PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES & PARAMETERS
for the
BALBOA RESERVOIR

To be included in the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) and Request for Proposals (RFP) for
developer selection
Background

In spring 2015, Supervisor Norman Yee introduced and the Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance creating the Balboa Reservoir Community Advisory Committee (BRCAC). Among the BRCAC’s responsibilities laid out in this legislation was to “provide feedback on what development objectives should be included in the Request for Proposals to be issued by the City for development of the [Balboa Reservoir] Site.” The BRCAC is an advisory committee with nine seats, each representing a different constituency of the Balboa Reservoir project, and many additional community members often also attend.

Since then, the BRCAC has met regularly for a year to advise City staff on the development principles and parameters that are found on the following pages. The first drafts of the principles and parameters were produced by staff based on feedback heard at prior community meetings and collected through a survey, as well as on staff’s professional knowledge of land use best practices. Members of the CAC and community provided feedback at monthly BRCAC meetings and via email, and staff responded by substantially revising the draft parameters.

All sections of this document have undergone at least two rounds BRCAC review, feedback, and revision, and in many cases more than two rounds. The final version of the document incorporates the feedback of a wide array of stakeholders and perspectives, while also trying to mediate between conflicting opinions and remain consistent with City policies and standards.

Complete documentation of all community feedback, staff responses, and revisions to the principles and parameters is online at http://sf-planning.org/balboa-reservoir-cac-meeting-schedule.
Principle #1: Build new housing for people at a range of income levels.

Parameters:

a. Make at least 50% of total housing units permanently affordable in perpetuity to low (up to 55% of Area Median Income (AMI)), moderate (up to 120% of AMI), and middle-income (up to 150% AMI) households, provided that this can be achieved while also ensuring project feasibility and providing the economic return to SFPUC ratepayers that is required by law.

1. Make at least 33% of total housing units permanently affordable in perpetuity to low or moderate-income households, consistent with Proposition K (2014).
   
   A. Make at least 18% of total housing units affordable to low-income households (up to 55% of AMI).
   
   B. Make an additional 15% (or more) of total housing units affordable to low or moderate-income households (serving a range of households up to 120% of AMI, with emphasis on households earning 80% to 120% of AMI).

2. To ensure that the project’s overall affordable housing serves a diverse group of households ranging from low-income to middle-income, make an additional 17% of total housing units permanently affordable in perpetuity at a range of affordability levels. The maximum AMI levels for moderate and middle-income households may not exceed 120% and 150% AMI, respectively, and must correspond with housing prices that are at least 15% below local market rate housing prices at the time of project approval.

3. Developers should assume that SFPUC will receive a “fair market value” land price based on the 33% affordability scenario described in (1) and should propose additional public financing strategies that would enable the project to reach meet or exceed the 50% or higher affordability level.

b. Maximize the amount of affordable housing, exceeding these minimum affordable housing percentages to the greatest extent possible, provided that all other development parameters are also met; do not exceed the minimum number of market-rate units that are necessary to achieve these objectives.

c. Target middle-income housing to the qualifying households that have the greatest affordability challenges, such families with children that require larger, family-sized, multi-bedroom units.

d. Provide a mix of rental and ownership units.
**Principle #2: Create housing that can serve a diverse group of household types.**

*Parameters:*

a. Provide all affordable housing on-site (as opposed to providing housing off-site or through the developer paying an in-lieu fee).

b. Design a substantial proportion of housing units, common spaces within residential buildings, and public amenities to be suitable for families with children. A key characteristic of “family-friendly” units is that they have at least two bedrooms.

c. Indicate how family-friendly units will be made accessible to households at a range of incomes.

d. Consider partnering with City College and/or area schools to explore partnerships that would allocate on-site units to house students, faculty, and/or staff.

e. Identify effective partners and strategies to target affordable housing to special populations such as seniors, physically and developmentally disabled adults, veterans, and/or public servants, subject to fair housing law, ability to secure required subsidy, and related City housing policies.

f. Consider including alternative housing ownership models, such as co-operative housing.

**Principle #3: Help to alleviate City’s undersupply of housing.**

*Parameters:*

a. Within the confines of other relevant parameters (e.g., Principle 1(a), neighborhood character, open space, transportation, City College), and subject to the desired unit sizes and family-oriented units cited above, maximize the amount of new housing created to address the current and projected affordability challenges faced by the neighborhood and the City.

b. Create housing without compromising the quality of design or construction or outpacing needed transportation infrastructure.
TRANSPORTATION

Principle #1: Manage parking availability for onsite residents while managing parking to meet City College enrollment goals and coordinating with City parking policies for the surrounding neighborhoods.

See related parameters in Relationship to City College section.

Parameters:

a. Comply with Planning Code requirement to “unbundle” parking, such that parking spaces are purchased or leased separately from residential units and households opt into the lease or purchase of a parking space. Some residential parking spaces may be part of shared parking facilities and/or in on-site buildings separate from the associated residential buildings.

b. Build residential parking at ratios that are appropriate for each unit size and/or household type (e.g. senior, student, family, etc.), as well as for a site with access to multiple transit lines and near a transit station area. Parking may not exceed a rate of up to one parking space per family unit (two bedrooms or greater) and up to one parking space per four units of student housing. The overall site parking ratio will be determined once the development is proposed and the type and number of units is determined. However, these parameters would like to set a goal for the developer to strive for a site-wide, overall ratio of no greater than 0.5 parking spaces per unit, recognizing that different household types have different parking needs and that parking supply greater than parking demand can invite additional vehicle trips to neighborhood roads. The implementation of TDM and parking management strategies should be monitored at each phase of development to ensure that development does not outpace these strategies.

