

**The Lake Merced Task Force
A Stewardship Program for Lake Merced**

Memorandum of Understanding

The purpose of this memorandum is to

- Describe the objectives and endorse the organizational structure of the Lake Merced Task Force, an interdisciplinary Task Force that will develop, maintain, and implement a Stewardship Program for Lake Merced
- Formalize the commitment that each participant organization and its member representatives will make to the Task Force.

Task Force Vision

Lake Merced provides a unique opportunity to demonstrate a cooperative and mutually supporting relationship between the human community and its natural environment within an urban setting. It is the goal of the Lake Merced Task Force to develop and sustain a framework within which the Lake's many stakeholders can communicate and cooperate in a united effort to develop Lake Merced as a natural, aesthetic, recreational and educational resource.

Task Force Mission

The Lake Merced Task Force works with community groups and local and state government to implement programs, policies and practices that will restore, enhance and maintain the natural, educational and recreational resources of Lake Merced.

Task Force Goals

The goals of the Lake Merced Task Force will be to:

- Establish and maintain an organizational structure that provides for meaningful community participation in planning and program implementation for Lake Merced while recognizing the special responsibilities of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, the San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission and the San Francisco Recreation & Park Department.
- Develop a dynamic and comprehensive Stewardship Program for Lake Merced that considers the Lake's many natural, recreational and educational beneficial uses.
- As the Stewardship Program is implemented, provide a vehicle for community involvement in evaluating plans, policies and priorities that guide the day-to-day and long-term operations at Lake Merced

- Assure that an implementation plan is prepared that identifies resources, timelines and responsibilities in sufficient detail to assure successful implementation of the Stewardship Program.

Task Force Membership

The Lake Merced Task Force will include representatives of the many groups that have a stakeholder interest in Lake Merced. These groups include, but are not limited to:

- Government agencies and legislative offices with jurisdiction over Lake Merced
- Educational institutions
- Community groups with a Lake Merced focus
- Recreational interest groups
- Neighborhood/homeowner groups
- Environmental groups
- City-wide organizations with related interests
- Funding sources
- Concessionaires

Task Force Organizational Structure

The Lake Merced Task Force has voted to continue its task of restoring Lake Merced. The work of the Task Force continues under the leadership and direction of the steering committee and the Task Force sub committees. These sub-committees will work independently and together to meet the goals stated in the Initial Report and Stewardship Proposal adopted by the full Task Force in June of 2001. Additional goals and objectives will arise out of the committees' work, and will be considered and adopted by the full Task Force at its quarterly meetings.

Committees for 2002-2003

Administrative

Membership and Member Relations

- To encourage further neighborhood associations and other civic organizations to join the task force.
- To develop, maintain and use tools for communication to and between all members of the Task Force and Task Force committees.

Resources

- To identify financial and related resources, logistic support, and in-kind contributions that will support the work of all communities of the Task Force
- To identify sources of funds to implement the recommendations of the LMTF Stewardship Plan and other projects supported by the LMTF.

Publicity

- To publicize the work of the Task Force through press releases, editorials, op-ed pieces, letters to the editor
- To create, enhance and maintain a working web site for the Task Force and all committees of the Task Force
- *Technical*

Recreation

- To study the recreational potential of Lake Merced and help bring that potential to fruition

Nature

- To study the natural habitats of Lake Merced and help preserve, restore and enhance the diversity of those habitats

Water

- To study the cause for the decline in the level of Lake Merced and look for solutions to halt that decline. Work to encourage all stakeholders and regulatory entities to work to restore Lake Merced

It is expected that all members of the Lake Merced Task Force will actively serve on at least one of the committees of the Task Force. All members are encouraged to serve on multiple committees.

Designated representatives to the Lake Merced Task Force will

1. Participate in at least one specific-interest sub committee
2. Attend all Task Force quarterly general meetings

As a member of the Lake Merced Task Force _____
(Organization Name)

concurs with and supports the provisions outlined in this Memorandum of Understanding and agrees to fulfill the responsibilities and commitments of Task Force membership.

Date Submitted: _____

Representative:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Alternate:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Date of Organization Board Resolution: _____

Authorized signature: _____

Position: _____

(Please complete this form, keep a copy for your records, and return the original signed copy to:

Lake Merced Task Force
c/o Barbara Enes
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