

NEW PRESIDIO PARKLANDS PROJECT



NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT / INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE AND COMMENT



By this notice, the Presidio Trust (Trust) is announcing the beginning of public scoping for the New Presidio Parklands Project Environmental Assessment (EA), pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). From now through **June 1, 2015**, the Trust wants to know your thoughts and concerns regarding the project to assist in preparation of the EA. The Trust also invites you to a series of public workshops that are being held as part of the project. For more information on the workshops, visit www.newpresidioparklands.org/participate/public-presentation.



WHAT IS SCOPING?

Scoping refers to the process by which a federal agency solicits input from the public and interested agencies to determine the scope of issues to be addressed in an environmental document under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and to identify any significant issues related to a proposed project. Key topics expected to be addressed in an EA include visual resources, cultural resources, biological resources, visitor experience, circulation, and parking.

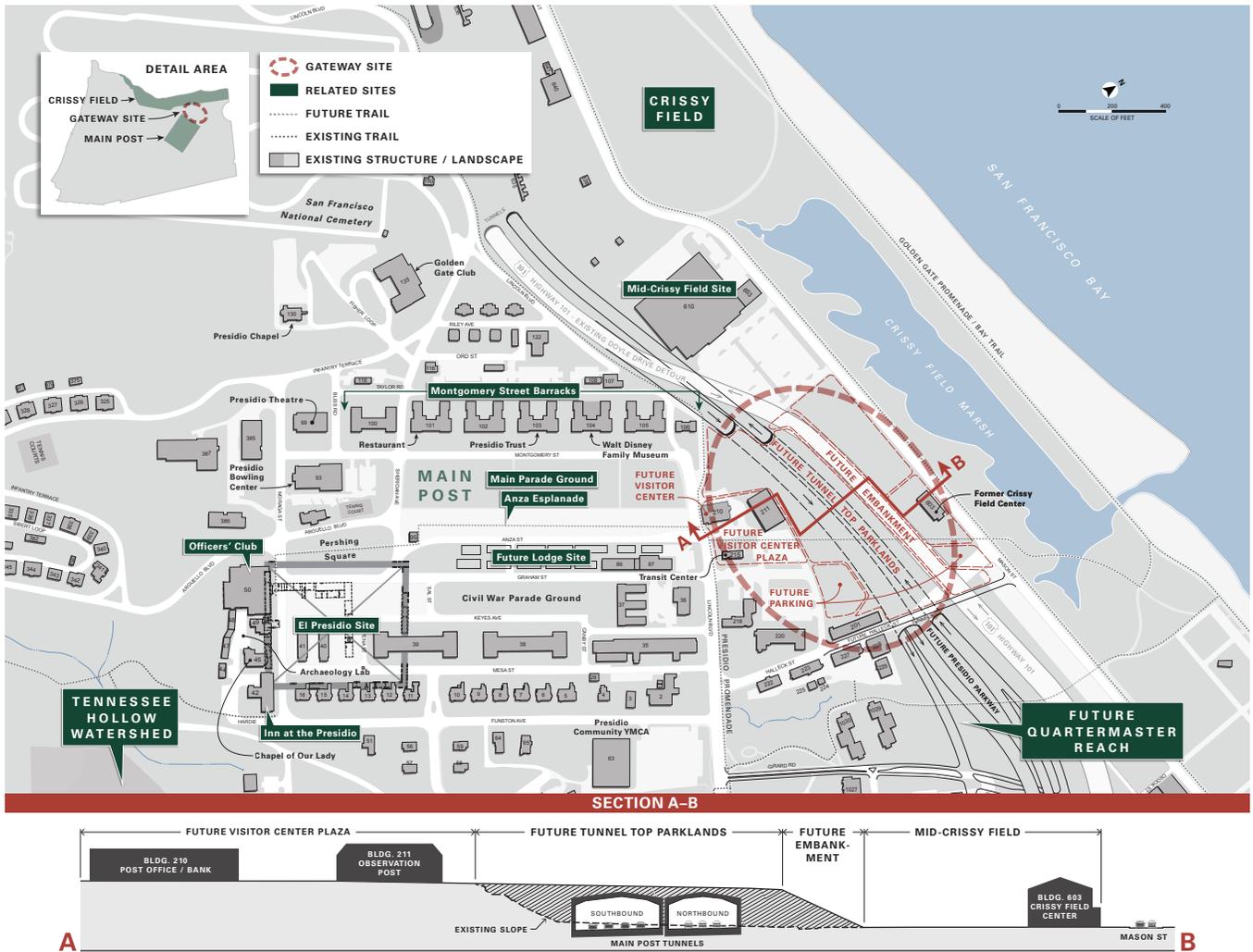
PROPOSED ACTION

The Presidio Trust, working with the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and the National Park Service—Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA), is developing 13 acres of new parkland atop a dramatic bluff and at the base of the bluff adjacent to the Crissy Field Center (Building 603) and Mason Street. The project has come about as the result of replacing Doyle Drive, the 75-year-old freeway leading to the Golden Gate Bridge, with the Presidio Parkway. The Presidio Parkway includes an at-grade, tunnel-covered roadway that reconnects the two most expansive public spaces in the Presidio: the Main Post and the bay front at Crissy Field. At the top of the bluff, the Visitor Center and Transit Center (in existing Buildings

210 and 215) will anchor a new visitor plaza that will be designed as part of the New Presidio Parklands Project. The three acres at the base of the bluff, adjacent to the Crissy Field Center, will include new facilities and grounds for youth programs offered by the Trust, Conservancy, and National Park Service. The New Presidio Parklands have the potential to become one of the most distinctive sites in the country, serving a broad cross-section of local, national, and international visitors. The site is expected to offer a high quality park experience and provide visitor-serving amenities and activities necessary to welcome the public, enrich their visit, and encourage them to return.

