



**PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION**  
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

**London N. Breed, Mayor**

***Correspondence Log***

***September 4, 2024, through October 11, 2024***

<b>Date Received</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Subject</b>
September 16, 2024	Eric Cline Davis	Please help us fix the water main at Arkansas Friendship Garden
October 8, 2024	Kieran Farr	Agency Coordination on SF

**From:** [Erin Cline Davis](#)  
**To:** [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Burch, Percy \(BOS\)](#); [DPW-Public Works Commission](#)  
**Subject:** Please help us fix the water main at the Arkansas Friendship Garden  
**Date:** Monday, September 16, 2024 5:38:18 PM

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Dear Supervisor Walton,

**I am writing for your help fixing the water main to the Arkansas Friendship Garden, which is owned and maintained by SF Public Works. Specifically, as a member of the community garden, I ask for you and your staff to direct Public Works to prioritize the project and provide a clear timeline with benchmarks for the repair.**

Arkansas Friendship Garden is located in your district at 22nd and Arkansas Street. On Tuesday, September 3rd, a driver drove off the road, destroying the garden's main water line (see attached photo, which shows license number so hopefully the responsible parties and/or their insurance can be held accountable).

Since water was flooding out of the pipe, the main had to be shut off until repairs have been made. The garden is without reliable water, and as we all know, a garden cannot grow without regular watering.

Parks and Rec, which manages the garden for Public Works, cannot predict when the water main will be fixed, but they explained it's going to be a big project because the line needs to be dug up and relaid, requiring permits and sidewalk repair. Further complicating matters, Public Works has a track record of not maintaining the infrastructure at the Arkansas Garden. The fence surrounding the garden has been in disrepair for years (so problematic that it had to be propped up by the Parks and Rec department with extra support). While the fence was set to be replaced in 2020, the project was postponed indefinitely after Mohammed Nuru resigned. Public Works has been unresponsive to Parks and Rec repair requests.

I have been a member of this amazing garden since 2011. It has been an important part of my family's life here in the city. I – like everyone who gardens there – have put countless hours of loving work into maintaining this space. The gardeners meet regularly to improve the space and work together to assist each other in making the most of our plots, whether that be watering while someone is on vacation or offering tips and tricks. We are so lucky to live in such a beautiful city and to have the opportunity to grow nutritious food for ourselves in the community garden. I hope that you and the other Supervisors can understand what a tragedy it would be for this garden to wither due to the recklessness of a stranger.

As a garden community, our fear is that Public Works will not fix this problem in a timely and efficient manner, like our fence. Access to water is essential for the garden to function. Without it, plants cannot grow. **We ask for your help in directing Public Works to prioritize the project, provide a clear timeline with benchmarks for the repair, and coordinate with Parks and Rec to support the garden. It is frustrating that we cannot depend on Public Works to appropriately maintain the garden.**

Thank you for your time,  
Erin Cline Davis  
Gardener of Plot 15

Home address:  
1015 Florida Street  
San Francisco, CA 94110







**From:** [Kieran Farr](#)  
**To:** [dennis.herrera@sfwater.org](mailto:dennis.herrera@sfwater.org); [Short, Carla \(DPW\)](#); [Tumlin, Jeffrey \(MTA\)](#); [Commission](#); [mtaboard@sfmta.com](mailto:mtaboard@sfmta.com); [DPW-Public Works Commission](#)  
**Cc:** [Herrera, Ana \(BOS\)](#); [RonenStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary \(BOS\)](#); [Andrews, Michelle](#); [Sparks, Jeff](#); [Haneystaff \(BOS\)](#); [Haney, Matt \(BOS\)](#); [eileen.white@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:eileen.white@waterboards.ca.gov); [water@sfbaysc.org](mailto:water@sfbaysc.org); [Colwick, Chris \(PUC\)](#); [Jacob Klein](#); [Martha Kreeger](#); [Sarah Ranney](#); [Tom Radulovich](#); [Joseph Sweiss](#); [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#); [Liana Warren](#); [Tam, Madison \(BOS\)](#); [Dan Carrigan](#); [Vincent Mazzaferro](#); [SFPUC Citizens' Advisory Committee](#); [jayne.battey@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jayne.battey@waterboards.ca.gov); [alexis.hacker@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:alexis.hacker@waterboards.ca.gov); [Charles Whitfield](#); [Owen, David \(BOS\)](#); [MelgarStaff \(BOS\)](#); [Melgar, Myrna \(BOS\)](#); [donald.young@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:donald.young@waterboards.ca.gov); [letty.belin@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:letty.belin@waterboards.ca.gov); [William.Kissinger@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:William.Kissinger@waterboards.ca.gov); [andrew.gunther@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:andrew.gunther@waterboards.ca.gov); [mark.ransom@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mark.ransom@waterboards.ca.gov); [opp-contact@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:opp-contact@waterboards.ca.gov); [Sweet, Alexandra C. \(MYR\)](#); [Lall, Kamini \(MTA\)](#)  
**Subject:** Action Letter: Agency Coordination on SF Folsom Stormwater Community Streetscape Plan  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 2:15:02 PM  
**Attachments:** [20241008 Folsom Stormwater Community Action Letter \(Complaint Followup\).pdf](#)

