

**From:** [Amy Meyer](#)  
**To:** [Frank Dean](#)  
**Subject:** West Fort Miley  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 13, 2014 12:51:21 PM

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Dear Frank,

I'd like to develop a strategy with you to make sure this piece of our park is not damaged. Some of its greatest potential protectors are nearby organizations: Friends of Sutro Heights Park, PAR, Friends of Lands End (FOLE), Coalition to Save Ocean Beach, and PFGGNRA. We are not just opposed to the pressure from the VAMC. We use E & W Ft Miley. We were all actively engaged with the designs of the Lands End Lookout and the reshaped, accessible Lands End trails.

Do you know that a few years ago when George Durgerian timidly asked if he could get some help with clearing a half acre of underbrush at the south end of Sutro Heights Park at 48th Ave and this was publicized through these groups, that 40 people showed up the first time and in not-quite-as-large numbers again for four successive times? I am thinking about how we can dramatically change the border appearance of W Ft Miley with local help backing up what has to be done by park crews (that's how it was done with George).

I also see the Pacific Leadership Institute proposal that is being developed by Nina Roberts of SF State University, who is now working with Charles Higgins (formerly Slide Ranch) who heads the Richmond District Neighborhood Center, as being especially helpful at this juncture. Nina is away until August 20, but she gave me the proposal to review. In my personal opinion it is too big for W Ft Miley, but there are elements of it that could significantly enlarge the recreational presence of the ropes course that SFSU has had there for 35 years. Camping is part of the proposal, as is called for in the GMP.

Danny Hountalas has often let us use the Cliff House downstairs room for meetings for the park. Several meetings were held there for the Lands End Lookout. If GGNRA can shape up a clear, transmittable idea of what it sees potentially for W Ft Miley, I bet he'd let us have that room for a neighborhood meeting to tell the public. We can point to the paragraphs in the new GMP about our intentions for Fort Miley and the very good CLR that shows that GGNRA values the area. Such a meeting, and clearing near the fence line, could be a very important in dealing with the threat I see coming down on the W Ft Miley site.

PAR and FOLE still have a case in court because of the way the VAMC has carried out its responsibilities for an LRDP and EIS. The judge who presided over a settlement agreement a couple of years ago saw no reason for us to oppose the large garage that has just been finished. But the VAMC's presently-stated intention is to enlarge the garage to the park boundary and to install the VAMC water tower next to the fence.

Please let me know by meeting, phone, or e-mail what you'd like to do and how we can help.

Thank you,  
Amy