

# Open Space Plan:

## San Francisco Comprehensive Action Plan for High-Performing Open Space

*Shape the Vision | Imagine the Future | Chart the Steps | Secure the Future*

### GUIDING PRINCIPLES

#### DRAFT

Rev 05.05.08

#### REGIONAL RESPONSIVENESS

*Consider San Francisco's role in the regional context as an epicenter for ecological, economic, and cultural diversity.*

#### INTEGRATED AND MULTIFUNCTIONAL

*Integrate a variety of open space types within a unifying, coherent structure. Incorporate considerations for streets, alleyways, creeks, parks, habitat, urban forests, trails, recreational facilities, drainage, shorelines, commercial and civic spaces, backyards, and buildings, etc. Consider layering multiple functions and uses within green spaces to create high-performing open spaces.*

#### EQUITY & ACCESSIBILITY

*Within a network of open spaces, strive to provide equity with the maximum feasible access for all people.*

#### CONNECTIVITY

*Create a wholly connected system that facilitates non-motorized movement, enhances habitat through connectivity, links diverse neighborhoods, and is easy to navigate and understand.*

#### ECOLOGICAL FUNCTION & INTEGRITY

*Expand the quantity and quality of natural systems in the city. Provide quality habitat for all appropriate species where feasible. Design for hydrological health (water temperature, water quality, water regimes, stormwater), and consider appropriate water and resource conservation strategies. Connect to regional ecosystems in order to in order to achieve integrity, resiliency and biodiversity in ecological systems.*

#### QUALITY, BEAUTY & INNOVATION

*Create an exemplary, signature open space system. Build on intrinsic qualities, both natural and cultural; reflect the values San Franciscans place on cultural diversity and biodiversity, respond to and interpret geographic, ecological, aesthetic and cultural contexts; address emotional and spiritual needs; and inspire a deep connection to place.*

#### HEALTH AND SAFETY

*Continue to make the city a safe and healthful place to live. Promote social interaction, wellness, and a healthy lifestyle by providing multiple opportunities for exercise, physical activity, cultural and social activities, and a connection to nature.*

*Reduce the risk of natural hazards, and reclaim and treat previously toxic sites.*

**FEASIBILITY & ADAPTABILITY**

*A long-term open space vision should build in a complementary set of near-term implementation strategies that include highly-effective governance and mechanisms for both public and private investment that are achievable and adaptable over time.*

**SUSTAINING STEWARDSHIP**

*The vision should inspire continuing shared stewardship between public agencies, private business, and individual citizens to foster pride, purpose and community.*