c. Working with City College and the City, describe an appropriate parking and transportation demand management plan that accommodates all appropriate City College students and employees demand at full enrollment, including those accessing access to the City College’s future Performing Arts and Education Center. The TDM plan (including assumptions such as data and projections) should be coordinated with City College and consistent with recommendations in the forthcoming Balboa Area TDM Plan. If expert analysis demonstrates that shared parking is a viable approach, explore accommodating City College affiliates and other non-residents in shared parking facilities (garages where the same parking spaces are utilized by residents during non-peak hours and accessible to all others, including City College students and employees at other times). See related language in City College parameter 3(b).

d. Employee, commuter, residential, and on-street parking should receive input from be managed by the SFMTA according to TDM best practices for each user group.
**Principle #2: Create incentives for and improve the experience of utilizing transportation choices between the Balboa Reservoir site, transit, and adjacent neighborhoods.**

**Parameters:**

a. Use the strategies below and other creative proposals to meet the performance target of a maximum 60% automobile mode share (AMS)\(^1\) for the first phase of development, with the goal of reducing AMS to the greatest extent feasible. For all phases of the development, monitor transportation performance on the site, report annually on all transportation demand management (TDM) and parking measures following City standards, and deploy measures to improve mode share, vehicle miles traveled (VMT), and other measures as needed. To these ends, establish a TDM budget for the development. The budget should provide funding for a TDM manager to execute transportation strategies and coordinate with relevant City agencies, City College, and other transportation partners, utilizing the findings and recommendations in the forthcoming Balboa Area TDM Plan.\(^2\) Identify strategies or partnerships for executing TDM measures to meet performance targets.

b. Maximize car share availability and convenience. Incentivize its use by providing each on-site household with a car-share membership for the household’s first full year of residency and by:

- Meeting or exceeding the number of carshare parking spaces required by local ordinance;
- Locating car-share parking spaces on streets for easy access;
- Providing space for other shared motor vehicles (such as scooters);
- Facilitating the use of shared vehicles by families with children by providing lockers for individual storage of carseats, located adjacent to carshare parking.

c. **Prioritize pedestrian safety and access** and encourage transit use by:

- Demonstrating commitment to the City’s efforts to improve the safety, comfort and experience of bicycle and pedestrian access within the Balboa Reservoir Site and from the Site to the City College Bus Terminal, Balboa Park BART Station, the Muni K-line, other bus stops, community amenities, and open spaces in the area. Implement projects that enhance the adjacent public realm and projects from the Ocean and Geneva Corridor Design plan\(^3\) to the greatest extent feasible. See related language in City College parameter 2(d).

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1 Automobile mode share (AMS) refers to the portion of all trips to and from the site made by private automobile. Developers design parking and TDM measures to achieve or stay under particular AMS targets. Accompanied by monitoring requirements, reporting and compliance regulations, AMS standards are a way the City can ensure a developer commits to limiting trips and impacts on neighborhood roads.

2 Currently, the Planning Department and SFMTA are co-managing a TDM study for an area that includes the Balboa Reservoir site, City College Ocean Campus, and residential neighborhoods immediately surrounding the project site. The study is expected to be completed by early 2017 and will include information about local transportation usage patterns and related TDM opportunities.

• Maximize safe pedestrian and bicycle connections to transit, into the site, and within the site. Pedestrian networks shall accommodate desired paths of travel (or “desire lines”), connecting to surrounding transit, commerce, street networks, paths and open spaces. [This bullet was moved here from Transportation Principle 3 to emphasize the importance of pedestrian access and safety.]

• Street, sidewalk and pedestrian facility designs should be consistent with Better Streets Plan; bicycle facility designs should be consistent with the NACTO Bikeway Design Guide; and all rights of way should adhere to other applicable standards, such as utility separation requirements. Streets will generally fall under Better Streets Plan’s Neighborhood Commercial, Neighborhood Residential, Park Edge, Alley or Shared Public Way street types. As described in the Public Realm and City College Parameters, coordinate onsite connections with SFMTA pedestrian and bicycle access improvements beyond the site, especially to and from City College. [This bullet was moved here from Transportation Principle 3 to emphasize the importance of pedestrian access and safety.]

• Providing each household with a monthly transit pass or providing each household with a sustainable transportation benefit allowance. The allowance could be used for a variety of sustainable transportation such as transit, bicycle parking, sharing or repair, car share usage fees, etc. Private automobile parking, tolls, maintenance, etc. would not be eligible expenses. The transportation benefit allowance should be provided for the life of the project. At a minimum, the transportation benefit allowance should be equivalent to the cost of one Muni monthly pass per household.

• Encouraging employers to provide a pre-tax transportation benefit program and/or a sustainable transportation allowance for onsite employees (e.g. residential buildings’ property managers, construction workers, etc.).

• Providing on-site transit rider amenities such as benches and sheltered bus stops and data/electricity to support real-time displays at bus stops, if applicable.

d. Encourage bicycling by:

• Providing secure onsite Class I bicycle storage facilities at a rate that meets or exceeds planning code requirements of at least 1.5 bicycle parking/storage spaces per residential unit. These bicycle facilities should be secure, contain electric charging stations, and be capable of storing cargo bicycles and other larger bicycles.

• Ensuring a safe and convenient path of travel between on-site bicycle facilities (e.g. lanes, paths, parking, repair space, bike share pods) and existing and planned bicycle facilities beyond the site on Ocean and Phelan Avenues.

• Creating a north-south bicycle connection on the Lee Avenue extension or through the site, utilizing bicycle lanes and/or dedicated bicycle tracks, per the San Francisco Bicycle Plan. This connection should be provided early in the site development process.
• Providing visitor bicycle parking at a rate that meets or exceeds Planning Code requirements.

