



San Francisco  
County Transportation  
Authority

Britney Milton <[britney.milton@sfcta.org](mailto:britney.milton@sfcta.org)>

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## Comment on SFMTA/JFK reopening

1 message

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**Marria Evbuoma** <[marria.evbuoma@gmail.com](mailto:marria.evbuoma@gmail.com)>  
To: [Clerk@sfcta.org](mailto:Clerk@sfcta.org)

Tue, Mar 23, 2021 at 7:53 AM

Greetings,

Becoming a person with disabilities is the one minority anyone at anytime can become a part of. Knowing this, I call for the reopening of JFK to cars in solidarity with people who rely on vehicles to be access this area of GGP.

Although my family and I are able bodied, I would hope that should something happen to one of us and we would need our car to visit the DeYoung or the CA Academy of Science, we would be able to without the high cost of parking in a garage.

Please keep all people with all abilities in mind as we reopen. Thank you.

In Kindness,

Marria Evbuoma

Director of Communications  
Race to Zero Waste  
415.317.7602  
[racetozero.org](http://racetozero.org)



San Francisco  
County Transportation  
Authority

Britney Milton <britney.milton@sfcta.org>

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## Objection to the permanent closure of JFK in Golden Gate Park

1 message

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**Alyse \_** <honorlabor@hotmail.com>  
To: Transportation Authority <clerk@sfcta.org>

Mon, Mar 22, 2021 at 9:19 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my objection to the permanent closure of the eastern half of JFK Drive in Golden Gate Park. The eastern end of JFK contains some of the best and most beautiful attractions of Golden Gate Park, including Stow Lake, the Rose Garden, the museums and the Conservatory of Flowers. Closing JFK would mean that many people could no longer be able to enjoy these places because for many, they are only accessible by car. There is no public transit to that part of the park; furthermore, there reliable transit within the park. For many, a car is the only option.

The park belongs to all of us, and all of us should have access. The park was never intended for only the young and the able-bodied. In order to ensure that everybody can enjoy the beauty the park has to offer, JFK must be open to cars.

Sincerely,  
Alyse Ceirante  
San Francisco



Britney Milton &lt;britney.milton@sfcta.org&gt;

## Public Comment regarding JFK Drive

3 messages

**Tomasita Medál** <tomasitamedal@gmail.com>

Tue, Mar 23, 2021 at 12:51 AM

To: "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org" <MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org>, "waltonstaff@sfgov.org" <waltonstaff@sfgov.org>, "shamann.walton@sfgov.org" <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>, "aaron.peskin@sfgov.org" <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>, "catherine.stefani@sfgov.org" <catherine.stefani@sfgov.org>, "connie.chan@sfgov.org" <connie.chan@sfgov.org>, "dean.preston@sfgov.org" <dean.preston@sfgov.org>, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" <gordon.mar@sfgov.org>, "hillary.ronen@sfgov.org" <hillary.ronen@sfgov.org>, "Matt.Haney@sfgov.org" <Matt.Haney@sfgov.org>, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org" <rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org>, "melgarstaff@sfgov.org" <melgarstaff@sfgov.org>, "myrna.melgar@sfgov.org" <myrna.melgar@sfgov.org>, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org" <Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org>, "Tim.H.Ho@sfgov.org" <Tim.H.Ho@sfgov.org>, "Jen.Snyder@sfgov.org" <Jen.Snyder@sfgov.org>, "Daniel.Herzstein@sfgov.org" <Daniel.Herzstein@sfgov.org>, "Honey.Mahogany@sfgov.org" <Honey.Mahogany@sfgov.org>, "Daisy.Quan@sfgov.org" <Daisy.Quan@sfgov.org>, "Natalie.Gee@sfgov.org" <Natalie.Gee@sfgov.org>, "Tom.Temprano@sfgov.org" <Tom.Temprano@sfgov.org>, "Jeffrey (MTA)" <Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com>, "Sarah (MTA)" <Sarah.Jones@sfmta.com>, "Phil (REC)" <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>, "MTABoard@sfmta.com" <MTABoard@sfmta.com>, "rpdinfo@sfgov.org" <rpdinfo@sfgov.org>, "Sarah (REC)" <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>, "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>, "chanstaff@sfgov.org" <chanstaff@sfgov.org>, "Edward.W.Wright@sfgov.org" <Edward.W.Wright@sfgov.org>, "Kyle.Smeallie@sfgov.org" <Kyle.Smeallie@sfgov.org>, "lucas.tobin@sfgov.org" <lucas.tobin@sfgov.org>, "Kevin (DPW)" <Kevin.W.Jensen@sfdpw.org>, Nicole Bohn <nicole.bohn@sfgov.org>, "Deborah (ADM)" <deborah.kaplan@sfgov.org>, "John (ADM)" <john.romaidis@sfgov.org>, "Arfaraz (DPW)" <arfaraz.khambatta@sfdpw.org>, "info@sfcta.org" <info@sfcta.org>, Fiona <fiona@ilrcsf.org>, "clerk@sfcta.org" <clerk@sfcta.org>, Howard Chabner <hchabner@comcast.net>, Tomasita Medál <tomasitamedal@gmail.com>, Thomas Campbell <tcampbell@famsf.org>

Dear Mayor London Breed and All Other City Officials,

I strongly support Howard Chabner's sentiments expressed to you:

Please reopen JFK Drive to cars when the temporary, emergency order forbidding cars expires, except, as before the pandemic, for the eastern part on Sundays and some Saturdays.

Before the pandemic, a large percentage of visitors to Golden Gate Park came in cars, including San Franciscans, people who live elsewhere in the Bay Area, and tourists from around the world. Those who relied on cars include seniors, people with mobility and other disabilities, families with children, and residents from places within and outside San Francisco where driving is the only feasible option. Before the pandemic, JFK Drive was open to all transportation modes, including cars, except the eastern part was closed to cars on Sundays and some Saturdays. That was a fair compromise. In addition, there has been a parking-protected bike lane in both directions on JFK Drive for years (the creation of which resulted in the elimination of many parking spaces).

The closure was imposed by executive order of Mayor Breed at the beginning of shelter-in-place on a temporary, emergency basis in order to provide more space for social distancing. In essence, this has closed much of Golden Gate Park to anyone who can't walk or bike in, which is inequitable, but it was imposed quickly and justified as one of many temporary measures to deal with an unprecedented public health emergency.

Permanently closing JFK Drive to cars would create a permanent access barrier to Golden Gate Park for countless numbers of people, including many seniors, people with mobility and other disabilities, families, and people from places where driving is the only feasible option.

**The closure of JFK Drive to cars during the pandemic has been touted as a success by some, and used to argue for permanent closure. But it hasn't been a success for those who have been unable to access Golden Gate Park because of the closure. It may be possible to measure the number of pedestrians and cyclists in the park, but it is utterly impossible to measure the number of people who couldn't go there because of the closure.**

Permanently closing the eastern part of JFK to cars would permanently eliminate hundreds of parking spaces. Increasing the number of blue zones elsewhere in the park and in the surrounding areas would be insufficient to compensate for the loss. Disabled people parked not only in the blue zones on JFK, but in regular spaces also, as we do throughout the city. When JFK was open to cars, people who couldn't walk, or couldn't walk far, could park close to destinations such as the Conservatory of Flowers, AIDS Memorial Grove, Dahlia Garden, the Rose Garden and others. With permanent closure, they will never be able to. Moreover, increasing the number of blue zones elsewhere would do nothing for the countless number of people who may not be disabled but rely on cars to get to the park.

The City can't make the temporary, emergency closure of JFK Drive permanent without doing an environmental impact report. (The original bike plan was tied up in court for years because the City refused to do an EIR.) And you can't do an EIR about closing JFK without first doing a traffic study of the surrounding areas. One example of the environmental impact on the surrounding areas is the increased congestion on Fell Street from Masonic to Stanyan since JFK Drive has been closed. Any study also must include the impact of losing hundreds of spaces in GGP on parking in the surrounding areas. And it's impossible to do a meaningful traffic study until after the pandemic emergency is over, because current conditions aren't representative.

Closing JFK to cars permanently would violate Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. And the City has a mixed record in defending against ADA lawsuits.

In my own words, I must say that this policy is absolutely cruel. It seems that city officials have a very calloused attitude towards those of us who cannot walk very far and whose knees cannot bend so that we cannot take even one step to get into a jitney, such as the ones provided for the disability community to try to access the lighted trees this past winter. Waiting in inclement weather for a jitney is no substitute for being able to drive along JFK Drive, and drive up in front of the Conservatory of Flowers, park on JFK Drive, and watch the light show at night, in the comfort of the family car. In fact, the jitney option is not a real option at all, because for elders having to wait in the cold and be transported in the cold to a site is just not feasible. We are effectively shut out of the park.

It seems that City policy just aims to serve the able-bodied who live close to Golden Gate Park or who are athletically fit enough to bicycle to it. But Golden Gate Park belongs to all of us, including those families with elders and children who might like to drive to and through the Park

from the outer districts of the City or from the East Bay or San Jose. The new director of the deYoung Museum has made admission free to all Bay Area residents on Saturdays. The deYoung includes a world-renowned permanent exhibition of Native Arts of the Americas, Oceania, and Africa. Viewing these exhibitions could be life transforming for thousands of Bay Area families. Please keep access to Golden Gate Park open to everyone. Be fair. Respect. Be kind.

Tomasita Medál

[tomasitamedal@gmail.com](mailto:tomasitamedal@gmail.com)

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aj <ajahjah@att.net>

Tue, Mar 23, 2021 at 3:49 AM

Reply-To: aj <ajahjah@att.net>

To: Transportation Authority <clerk@sfcta.org>, Tilly Chang <tilly.chang@sfcta.org>, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org" <rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org>, Aaron Peskin <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>, "jen.low@sfgov.org" <jen.low@sfgov.org>

Cc: Tomasita Medal <tomasitamedal@gmail.com>

Chair Mandelman, Vice Chair Peskin, SFCTA--

Banning cars on JFK Drive privileges the few, to the detriment of the many.

I endorse the statements by Tomasita Medal and Howard Chabner. Don't succumb to pressure from those self-entitled special interests.

If you ever ride MUNI, please note the physical difficulties that many people encounter while boarding/debarking our transit vehicles.

