

Written Comments for
Regular Public Comment Section
- **Consent Agenda**
- **Non Agenda Items**

From: [Ron Snow](#)
To: [Dave Pine](#)
Cc: [Ron Snow](#); [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: Please provide Assistance to Parks Department - Save Flood Park's historic woodland and Heritage Grove area
Date: Monday, February 7, 2022 5:12:41 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Supervisor Pine,

I attended a County Parks Public Meeting on Feb 2nd pertaining to Flood Park. There were about 100 attendees, of which about dozen or so were from the county or from the county's contractor. During the meeting I saw overwhelming support for county to change the Flood Park plan in order to preserve the park's historic woodland. Additionally, over 3,000 have signed a petition to save the nature and woodland at Flood Park. That common message of preserving the nature of the park and to keep all field sports on the open sports field side of the park seemed to be supported by virtually all of the community attendees at the meeting.

I believe you can make sure that nature is preserved. Please send a message of support to preserve the woodland to Nicholas Calderon. He has stated at recent Parks Commission meetings that such changes could occur; however, I feel he is hesitant to act on the community's voice without County Supervisor support.

Over a year ago, I think you did not realize the extent and degree that Parks had modified the Flood Park plan that had been 5 years in the making. Just weeks before your Supervisors meeting (Nov 2020), the plan suddenly changed from preserving the trees in the woodland to cutting down the very heart of the woodland - a major destruction to that area of the park known as the Heritage Grove. A irrecoverable act if it were to occur.

The major change was that Parks, in this 11th hour before the Supervisor meeting, had moved a sports field into that beautiful area in the heart of the woodland. The presentation to you and the other supervisors was misleading or did not make clear that this was a major and devastating change to plan. You were shown slides where "Tree Preservation" was a top priority. You were told that hundreds of the public had been engaged in the process - that was true from a 5 year history, but untrue regarding the sudden change that moved a sports field into the woodland - virtually no public engagement occurred regarding that drastic change and virtually no notice was provided to any of the prior 500 public input participants or others in the county.

By you supporting the community request to save and preserve the woodland and lending your support for Parks to move the sports field out of the woodland, I believe Nicholas and the Parks department will feel they have permission and supervisor backing to move the field and resolve this very important issue.

Your involvement in this will protect the nature, the peaceful ambience of the nature area of the park, and the much needed and loved woodland retreat will be preserved for future generations. That will be lost if you don't take action.

Thank you for supporting the community in this request.

From: mikemurphy@clearpathmedia.com
To: [CMO BoardFeedback](#)
Subject: non-agenda item -- Flood Park Community Meeting
Date: Monday, February 7, 2022 10:42:29 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of San Mateo County. Unless you recognize the sender's email address and know the content is safe, do not click links, open attachments or reply.

Hello, Board of Supervisors.

I'd like to give a big thank you to the 100 or more members of the community who attended last Wednesday's Community Meeting on the plan to Realize Flood Park (formerly to "Reimagine" the park).

Although the Parks Department's presentation still was organized around the 2020 Landscape Plan, which calls for cutting down the heart of the park's woodland to make space for a sports field, many, many community members pushed back hard, in both written and spoken comments, asking that the sports fields be placed at alternative locations that would allow the heart of the woodland to remain intact.

The Parks Department has not yet released the official report or results of the meeting, and not yet posted the recordings or chat-stream transcript. Unofficial accounts are available at FloodPark.org.

I hope that when they review and interpret the meeting, the Department and its design team finally recognize the very strong and widespread sentiment in the community that field sports are welcome at Flood Park, but they need to be integrated in a way that allows the natural woodland to remain intact – not with a soccer-field-sized hole carved out of the middle of it, the way the 2020 Plan shows it.

Please, Board of Supervisors, help the Parks Department recognize that the natural elements and character of the park are important to many people in the community, and that the department's task is to find ways to fit increased sports into the park without causing so much damage. The community has suggested good alternatives. It's time for the Parks Department and its design team to acknowledge them and incorporate them, and move beyond the unfortunate field placement shown in the 2020 Plan.

----- Mike Murphy

903 Christopher Way,
Menlo Park, CA 94025

mikemurphy@clearpathmedia.com