

**Mike Davis**  
Executive Director



**United States Golf Association**

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December 14, 2011

The Honorable Edwin M. Lee  
Mayor of San Francisco  
City Hall, Room 200  
1 Dr. Carleton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94012

Re: Sharp Park Ordinance  
File No. 110966: Long-Term Management Agreement with the National Park Service  
for Sharp Park

Dear Mayor Lee:

The United States Golf Association would like to respectfully express its concern over the ordinance that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors recently narrowly adopted to transfer the management of Sharp Park Golf Course to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. The effect of this legislation, as we understand it, would end golf at Sharp Park. This would not only deny a recreational resource for a remarkably diverse population of golfers in the San Francisco area, it would be the demise of one of America's most precious public golf courses.

Since our founding in 1894, the USGA's mission has included preserving the history and traditions of the game of golf, including recognizing the legacy of famous venues and the legendary architects who designed them.

Sharp Park was designed by Alister MacKenzie, who is universally recognized as one of the masters of golf course architecture – truly the Frank Lloyd Wright of golf. San Francisco is one of the few communities in the world that now offers a MacKenzie course to its general public. To lose this treasure would be a significant loss to the game of golf. It would also be the loss of a living, breathing, functioning San Francisco landmark.

For nearly a century, through research, advisory services and other programs, the USGA has advocated a healthy relationship between golf and the environment. The work of the USGA Green Section, established in 1920, demonstrates that golf courses contribute in real and substantive ways to the environment. It is our firm belief that Sharp Park can be managed in an ecologically responsible manner.



We urge you to consider appropriate actions that would allow continuation of the honored tradition of affordable, accessible and environmentally-friendly public golf at Sharp Park.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Davis". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Mike Davis  
Executive Director

cc: Lyn Nelson, Executive Director, Northern California Golf Association  
Frank B. Tatum  
San Francisco Public Golf Alliance