--Alvin Ja, D7, Muni Railway retiree

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2021, 12:51:14 AM PDT

**Subject:** Public Comment regarding JFK Drive

[Quoted text hidden]

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Tue, Mar 23, 2021 at 7:42 AM



Britney Milton &lt;britney.milton@sfcta.org&gt;

## FW: Post-pandemic transportation: cars remain essential

1 message

**Howard Chabner** <hlchabner@comcast.net>  
To: clerk@sfcta.org

Sun, Mar 21, 2021 at 11:19 PM

**From:** Howard Chabner <hlchabner@comcast.net>

**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 9:13 PM

**To:** 'MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org' <MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org>; 'waltonstaff@sfgov.org' <waltonstaff@sfgov.org>; 'shamann.walton@sfgov.org' <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>; 'aaron.peskin@sfgov.org' <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>; 'catherine.stefani@sfgov.org' <catherine.stefani@sfgov.org>; 'connie.chan@sfgov.org' <connie.chan@sfgov.org>; 'dean.preston@sfgov.org' <dean.preston@sfgov.org>; 'gordon.mar@sfgov.org' <gordon.mar@sfgov.org>; 'hillary.ronen@sfgov.org' <hillary.ronen@sfgov.org>; 'Matt.Haney@sfgov.org' <Matt.Haney@sfgov.org>; 'rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org' <rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org>; 'melgarstaff@sfgov.org' <melgarstaff@sfgov.org>; 'myrna.melgar@sfgov.org' <myrna.melgar@sfgov.org>; 'Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org' <Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org>; 'Tim.H.Ho@sfgov.org' <Tim.H.Ho@sfgov.org>; 'Jen.Snyder@sfgov.org' <Jen.Snyder@sfgov.org>; 'Daniel.Herzstein@sfgov.org' <Daniel.Herzstein@sfgov.org>; 'Honey.Mahogany@sfgov.org' <Honey.Mahogany@sfgov.org>; 'Daisy.Quan@sfgov.org' <Daisy.Quan@sfgov.org>; 'Natalie.Gee@sfgov.org' <Natalie.Gee@sfgov.org>; 'Tom.Temprano@sfgov.org' <Tom.Temprano@sfgov.org>; 'Tumlin, Jeffrey (MTA)' <Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com>; 'Jones, Sarah (MTA)' <Sarah.Jones@sfmta.com>; 'Ginsburg, Phil (REC)' <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>; 'MTABoard@sfmta.com' <MTABoard@sfmta.com>; 'rpdinfo@sfgov.org' <rpdinfo@sfgov.org>; 'Madland, Sarah (REC)' <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>; 'recpark.commission@sfgov.org' <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>; 'chanstaff@sfgov.org' <chanstaff@sfgov.org>; 'Edward.W.Wright@sfgov.org' <Edward.W.Wright@sfgov.org>; 'Kyle.Smeallie@sfgov.org' <Kyle.Smeallie@sfgov.org>; 'lucas.tobin@sfgov.org' <lucas.tobin@sfgov.org>; 'Jensen, Kevin (DPW)' <Kevin.W.Jensen@sfdpw.org>; 'Nicole Bohn' <nicole.bohn@sfgov.org>; 'Kaplan, Deborah (ADM)' <deborah.kaplan@sfgov.org>; 'Romaidis, John (ADM)' <john.romaidis@sfgov.org>; 'Khambatta, Arfaraz (DPW)' <arfaraz.khambatta@sfdpw.org>; 'info@sfcta.org' <info@sfcta.org>; 'Fiona' <fiona@ilrcsf.org>

**Subject:** Post-pandemic transportation: cars remain essential

Dear Mayor Breed, Board President Walton, Supervisors (in your capacities as such and as SFCTA Board members), Commissioners and others:

As the pandemic restrictions are loosening, San Francisco is starting to reopen, and debates are ongoing about what a post-pandemic San Francisco should look like, it's critical to keep in mind that many people who live in, work in, recreate in, visit or otherwise travel to San Francisco rely on cars. This includes many seniors, people with disabilities, families, those who live in areas (within and outside of San Francisco) without plentiful and effective public transportation, contractors, housekeepers, tradespeople, salespeople, caregivers, nurses and technicians.

Attached are a memo I wrote about why people with mobility disabilities rely heavily on cars, and a letter I wrote to Peter Hartlaub of the Chronicle in response to his piece last summer urging that San Francisco radically de-escalate car infrastructure and take steps toward becoming a car-free city.

Temporary, emergency measures taken in response to an unprecedented public health emergency should be just that – temporary. Reduction or denial of access that may have been tolerated for a relatively short period of time during an emergency must not be allowed to become the new normal.

Sincerely

Howard Chabner

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**2 attachments**



**People with mobility disabilities rely heavily on automobilesVersion2.pdf**  
93K



**Response8-10-2020ToTransportArticleHartlaubChron7-10-2020.pdf**  
162K



March 22, 2021

Chair Mandelman and Commissioners  
San Francisco County Transportation Authority  
1455 Market Street, 22nd Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
info@sfcta.org

Re: Item 11, SFMTA Transportation Recovery Plan

Dear Chair Mandelman and Commissioners,

We are San Francisco's member-supported advocates for affordable, efficient, and always growing public transit. As such, we're concerned about the current proposal for the return of Muni service as San Francisco begins to recover from the state of emergency.

We understand there are many challenges to when, how, and where Muni service is restored. At the same time, it is evident that Muni risks continuing to be dangerously behind demand. We see crowding and pass-ups. We know too many people are still left behind by suspended service. Even as vehicle capacity restrictions relax, we are concerned that Muni won't have the capacity to meet demand.

With uncertain future demand, we know service may not look like it did prior to the pandemic. We are seeing some routes getting more service than ever because there isn't competition for school and downtown peak service. We do not want to go back to leaving those riders behind as they were before. While downtown demand may not recover immediately, it also might; at some point schools will return; and we know that travel and tourism might increase quickly as people find it safer to do so.

Even as travel patterns shift, maintaining 70% of pre-pandemic service hours will not be sufficient to serve riders' needs through 2021. Proposing 85% service restoration through 2022 is also insufficient, especially considering that pre-pandemic service hours delivered were not 100% of what was scheduled and needed.

In a transit-first city, we need to allocate resources to make sure Muni service is there when (or before) people need it. We know that transit is essential. Returning full transit service as soon as possible is essential to reviving our economy, to serving our most vulnerable neighbors, and to mitigating widespread dependence on private cars. We need to build back the transit system required for a sustainable, equitable, accessible future.





SFMTA can't solve this on its own. We need to make sure every available dollar is being used to restore service so that SFMTA is able to implement aggressive hiring plans, and to implement transit priority across the city to serve more riders while saving money.

We urge the SFCTA to support a speedy return of service and work with SFMTA to lay out a clear, funded path to 100% of pre-pandemic service as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Cordes".

Mark Cordes  
Executive Director  
San Francisco Transit Riders

cc:

Tilly Chang, Executive Director  
Jeffrey Tumlin, Director of Transportation  
Julie Kirschbaum, Director of Transit



Britney Milton &lt;britney.milton@sfcta.org&gt;

## Golden Gate Park "Access for All"-San Francisco Tour Guide Guild advocates return to "pre-Covid" vehicle access

4 messages

**Frances Gorman** <francesgorman@gmail.com>

Mon, Mar 22, 2021 at 4:18 PM

To: "MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org" <MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org>, "shamann.walton@sfgov.org" <shamann.walton@sfgov.org>, "aaron.peskin@sfgov.org" <aaron.peskin@sfgov.org>, "catherine.stefani@sfgov.org" <catherine.stefani@sfgov.org>, "connie.chan@sfgov.org" <connie.chan@sfgov.org>, "dean.preston@sfgov.org" <dean.preston@sfgov.org>, "gordon.mar@sfgov.org" <gordon.mar@sfgov.org>, "hillary.ronen@sfgov.org" <hillary.ronen@sfgov.org>, "Matt.Haney@sfgov.org" <Matt.Haney@sfgov.org>, "rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org" <rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org>, "myrna.melgar@sfgov.org" <myrna.melgar@sfgov.org>, "Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org" <Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org>, "MTABoard@sfmta.com" <MTABoard@sfmta.com>, "recpark.commission@sfgov.org" <recpark.commission@sfgov.org>, "info@sfcta.org" <info@sfcta.org>, SF Board of Supervisors <Board.of.Supervisors@sfgov.org>, SFCTA clerk <clerk@sfcta.org>

Cc: Tilly Chang <tilly.chang@sfcta.org>, "Ginsburg, Phil (REC)" <Phil.Ginsburg@sfgov.org>, Paul.Supawanich@sfgov.org, "Bohn, Nicole (ADM)" <Nicole.Bohn@sfgov.org>, Joe D'Alessandro <president@sftravel.com>, Cassandra Costello <Cassandra@sftravel.com>, Westside Transportation and Accessibility Coalition <sfwtac@gmail.com>, Jeff Tumlin <Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com>

To:

Mayor London Breed  
 San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
 San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors  
 San Francisco County Transportation Authority Board of Directors  
 San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission

Copies to:

Jeffrey Tumlin, Director of Transportation, SFMTA  
 Tilly Chang, Executive Director, SFCTA  
 Phil Ginsberg, Director, SF Recreation and Park Department  
 Paul Supawanich, Transportation Policy Advisor, Office of Mayor  
 Nicole Bohn, Mayor's Office on Disability  
 Joe D'Alessandro, President & CEO, SF Travel  
 Cassandra Costello, SVP, Public Policy, SF Travel  
 Westside Transportation and Accessibility Coalition

The San Francisco Tour Guide Guild (SFTGG) believes that Golden Gate Park, and specifically John F. Kennedy Drive, should be "Accessible to All".

We hope you will give our comments in the attached March 22, 2021 letter your immediate consideration. The City is at a critical juncture in formulating transportation policy for a post-Covid San Francisco.

We specifically wish to ensure that our attached March 22, 2021 letter is entered in the public comment record for all upcoming San Francisco government meetings that address the topic of access by motorized vehicles to the roadways in Golden Gate Park. [This includes the SFCTA Meeting on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 10:00 AM, for Agenda Item 7.](#)

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gorman, Chair  
 SFTGG Ad Hoc Committee on Transportation

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Britney Milton &lt;britney.milton@sfcta.org&gt;

## Public comment on March 23, 2021 Board of Supervisors and SFCTA meetings - Reopen JFK Drive to cars as soon as the temporary, emergency closure order expires

1 message

Howard Chabner &lt;hlchabner@comcast.net&gt;

Mon, Mar 22, 2021 at 4:56 PM

To: MayorLondonBreed@sfgov.org, waltonstaff@sfgov.org, shamann.walton@sfgov.org, aaron.peskin@sfgov.org, catherine.stefani@sfgov.org, connie.chan@sfgov.org, dean.preston@sfgov.org, gordon.mar@sfgov.org, hillary.ronen@sfgov.org, Matt.Haney@sfgov.org, rafael.mandelman@sfgov.org, melgarstaff@sfgov.org, myrna.melgar@sfgov.org, Ahsha.Safai@sfgov.org, Tim.H.Ho@sfgov.org, Jen.Snyder@sfgov.org, Daniel.Herzstein@sfgov.org, Honey.Mahogany@sfgov.org, Daisy.Quan@sfgov.org, Natalie.Gee@sfgov.org, Tom.Temprano@sfgov.org, "Tumlin, Jeffrey (MTA)" <Jeffrey.Tumlin@sfmta.com>, "Jones, Sarah (MTA)" <Sarah.Jones@sfmta.com>, "Ginsburg, Phil (REC)" <phil.ginsburg@sfgov.org>, MTABoard@sfmta.com, rpdinfo@sfgov.org, "Madland, Sarah (REC)" <sarah.madland@sfgov.org>, recpark.commission@sfgov.org, chanstaff@sfgov.org, Edward.W.Wright@sfgov.org, Kyle.Smeallie@sfgov.org, lucas.tobin@sfgov.org, "Jensen, Kevin (DPW)" <Kevin.W.Jensen@sfdpw.org>, Nicole Bohn <nicole.bohn@sfgov.org>, "Kaplan, Deborah (ADM)" <deborah.kaplan@sfgov.org>, "Romaidis, John (ADM)" <john.romaidis@sfgov.org>, "Khambatta, Arfaraz (DPW)" <arfaraz.khambatta@sfdpw.org>, info@sfcta.org, Fiona <fiona@ilrcsf.org>, clerk@sfcta.org

Dear Mayor Breed, Board President Walton, Supervisors (in your capacities as such and as SFCTA Board members), Commissioners and others:

Please reopen JFK Drive to cars when the temporary, emergency order forbidding cars expires, except, as before the pandemic, for the eastern part on Sundays and some Saturdays.

Before the pandemic, a large percentage of visitors to Golden Gate Park came in cars, including San Franciscans, people who live elsewhere in the Bay Area, and tourists from around the world. Those who relied on cars include seniors, people with mobility and other disabilities, families with children, and residents from places within and outside San Francisco where driving is the only feasible option. Before the pandemic, JFK Drive was open to all transportation modes, including cars, except the eastern part was closed to cars on Sundays and some Saturdays. That was a fair compromise. In addition, there has been a parking-protected bike lane in both directions on JFK Drive for years (the creation of which resulted in the elimination of many parking spaces).

The closure was imposed by executive order of Mayor Breed at the beginning of shelter-in-place on a temporary, emergency basis in order to provide more space for social distancing. In essence, this has closed much of Golden Gate Park to anyone who can't walk or bike in, which is inequitable, but it was imposed quickly and justified as one of many temporary measures to deal with an unprecedented public health emergency.

