AQUATIC PARK & PIER PROJECT

SAN FRANCISCO MARITIME
NATIONAL PARK ASSOCIATION











Forging the Future of Aquatic Park

Aquatic Park and its iconic pier are the maritime heart and soul of San Francisco. Set on the ancestral lands of the Ramaytush Ohlone, the original peoples of the San Francisco Peninsula, this urban national park is remarkable for its natural beauty, cultural richness, and contrasting historical land uses. Known as a Native American cultural site, it has also served as an industrial hive, military installation and, today, an aquatic recreation wonderland.

Aquatic Park and its neighboring national park, Fort Mason, occupy a special place along the city's waterfront and in its collective consciousness. Free and open to the public, these national parks are used by many different people from a diverse range of ethnic and cultural backgrounds.

Located at the north end of Van Ness Avenue and tucked along the water where Fisherman's Wharf meets Ghirardelli Square, Aquatic Park is one of the few places where people can touch the Bay. Here you can swim, kayak, fish, enjoy the beach, visit historic ships, or simply take in the majestic views to the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz or the city skyline. The park's striking WPA-era Art Deco structures are at once a testament to the city's pride in its public realm and to the need for reinvestment.

The Challenge

Today, San Francisco's historic Aquatic Park is in grave danger, challenged by sea level rise, crumbling infrastructure affecting both of its piers, and inadequate funding for proper upkeep—a challenge echoed at Fort Mason. With federal funding on the horizon for rebuilding infrastructure, now is the time to reimagine how these historic places could be revived to better serve City residents and visitors alike.

The Mission

The Aquatic Park and Pier Project is a community-led initiative operating under the auspices of the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association with the mission of seeing this historic waterfront district and surrounding area realize their full potential.

Our partnership joins together the City and County of San Francisco, the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, the National Parks Conservancy, the National Park Service, and other community groups to raise awareness, to envision a new future and to advance the prospect of government funding.

How can the park become an equitable recreation area for all? How can we rebuild its protective, iconic pier for future generations to enjoy? How can we preserve the character and reveal the storied layers of history that have shaped this remarkable place? How can visitors travel seamlessly along the waterfront to experience the full range of park experiences? How can improvements address 21st century needs? How can the park better connect to nearby Ft. Mason and other parts of the City? Finding answers to these and similar questions are central to our work, but we can't do it alone.

Your Input is Needed

We are currently conducting a **vision study** to imagine the possibilities for Aquatic Park. Your input can help make this park and pier a place that reflects the voices of all San Franciscans and the entire Bay Area.

- Do you have memories of this area? Share your story with us!
- Want to volunteer? We'd love to have your help!
- Questions? Contact us <u>here</u>.

Learn more at: aquaticparkpier.org