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Dear Dennis, Jeff, and Carla, and the Board / Commission Members of SFMTA, SFDPW and SFPUC:

As a followup to our original March complaint [1], over the past 6 months I've been working with your wonderful Agency Staff, elected officials, and countless community organizations on a community-led plan for streetscape improvements as part of the planned sewer replacement in Northeast Mission (Folsom Stormwater Improvement Project) planned to break ground Q3 2025.

But we are stuck and need your help -- despite nearly universal support from residents, community organizations and businesses, and even individual Agency Staff members, we have reached the limit of what the "community" can do alone, and we need immediate and direct coordination from your three agencies to move this project forward.

To make this official, attached please find a Community Action Letter [2] endorsed by 20 major cultural, environmental, and business organizations from the Mission Creek neighborhood and beyond demanding that you implement this plan.

Good news:

- The plan is low cost -- much of the hard costs for streetscape improvements could be included as part of corridor re-grading -- ***if Agencies coordinate prior to groundbreaking!***
- The plan is feasible -- unlike crazy ideas like bringing back the creek, this streetscape plan is very similar to other projects implemented in the Mission by DPW and PUC including Treat Plaza South
- The plan is popular -- the broad strokes are supported by everyone. We just need help from your staff to connect the dots.

Can we schedule a meeting with all 4 of us to come up with an action plan to get this together? I promise it can be fun and hopefully painless.

Specific asks:

- Jeff, we'll ask for help from the SFMTA for a project manager to legislate street changes to facilitate inclusion of these plans as part of post-project surface regrading, as well as coordination with Muni yard and non-revenue maintenance facilities on the corridor. (There is no capital cost requested from SFMTA for this project, only minimal staff time.)
- Carla, we'll ask for help from SFDPW for landscape design support across the corridor and especially regarding Treat Plaza North (proposed).
- Dennis, we need your help from SFPUC to ensure that this alternative can be included in the final plan that may open to contractor bidding in the next few months.

I'm excited about the potential for this project to be a Win for your Agencies, the neighborhood, and the City, and I look forward to your response and continued collaboration.

Kieran

Kieran Farr  
Mission Creek Neighborhood Resident and Dad  
Sierra Club SF, Executive Committee Member  
Mission Creek Business Association, Secretary  
Marshall Elementary PTA, Secretary

415 568 7963

Enclosures:

[1] Original March Complaint: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Gl8-x-Gjq5X9rmoDvBeWhXWc-Ec3nYJz/edit>

[2] Action Letter approved August, sent October after Endorsements: ATTACHED AS PDF and available here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zyb0v-nz-StmHt2WJbjFCIUtlG8Jkpri/edit>

[3] Community Feedback Report from Into the Streets Grant-Funded Treat Plaza Outreach Activations from May - June 2024

2024: [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1\\_FbvnDiBsUmkS6ziHyN2CSzmGA8yISMxhmu1wLqVEw/edit#slide=id.p](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1_FbvnDiBsUmkS6ziHyN2CSzmGA8yISMxhmu1wLqVEw/edit#slide=id.p)



# SIERRA CLUB

## SAN FRANCISCO BAY

Serving Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin and San Francisco counties

October 8, 2024

To: Dennis Herrera, General Manager, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
Jeff Tumlin, Director, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency  
Carla Short, Director, San Francisco Department of Public Works  
SFPUC Commission  
SFMTA Board of Directors  
SFDPW Commission

CC: San Francisco Mayor London Breed  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors  
    attn: Hillary Ronen, Supervisor SF District 9  
    attn: Matt Dorsey, Supervisor SF District 6  
California State Senator Scott Wiener, CA Senate District 7  
California State Assembly Member Matt Haney, CA Assembly District 17  
State of California San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

Re: **City Agency Call to Action Letter: Please Work Together to Implement the Mission Creek Neighborhood Folsom Stormwater Post-Project Improvement Plan**

Dear Leadership Team of SFPUC, SFDPW and SFMTA:

As a followup to the [Sierra Club Letter of Complaint re: Folsom Stormwater Project Dated March 28, 2024](#), the below signed organizations ask the City agencies of SFPUC, SFDPW, and SFMTA to collaborate to deliver nature-based post-project streetscape improvements on Harrison, Treat, and cross streets affected by the Folsom Stormwater Improvement Project.