Permanently closing JFK Drive to cars would create a permanent access barrier to Golden Gate Park for countless numbers of people, including many seniors, people with mobility and other disabilities, families, and people from places where driving is the only feasible option.

**The closure of JFK Drive to cars during the pandemic has been touted as a success by some, and used to argue for permanent closure. But it hasn't been a success for those who have been unable to access Golden Gate Park because of the closure. It may be possible to measure the number of pedestrians and cyclists in the park, but it is utterly impossible to measure the number of people who couldn't go there because of the closure.**

Permanently closing the eastern part of JFK to cars would permanently eliminate hundreds of parking spaces. Increasing the number of blue zones elsewhere in the park and in the surrounding areas would be insufficient to compensate for the loss. Disabled people parked not only in the blue zones on JFK, but in regular spaces also, as we do throughout the city. When JFK was open to cars, people who couldn't walk, or couldn't walk far, could park close to destinations such as the Conservatory of Flowers, AIDS Memorial Grove, Dahlia Garden and others. With permanent closure, they will never be able to. Moreover, increasing the number of blue zones elsewhere would do nothing for the countless number of people who may not be disabled but rely on cars to get to the park.

I live close enough to roll to the park, which I do often when the weather is good, and it is truly delightful. But even though I live close, I'm not able to roll there in cold or rainy weather, or at night. When my mother, age 91, visits from Chicago, we drive to the park to go to the museums and gardens. She can walk short distances, but it isn't possible for her to walk there no matter how good the weather.

Weather matters. Many visitors, whether disabled or not, are unable to stand in the rain or cold waiting for a shuttle, and are unable to walk long distances in the rain or cold.

Terminology matters. Rec Park, MTA and others refer to the days that JFK Drive is closed to cars as "Car-Free" days, which implies freedom, and implies that cars are bad. "Restricted Access" or "Car-Forbidden" would be just as accurate.

The City can't make the temporary, emergency closure of JFK Drive permanent without doing an environmental impact report. (The original bike plan was tied up in court for years because the City refused to do an EIR.) And you can't do an EIR about closing JFK without first doing a traffic study of the surrounding areas. One example of the environmental impact on the surrounding areas is the increased congestion on Fell Street from Masonic to Stanyan since JFK Drive has been closed. Any study also must include the impact of losing hundreds of spaces in GGP on parking in the surrounding areas. And it's impossible to do a meaningful traffic study until after the pandemic emergency is over, because current conditions aren't representative.

Closing JFK to cars permanently would violate Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. And the City has a mixed record in defending against ADA lawsuits.

Sincerely

Howard Chabner



San Francisco  
County Transportation  
Authority

Britney Milton <britney.milton@sfcta.org>

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## Fwd: Public Comment for March 23 TAB Meeting

1 message

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SFCTA Info <info@sfcta.org>

Mon, Mar 22, 2021 at 2:12 PM

To: Clerk <clerk@sfcta.org>

Cc: Rachel Hiatt <rachel.hiatt@sfcta.org>, David Long <david.long@sfcta.org>

### San Francisco County Transportation Authority

Office: 415-522-4800

[info@sfcta.org](mailto:info@sfcta.org)



San Francisco  
County Transportation  
Authority

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Sheila Pressley** <[spressley@famsf.org](mailto:spressley@famsf.org)>

Date: Mon, Mar 22, 2021 at 2:09 PM

Subject: Public Comment for March 23 TAB Meeting

To: <[info@sfcta.org](mailto:info@sfcta.org)>

Dear Transportation Authority Board Members,

As a San Francisco resident and longtime educator at the de Young Museum please allow me to comment on the proposed closure of JFK Drive. Full and permanent closure of JFK Drive represents a highly entitled and mind bogglingly ableist view of parks and museum access. The de Young is a public museum, part of SF City and County. The museum adds to the economy of SF by bringing in visitors from around the Bay Area as well as provides services – free of charge – to thousands of families, school children, people with disabilities, and low income communities. To have SF government limit access to the de Young truly baffles me. It does not make sense to encourage children to ride bikes through a necessary loading dock. It does not make sense to ask people with disabilities to park further away than they can walk or rely on a shuttle that currently provides no seating at pick up spots, and only runs on weekends. Much more thought needs to go into a workable solution for all. I strongly believe it is not appropriate for able bodied, middle and upper income individuals to shame people who: have disabilities, are elderly, low incomes, or who live outside the city for driving. The de Young museum fully supports bike riding and walking in safe and pleasant conditions, but I must ask why - in an area as large as Golden Gate Park – has JFK Drive with its 17 ADA parking spaces and over 300 free parking spaces close to Music Concourse attractions, been selected? I humbly ask you to consider all San Franciscans in regards to this matter. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Sheila Pressley

Director of Education

Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco

de Young and Legion

[50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive](#)

[San Francisco, CA 94118](#)

415-750-7641

She/Her/Hers

Please consider making a donation to the [Fine Arts Museums Recovery Fund](#) today. Any gift will make an impact.

**From:** [Victoria Kirby](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Sunday, October 11, 2020 11:03:37 AM

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

I cannot believe you are even contemplating closing JFK Drive permanently when it is one of the main arteries giving access to two major SF museums as well as the Tea Garden and Botanical Garden!! This would badly effect all people, but especially the elderly and those with a disability.

Although I am 80, I can still drive and walk a short distance. When the Museum is open, I visit the de Young Museum several times a month and always park on JFK Drive and walk the short distance to the museum. If JFK is closed, where do I park? If the only available parking is blocks away, can I walk far enough to reach the museum and still have energy to walk in the galleries? I cannot afford the very expensive garage. Friends say never park on Fulton as cars are broken into all the time. If there are less roads open in the Park, parking will be harder to find. The GG Park should be for all people - those who drive, take the public bus, ride a bike, walk, use scooters, etc. DO NOT limit access to the public park. We need to expand accessibility everywhere, including in parks and cultural institutions.

Now that the de Young Museum is open, open JFK Drive and reinstate the accessible parking.

A shuttle is NOT the answer. People with vision disabilities, learning differences, and other cognitive issues would have a great deal of difficulty locating Shuttle stops. They might not be able to read or process written information about riding the Shuttle or locating any of the stops. People with mobility disabilities, or those dealing with chronic pain, would not be able to stand and wait for the shuttle, and probably have great difficulty getting on and off the Shuttle. Drivers would have to be consistently trained in how to safely, appropriately and courteously operate the Shuttle's lift. Shuttle frequency would have to be dramatically increased to accommodate the greatly increased demand from Museum elders or goers with disabilities.

One final note about giving priority to bicyclists. I have nearly been hit by several while walking in a GGP crosswalk. Many bicyclists do not obey traffic laws: they ride through stop signs, red lights, do not signal. Put some effort into educating bicyclists and giving them tickets when they disobey traffic laws rather than letting them run wild in SF!



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 1:27:17 PM

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

My name is [REDACTED] and I am the Access Manager at the deYoung Museum. I am also a person with a dual disability as I am both hard of hearing and legally blind.

I am contacting you in both my professional and personal capacity to express my deep concern and shock that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles and is being considered for permanent closure.

>From a professional point of view, the closure severely and negatively impacts accessibility for our visitors with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. Not only does the closure significantly decrease the number of Blue Zone Handicapped and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young, but it also impacts all people with disabilities to physically visit the museum, a city institution that is required and enforced by ADA law to provide access. People with disabilities have many specific considerations for which access to JFK Drive can accommodate them. Closure of the road would simply be a discriminatory and ableist move, going against what the ADA law requires because there is no reasonable accommodation to work around this. Shuttles will not work for many people who are wheelchair users or have other physical disabilities, people who are sight and/or hearing impaired, and people who are cognitively disabled because the shuttles are not equipped to handle very specific considerations. Additionally during COVID, such contained spaces are to be avoided.

The road closure also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened physically, such as Seniors, or by the costs of paid parking, such as the low income population, over which the de Young has no control.

As a hard of hearing and legally blind individual, the road closure also impacts me personally because I rely on either a ride to get to work (which is the deYoung Museum), where I am dropped off at the front of the museum or the #44 bus which also drops me off in front of the museum. Not having this access means I will be putting myself more at risk of danger, as a significantly sight impaired individual, having to walk further distances with random people traffic in order to reach either private or public transportation. The road closure can potentially increase the potential for foot traffic accidents for someone such as myself.

I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping ALL people access the park and the City's museum.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 1:58:26 PM

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

Hello

I am 75, and I broke my hip and I cannot walk very well. I was absolutely shocked to see how much of Golden Gate Park is now not accessible to me. I used to take my mom up to age 99 on drives through the park, it was one of her few pleasures.

I understand they are talking about permanently closing JFK Drive. Please do not do this.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Sharon Mayo](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Closure of JFK  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 4:27:22 PM

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

Hello,

My name is \_\_\_Sharon Mayo\_\_\_\_\_. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

While I do agree with brief closures of JFK on Saturday and Sundays for skaters and bikers and walkers, I think the permanent closure of the whole road will hurt and impact the accessibility to the DeYoung for all. San Francisco is well known for its support of all communities and by blocking off JFK permanently the impact and unfairness to the disabled communities would be greatly felt.

Thank you for considering a different answer than complete closure of JFK drive.

Sincerely

Sharon Mayo  
Asst. Director of St. Nicholas  
DayCare and Preschool  
MA ECSE  
Site Supervisor ECE  
Volunteer of DeYoung/Legion of Honor (8years)  
Previous Intern Project Insight

**From:** [cappels@comcast.net](mailto:cappels@comcast.net)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Please keep ADA parking near the DeYoung Museum  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 4:37:19 PM

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

Hello,

My wife has Spinal Muscular Atrophy and is confined to a wheelchair. We have been members of the DeYoung Museum for many years. We live in Redwood City and rely on the handicap parking spaces on JFK Drive East near the museum.

We heard there is a plan to close JFK Drive East to vehicles, which means we wouldn't be able to get to the museum.

Please maintain ADA parking spaces near the museum.

Thanks,

Tom and Michele Cappels

Tom Cappels  
568 Anchor Circle  
Redwood City, CA 94065  
Home: (650) 591-1807  
Cell: (650) 315-TOMC (8662)

**From:** [Marc Pilisuk](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct. 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 4:44:19 PM

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

-- Hello,

My name is Marc Pilisuk. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

Peace,

Marc

Marc Pilisuk, Ph.D.  
Professor Emeritus, The University of California  
Faculty, Saybrook University  
494 Cragmont Ave  
Berkeley, CA 94708  
Ph 510-526-1788  
Fax 510-526-0876

<http://marcpilisuk.com/bio.html>

*[The Hidden Structure of Violence: Who Benefits From Global Violence and War](#)* by Marc Pilisuk and Jennifer Achord Rountree. New York, NY: New York Monthly Review, 2015. Released July 2015. [Order the book here.](#)

*Peace Movements Worldwide* (3 Volumes) by Marc Pilisuk and Michael Nagler (Eds). Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger/ABC-Clio, 2011.

**From:** [Angelina Graham](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** JFK Drive ADA Parking  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 4:50:09 PM

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

My name is Angelina Graham and I am a Bay Area native. I am contacting you to express my concern that, to my dismay, the JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities who want to visit the de Young Museum, and the surrounding east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring the JFK Drive access for Americans with disabilities (ADA) and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

Here's my individual story. Earlier this year, before the quarantine closures, I had my first opportunity to bring my father to Access Day. We honestly had not been to the museum in years, but our fond past memories and the locally focused exhibit stimulated our desire to participate in a treasured moment.

When we arrived at the park we were properly armed with information thanks to the Access Day de Young website. Everything about making our way was simplified because we had extremely close free parking, and we were unencumbered by the necessity to use a shuttle or any other obstacles that might impede our navigation to the entrance. Inside, we had more space to traverse before seeing the exhibit, but intermittent seating made the experience easier to negotiate.

After an exhilarating tour we immediately planned to make our way back to see the Frida Kahlo exhibit during the April Access Day. Unfortunately, the pandemic has delayed that promise.

