

September 14, 2006

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Mayor
City of San Francisco
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
Room 200
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mayor Newsom,

As a civic-minded organization with roots in San Francisco for 60 years, the 49ers were pleased that the City's decision to bid on the 2016 Olympics occurred shortly before the completion of the conceptual design phase of our plans for a new NFL stadium at Candlestick Point. This timing allowed us to assist the City's initial proposal to the U.S. Olympic Committee by modifying certain elements of our stadium plan to accommodate the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and the Football (Soccer) Finals.

I am writing today to respond to your recent letter requesting that we also explore the possibility of incorporating a track into our stadium design that is large enough to host Olympic Track and Field events. This presented a significant design hurdle given the normally incompatible layouts of NFL stadiums and Track and Field venues. Incorporating an Olympic-sized track inside a football stadium would normally push the seating back significantly and thereby negatively impact the sightlines for fans on NFL game days. However, we have worked on this issue with our stadium design partner, HNTB, and the 2016 Bid Committee and have come up with a design that may be able to accommodate your request. A brief overview of our proposal is attached.

We agree with you that hosting the Olympics would be a wonderful opportunity that could provide lasting public benefits for the City and especially the Bayview Hunters Point community. The 49ers want to do whatever we can to move the City's bid forward. So while we may have solved the stadium design hurdles in order to accommodate Olympic events at the planned new stadium, I believe it is important to remind you and the Bid Committee that there is still a significant hurdle to overcome, as we have not yet concluded that the needed mixed-use development plan at Candlestick Point is feasible.

As you know, Candlestick Point is a beautiful but geographically challenging site. Because it is surrounded by the San Francisco Bay on three sides, it has limited space to accommodate the new stadium and parking for our fans, while also incorporating the mixed-use development that is integral to our plan to privately finance this project. Throughout the planning process for the new mixed-use development, we have said that the site must:

- Deliver an unrivaled game day experience for our fans from the moment they arrive at our stadium until after the final snap has occurred; and

- Provide benefits for the surrounding Bayview Hunters Point community and the City of San Francisco.

Our development partner, Lennar Corp., is hard at work to craft such a plan, but as you know, they must first address a number of specific challenges, including transportation and parking issues, before an initial land plan can be presented to the community.

While we remain hopeful that we can overcome these challenges in the coming weeks, we need to be realistic. We understand that the Bid Committee will submit its plans to the USOC in the next week or so, and it is now clear that the Candlestick site plan will not be resolved in that timeframe. Given this timing, it would seem prudent for the Bid Committee to further explore the “Monster Park Reconfiguration” alternative identified by HOK. This could provide a backup plan for the City to host the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, as well as Track and Field, in the event that the new stadium/mixed-use plan does not turn out to be a feasible project.

Accordingly, we would be happy to participate in further meetings between HNTB and the City’s Olympic venue consultants to review potential options for Monster Park for the City to consider as a back-up plan for the Olympic bid. We believe this back-up stadium plan will further underscore the City’s sound planning for its Olympic bid and help realize the City’s goal of hosting the 2016 Summer Games.

Thanks as always for your ongoing support of our project and please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss any of these issues in greater detail.

Best,

John York
Co-Owner
San Francisco 49ers