• Providing a bicycle repair facility on-site, with considerations for the existing retail environment (see Additional Public Benefits, Parameter 2b).

• Sponsoring an onsite Bay Area Bike Share pod if one is not located within 250 feet of the site, pending agreement on siting with Bay Area Bike Share.

• Considering subsidizing Bay Area Bike Share memberships to residents and employees.

• Providing a once a year "learn how to ride" class, either on site or nearby, offered to all residents. See Principle 4 for additional outreach requirements.

e. Identify and implement additional strategies to increase the utilization of safe and affordable transportation, which may include:

• Facilitating deliveries by including a staffed reception area to receive packages or offering reception area cold storage and other forms of temporary storage to receive deliveries of groceries, packages, laundry, and other items.

• Making electric vehicle parking safe and convenient, as well as lowering barriers to installing future electric vehicle charging stations throughout parking garages if electric vehicle use becomes ubiquitous (see Sustainability parameters).

f. Identify potential partnerships and accommodate capital improvements that can reduce traffic impacts on surrounding neighborhoods and improve safety and mobility for non-single occupant vehicle travel modes. (Note that RFP responses should not assume that the Balboa Reservoir development project will be required to fund off-site improvements other than improvements required as CEQA mitigation measures. However, the City may wish to explore creative partnership and funding arrangements during negotiations with the selected developer partner.) Such improvements may include, but are not limited to, the following:

• Stronger pedestrian safety and access along Ocean Avenue and into adjacent neighborhoods.

• Improved bicycle infrastructure along Ocean Avenue and the existing Lee Avenue to close the current gap between bicycle routes.

• Coordination of shuttle service and/or facilities with City College

• Coordination of bicycle facilities with City College, potentially including shared storage, shared access to repair or charging stations, and appropriate supply of Class I and Class II parking to accommodate bicycles’ access to either property.

• Improved intersection design, turning controls and signal timing.

• Neighborhood mobility and access during construction.

• Maximizing electric vehicle or EV-ready parking spaces (see Sustainability parameter 5d)

• Shared parking facilities.
Principle #3: Design site access and circulation to minimize the development’s congestion impacts, especially on adjacent areas, while also maximizing pedestrian and bicyclist safety.

Parameters:

a. Design the site’s street network, vehicle circulation pattern, and placement of building and garage entrances to maximize pedestrian and cyclist safety and to minimize traffic congestion within and near the site, including on-street vehicle queuing. This goal may be achieved through designing shorter blocks, sharing off-street parking facilities, meeting Principles 1 through 4, and/or other strategies.

b. Determine the number and location of site access points that will best manage congestion impacts to surrounding neighborhoods and roadways, while minimizing or eliminating the need for curb cuts on streets that are heavily traversed by pedestrians and bicyclists. (Note that certain access routes may be subject to negotiation with appropriate parties, such as adjacent landowners. Such negotiations would occur following the selection of a developer partner.)

c. Design site circulation to minimize congestion and improve public safety on streets, particularly routes to schools within ½ mile of the site. Coordinate site circulation, parking, and access design with the City College master planning effort, including development of the Performing Arts and Education Center and/or other development on City College’s property. Address congestion during morning and evening travel peaks, as well as during special events.

d. Maximize safe pedestrian and bicycle connections to transit, into the site, and within the site. Make pedestrian facility designs consistent with the SF Better Streets Plan recommendations, and bicycle facility designs consistent with the NACTO Bikeway Design Guide. As described in the Public Realm and City College Parameters, coordinate onsite connections with SFMTA pedestrian and bicycle access improvements beyond the site, especially to and from City College.

e. To ensure attractive, safe and useable public open spaces for all transportation modes, design streets and sidewalks to be consistent with SF Better Streets Plan recommendations, the NACTO Urban Street Design guide, and applicable standards, such as utility separation requirements.

Principle #4: Encourage the use of sustainable modes of transportation (walking, biking, transit ridership, car sharing, and carpooling) through coordinated programming and communications.

Parameters:

a. Create incentives and campaigns to encourage the use of non-single occupant vehicle modes of transportation.

b. Promote the site’s sustainable transportation choices through engagement and communications with new and prospective tenants, residents, visitors, employees, and neighbors. Hold annual sustainable transportation events such as “bike to work day,” electric bike and bike share demonstrations, other information sessions, or a month-long...
long walking competition. Consider coordinating events with nearby educational institutions to include their populations as well as on-site residents and employees.

c. Implement a wayfinding (e.g. signage, design) program that facilitates transit ridership, biking, and walking.

d. Install real-time information amenities to assist residents, visitors, employees, and neighbors in utilizing sustainable modes of transportation. Useful types of information may include real-time transit arrivals, walking times to transit stops, availability of shared bikes, and/or availability of shared cars.

e. Identify potential partnerships with the City, City College, and other nearby educational institutions to support local efforts to encourage students and employees to utilize sustainable modes of transportation.

PROJECT’S RELATIONSHIP TO CITY COLLEGE

**Principle #1:** Ensure that development at the Balboa Reservoir site does not negatively impact City College’s educational mission and operational needs.

**Parameters:**

a. Do not develop on City College property unless an explicit agreement is reached with City College. (Note that the developer may not develop on any adjacent property without reaching an express agreement with its owner.)

b. Phase and schedule construction activity to minimize impacts on access, noise, dust, and other air quality impacts to neighbors, including City College and future City College construction projects.

c. Ensure that neighbors, including City College, Westwood Park, Sunnyside, Archbishop Riordan High School and Ocean Avenue residences, receive substantial advance notice of project schedule and phasing so that they can plan appropriately for access and circulation impacts and changes in parking availability.

d. Work with City College to establish a process for regular communication between the project and City College, including a means of ensuring completion of the project’s commitments to City College and a means of resolving new issues that may arise during construction or after the new development is complete. This process should be established prior to project approvals and should acknowledge the full range of City College stakeholder groups (including Trustees, administrators, staff, instructors, and students).

