership two years to consider the value of a tree in a park and resolve the matter by agreeing to keep the tree is simply unconscionable when considering valuable staff time and resources expended. However, while awaiting a funding source it provided a good distraction and excuse for community representatives as to why the park was not being built at the cost of pitting a community against each other. It's time for City leadership to unify this community behind their park and stop the finger pointing.

Lastly, thank you to City Staff who, in 2020, worked to quickly turn an eye sore that had been fenced up for years into a useable space for the community. A place where toddlers can toddle, dogs can run and Councilmembers can play catch with their kids. The community thanks you and looks forward to what is to come. Good government leaves a legacy for their children's children... it's time to get this legacy moving in the heart of our great City.

-Linda Mason