Closure of the free and accessible parking will definitely impact our future visits, and ability to enjoy the beauty of the park. Moving through the City is already challenging, yet the availability of this option for families like ourselves is an essential accommodation that gives us equal access to a Bay Area treasure.

Thank you for considering everyone in this decision.

Sincerely,  
Angelina Graham

P.S. My grandmother Martha Butler, served as a docent for several years at the de

Young making it a part of our family legacy.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 4:52:03 PM

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

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED]. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]



**From:** [Keith Pavlik](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read.  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 6:19:46 PM

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

My name is Keith Pavlik. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

I have availed myself of this parking when visiting in the past and hope to use it again.

Regards,  
Keith Pavlik

**From:** [debrahalligan@gmail.com](mailto:debrahalligan@gmail.com)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read.  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 7:45:02 PM

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

Hello, My name is [REDACTED]. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

I have several friends and family members, some of whom want to visit San Francisco from the opposite side of the planet, who use mobility devices like walkers, are elderly, and have health problems. Closing streets without consideration to fair access for disabled people is very disappointing and against the ethos of Golden Gate Park, which has welcomed people of all kinds for many years and is a shining example of a great public park with world-renowned museums.

Moreover, limiting access to the DeYoung only through one-side on MLK would only increase congestion on a busy thoroughfare which is already impacted by significant multi-modal traffic.

Thank you,  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD.\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Parking for those with disabilities  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 8:55:23 PM

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

**Hello,**

**My name is [REDACTED]. I am a disabled senior so this directly affects me and many of my friends who are in similar circumstances. I am also a member of the De Young Museum.**

**I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park.**

**The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young.**

**This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.**

**Please contact me with any questions. I can be reached at [REDACTED].**

**Thank you so very much for your attention and support.**

**Best wishes,**

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MOD Oct. 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 10:22:28 AM

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

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED] I am a native San Franciscan, and widow of a 100% disabled war veteran. I am contacting you to express my deepest concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. My husband, a wheelchair user, visited the deYoung Museum many, many times, and drew great pleasure from this outing to one of the most beautiful museums on the West Coast. I dropped him off in the front of the deYoung, and we enjoyed a wonderful day of beauty and lunch in the cafe. I cannot emphasize enough what joy this museum visit brought to him, and all disabled visitors. He faced obstacles in his life every single day for decades; please do not take away this accessibility, which was hard won. Bicyclists are able-bodied and perfectly capable of riding through San Francisco without being given special privileges which take away the accessibility of the disabled and underserved communities. Please restore JFK Drive to vehicles and the number of ADA and free parking spaces; closure is cruel.


**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** JFK Drive East closure impacting ADA free parking spaces  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 10:55:36 AM

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

My name is [REDACTED]. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

Thank you for your consideration.

**From:**   
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Closing of JFK Drive  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 10:58:41 AM

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

As physically disabled museum-goers, for over 20 years through the Access Program @ FAMSF, we can't believe we would be denied access to the De Young Museum. This is not only discriminatory against the disabled elderly, but against others as well. This would be actionable, inviting lawsuits. How can you close off access to GGP, a national as well as local treasure, to be enjoyed by all, not just the the young, able-bodied, and bicycle enthusiasts.



Sent from Xfinity Connect Application

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 11:03:28 AM

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

Dear Law Maker,

My name is [REDACTED]. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control.

I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 11:10:54 AM

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Dear Friends:

We are writing in support of permanently closing JFK to cars as was done for the Safe Streets initiative.

We feel that any great City should provide outdoor recreation to families and to residents and this has proved to be a huge celebration at a time we needed it the most.

We live close to the park and understand that it has been and will continue to affect our traffic flows and our ability to park our car close to our apartment and we actually LIKE that we can help people enjoy the park by keeping it car-free. PLEASE MORE IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD (PMIMN)

People opposing this proposal cite access for disabled people and that is a viable concern. The DeYoung museum has a wonderful Access Day program for each exhibit that is so well run. We have used it extensively when we have disabled friends visiting and I'm sure that some solution using the underground parking garage can be used.

Thank you so much,

[REDACTED]



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 11:33:28 AM

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

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED]. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles.

As a parent of a teenager with a disability, we enjoy visiting the park and the deYoung Museum. We visit as a family and he has visited with his school on field trips. If the JFK Drive East is completely closed to vehicles, that limits our access to the museum and park since we rely on vehicular access and ADA parking. Other underserved populations also may not be able to afford paid parking and have their access limited as well.

Please consider how your plans will limit access to the large but underserved disabled community. This population generally lacks resources and a voice to speak up, so it's up to able-bodied members of the community to recognize conscious and unconscious ableism and work to proactively consider this population in all decisions that may affect them.

Thank you for keeping the disabled community in mind when making decisions, and please keep JFK drive and the park and museum accessible for people who need it.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Susan Osova](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC October 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 11:33:51 AM

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

Hello,

I am Susan Osova. I am writing to say that JFK Drive should not be closed to people with disabilities. They need access to the deYoung museum.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely yours,  
Susan Osova

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 Comment to be Read  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 11:53:26 AM  
**Attachments:** [image4c3941.PNG](#)  
[image6d3768.PNG](#)  
[image260244.PNG](#)  
[imagef7bdbf.PNG](#)

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

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED]. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

I work for an assisted living community in San Rafael. We have made many trips to the de Young and Golden Gate in the past. Parking and accessibility were already a huge challenge. Please do not worsen it by closing JFK to vehicles.

Thank you,  
[REDACTED]

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*The foregoing message is intended only for the use of the person or organization to whom/which it is addressed, and it may contain information that is privileged, confidential or protected by federal or state law. If you believe*

**From:** [Caroline Strongman](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Sonia Gallant](#)  
**Subject:** MOD Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 12:41:14 PM

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

Hello,

I've just heard you want to permanently close JFK drive east through the Golden Gate Park. This is horrible! What are you not thinking? There are many, 30 I believe, disabled parking spaces that will disappear if you do this. Then where will I park? And don't say the underground car park because I can't go down there and I'm sure lots of other people feel the same. One of the things I can do and enjoy doing as a disabled person, wheelchair user here, is going to the park and the museums there and the current parking is flat, easily accessible, safe, free and very easy to use. Therefore I go quite a lot. I won't go if I have to park underground or outside the park on the street. Far too dangerous. Road surface is horrible. I don't want to get out of the car into traffic and can't physically get out on the curb side. Both places are absolutely scary and not safe. Not to mention I can't afford it. You have no idea how much this road closure would affect myself and many, many others. If you close JFK drive where will everyone park? I haven't even touched on the pleasures of driving through the park and visiting various parts of the park that would not be possible if you close this road. It will be a nightmare. Please don't do this. Disabled people like to enjoy the park and the museums and you're not considering us and our needs with this closure. Because you don't have our needs. Which are very different from able bodied people.

Thank you for listening. I hope you will reconsider.

Caroline Strongman  
(415) 819 1263

**From:** [Jacqueline Jones](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Please keep JFK drive open  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 12:49:43 PM

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

Hi. I'm not sure why there is a movement to close JFK drive, but we use it frequently when our members come to the museum. Our members are older adults, and while many do not have disability placards, they do have mobility issues. For them, parking nearby is important. The parking garage is expensive.

Thank you,

Jacqueline Zimmer Jones  
Executive Director  
NEXT Village SF  
[jjones@nextvillagesf.org](mailto:jjones@nextvillagesf.org)  
[www.nextvillagesf.org](http://www.nextvillagesf.org)  
(503) 551-2328 (M)  
(415) 888-2868 (O)  
[Like us on Facebook](#)

[WATCH a quick video about NEXT Village SF.](#)

**From:** [Jacqueline Jones](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Please keep JFK drive open  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 12:49:43 PM

---

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

Hi. I'm not sure why there is a movement to close JFK drive, but we use it frequently when our members come to the museum. Our members are older adults, and while many do not have disability placards, they do have mobility issues. For them, parking nearby is important. The parking garage is expensive.

Thank you,

Jacqueline Zimmer Jones  
Executive Director  
NEXT Village SF  
[jjones@nextvillagesf.org](mailto:jjones@nextvillagesf.org)  
[www.nextvillagesf.org](http://www.nextvillagesf.org)  
(503) 551-2328 (M)  
(415) 888-2868 (O)  
[Like us on Facebook](#)

[WATCH a quick video about NEXT Village SF.](#)

**From:** [Sandy Yuen](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Monday, October 12, 2020 12:55:52 PM

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

To Whom It May Concern:

As a member of the differently-abled community I am sending this email to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for frail elderly and under served members of the community and students who travel in parent-driven carpools for field trips who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the differently-abled, frail elderly, student and under served communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

Thank you,  
Sandy Yuen



**From:** [elenifer@aol.com](mailto:elenifer@aol.com)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MC October 16 comment to be read.  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 2:40:47 PM

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

**Hello,**

**My name is Helen Ferentinos and I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities, such as my nephew and my partner, to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking. In an era when many government agencies and institutions are reviewing their policies and practices with regard to equity for under-served populations, I cannot believe that the city is contemplating leaving JFK Drive East closed. I hope that you will consider showing your support for people with disabilities and financial constraints by restoring JFK Drive access for the disabled and disadvantaged communities. Helping more people access the park and the City's museum is a good thing and should be facilitated not stymied.**



**From:** [Deborah Costello](#)  
**To:** [MOD \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 2:48:04 PM

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

Dear Mayor's Office on Disabilities,

My name is Deborah Costello. I took my 90-year-old mother to see the Frida Kahlo exhibition at the de Young Museum. My mother cannot walk very far without tiring. We had planned, as always, to park in a blue zone behind the museum. We were shocked to see that parking there is no longer an option. As we had timed tickets and could not spend a long time searching for neighborhood parking, we parked in the garage.

The Frida show was amazing. What an individual; she did not let a disability stop her from pursuing her dreams! Both my mother – who was able to make it through the entire exhibition without a wheelchair – and I were thrilled and inspired by the show. This feeling was dampened when we returned to the garage and paid a \$20 parking fee. My mother and I both live on fixed incomes. When told that the wide street behind the museum was closed for bicyclists, I could not believe that this tradeoff is being made.

I am reaching out to the Mayor's Office on Disabilities because I am gravely concerned that Recreation and Park and the SFMTA do not care about people with disabilities, the elderly, or those living on fixed incomes. Please, please, please – as a City Organization help to advocate for the elderly, the disabled, and those barely surviving in this expensive city.

Best,  
Deborah Costello

**Deborah Costello**  
1486 18th Ave.  
San Francisco, CA 94122  
415-318-9924  
[dleecostello@gmail.com](mailto:dleecostello@gmail.com)

**From:** [Maureen](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC October 16 comment to be read.  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 4:08:13 AM

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Hello my name is Maureen Murphy. I'm a native Sunsetter growing up next to Golden Gate Park. As an adult I purchased my home in the Sunset again living adjacent to the Park. I have enjoyed all areas of the Park over the years but currently I enjoy the de Young museum. I have become disabled 7 years ago and now live a very limited income. Before I had to retire on Disability I worked for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for 23 years. I am a Civil Engineer and worked as a Transportation Engineer in various Departments. I worked with SFMTA on some joint projects in San Francisco. I have a Master's Degree from SJSU Mineta Transportation Institute, Department of Business in Transportation Management.

It saddens me as the Americans with Disabilities Act celebrates it's 30th Anniversary this year and the City of San Francisco is becoming less accessible for the disabled. Parking is disappearing all over the City and disabled people are paying the price becoming more home bound. It also saddens me that after 30 years of the ADA there is still resistance to compliance and the only way to achieve compliance is by litigation.

I want to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the fact it is only in a wider ADA space where they can park. Just because a car will fit into a regular parking space does not mean it will suit an individual with disabilities.

Golden Gate Park has always been my Go To place and I was happy to say for the most part I had been able to utilize ADA/disabled parking or a space that met my needs for parking.