**Principle #2:** In conversation with City College, identify opportunities for the Balboa Reservoir project’s public benefits to serve as resources for the City College community.

**Parameters:**

a. Consider partnering with City College and/or area schools to allocate a material amount of on-site units to house students, faculty, and/or staff.
b. To the extent that City College expresses interest in relocating or expanding the City College Child Development Center to the Balboa Reservoir site, examine opportunities to accommodate this request within the new development.

c. If on-site commercial space is developed, explore including retail and non-profit uses that will serve the needs of the City College students, faculty, and staff in addition to serving residents and the site’s immediate neighbors. If proposing any such uses, demonstrate that they will complement the existing commercial and nonprofit environment without negatively impacting existing local retail businesses or non-profit activities.

d. As described in the Transportation Parameters, create safe, clearly navigable pedestrian and bicycle access, including access for people with disabilities, through the Balboa Reservoir site to connect surrounding neighborhoods to City College and to connect the City College community to on-site public amenities that they are likely to utilize. Allow for safe, comfortable, and convenient pedestrian, bike, and car travel between City College and the Balboa Reservoir project, with particular attention to connections to Balboa Park Station.

e. As described in the Open Space parameters, when designing parks and open spaces, consider neighbors, including the City College community (students, faculty, and staff), as future user groups.

**Principle #3: In coordination with City College, design and implement the project’s transportation program in such a way that also creates new sustainable transportation opportunities for City College students, faculty, and staff.**

**Parameters:**

a. Prior to the start of development, coordinate with City College to finalize and commit to transportation demand management (TDM) measures required to meet the Balboa Reservoir project’s mode split target and other goals identified in the Balboa Area TDM Plan. These measures should include an implementation plan to ensure that development does not outpace TDM.

b. Working with City College and the City, develop an appropriate parking and TDM strategy that accommodates City College students and employees. If expert analysis demonstrates that shared parking is a viable approach, explore accommodating City College affiliates and other non-residents in shared parking facilities (garages where the same parking spaces are utilized by residents during non-peak hours and accessible to all others, including City College students, faculty, and staff, at other times).

c. Phase the project in such a way that changes to the current parking lot can occur gradually, allowing for incremental adaptations rather than the wholesale removal of all parking spaces at once.

d. Explore the coordination of bicycle facilities with City College, potentially including shared storage, shared access to repair or charging stations, and appropriate supply of
Class I and Class II bicycle parking to accommodate bicycles’ access to both properties. Include, and avoid conflicts with, local bicycle-related businesses in the creation of new bicycle amenities, such as by exploring partnerships to provide on-site bicycle repair facilities.

e. Identify and actively pursue additional potential partnerships with the City, City College, and other nearby educational institutions to support local efforts to encourage students, faculty, and staff to utilize non-single occupant vehicle modes of transportation. Potential partnerships may include, but are not limited to, capital improvements that increase the safety and attractiveness of walking or biking, including safe routes to transit and safe routes to school projects; coordinating efforts around public communications and outreach regarding alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles; TDM program management; public transit information; shuttles; paratransit; car-sharing; and other potential recommendations from the Balboa Area TDM Plan.

**Principle #4: To ensure that the Balboa Reservoir project is sensitive to City College’s mission and operations, work with City College and its master planning consultants to ensure that the Balboa Reservoir site plan and City College’s forthcoming new Facilities Master Plan are well coordinated and complementary. Note that the Facilities Master Plan will be subject to approval by the City College Board of Trustees.**

**Parameters:**

a. Remain actively informed about City College’s master planning process and receptive to opportunities to participate.

b. Assume that City College’s planned Performing Arts & Education Center, designed for City College property immediately to the east of the Balboa Reservoir site, will be built. Working with City College and the City, describe an appropriate parking and transportation demand management plan that accommodates access to the future Performing Arts and Education Center (see Transportation parameter 1c). Demonstrate an understanding of the Performing Arts & Education Center’s access and parking in Balboa Reservoir’s overall TDM strategy.

c. Identify opportunities for the Balboa Reservoir project to help City College fulfill its master plan objectives, including but not limited to objectives around enrollment growth, while also meeting all other applicable development parameters.
Principle #1: Develop a cohesive public realm (network of streets and open spaces) which provides a range of programmed and unprogrammed spaces for functional, recreational, and social activities. The public realm, whether softscape or hardscape, should connect transit, gathering places, commercial destinations, and residences on the site and beyond; be visible and activated from adjacent streets and uses; connect gathering places, transit, commercial destinations and residences on the site and beyond; and provide a sense of identity unique to the neighborhood.