The default plan ironically proposes to resurface the low-lying Mission Creek Neighborhood with impervious surfaces such as asphalt and concrete which increase flood risk to neighboring homes and businesses instead of permeable surfaces to abate local flooding and reduce the impact of high-velocity stormwater effects. It ignores the recommendation of the Mission Streetscape Plan, which was developed in 2010 after robust community engagement by SF Planning, for converting the unaccepted block of Treat Avenue into a community-serving public open space, mirroring Treat Plaza located kitty-corner. This block doesn't provide vehicular access to any adjacent businesses or residents, and creates a complex and unnecessarily dangerous five-way intersection at Treat and Harrison Streets.

We, undersigned neighbors, community members, businesses and other stakeholders live and work near the above-referenced beautification project which we support. The conversion of this area including unaccepted streets into a green, open space will help with the following:

- Activate sites by providing a space for people to walk, sit, play, host community events, and even bring their dogs.
- Enhance the area by providing an attractive, usable, and green public open space to positively activate the area and discourage dumping and other illegal activities.
- Greatly improve pedestrian and active mobility safety by simplifying traffic movements and replacing a dangerously long crosswalk with a continuous sidewalk and cycle path
- Integrate green infrastructure solutions such as bioswale and linear nature corridors with traffic safety and multimodal access.

While we are proud of the efforts done by community members, nonprofits and nature advocacy organizations, it is time for the City agencies to step up and take accountability for delivering best-practice project solutions *such as those already specified in the 2010 Mission Streetscape Plan from SF Planning*, instead of putting the burden on the community to navigate permitting and funding processes.

Specifically we ask for:

- 1) SFMTA to appoint a project manager to collaborate with SFPUC and SFDPW to plan post-project streetscape design and implementation.
- 2) Funding for City Agency Staff and/or third-party entities for project management, community engagement, landscape design, and inter-agency review, and other essential implementation steps.
- 3) For City Elected Officials to keep City agencies accountable to deliver the true, nature-based climate change resilience solutions and flood protection for the community instead of minimum technical compliance with the Abatement Order.
- 4) For State and Federal Elected Officials to explore securing State and Federal funding (such as the 30x30 Conservation Program or IRA) to cover capital expenditure for these nature-based solutions that may exceed Prop 218 restricted SFPUC funds.

We appreciate everyone's collective efforts to bring these plans forward, now we look forward to putting them into action.

*NB: The contents of this letter were endorsed August 20, 2024 by the Executive Committee of the San Francisco Group of the Sierra Club of California.*

CHARLES WHITFIELD  
Executive Committee President, Sierra Club San Francisco Group

KIERAN FARR  
Mission Resident and Executive Committee Member, Sierra Club San Francisco Group

CANDACE COMBS  
Mission Business Owner and President, Mission Creek Business Association

TOM RADULOVICH  
Executive Director, Livable City



APRIL MCGILL  
Executive Director, The American Indian Cultural Center of San Francisco (AICC)

ROBIN PAM  
Kid Safe SF

PETER BRATT  
Friendship House, Julian Street, San Francisco

CHRISTIAN MARTIN  
Executive Director, SOMA West CBD

NINE LADOW (Treasurer), BRIAN FLAHERTY (International), ROARK O'NEILL (Executive Secretary), JIM O'DONNELL (Founding Member)  
Leadership Team, SOMA Rotary Club

SHERRI FRANKLIN  
Founder and CEO, Muttville Senior Dog Rescue

DHEYANIRA CALAHORRANO  
Founder and CEO, IntegrArte SF

SCOTT WEBB  
Director of Advocacy and Engagement, Resource Renewal Institute

NINA ATKIND  
Chapter Manager, Surfrider Foundation San Francisco

DOUG JACUZZI, Assoc. AIA  
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KAREN CURTISS  
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SI-HAN HAI  
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