The de Young Museum has always been my favorite museum in SF and had remained a public space that I could easily access with ADA/disabled parking and could move around quite easily inside the museum. Now that pleasure of visiting the de Young is being taken away from me with the loss of the 30 ADA/disabled parking spaces that were directly accessible to the de Young. This is not fair. To take away from the Disabled Community, if anything the City should be adding to the facilities needed for disabled people.

The City is already guilty of packing people in dwellings increasing the density while removing parking spaces and allowing contractors to get rid of parking spaces in their new buildings if they pay a fee or add a low income unit

This is setting the entire City up to park in their driveway and most are blocking just

enough of their driveway that it is breaking the law as a disabled person would have a hard time getting around your car that's in violation.

The City needs to embrace the ADA law and also the Spirit of the Law. Please do not take away the Handicap/ADA parking spaces along JFK and surrounding area to the de Young Museum by closing JFK Drive East. Please re-open JFK Drive East to provide car access like it is meant to.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Samuel Rubin](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC public comment 10/16  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 5:32:02 PM

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

Hello,

My name is Sam Rubin. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for people with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control. At the same time, public transit in this City is being decimated, so with JFK closed full-time, there will be no reliable transportation options at all! I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

- Sam Rubin

**From:** [Carole Krezman](#)  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Sonia Gallant](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 6:04:11 PM

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

Hello,

My name is Carole Krezman. I am concerned that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities, such as myself, to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking. Additionally, when I hear about street closures so the community can play more freely, I am sad because I too would like to be able to join in. If you create a shortage of free ADA parking and limit car access to JFK Drive, I lose my access to the community, and the community loses access to me! I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Golden Gate Park accessibility  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 7:17:32 AM

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

I am concerned about the accessibility of Golden gate parks and museums to the disabled. For example, access to the conservatory of flowers and surrounding gardens are inaccessible to the disabled. The rhododendron garden is also inaccessible. I am also concerned about accessibility to the museums. It is very important that these gardens and museums remain accessible to the disabled. This may be the only outlet to recreation available to them. My husband and my niece are both disabled.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Douglas DeFors](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Parking on JFK Drive - "MDC Oct 16"  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 8:21:02 AM

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

Subject line addition for meeting on Friday.

Thank you once again.

Doug

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**From:** Douglas DeFors <[ddefors@famsf.org](mailto:ddefors@famsf.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 8:09 AM  
**To:** '[MOD@sfgov.org](mailto:MOD@sfgov.org)' <[MOD@sfgov.org](mailto:MOD@sfgov.org)>  
**Subject:** Parking on JFK Drive

Dear sir or madam,

My name is Douglas DeFors and I'm a 68 year old registrar at the FAMSf based at the de Young Museum. I have had three hip replacements, the last "revision" being just two years ago. I used to enjoy the safe, quiet, quarter mile walk every morning when parking on JFK Drive was permitted, but now I typically have to walk a half mile or more in the morning through heavily trafficked neighborhoods and intersections, and navigating difficult hilly sidewalks and trails in Golden Gate Park to get to the Museum. This is unpleasant now in good weather, but will be even more challenging soon when the rains begin. Even if I were to qualify, I don't want a handicapped parking placard because I think they should be reserved for those more disabled than myself, but a safer, shorter walk to and from my place of work is important to me. This can be accomplished by simply returning to the parking arrangement on JFK Drive that was in place previous to the COVID 19 restrictions.

Thank you.

*Doug*

**Douglas DeFors**  
**Associate Registrar**

**FAMSf**

**de Young Museum  
Legion of Honor Museum**

**Golden Gate Park  
50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive  
San Francisco, CA. 94118-4501**

**[ddefors@famsf.org](mailto:ddefors@famsf.org)**

**Tel: 415-750-3678**

**Fax: 415-750-3656**

*Doug*

Douglas DeFors  
Associate Registrar  
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco  
415-750-3678



**From:** [carin.lindquist](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Closure of JFK Drive  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 9:32:07 AM

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

Dear MOD,

My name is Carin Lindquist. Thank you for this opportunity to allow my thoughts to be heard. Regarding the current consideration to close JFK Drive to through traffic and eliminate parking for the elderly and disable as well a free parking for low-income park visitors, as a mother I must ask do families with disabled children not deserve to visit the museums and gardens within the park. Do they and their children not deserve to discover the de Young; do they not deserve to explore the Academy of Science. Must free and accessible parking close to world-class and Bay Area wide facilities be eliminated to allow bike riding and roller skating for folks who live close to the park? Is there no other place in the 1,000 acre park where this riding and skating can take place? How much space do able bodied bicyclists really need? Please do not close JFK Drive to the people of San Francisco and the Bay Area. Please do not close JFK Drive to families of beloved children with disabilities.

Thank you.

Regards,  
Carin Lindquist

--

Carin Lindquist

**From:** [Bohn, Nicole \(ADM\)](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]; [Alex M. Madrid](#); [Kaplan, Deborah \(ADM\)](#); [Helen Pelzman](#); [MOD, \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Interview about my response to SF Chronicle article advocating moving toward a car-free San Francisco - including JFK Drive  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 9:37:43 AM  
**Attachments:** [Response8-10-2020ToTransportArticleHartlaubChron7-10-2020.pdf](#)  
[Outlook-cid\\_image0.png](#)  
[Outlook-10nl3ehl.png](#)

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Thanks, Howard. (moving others to BCC)

We will take a look at this and also register this as correspondence in the MDC meeting on Friday. The current co-chairs are Helen Pelzman and Alex Madrid (copied). Debby Kaplan is the MOD Deputy whose charge something like this falls under.

May I also send this to some of my MTA colleagues?

Thanks for sending,

-N

## Nicole Bohn

### Director

Current SFGOV information on COVID-19 for people with disabilities:

<https://sf.gov/information/get-help-seniors-and-people-disabilities>



[Don't miss out! Do the 2020 Census today!](#)

SF Mayor's Office on Disability

1155 Market Street 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

**Direct:** (415) 554-6785

**Office:** (415) 554-6789

**E-mail:** [nicole.bohn@sfgov.org](mailto:nicole.bohn@sfgov.org)

**Web:** [sfgov.org/mod](http://sfgov.org/mod)

Pronouns: She, Her, Hers



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**From:** Howard Chabner [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sunday, October 11, 2020 6:25 PM

**To:** Bohn, Nicole (ADM) <nicole.bohn@sfgov.org>; Romaidis, John (ADM) <john.romaidis@sfgov.org>; 'Helen Smolinski' <helensmolinski@gmail.com>; 'Orkid Sassouni' <orkidsfoto@me.com>; Alex M. Madrid <amadrid20@gmail.com>; 'Kate Williams' <kwilliams@lighthouse-sf.org>; 'denise' <denisesadvocate@sbcglobal.net>

**Subject:** Interview about my response to SF Chronicle article advocating moving toward a car-free San Francisco - including JFK Drive

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

Hi everyone:

A July 10, 2020, SF Chronicle article by Peter Hartlaub advocated that SF radically de-escalate vehicle infrastructure and move toward becoming a car-free city. Here's a link to the article:

<https://projects.sfchronicle.com/2020/car-free-sf-maps/>

I wrote a detailed response, and he reached out and offered to interview me. Here's a link to the interview, which appears in the Sunday, July 6, 2020, SF Chronicle.

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/culture/article/Dear-Peter-Hartlaub-A-reader-conversation-about-15544074.php>

The interview includes a link to Peter H's original article, and my letter appears in a box toward the bottom of the interview, but it's fairly small and if you enlarge it, the print goes outside the box. So I've attached my letter. My discussion of JFK drive begins on page 5.

Please consider this an official comment to the MDC (somehow I seem to have lost the official MDC email address). Also, please forward it to the members whose email addresses I don't have.

Thanks for considering this email.

Cordially

Howard

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to read  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 9:49:08 AM

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

I lead the Low Vision Support Group at UC Berkeley and am extremely worried about the Proposal to close JFK Drive. The members of my group enjoy visiting the museum for all special tours and love the permanent exhibits. If you close JFK drive, they will no longer be able to go to the museum. My group is composed of Seniors who have low vision and many cannot walk long distances.

Please do not close JFK drive!

Thank you, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** "MDC Oct 16 Comment to be read "  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 10:07:05 AM

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

Golden Gate Park should be for everyone. The MTA should not be allowed to continue to restrict access to seniors and others with mobility issues. The proposed permanent closure of JFK prevents access to the park for Inner Richmond residents not on foot or bike.

I am now forced to drive around the park to the 9th and Irving entrance to do my morning walk around the Music Concourse. All of the closures of JFK & MLK are discriminatory against Seniors and anyone with a mobility issue.

With this latest closure I won't be able to resume my volunteer shifts at the deYoung. I continue to be frustrated by the lack of evenhanded decisions by the MTA.

Patricia Yerian

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** The closure of JFK Drive in Golden Gate Park  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 11:04:46 PM

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

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED]. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the

park and the City's museum.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 11:05:27 AM

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

To the Mayor's Office and Council:

My name is Richard Yerian.

I have lived in the inner Richmond area for 42 years. I am in my 70's and slowing down but don't yet qualify for a disabled placard.

I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles, severely limiting access on the north side of GG Park from Stanyan to 30th Ave. This is a wrongheaded thing to do for access by anyone on that side of the park. I live too far to walk there, do not want to use the buses during the pandemic, and can't afford the excessive parking garage rates. The closure discriminates against an entire class of older residents in my situation, who don't run or bicycle, and want access to the Museum, the Academy of Science, Stow Lake, the Conservatory, meadows, and safe open-air walking.

The closure favors a few runners and cyclists, and the cyclists have already had their own protected lanes for years. The closure simply doesn't make sense. It's one more thing that makes it more difficult for those who live in this City. One more reason for people to move out of it.

Please don't let this absurd closure continue.

Sincerely,  
Richard Yerian



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Cc:** [spressley@famsf.org](mailto:spressley@famsf.org)  
**Subject:** MDC Comment; reply requested  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 11:18:24 AM

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

My name is Frankie Jacobs Gillette.

I am a 95 year old woman, now using a cane and walker to maneuver the streets of San Francisco.

When I was driving, I would park on JFK Drive and walk the short distance to the DeYoung -a part of my exercise routine.

The same is true when I was being driven. Now the the JFK drive East is completely closed to vehicles I must reduce the number of times I enjoy the greenery and the museum, and park in the paying garage each time I visit the deYoung. \$15.00 parking tickets can add up quickly and become a luxury necessity rather than a choice.

I can understand the enjoyment of young families, especially those with roller-skating and bike-riding children, who now usurp the streets and make walking entrance to the deYoung Museum no longer possible for me, but I cannot understand the rationale for this and why the street cannot be shared. Cannot safe activities be done elsewhere without burdening the elderly?

They used to say "Age is just a matter of mind over matter; if you don't mind, it doesn't matter." I do mind JFK Drive being closed and my being denied the opportunity to visit the deYoung at my convenience. I should be able to park on the street and walk into the museum. I should be able to be driven to the Museum and enter and leave through the front door. San Francisco should not be synonymous with age discrimination.

Please reopen JFK Drive so I, and may others, can freely visit our museums and beautiful parks.

Very truly yours,

Frankie Jacobs Gillette (Mrs)

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Catherine](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Closing of JFK drive in Golden gate park  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 11:24:12 PM

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

I am Catherine Lecce-Chong, and i am concerned with the closure of JFK east drive.

I became blind late in life after decades as an artist. But my passion is still in the arts. Since I have many skills and knowledge in the arts. It is important to me to have access to the de Young museum. I need to be able to take taxis or lyft to the entrances  
Of the museum.

I also am aware that closing this drive will affect many accessible parking spots.

On a very personal level, i use my blindness skills to test the museum's accessibility in its building and art exhibits. So such an extreme closure would jeopardise my ability to go to work.  
Thanks for your efforts to find solutions to keep access to park and museums to be used by people with disabilities.