Parameters:

a. Create a publicly-accessible open space network, totaling at least 4 acres at ground level, including parks, playgrounds, gardens, picnic areas, off-street walking routes and/or linear parks, but excluding streets. Aim to exceed this minimum requirement. Spaces should accommodate multiple types of open space activities or programs within a given day, week, or time of year.

b. Create one significant open space at ground level to serve as a park for the site and the neighborhoods beyond the Balboa Reservoir. Include a mix of programmed and unprogrammed spaces based on community input and neighborhood need. Rather than creating a large void, the park should be varied in design and uses, be scaled appropriately with the pattern of blocks and buildings, and create a sense of shared neighborhood identity. This continuous significant open space (which may extend multiple blocks if intersected by pedestrian ways or pedestrian/bike paths), should strive to be at least 2 acres (no less than 1.5 acres). This park will constitute a portion of the minimum 4 acres of at-grade open space referenced in Section 1.a. and should be designed with the community in a public process.

c. Consider the childcare facility should be adjacent to an open space. The open space should include elements and/or designs appropriate to the ages served in the adjacent childcare facility. that may be built on-site and its needs for open space.

d. Create a walking route or network of walking routes which facilitates walking for recreational purposes, minimizing street crossings and connecting or defining on-site open spaces. Pedestrian networks should accommodate desired paths of travel (or “desire lines”), connecting to surrounding transit, commerce, street networks, paths and open spaces. Walking routes should be supportive of and consistent with parameters 1(e) and 1(f).

e. Create a usable linear open space area along the southern end of the project site, an area in which trees, large shrubs or structures are prohibited since it contains
existing SFPUC underground water transmission pipelines.4

f. Respect the privacy and scale of all neighboring properties, including Westwood Park, Sunnyside, City College, Archbishop Riordan High School, Lick Wilmerding High School, and Ocean Avenue other adjacent and nearby residences and schools with a reasonable distance and appropriate public space design, private rear yards, landscape, topography (possibly including a berm), and/or walking routes to serve as a buffer or transition between the new buildings on the Balboa Public Site and Plymouth Avenue homeowners’ backyards. Open space shall be preserved in perpetuity, as will be other public spaces on the site.

f.g. Build in enough flexibility to the open space network parks and open spaces to allow for them to evolve with changing neighborhood needs, incorporating successive layers of programming, public art, and community stewardship over time. As these elements evolve to respond to changing needs, the spaces should remain unbuilt and open to the public.

g.h. Prioritize view corridors from public streets and spaces to Mt Davidson, Mt San Bruno Mountain, and the main entrance to the City College Science Hall. Incorporate view studies into public community design workshops.

h.i. Emphasize the special nature of the area through distinctive landscaping and other features that complement and respect adjacent neighborhoods and educational institutions.

Principle #2: Design the public realm as a useful, safe, and welcoming part of daily experience for diverse neighbors of all ages, visitors to the site, and City College affiliates. The Public realm should include Principle #6: All public rights of way should be attractive, safe, and useable public open spaces with generous landscaping, lighting, and greenery as appropriate to the scale and use of buildings and the site. Street design should be built to standards established in the Better Streets Plan.5

Parameters:

a. Create public and common open spaces that are active. They should be well defined by landscape features, streets or walking routes, active pedestrian entries to adjacent buildings, and adjacent building massing.

b. Design the landscape and buildings so that they complement each other in support of site-wide design public realm and urban design goals (see Urban Design section of this document).

4 Landscape must conform to SFPUC Integrated Vegetation Management Policy, available online at sfwater.org/index.aspx?page=431.
c. Design new streets as public spaces which create intimate, safe pedestrian environments while encouraging social interactions between diverse users from the site, adjacent neighborhoods, and City College. Use shared streets/public way designs where appropriate. [This parameter was moved here from Principle 6, as it was consistent with Principle 2 and better communicates the priority of pedestrian safety.]

d. Design public realm to complement the Ocean Campus, its network of public spaces, and Unity Plaza.

e. Incorporate linear spaces, smaller common areas, and/or courtyards into the site and buildings to moderate building scale, provide intimate spaces, and diversify activities in the public realm. Wherever possible, pair spaces with complementary adjacent land uses to help activate the public realm, for example small plazas near natural gathering places and playgrounds near daycare.

f. Avoid corner public areas, fore courts and other designs that are ultimately passed through or observed from outside rather than serving a necessary, recreational, or social purpose.

g. Propose a gradual transformation of the site, maintaining access to usable open space throughout all construction phases to allow people to experiment with new ways of using the site, and to give the community time to adapt to the physical changes of the site. For example, create a nursery for trees to mature on-site in advance of future site construction. Carefully consider and protect against construction impacts on neighboring homes and foundations, many of which are over 90 years old.

**Principle #3: Incorporate the different needs and hours of activity for diverse users in the area, including the members of the City College community.**

*Parameters:*

a. Ensure safe and accessible opportunities for people of all ages and abilities, including students, seniors, and families, to utilize the public realm.

b. Design for sight lines between caregivers and open spaces or adjacent uses such as daycare, family residential units, or other ground-floor uses. Buildings with family units should maximize the number of units overlooking play areas.

c. Locate gathering places at natural confluences of pedestrian activity, walking routes, and public life, in support of the privacy concerns addressed in Parameter 1(f).
Principle #4: Private open spaces should meet or exceed City regulations that require a minimum of 80 square feet of private open space per unit or 60 square feet if the space is made publicly accessible (above and beyond the project-wide public open space area minimums in Principle #1). Any publicly accessible open space associated with an individual building should read as part of an overall, coordinated pattern of open space.

Although detailed building design will occur following the selection of a developer, the following parameters should guide RFP respondents’ general site planning vision, as applicable.

Parameters:

a. Maximize the percentage of private open space at ground level.

b. Connect courtyards, mid-block open spaces, and/or streets wherever possible.

c. Private open spaces should be human-scale, intimate and inviting. They should maximize green space, programmable spaces and visibility from residential units.

d. Consider including residential building(s) with a shared open space designed for children and families, with play equipment and good visibility from larger, family-sized units.

Principle #5: Design a variety of open spaces within the public realm network to create a variety of sensory experiences, incorporating the surrounding natural and/or cultural environment into the siting and design.

