

Welcome to Mt Davidson, we hope you enjoy your visit.

If you prefer to see this area converted to a more barren and windy hilltop like Twin Peaks, then you need do nothing, as it is already in progress. If you prefer to see the current diversity of natural plants, trees, and wildlife preserved, with one forested slope and one grassy slope as it is, then let your voice be heard.

San Francisco Rec & Parks Department recently received approval at City Hall to begin implementing a radical repurposing plan for land in the Public Parks, especially Mt Davidson. This “Natural Resources Management Plan” focuses on “converting forested areas to native scrub and grass habitat”, as a return of the landscape to pre-1700 times, before European colonization of the area. While this is partially done with the hope of providing more habitat to one species of butterfly, it is near-sighted and does not account for the loss of habitat to hundreds of other species of animals and insects currently here, as well as contaminating the land and area for all species going forward. This is a very significant change that will include serious deforestation and continuous use of toxic herbicides for 20+ years, as well as closure of many currently public areas to people and pets.

It will:

Kill 18,500 trees in parks, including 1,600 on Mount Davidson and 16,900 in Sharp Park, McLaren Park, Bayview Park, Glen Canyon Park, Lake Merced +

Close 10 miles (25%) of trails

Close 20% of Dog Play Areas (plus allow closure of up to 80%)

Spray toxic herbicides and remove non-native plants used by existing wildlife for food, shelter and nesting areas *Plus More...*

The existing green space is important to the environmental health of the city. Large, healthy trees, regardless of their point of origin promote significant carbon sequestration (absorption and retention of carbon) in face of climate change. Healthy forests stabilize terrain, reduce erosion and landslides, maintain water table levels, and reduce fire risks with continuously moist undergrowth in SF.

Eradication of plants through the repeated and heavy application of herbicides is detrimental to the environment. Herbicides are toxic to people, pets, wildlife, and plants.

San Francisco parks and forests are a legacy that was created in our city to provide a refuge from the stresses of urban life, to build community, and for healthy recreation.

By FRIENDS OF MOUNT DAVIDSON.

Other useful information and resources:

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