Grateful,

Catherine Lecce-Chong  
303-875-1500

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Karen Berniker](#); [Pressley Sheila](#); [Patricia Yerian](#); [Smith Emily](#); [Aaron Anita](#); [Lynn Stelmah](#); [Rowley Victor](#); [MOD \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** "MDC Oct 16 comment to be read."  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 14, 2020 1:12:09 PM

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

My name is [REDACTED]. I am a long-time resident of San Francisco. I live near the eastern end of the Panhandle. I am a blind retired physician, and a long-time member and patron of the DeYoung Museum. With the re-opening of the DeYoung, I have only recently become aware that JFK East has been closed during the Pandemic. I was shocked then saddened to learn that plans are afoot to permanently close JFK to vehicle traffic. Many disabled people, particularly those with limited mobility and low incomes, count on their families or friends to accompany them to the DeYoung and park near its entrance. Disrupting traffic on JFK and eliminating the free parking spaces near the museum creates a serious impediment for them and eliminates an essential accommodation. The disabled spaces in the parking garage are not an alternative for the disabled who cannot afford to park there. When I discovered that the bicycle coalition and neighborhood associations near the park have pressured the MTA and Park and Rec to close the JFK Drive by the museum, I was infuriated. Such a change pits privileged, able bodied bicyclists, skateboarders, and roller skaters against the aging and disability communities. Closing roads effectively eliminates the disabled parking spaces and thus denies museum access to many disabled people. Such a change is cruel, if not illegal under the Americans With Disabilities Act. It appears that Park and Rec and the MTA have not thought through the needs of the entire community. I am counting on the Mayor's Office to set them straight. San Francisco deserves better. Do not diminish the disabled.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [Mike Wise](#)  
**To:** [MOD, \(ADM\)](#); [Commission, Recpark \(REC\)](#); [Shella Pressley](#); [Karen Berniker](#); [Belinda Sifford](#)  
**Subject:** MDC public comment- mtg. 10/16/20  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 14, 2020 1:18:16 PM

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

I am writing this note because as a member of the Access Advisors Committee, advisory team to the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, I must speak out against a planned proposal that would effectively either block or deny access to an institution sworn to provide accessibility to and availability for all potential visitors coming to its doors

I am speaking of the de Young Museum, the proposed banning of all private motor vehicles through the main thoroughfare throughout Golden Gate Park, and the detrimental effect on the physically and mentally disabled community, of not only our city but also on those who wish to visit from places far and wide. Access to art, culture, education, and personal enrichment must not be limited to the domain of those who know no boundaries of physical limitations or mobility issues. My own obligations to guarantee the providing of services and enjoyment to all regardless of their limitations suddenly ring hollow and antiquated in the face of such denial of basic public access to a place belonging to the entire community.

Please reconsider the permanent impact this proposed road closure would have if implemented, to our rich and diverse disabled community, and make what is the right and inclusive decision by rejecting a permanent ban of private vehicular traffic through Golden Gate Park. Thank you.

Michael Wise  
Access Advisor  
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco

Dear SF MOD Staff,

As a long time San Franciscan resident, a person with a disability, and an artist and art lover, I am distressed that JFK Drive East has been closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for me, my wife, and the thousands of individuals with disabilities and seniors who visit the de Young Museum.

I drive to the museum, and need to drop my wife off at the closest entrance to the museum, and to utilize one of the Golden Gate Park parking spaces near the museum. It has come to my attention that the JFK Drive closure substantially decreases the number of disability parking spaces and free parking spaces, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. The garage is not an option, as it is prohibitively expensive, and the garage entrance to the museum is inaccessible to many.

During this most challenging of times, when many people are reluctant to use public transportation, it makes absolutely no sense to significantly reduce access to the de Young Museum! Please support the effort to restore JFK Drive access to the museum.

Sincerely,

Bill Bruckner

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment.  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 14, 2020 2:57:51 PM

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

I am a person with a disability who lives in San Francisco very close to Golden Gate Park. In fact, I consider the park as an extension of my home where I can meet friends, listen to people playing music, and find stimulation through art and science.

Though this park is my safe haven, it is not only mine. It belongs to all of us who live here and who visit San Francisco. It should be accessible to people of all abilities. Able and disabled bodies should have equal access to all places in the park. Although I understand wanting no cars and traffic, to close the roads denies access to all people who are unable to walk to the museums for mobility reasons, orientation, or stamina.

I am surprised that a city like San Francisco that prides itself on welcoming peoples from all backgrounds, abilities, and differences is considering changes in the park use-age for the enjoyment of just the able-bodied. One of the reasons I live in this city and pay the high price of doing so is the superior access to transportation and information. The spirit of this city is distorted when it is assumed that all who live here can walk independently, or ride bicycles. That all of us have the same abilities.

If the argument is that museums are elitist institutions therefore the use of the road to access it for bicyclists, skaters, and pedestrians is a more democratic proposition, then one should be paying attention to the steps the DeYoung is making towards inclusion. Though there is always room for improvement, the DeYoung is fighting to cater to all abilities and differences by creating free days, highly descriptive tours, welcoming children, providing dedicated deaf and hard of hearing tours, working with Veterans with disabilities, welcoming local artists, artists with disabilities, and so much more. To think that because a person is blind, or deaf, or paraplegic, or has dementia cannot derive pleasure and benefit from visiting the museum is just selective ignorance. To create barriers such as limiting free parking space or moving these spaces far from the entrance of the museum is just cruel.

Please consider the needs of all. Yes, people with disabilities enjoy the park and all it has to offer provided there is access for all. To create obstacles to access any area of the museum for people with disabilities is to exclude a sector of the population that is only growing. As we live longer our ability to walk, see, hear, and process information might diminish. It doesn't mean that we can't enjoy a visit to a museum. It means that society has to stop ignoring differences. That this city has to hear all peoples in order to continue being the desired place to live by all.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**From:** [John DeCock](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Permanent Closure of JFK Drive  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 14, 2020 4:35:31 PM

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

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the closure of streets in San Francisco. It is a mistake to make many of these closures permanent. In particular, closing down John F. Kennedy Drive would be a huge mistake and restrict access to park resources to many people. Access to the cultural attractions of Golden Gate park would be severely limited for seniors, the disabled and visitors.

San Francisco is slowly morphing its Transit First policy into Transit Only. Without a major improvement in public transit, Transit First is a wish more than a policy. Not everyone has the physical health to ride a bike everywhere. Not everyone lives in a part of town with efficient, reliable, safe transit. The parks belong to the people. Cutting off a major method of access to the parks is elitist and impractical unless you are willing to leave part of San Francisco behind.

Please consider the tens of thousands of San Franciscans who travel by car when necessary. Don't cut us out of the park.

John DeCock  
3789 Market St.  
SF CA 94131

46 year resident of San Francisco

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD.\(ADM\)](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Closure of JFK Drive East  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 14, 2020 6:03:40 PM

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

[REDACTED]

My name is [REDACTED]. I am a person with Multiple Sclerosis, an agency head with a long-time collaboration with the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, and a member of their Access Advisory Board. I am voicing my concern personally as a disabled individual and professionally as an access advocate for more than forty years. I am saddened, burdened, and outraged by the closure of JFK Drive East to vehicles.

This closure creates a hardship for folks like me, dependent on vehicles to visit the de Young Museum and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including thirty of which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community, who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control.

I and our constituency also question why—during a worldwide pandemic, when people are dying, suffering, and losing their jobs; when public transportation is not safe and is being reduced—is there this sudden push to prioritize this specific agenda?

Most people are focused on health, economics, and their children's education. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring access to JFK Drive for the disability and underserved communities, and help more people access the park and the City's museum. We have been working hard to increase access to the museum, not limit it. This closure of JFK Drive works significantly against those efforts.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

[REDACTED]



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 Comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 14, 2020 7:48:10 PM

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

Dear Members of the Mayor's Disability Council, Department of Rec & Parks, and others involved in the decision to permanently close JFK Drive,

I am reaching out to voice my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. As a San Francisco resident, I have taken advantage of weekend and partial street closures, but I am aware that it is a privilege to do so. I want all residents and visitors to be able to enjoy the remarkable resource that is Golden Gate Park and to have access to our wonderful museums, Conservatory of Flowers, gardens, and other treasures within GGP. I was **very** dismayed to learn of the permanent street closure in such a critical part of the Park, and the reduction of access caused by this change. Closing JFK to vehicles significantly reduces accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum or the Academy of Sciences or much of the east end of the Park. During this horrendous time of COVID 19, public transportation is not necessarily a safe or viable option, and shouldn't be the only option to access this vital portion of the Park.

I understand that the new closure has also significantly decreased the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park. This change not only limits access to people with disabilities or the elderly, but it also limits access for underserved populations in our community who may not be able to afford the high cost of paid parking. During COVID we all need our Park and access to the outdoors more than ever – but permanently closing a street that PROVIDES access for many is not the answer. Taking this action does not support the diverse, inclusive, and just City of San Francisco that we must work hard to create and sustain. I strongly urge you to restore JFK Drive access for disabled and underserved communities, helping more people explore and enjoy the Park and our City's natural and cultural jewels.

Thank you for your consideration,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** JFK Drive Closure —MDC Comment to be read Oct 16  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 14, 2020 11:11:08 AM

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

I am dismayed to learn that JFK Drive at the Eastern end of GG Park may be closed permanently. As a handicapped person with limited walking ability, I have often (in pre-Covid days) parked there to access the DeYoung museum and hope to again now that the museum is reopening. The underground parking is quite expensive for those on a limited income.

As a native San Franciscan, I treasure all the City has to offer, and I hope you will reconsider closure of this important access road. Thank you. [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Sonia Gill](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 14, 2020 11:46:10 AM

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

My name is [REDACTED]. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. As a disabled parent, I have prioritized membership in the Fine arts Museums of San Francisco. My children have been broadened by the art, culture and people in Golden Gate Park and the de Young, and I have the rare opportunity to entertain and parent them in a very accessible public environment. Not knowing whether we can park our wheelchair van at the museum means we will be able to participate less, to be lesser members of the community. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** JFK Drive Closure  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 14, 2020 11:55:20 AM

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

My name is [REDACTED]. I served for many years as CEO of the LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired headquartered in San Francisco and World Institute on Disability in Berkeley. I am writing to express my concern about the closure of JFK Drive East to all vehicles. The closure impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum,. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young and also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be prohibited from visiting the museum and park by the costs of paid parking.

I urge you to show support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the museum.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [Bill Bruckner](#)  
**To:** [MOD, \(ADM\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Bohn, Nicole \(ADM\)](#); [Kaplan, Deborah \(ADM\)](#); [Orkid Sassouni](#)  
**Subject:** 10/16/20 MDC - JFK access comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 14, 2020 12:05:40 PM

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

Dear SF MOD Staff,

As a long time San Franciscan resident, a person with a disability, and an artist and art lover, I am distressed that JFK Drive East has been closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for me, my wife, and the thousands of individuals with disabilities and seniors who visit the de Young Museum.

I drive to the museum, and need to drop my wife off at the closest entrance to the museum, and to utilize one of the Golden Gate Park parking spaces near the museum. It has come to my attention that the JFK Drive closure substantially decreases the number of disability parking spaces and free parking spaces, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. The garage is not an option, as it is prohibitively expensive, and the garage entrance to the museum is inaccessible to many.

During this most challenging of times, when many people are reluctant to use public transportation, it makes absolutely no sense to significantly reduce access to the de Young Museum! Please support the effort to restore JFK Drive access to the museum.

Sincerely,  
Bill Bruckner

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read."  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 1:19:20 PM

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

My name is [REDACTED]. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. Those of you who are able-bodied simply do not take into consideration the difficulties and pain caused by limiting auto access to various areas of the city. This is an extreme problem for those who must use a walker. It has been a life-long pleasure to visit the DeYoung. Making such changes will completely end what has been a great benefit of living in the San Francisco area.

The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

Thank you.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 1:40:40 PM

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

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED]. I've lived on Bocana Street in San Francisco for 46 years. I am concerned that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access to underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control.