Parameters:

a. If open space includes grade changes, use topography as a means of adding variation or creating a series of intimate spaces, without limiting visibility or accessibility.

b. Maximize sun exposure in public spaces and in adjacent neighborhoods.

c. Design open space areas that are protected from winds. Landscaping should withstand winds.

d. Integrate stormwater management features, such as bioretention planters and green roofs where appropriate, into the public realm.

e. Use drought tolerant species that will minimize the need for irrigation.
Principle #6: All public rights of way should be attractive, safe, and useable public open spaces with generous landscaping, lighting, and greenery as appropriate to the scale and use of buildings and the site. Street design should be built to standards established in the Better Streets Plan.

Note that this Public Realm section addresses street design only. Pedestrian, transit, bicycle, and auto activity are discussed in the Transportation section.

Parameters:

a. Design new streets as public spaces which create intimate, safe pedestrian environments while encouraging social interactions between diverse users from the site, adjacent neighborhoods, and City College. Use shared streets/public way designs where appropriate.

b. Street and sidewalk designs should be consistent with Better Streets Plan and other applicable standards, such as utility separation requirements. Streets will generally fall under Better Streets Plan’s Neighborhood Commercial, Neighborhood Residential, Park Edge, Alley or Shared Public Way street types.

Principle #76 (formerly 7): Plan and design in coordination with a long-term, sustainable maintenance plan and community-serving programming.

Parameters:

a. Describe what types of recreational uses are intended for the various public parks and open spaces included in the proposal.

b. Describe how parks and open spaces will be managed or programmed to promote safe and active use and enjoyment, as well as who will be accountable for ongoing maintenance on a daily basis. Identify potential funding sources to support these management and programming activities.

c. Plan proposed park and open spaces with an eye toward efficient maintenance and management, including establishment of funding sources to support such operations.

d. Integrate educational or cultural opportunities into the public realm and adjacent community spaces, including funding sources to support such operations. Working with community and educational partners on this effort is encouraged.
**URBAN DESIGN & NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER**

**Principle #1: Connect and relate to the surrounding fabric of streets, blocks, and open spaces.**

**Parameters:**

a. Create a general block scale that respects the scale of nearby neighborhoods, provides permeability, and uses a pedestrian network to connect the surrounding network of streets and open spaces.

b. Break the scale of blocks by providing neighborhood streets, pedestrian paths, courtyards, or plazas to better connect networks of public and common spaces, including the City College campus.

c. Orient the site, blocks, streets, and pedestrian connections to maximize pedestrian safety, mobility, and access to transit, housing, recreation, and other destinations.

**Principle #2: Harmonize the relationships between existing buildings, streets, transit corridors, and open spaces.**

**Parameters:**

a. Design the Site and buildings to integrate with, respect and reflect local character, scale, design, and uses, as well as to support access to transit. Designs should harmoniously integrate with the surrounding built environment, stitching together the varied land uses and urban design on all sides of the site including Westwood Park, Sunnyside, City College, and Ocean Avenue, other nearby residences and schools. Designs shall consider the scale and design of neighboring buildings (especially Westwood Park, prominent buildings on City College campus, Riordan H.S. and along Ocean Avenue), quality of open spaces (such as Unity Plaza and rear yards of Westwood Park), and pedestrian connections (such as to Riordan High School, Library Gardens, City College, and transit).

b. Design variation in building architecture, height, scale, massing, and materials. Maintain visual interest and limit the extent of uniform, unvaried surfaces on all building facades. Buildings, blocks, and prototypes shall be authored by different architects to ensure variation in design on the site.

c. Locate taller buildings where adjacent buildings are tallest, with heights tapering down on approach to single-family neighborhoods. Buildings on the western side of site should be lower in height than buildings on the eastern side and should respect the scale, privacy and light of adjacent homes to the west of the Site. Buildings should be separated from Westwood Park rear yards by setbacks or open spaces. Building heights should fall within a range of 25 feet to 65 feet.

d. Situate and design buildings to enhance public spaces and the openness provided by contiguous private open spaces (e.g. rear yards) while minimizing impacts on existing residential privacy and access to light. Appropriate landscape design and/or a reasonable distance should buffer adjacent properties in order to protect residents’ privacy. As per the San Francisco Residential Design Guidelines, minimize impacts on privacy and light, through site orientation, setbacks, breaking lines of sight between buildings, landscape, and topography. (See Public Realm principles for further development parameters relative to adjacent properties.)
e. Shape the height and bulk of buildings to respect views and vantage points; avoid buildings that are top-heavy or bulky in appearance.

e.f. When designing roofs, consider how roof design will impact to enhance and not detract from views to the site from above.

**Principle #3: Design with and complement the site’s natural context.**

*Parameters:*

a. Maximize exposure to sun and protection from wind. Utilize wind-appropriate trees to reduce wind impacts.

b. Design the site, buildings, and public realm to harmoniously integrate into the surrounding topography and local landscape. The public realm and open spaces shall incorporate natural habitat appropriate for the micro-climate of the neighborhood.

**Principle #4: Express neighborhood character, celebrate cultural history, and align with neighborhood activities.**

*Parameters:*

a. Design amenities and the public realm to align with neighborhood activities, desires or needs, including current uses of the site for families, dog walking and exercise.

b. Express the cultural and historical elements of the community in the site or public realm design.

c. Design the site and public realm to respect and reflect community heritage, the City College campus, and the role of the intersection of Ocean Avenue and Phelan Avenue as a “gateway” to the neighborhood.
SUSTAINABILITY

Principle #1: [ENERGY] Building on the City’s robust energy efficiency requirements, reduce or eliminate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from new buildings to the greatest extent feasible. Maximize the use of renewable energy (generated on the Balboa Reservoir site, to the extent feasible) and realize 100% of electricity in all new development from renewable (GHG-free) sources.

