

West of Twin Peaks Central Council

P. O. Box 27112 • San Francisco, CA 94127

May 27, 2008

Mr. Larry Martin
President, Recreation and Park Commission
501 Stanyan Street
San Francisco, CA 94117

Subject: Funding for removal of hazardous trees and branches in Stern Grove

Dear Commissioner Martin:

The West of Twin Peaks Central Council is an umbrella organization of 18 neighborhood organizations representing homeowners on the Westside of San Francisco.

As you know, the tragedy in Stern Grove that resulted in the unfortunate death of Kathleen Bolton on April 14, 2008 has alarmed and concerned many of our members. As a result, we've been collaborating with members of other neighborhood organizations, and members of your Commission's citizen committee's. An idea has emerged, and we support it, to use monies in the Mayor's Capital Planning Committee (CPC) to pay for maintenance and removal of the hazardous trees and branches in Stern Grove. An arborist dating back to 2003 has recommended the work, and a criterion for priority funding is the health and safety of the public.

At the CPC's May 19, 2008 meeting, Yomi Agunbiade, General Manager of the Recreation and Park Department agreed to prioritize the issue and further stated he seek approval from the Recreation and Park Commission. The use of the Department's contingency funds to pay for the hazardous tree removal recommended by the 2003 arborists' report in Stern Grove is appropriate and needed as we begin summer in Stern Grove.

With the Stern Grove Concerts two and a half weeks away, the West of Twin Peaks Central Council strongly supports using contingency funds for deferred maintenance and removal of trees, and support your staff, Mr. Yomi Agunbiade's request for approval to use such funds.

Sincerely

Denise LaPointe, President

Cc: Yomi Agunibade, General Manager, Recreation and Park Department
Mayor Gavin Newsom
Ms. Nancy Wuerfel

**MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS: Balboa Terrace • Forest Hill • Forest Knolls • Greater West Portal
Ingleside Terraces • Lakeshore Acres • Lakeside Property Owners • Merced Manor • Midtown Terrace
Miraloma Park • Monterey Heights • Pinelake Park • St. Francis Homes • Sherwood Forest
Twin Peaks Improvement • Westwood Highlands • Westwood Park**