There are currently two shows at the de Young that I would like to see, Frida Kahlo and de Young Open, neither of which I can attend without handicapped parking. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disabled and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum. Thank you.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16th, 2020 Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 1:45:01 PM

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

Dear Mayor's Office on Disabilities,

My name is [REDACTED] and I am physically challenged. I am contacting you because I am very concerned about accessibility to Golden Gate Park, the Academy of Science, and the de Young museum; three places I not only love, but frequently visit. Last week when I visited GG Park, I had to park far away and then walk into the park. Very challenging to say the least.

I do not understand why JFK Drive East is completely closed to vehicles. I have come to accept that on weekends the park is closed but why are you now also closing during the week? I actually don't think you should close the park on the weekends either. These closures totally negatively impact accessibility for individuals with disabilities.

Bike riding is okay, but is it a necessity on that one street? Why do bike riders have more importance than disabled and low income who need access to the Academy of Sciences and the de Young Museum and park? Why can't able bike riders (who are majority white) and those with the economic privilege of living close to Golden Gate Park consider community needs besides their own. Golden Gate Park has 1,000 acres!

I hope the Mayor's Office on Disabilities, Recreations and Parks, and San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency will protect disabled and low income individuals who do not have time to advocate and attend meetings to protect their rights to access Golden Gate Park.

I think you must consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disabled and underserved communities, and helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]



**From:** [Jeanne Dorward](#)  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 2:05:44 PM

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

My name is Jeanne Dorward and I'm a resident of San Francisco. I'm writing to express my concern that the temporary closure of JFK Drive East may become permanent. It was one thing to close this part of JFK while the institutions at the east end of Golden Gate Park were closed due to the pandemic. It is quite another to continue this closure now that both the de Young and the Conservatory of Flowers have reopened and the California Academy of Sciences has opened to its members and announced its reopening plan for the public. The closure of JFK Drive imposes an unnecessary hardship on people with disabilities since it reduces the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park. It also limits access for the underserved portion of our population who may not be able to afford the paid parking in the garage under the concourse, the cost of which is not controlled by any of the three institutions I cited. In addition to the expense the garage is often full so that those willing to pay are unable to enter the garage to secure a parking place.

Martin Luther King Drive does not have the capacity to accommodate those for whom JFK Drive is closed. JFK is already closed every Sunday all year and if I recall correctly, from Tea Garden Drive west on Saturdays from approximately April through October. JFK Drive has bike lanes in both directions from the entrance at Stanyan so bicyclists have a route of their own. I love Golden Gate Park but it's important to remember it's an urban park with urban attractions that are inspirational, educational and highlights of San Francisco. Most of these are clustered at the east end of the park and it's not fair to the disabled and underserved to be barred from using JFK Drive.

I don't think either SFMTA or Rec and Park are giving enough consideration to visitors to Golden Gate Park who aren't fit enough to bicycle there or walk a great distance. I am very much opposed to the permanent closure of JFK Drive and hope the members of the Mayor's Disability Council will oppose it as well.

Respectfully,  
Jeanne Dorward

**From:** [Adrian Edwards](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\); West, Matthew \(MTA\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: How San Francisco Plans to Screw Over the Disabled - "On Purpose"  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 3:39:32 AM

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ATTENTION - NICHOLE BOHN & MAYOR LONDON BREED.

MAYOR'S OFFICE FOR DISABILITY - JFK ACCESSIBILITY -

MDC - October 16th Comments for your meeting.

Dear Mayor of San Francisco, and Dear Parks Commissioner, and Dear SF Disability Commissioners Office

As a Disabled New Yorker who worked very hard with Shelia Pressley, and Thomas Campbell of the Museum of Fine Arts/ de Young, to allow "FREE ENTRY TO ALL DISABLED VISITORS" I cannot believe that you would all be so utterly idiotic, and destructive as to remove 30 parking spaces for the "Disabled" so that able-bodies cyclists can ride through, while you all essentially "Screw Over all the Disabled of SF and California".....

\*\*\* I mean really..... Are you guys for real ?????

I busted my behind to work with Museum Director Thomas Campbell, and the Board to make the Fine Arts/ de Young to be the "Beacon of West Coast Culture"

Do you not realize what a GEM you guys have ?  
A FIRST-CLASS GEM - RUN BY FIRST CLASS TRUE PROFESSIONALS..... WHO TRULY CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY..... AND THOSE WHO STRUGGLE AND SUFFER WITH THEIR HEALTH AND THEIR FINANCES.....

The Fine Arts/ de Young, is not just any old Museum. It is one of the very best in the United States, and known all over the World.

As a 'Disabled Advocate' I work with all the Museums in the US, Europe, and in Israel, and your decision to remove 30 parking spaces for the "Disabled" has to be the dumbest ideas ever to come across my desk today..... Are you guys insane ?

You don't play those games. You don't do that. In NYC vocabulary..... "You do not

screw over those who will truly be harmed by your idiotic planning"

Bottom line..... FIND ANOTHER ROUTE FOR THE BICYCLISTS..... AND LEAVE THE DISABLED ALONE IN PEACE, IN RESPECT, AND IN FRIENDSHIP.....

60 Million Federally Disabled exist in America,,,,,,,,, and true, I live in NYC,,,,,,,,, but my reach is far and wide, and weekly I speak to the Louvre, the Picasso Museum, the D'Orsay (all in Paris) ..... the Prado in Madrid..... London, Rome, Amsterdam, Berlin,,,,,,,,, as well as Chicago, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and more.....

In other words..... I fight for all the Disabled of America, and the Disabled who enter into Museums..... many who struggle financially \$\$\$

Play nice..... Be progressive, and allow those parking spaces to be a staple of a "Mayor's Office of Excellence for San Francisco"

Or remove them, and I will suggest to my "Disabled Colleagues in California" to file a "FEDERAL LAWSUIT AGAINST YOU FOR HARMING THE FEDERALLY DISABLED BY REMOVING THEIR PHYSICAL ACCESS TO THE MUSEUM, AS THOSE 30 PARKING SPACES CAN INDEED BE CONSIDERED TO BE ESSENTIAL TO THE DISABLED TO ENTER INTO THE ARTS"..... and by purposely removing the 30 parking spaces that have existed without a problem for many years, then you are purposely removing ADA Federal Access to the Museum, as without the parking spaces, the Federally Disabled will be harmed, both physically and emotionally, and I will suggest that the Federal Judge grant a jury trial, and award damages, etc.....

Then the negative publicity, both in the press, as well as social media, which will resonate across the US and the World, how the Mayor of San Francisco purposely quote "Screwed Over the Disabled of her Own City" and said "Who Cares about you loser cripples - when fit, sexy bicyclists come first in San Francisco"

THE HEAD OF MAYOR LONDON BREED WILL BE ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK, AS SHE CAN GREEN LIGHT THIS, OR CANCEL THIS DUMB PROPOSAL.....

You may find this email to be offensive, but I'm equally offended that you guys would have the AUDACITY to fuck with 60 Million Federally Disabled Americans.....

As an Advocate I fight hard, and fully versed with the Federal Courts, and the System.....and have won every battle, and lost non.

My Celebrity friends in Los Angeles will be happy to help with the publicity.

Bottom line..... LEAVE THE DAMN 30 PARKING SPACES ALONE, AND DO NOT BE SUCH JACK-ASSES.....

Nichole Bohn and her Team..... Phil Ginsburg, and his Team..... Mayor London Breed and her Team.

You all collectively from the Mayor's Office, Mayor's Office for Disabilities, and the Parks

Dept,,,,,,,,, all have an OBLIGATION TO PROTECT THE DISABLED.....

I'm working with my colleagues here in NYC to push for Joe Biden to become the next US President, and his agenda for the "Disabled of America" is vast..... with the very first office in DC for the Disabled.

I urge you not to remove any of the 30 parking places, and find an alternative route for the bicyclists,,,,,,,,, who would be very annoyed to know that you guys harmed the Disabled so that they could pedal thru..... I mean really..... This is a classic first page SF Chronicle case of incompetence.

Let us all play nice in the sand pit,,,,,,,,, and allow the "Disabled and the Cyclists" to co-exist..... Meaning, find another damn route..... Period !!!!

Or alternatively face a media war, and a Federal lawsuit..... which costs 0 dollars for the Federally Disabled, and will cost you guys a fortune, and for sure you will lose in the public's opinion of you all, and in the Federal Courts,,,,,,,,,

Allow taxpayers monies to be better served by using an alternative route.....where there will be no negative publicity, no Federal lawsuit, and no bitterness, but rather preise from the Museum Staff,,,,,,,,, praise from the Disabled Community and preise from the Bicyclists..... a WIN-WIN.....

Many of the Disabled of SF will not live to 2021..... Allow them the ability to park and see beauty,,,,,,,,, and do NOT rip out their spaces in order to please fit and healthy athletes who can easily pedal around the parking area.....

Play nice..... Please.....

Adrian Edwards-Smith (Director)  
Advocacy for the Disabled of America  
(646) 838 6094

cc : Barbara Streisand, Clint Eastwood, Steven Spielberg, Leonardo Dicaprio, Brad Pitt..... All Friends of Disabled Americans in California, and throughout the US.

**From:** [Maia Scott](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** A FAMSF access advisor speaking out about JFK Closure  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 5:00:48 PM

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

Greetings,

Thank you for taking the time to hear my story regarding JFK closure to benefit bicycle riders and leisure activity. In fact, this letter is about something much bigger than JFK. This street closure feels like just one more pixel in the big picture that is revealing how money talks and our largest minority population (people with disabilities) is occasionally heard in the process of making changes.

"welcome to the good life in San Francisco - if you are young, fit and earn a six figure income. The rest of you are inconvenient, so go away."

At least, that's the message I feel like I am receiving based on the decisions being made over the last few years. For instance, they took away a lane and made people back into parking spots in front of my apartment complex so that a bike lane could be installed. Now, it's not uncommon for me to barely have enough sidewalk for my guide dog to pass me through because parked vehicles overlap the sidewalk. When I take paratransit, I have experienced aggressive bicyclists cussing at my driver who dared to stop and let me off in front of my destination. When I step off the curb not able to see more than three feet in front of me, I hold my breath wondering if this time I am going to go down with an acquired brain injury like a friend experienced, just because some bicyclists feel like they can "Sort of" obey the traffic laws. Add to that a sense of not being heard when MUNI diverted the 18 bus from Skyline, cutting off access to the Pomeroy Center from the Sunset and Richmond districts where many clients reside.

And now my story of access denial, microaggression and guilt for wasting space as a disabled woman in San Francisco continues with a new chapter as our fine fiscally and physically fit friends fight for more riding space in a park that seems, at least from my limited perspective, to already cater to bicyclists and pedestrians from the get-go.

I have been a member of the Fine Arts Museum's access advisors committee for the last fifteen years and have visited the museum via all manner of transport. Taking the bus wasn't always the best way. It's a very long ride from near Fort Funston and I fell down steps approaching from Fulton. And, well, at least the park is a beautiful place to get lost. Most often, I have visited with family and friends. I don't need close placard parking myself. But I drive in with friends with mobility disabilities and chronic pain. One in particular has about three blocks worth of walking on her legs and the closest free or placard parking is already far. I also visit the de Young museum via paratransit or ride-share. Being blind, I count on them to let me off at a consistent and reasonably close drop off point that not only allows me to find the museum entrance with ease but also to find my way back.

If JFK gets closed down, I'm pretty much getting kicked back to square one. Shuttle stops may prove challenging to find. I will have to wait for up to a half hour when transferring from

paratransit or ride-share to get the shuttle to the museum. Will the driver call my stop? Will the driver give me better directions than "It's over there."? And for that matter, why should I be expected to accept the added health risk of riding a shuttle potentially in close quarters with unmasked others just because I can't drive or look around to jog off to my destination?

Additionally, I have art students with developmental and intellectual disabilities who visit the park and museum as part of my City College classes and with their day programs. Many of them along with other groups travel to the museum via van service or program bus and cannot be dropped off to wait twenty minutes while their staff / driver finds a parking spot.