Parameters:

a. Meet building energy efficiency requirements through attention to building fixtures and appliances (including shared, on-site facilities), lighting, HVAC, and plug loads, per the requirements of the San Francisco Green Building Code and California Title 24 (30% reduction for Residential Buildings and 40% for Non-Residential).

b. Realize additional energy efficiency through passive design techniques, such as building orientation (to maximize solar energy potential), shading, materials/skins that control solar gain (to minimize interior heat gain), daylighting, and natural ventilation.

c. Through both site and building design, maximize the use of solar energy generation on the Balboa Reservoir site from rooftop and/or building skin photo voltaic systems (PV) and solar thermal (rooftop solar hot water systems); Title 24 currently requires 15% of rooftop areas be designed as “solar ready” and new San Francisco Better Roofs legislation requires its installation (PV and/or solar thermal). Other renewable energy technologies may be explored in comparison to solar potential.

d. Following efficiency and onsite renewable achievements, meet 100% of remaining electricity demand with renewable or GHG-free supplies. Work with SFPUC to confirm the feasibility of the City providing electric service to the development from renewable and GHG-free supplies, consistent with San Francisco Administrative Code Chapter 99.

e. Potential Innovation: Also in support of Principle #5, reduce or eliminate GHG emissions and air pollutants from natural gas use by substituting electricity in place of natural gas appliances (e.g., space heating, hot water heating, laundry, and cooking appliances).

f. Potential Innovation: A district-scale (i.e. connecting and serving the entire development) energy center, which may include:

i. Individual heating and cooling systems connected with a shared heat loop that improves energy efficiency by enhanced pump operations.

ii. Buildings that share energy by either rejecting or taking heat from the closed water loop, which reduces cooling tower needs in terms of space and energy use and reduces load on central plant.

7 The Better Roofs legislation is available online at http://www.sfbos.org/ftp/uploadedfiles/bdsupvrs/ordinances16/o0071-16.pdf
iii. Equipment consolidated in one area onsite, saving space for other uses within individual buildings (including better use of roofs than cooling towers); can be a separate building or housed in basement.

g. Potential Innovation: Supply multiple buildings or the entire development with renewable energy systems (including solar PV), which may provide renewable generation at a reduced overall cost compared to individual systems and efficiencies in construction costs. This innovation would be enhanced with renewable energy storage technologies and on-site facilities.

GHG reduction from vehicles is addressed in the Transportation section.

**Principle #2: [WATER] Building on the City’s robust water efficiency requirements, maximize non-potable water use in buildings and open spaces.**

**Parameters:**

a. Capture, treat, and reuse rain water, grey water (showers, laundry, and some sinks), and foundation drainage (as available), per current non-potable water regulations applicable to all new development 250,000 SF and larger.

b. Use treated non-potable water (per parameter 2(a)) in all new buildings for toilet flushing and irrigation for open space/landscaping.

c. Potential Innovation: District-scale non-potable water system servicing multiple buildings.

d. Potential Innovation: Use non-potable water for laundry and heating system cooling (laundry reuse would require approval from the San Francisco Department of Public Health).

**Principle #3: [STORMWATER] Optimize onsite stormwater management to improve water quality, minimize potential for urban flooding, and help prevent overflows of the City’s combined sewage system into the Bay.**

**Parameters:**

a. Comply with the City's Stormwater Design Guidelines performance requirements for total volume and peak flow reduction of the 2-year, 24-hour storm in regards to pre-site conditions.

b. Design streets and open spaces to include a coordinated network of urban greening to minimize stormwater runoff.

c. Design streets and open spaces to include context specific low impact development approach and use stormwater management tools, such as rain gardens, bioswales and flow-through planters, and detention ponds.
d. Coordinating with Principle #4 below, develop up to 100% of usable roof space for one or more feasible uses from the Better Roofs legislation (e.g., solar, living roof/habitat, usable open space, urban agriculture), while meeting requirements for stormwater and non-potable water capture.

e. Potential Innovation: Maximizing permeable paving materials in parking spaces, play courts, and open spaces (assuming on-site pervious soils).

**Principle #4: [ECOLOGY / GREENING] Connect all residents, workers, and visitors to nature by maximizing habitat supportive trees and landscaping on roofs, streetscapes, open space areas and the City College campus, as appropriate.**

**Parameters:**

a. Design a comprehensive network of public parks, public and private open spaces, and green connections that provide continuous ecological corridors to, from, and through the site and City College campus; to be coordinated with public realm parameters.

[The previous living roof parameter was edited and moved to 4d prioritize other parameters over living roofs]

a. Coordinating with Principle #3 above, prioritize living/green roof uses that contribute to habitat creation, air quality improvements and carbon sequestration, usable open space, urban agriculture, building cooling, and stormwater management co-benefits. Rooftop greening and planting design should especially consider the neighborhood micro-climate.

b. Limit the use of landscaping to drought tolerant plants and trees that support biodiversity and habitat and/or encourage the use of plants that also provide food production (urban agriculture and fruit trees). ([Sfplantfinder.org](http://Sfplantfinder.org) is a useful resource for identifying appropriate species.)

c. In support of Principle #5, comply with the San Francisco Reduced Risk Pesticide List and Integrated Pest Management requirements, including preferences for the use of non-toxic organic pesticides and fertilizers in the neighborhood, with special consideration for protecting pollinator species (e.g., bees and butterflies).

d. Where living/green roof uses can thrive in the micro-climate, they should provide co-benefits to solar power or stormwater management; and they should contribute to habitat creation, air quality improvements and carbon sequestration usable open space, urban agriculture, or building cooling. [This was moved to the end of the list and edited to prioritize other strategies over green roofs]

d.e. Potential Innovation: Drought-tolerant living facades (i.e. exterior walls covered with plants) irrigated by non-potable water and maintained through a secure funding strategy, especially for walls facing the public realm.
Potential Innovation: Community garden spaces (indoor or outdoor) and a plan for maintaining them as gardens.