PARTNERS

The Trust is the lead agency for the New Presidio Parklands Project, directing the planning, compliance, design, and construction effort and managing community outreach and engagement. The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy, the non-profit partner to the Trust and the GGNRA, serves as the philanthropic and community engagement partner and supports park restoration and enhancement, education, and visitor service projects and programs. The GGNRA manages the adjacent parklands at Crissy Field and is a partner in interpretation, visitor services, and programming.



PLANNING GOALS

The New Presidio Parklands Project is a vital chapter in the continuing evolution of the Presidio as a national park site. The Trust, NPS, and Conservancy hope to accomplish the following with this project:

1. Honor the significance of the Presidio
2. Offer a magnificent experience of the Golden Gate
3. Welcome all
4. Integrate the natural landscape of Crissy Field and the cultural landscape of the Main Post
5. Create the best place to begin your Presidio experience
6. Provide exceptional environmental learning opportunities

PUBLIC MEETINGS + WORKSHOPS

We invite the public to participate during project design and scoping to:

- Share ideas and information with the design team and project staff
- Provide feedback on emerging plans
- Guide the preparation of the EA

Check www.newpresidioparklands.org/participate/public-presentation/ for the current schedule as dates are being added regularly.



SAVE THE DATE

FEBRUARY 21 PROGRAMMING, PLACES, AND EXPERIENCES

Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm
The Observation Post
211 Lincoln Boulevard

MARCH 21 PRELIMINARY CONCEPT DESIGNS + ALTERNATIVES

Saturday, 10 am
Presidio Officers' Club
50 Moraga Avenue

APRIL 18
KEY PARK LAYERS
Saturday, 10 am
The Observation Post
211 Lincoln Boulevard

MAY 14
**Presidio Trust Public
Board Meeting**
CONCEPTUAL DESIGN
Thursday, 6:30 pm
The Observation Post
211 Lincoln Boulevard

JUNE 13
DETAILS AND MATERIALS
Saturday, 10 am
The Design Lab
103 Montgomery Street

JULY 18
SCHEMATIC DESIGN REVIEW
Saturday, 10 am
Presidio Officers' Club
50 Moraga Avenue

SEPTEMBER 17
**SCHEMATIC DESIGN
PRESENTATION**
Thursday, 6:30 to 8:30 pm
(doors open at 6 pm)
The Observation Post
211 Lincoln Boulevard

NEPA AND NHPA COORDINATION

The Trust will integrate its NEPA and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)* analyses following formal guidance from the Council on Environmental Quality and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and in accordance with the Trust’s Programmatic Agreement (PA). The Trust initiated NHPA consultation on August 29, 2014, and will follow the terms of the PA to satisfy its obligations for consulting with the public and PA parties. The Trust will use public comments gathered during the NEPA scoping process to inform its NHPA process. The table below shows how the Trust intends to coordinate public involvement opportunities with design and compliance activities.

Involving the Public	Designing the Project	Complying with NEPA	Complying with NHPA
February 21 Workshop	Discuss Programming, Places + Experience	Issue Notice of Intent	Update PA Parties
March 21 Workshop	Present Preliminary Concept Design + Alternatives	Identify Issues for EA Analysis	Describe Undertaking + Area of Potential Effect
April 18 Workshop	Address Key Park Layers	Refine Alternatives	Revise / Modify Alternatives
May 14 Public Board Meeting	Present Concept Design	Identify Unresolved Issues	Identify Historic Issues
June 13 Workshop	Discuss Details + Materials	Evaluate Environmental Impacts / Develop EA	Assess Effects
July 18 Workshop	Present Draft Schematic Design	Identify Preferred Alternative / Circulate EA	Consult with PA Parties
September 17 Workshop	Present Final Schematic Design	Review + Incorporate Public Comments	Review and Address Public + PA Party Comments
TBD Public Board Meeting	Approve Final Schematic Design	Make Decision (FONSI or EIS)	Obtain Concurrence on Determination

*The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 is the principal federal law dealing with historic preservation. The procedures and terms in the Trust’s PA, entered into with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the State Historic Preservation Officer, the National Park Service, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation define how the Trust meets its statutory responsibilities under the NHPA. For more information on the NHPA, visit www.achp.gov/nhpa.html.



WAYS TO COMMENT

Comments directed toward the project are welcome at any time. Comments can best be incorporated into the EA if received by **Monday, June 1, 2015**. Comments may be submitted:

- At one of the public meetings
- In the Design Lab, 103 Montgomery Street, in the Presidio
- By email to newparklands@presidiotrust.gov
- By mail to:
The Presidio Trust
Attn: John Pelka, New Presidio Parklands Project EA
103 Montgomery Street, P.O. Box 29052
San Francisco, CA 94129-0052
- On the project's webpage at www.newpresidioparklands.org/comment/

Please be aware that all written comments and information will be made available to the public, including, without limitation, any postal address, email address, phone number, or other information contained in each submission.

DECISION PROCESS

The Trust expects to have the EA available for public review in July 2015, at which time comments will be invited for a minimum of 30 days. We will review comments to determine whether additional analyses, reasonable new alternatives, or factual corrections have been suggested. If substantive issues are raised that point to the potential for significant impacts, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) could be prepared or the project could be modified. Otherwise, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is expected.

LEARN MORE

If you have questions on the project or the scoping process, or seek additional information:

- Phone: (415) 561-5300
- Go to the project's webpage: www.newpresidioparklands.org

If you wish to receive regular updates on the process, public meeting announcements, or documents:

- Subscribe to the Trust's newsletter at www.presidio.gov