The important thing to note here is that, as with many access endeavors, the results don't just affect those of us who are blind or have other disabilities. Let's keep in mind the families with little ones in strollers, presenters with supplies, delivery people, decked out donors and beyond.

With the impending closure of JFK after everything else; I'm hearing, "Our fun is more important than your access." I'm hearing that, "Healthy San Francisco is for Healthy People and that obviously doesn't include you."

Since I visited my grandparents up here as a child, I wanted to live amidst and contribute to the vibrant culture of San Francisco. It's been twenty-five years since I proudly moved to what was the most blind-friendly and artistically welcoming city imaginable. Things have indeed changed.

So, let's help bridge the difference gap. Disability is one of many facets of identity and culture that make San Francisco sparkle bright as the gem it once was - um, is. And for what it's worth, there are lots of people with disabilities out there on the streets pushing to our physical limits, walking our dogs and riding from place to place on a very expensive set of wheels, some even on bicycles.

In gratitude for hearing me,

**Maia Scott**

**& golden Guide Dog, Gleam**

**"Be yourself, everyone else is already taken." -- Oscar Wilde**

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Meeting on Parking on JFK Drive - October 16, 2020  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 6:48:14 PM

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

Hello,

I would like to give remarks tomorrow at your agenda point on JFK Drive at 1. Please let me have your comments on my email: [REDACTED]

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 8:23:00 PM

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

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED]. I am contacting you to express my concern about the complete closure of JFK Drive to vehicles. This closure will significantly limit the number of ADA and free parking spaces available for those who wish to visit the DeYoung Museum. While there is a parking garage available, this is paid parking which is not an option for many lower income members of our community. I hope you will do the right thing and show support for restoring access to JFK Drive so everyone, not just those who can afford it and who are able bodied, can have access to our wonderful park and museum.

Thank you.



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment - MDC Oct 16 Meeting - comment to be read  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 9:55:22 PM

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

Hello,

[I would like to provide comment on item 7. "INFORMATION ITEM: The closure of JFK Drive in Golden Gate Park. Presentation by Sara Jones, MTA and Sarah Madland and Lucas Tobin, Rec and Parks". A response to my comment would be appreciated if it is not too much trouble.]

My name is [REDACTED]. I am not able to watch the meeting live so I am writing this based on what I have heard so far about the closure of JFK Drive in Golden Gate Park. I apologize in advance if some of my points are answered in the presentation. As a visitor to the park and the de Young museum I am writing to express my concerns about the movement to permanently close JFK Drive East to vehicles. While this has many benefits it impacts those disabled people who depend on their vehicle to access areas of the park this road serves, including the de Young museum. There are many disabled people that require the climate control, ease of use, or comfort provided by a personal vehicle. The closure will also significantly decrease the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. It will also limit access for who may be not be able to afford the costs of paid parking as well as those who cannot use the underground garage due to adverse health effects from the auto exhaust that builds up in this enclosed garage. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum. You might look to Yosemite Valley as an example of how this can work. They have several roads that are closed the the general public but that can be accessed by those with a handicap placard to allow vehicle access to areas of the park that would otherwise be difficult for disabled people to get to. At the very least you should consider providing a drop-off area for disabled people similar to the one the Legion of Honor has on the Northwest side.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Comment to be read  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 9:54:11 AM

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

To the Mayor's Office on Disability,

I am a FAMSF member of long standing and a frequent (before COVID) visitor to the de Young Museum. I depend on JFK Drive to arrive at the museum, as I come from Marin County and, as a retiree, do not have the money to pay the high prices for underground parking, JFK Drive allows me to find suitable parking.

I understand there is no longer access to the de Young via JFK Drive which troubles me. I support slow streets and people being outdoors especially during these times but not at the expense of people with disabilities or the elderly or families who have come from a distance and want to be outdoors. Everyone needs to be able to enjoy opportunities available during these difficult times. Opening the Drive to more bicycling is a great idea, but what about those who can't/don't bike

Now that the de Young is open, however, a long term solution must be found to provide equitable access to this part of the park. Seeking parking slots--blue zone and regular slots--and street passage to arrive at the slots does not in any way make me a climate change spoiler or fan of the gas engine. It is a reality of life today. If the Museum were to offer vouchers to pay for say 3-hour parking, that would work too. Alternatively the City could change the GGP route so that access is not a problem to the museums. We need to find common ground now with respect for all park users not just the young, able and privileged

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** objection to road closures.  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 10:58:01 PM

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

DATE--October 16, 2020

To-- The Mayor's Disability Council  
Re- PERMANENT CLOSURE OF JFK DRIVE

My name is [REDACTED], and I wish to express my disapproval of the permanent closure of JFK Drive for many reasons, but most of all because of the lack of accessibility to those rich sites of memory in the Concourse. Many a Sunday afternoon families took drives and headed for the Band Shell for concerts, and the magic of the Aquarium, Hall of Science, Planetarium, Tea Garden and of course, the museum that thrilled with its wondrous contents-The Mummy in the entryway, the medieval armor, weaponry and like artifacts in one room; and another room filled with old-fashioned women's clothing, including a dress worn by Mary Lincoln and another belonging to Marilyn Monroe. And every man, woman and child who visited believed that all of it belonged to them. Our city, our park, our pride of place, our stake in the ownership of these treasures.

But those feelings no longer exist. The city is fractured, divided, and lacks a core both physical and emotional. The park is too far away from the City Center. The cost of tickets prohibitive for working families; the pride of place is now held by the fundraisers who rebuilt the new institutions, not the children and family beneficiaries to whom it all belonged.

I believe the present JFK street closure, with the ensuing limited transportation, resultant loss of parking spaces, and consequent isolation from the city at large, will only serve to create more distance and alienation rather than more accessibility; rather than bring people together, the closure will keep people away. While the parking garage was added to help entice visitors, again, the parking and admission fees are prohibitive for the average family. And finally, and most grievous of all, many segments of the citizenry, including the disability community have been denied access. The disability community has been callously and completely disregarded. If there is nowhere to park, and too far to walk, there is no access.

I hope you will reconsider the permanent closure of JFK Drive. Closed park roads on weekends can make sense, but anything else would be a denial of access for too many. And that is not the San Francisco way.

Thank you for your consideration.



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** Access to Museums  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 11:24:17 AM

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

To the Mayor's Office on Disability,

I am a FAMSF member of long standing and a frequent (before COVID) visitor to the de Young Museum. I depend on JFK Drive to arrive at the museum, as I come from Marin County and, as a retiree, do not have the money to pay the high prices for underground parking, JFK Drive allows me to find suitable parking.

I understand there is no longer access to the de Young via JFK Drive which troubles me. I support slow streets and people being outdoors especially during these times but not at the expense of people with disabilities or the elderly or families who have come from a distance and want to be outdoors. Everyone needs to be able to enjoy opportunities available during these difficult times. Opening the Drive to more bicycling is a great idea, but what about those who can't/don't bike

Now that the de Young is open, however, a long term solution must be found to provide equitable access to this part of the park. Seeking parking slots--blue zone and regular slots--and street passage to arrive at the slots does not in any way make me a climate change spoiler or fan of the gas engine. It is a reality of life today. If the Museum were to offer vouchers to pay for say 3-hour parking, that would work too. Alternatively the City could change the GGP route so that access is not a problem to the museums. We need to find common ground now with respect for all park users not just the young, able and privileged

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC October 16 comment to be read  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 12:03:48 PM

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

My name is Suzanne [REDACTED], and while my home is in Mountain View, I am a frequent visitor to SF and its wonderful museums, including the DeYoung and the CA Academy of Sciences.

I am aware that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles, which I know looks like a blessing to many. Unfortunately, the closure negatively affects people with disabilities who want to access the museums, and this portion of the park. I have friends who are disabled who have brought this issue into sharp focus for me.

I am very concerned about the reduction in the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 in proximity to the museums. I am also concerned that underserved populations that cannot afford the exorbitant cost of paid parking will be effectively shut out of the museums.

Please consider restoring JFK Drive access specifically--perhaps exclusively--for the disability and underserved communities. Golden Gate Park and its great cultural and educational institutions must remain accessible to all.

Thank you,

Suzanne [REDACTED]  
Mountain View, CA 94041

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16  
**Date:** Thursday, October 15, 2020 12:45:37 PM

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

It has come to my attention, that there is consideration, that JFK Drive will be permanently closed.

We understand that, because of Covid 19, it was necessary for a temporary closure. However, a permanent closure would detrimentally affect people with disabilities to access the museums. Many of the park's disability parking spaces would be eliminated and that creates a hardship.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** comment feedback  
**Date:** Friday, October 16, 2020 1:28:29 PM

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

Please don't close off JFK Dr.

My husband drives me in my wheelchair accessible van all the time to the de Young museum, as we have been members for many years. We attend the Access Day events and use the blue zone parking places on JFK Dr. with much ease. Those parking places are fantastic.

If JFK Dr. was closed, we would not venture from our home in Redwood City simply because access to the museum would be too difficult.

Thank you for all your efforts to keep JFK Dr. OPEN!!!

Sincerely, [REDACTED]



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16  
**Date:** Friday, October 16, 2020 9:10:29 AM

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

Hello,

My name is [REDACTED]. In the past I have been a big bike advocate, and I do support slow streets--but this move to keep JFK closed to vehicular traffic makes no sense, when there are dozens and dozens of trails throughout Golden Gate park, and sidewalks throughout, for people. Additionally, the bikers in the park are disrespectful of pedestrians, in my opinion, and I am more afraid of them than cars! The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities, those not taking public transportation due to Covid concerns, and those who cannot afford to park in the garage, to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young.

Thank you for hearing community voices,

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [Renaë Davidson](#)  
**To:** [MOD\\_\(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 comment  
**Date:** Friday, October 16, 2020 10:21:04 AM

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

Hello,

My name is Renaë Davidson. I am contacting you to express my concern that JFK Drive East has been completely closed to vehicles. The closure negatively impacts accessibility for individuals with disabilities to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. The closure significantly decreases the number of ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young. This also limits access for underserved populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control.

I also question why, during a worldwide pandemic when people are dying, suffering, and losing their jobs - when public transportation is not safe and is being reduced - is there is this sudden push to prioritize a specific agenda? Most people are focused on health, economics, and their children's education. I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access for the disability and underserved communities, helping more people access the park and the City's museum.

Thank you,  
Renaë

Renaë Davidson  
415.264.6449

**From:** [Alexandra Williams](#)  
**To:** [MOD. \(ADM\)](#)  
**Subject:** MDC Oct 16 - Comment to be read  
**Date:** Friday, October 16, 2020 12:06:04 PM

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

Hello,

My name is Alex Williams and I manage the arts programming at The Arc San Francisco. We are a non-profit organization that serves adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in your community. I am contacting you to express my opposition to the closure of JFK Drive East to vehicles.

The de Young Museum have long provided catered programming that allows our participants to access the arts in a way that is accessible and stress-free. The permanent closure of JFK will cut off Paratransit van access completely for individuals with disabilities and/or mobility challenges to visit the de Young Museum, and much of the east end of the park. This will also slash ADA and free parking spaces inside Golden Gate Park, including 30 which are accessible to the de Young.

Please consider the needs of EVERYONE this will affect - not only the IDD community and people with mobility challenges, but also populations in the community who may be burdened by the costs of paid parking, over which the de Young has no control.

I hope that you will consider showing your support for restoring JFK Drive access to those who will be unduly burdened without it.

Thank you,

Alex

Alex Williams (she/her)  
ArtReach Program Manager

The Arc San Francisco  
Cell: (415)613-1873  
[www.thearcsof.org](http://www.thearcsof.org)



## [The Arc San Francisco | San Francisco, CA](#)

The Arc San Francisco is a learning and achievement center for adults with developmental disabilities in San Francisco, San Mateo and Marin counties. Our lifelong learning approach empowers individuals with autism, Down syndrome and other disabilities to achieve success at their own pace...at work, at life...even in love. Discover how our innovative programs are transforming lives while ...

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