**Principle #5: [AIR QUALITY]** Support a healthy environment by reducing indoor and outdoor air quality impacts (from toxins in building materials, smoking, cruising for parking, and vehicle idling). Building design and materials should address the neighborhood microclimate and fog (i.e., mold preventative strategies). (Note that outdoor air quality will also be enhanced through the “greening” parameters discussed in Principle #4.)

**Parameters:**

a. For residential buildings, apply the Public Health Department’s Article 38 for indoor air quality (enhanced ventilation) and San Francisco Green Building Ordinance’s prohibition of indoor toxins in adhesives and sealants (LEED EQ 4.1), paints and coatings (LEED EQ 4.2), and carpets and floorings (LEED EQ 4.3).

b. For non-residential buildings, comply with additional green building requirements for non-toxic/low-emitting composite wood and agrifiber products (LEED EQ 4.4).

c. Establish the project site as a “no idle” zone, per the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) policy for local governments to identify and enforce no idle zones for vehicles.⁸

d. Include electric charging stations for vehicles and bicycles in garages and on-street parking spaces, and model building electricity capacity and conduit to should maximize EV-ready parking spaces and accommodate adequate energy loads.

e. Include electric plug-in stations at loading areas to eliminate idling of refrigerated and other diesel trucks.

f. Potential Innovation: Incorporate external building materials and technologies (building “skins”) that help reduce air toxins, filter pollutants, and control solar gain.

**Principle #6: [SOLID WASTE]** Achieve the City’s Zero Waste goal⁹ and a litter-free public realm.

**Parameters:**

a. Per City and LEED requirements, provide sufficient space for sorting and storing recycling (including large cardboard and other bulk items), composting, and trash in all buildings and open spaces.

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⁸ This policy is available online at http://www.baaqmd.gov/~/media/Files/Planning%20and%20Research/CEQA/DraftPlanApproachV3_May%202012.axhx.

b. Per current code, accommodate all three waste streams (recycling, composting, and garbage) in any garbage chute system (may be installed as three separate chutes or a single, programmable chute whereby the user selects the appropriate category); provide flexibility for a future that may only include two streams.

c. As part of the required LEED Gold and Silver credit totals, achieve at least two of LEED Materials and Resources points for environmental products regarding raw materials sourcing.

d. Potential Innovation: Install a district-scale (i.e. servicing multiple buildings) pneumatic/vacuum waste system that serves the entire site, with a central collection facility embedded in an accessible garage or ground floor, or as a stand-alone facility.

e. Potential Innovation: Conduct a whole-building life-cycle assessment, as defined by LEED Materials and Resources “Building Life Cycle Impact Reduction” credit Option 4.

f. Potential Innovation: Provide public realm waste bins that accommodate all three waste streams, are easy to use, educate the community, and prevent tampering. These bins could potentially be designed through a design competition.

g. Potential Innovation: Use organic waste in local energy production/district energy center.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC BENEFITS

Principle #1: Accommodate a childcare facility and additional youth-friendly elements within the project.

Parameters:

a. Make space available for at least one childcare facility. Secure a childcare provider tenant serving children from infancy to 5 years old. Develop the space according to State requirements for this age group.

b. Include residential units designed to accommodate in-home childcare.

c. Design childcare facilities to minimize noise impacts on surrounding residential and educational uses.

d. To the extent that City College expresses interest in relocating or expanding the City College Child Development Center to the Balboa Reservoir site, work with City College to explore opportunities to accommodate this request within the new development.

e. Identify additional opportunities and partners for the project to serve youth of all ages, such as by including space for after school programs. Coordinate with City College, other local educational institutions, and community organizations to avoid redundancies.
Principle #2: Maximize active ground-floor uses to activate the public realm, create vibrancy, complement the neighborhood’s existing retail and ground-floor uses, and avoid vacancies within any ground-floor space.

Parameters:

a. According to the San Francisco Planning Department’s guidelines, require ground floor uses, including non-retail uses, which will contribute to an active pedestrian realm. These uses may include childcare, other youth-friendly uses, recreational facilities, arts and cultural facilities, service and social service providers, housing with active entrances, and bicycle storage facilities and/or workshops.

b. Explore including neighborhood-serving retail uses in the project, which could serve new residents, the site’s immediate neighbors, and/or the City College students, faculty and staff, community, and visitors affiliated with other nearby educational institutions. If proposing ground floor retail, developer will be expected to demonstrate that any retail use will complement the current local retail environment without negatively impacting existing retail businesses.

Principle #3: Explore including additional programming and/or amenities designed to enhance quality of life for both new residents and neighbors.

Parameters:

a. Demonstrate an understanding of local social, arts, cultural, educational, transit access, pedestrian safety, and other priorities by proposing programming and/or amenities that will appeal to the broader community and City College affiliates (students and employees), as well as to the development’s new residents. Integrate the contributions of community organizations, educational institutions, and City College students where possible.

b. Demonstrate that the project’s physical design will be conducive to any such proposed programming and/or additional amenities.

c. Consider including additional amenities suggested by members of the community, which thus far have included a large multi-purpose community space, a meeting place for local nonprofits and neighborhood groups, a senior center, ground-level parking, support for City College’s efforts to construct the Performing Arts and Education Center on the adjacent City College-owned property, amenities for college-age adults in addition to youth, ground-floor maker space, view platforms, and a public pool.