

**EVENT**  
**Sunday, April 9, 2006**

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# **Rally for Healthy Saturdays in GG Park**

## ***Celebration of 39 Years of Car-Free Space and Push to Expand***

*San Francisco* — Park lovers will gather to celebrate 39 years of car-free Sundays in Golden Gate Park, and rally to extend the popular activity to Saturdays. The event is happening Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 2pm in Golden Gate Park, on JFK Drive @ 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Speakers at the rally will include Supervisor Jake McGoldrick, Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi, and representatives from the Sierra Club, SF Bicycle Coalition, Alliance for Golden Gate Park, and SF Tomorrow.

The Healthy Saturdays legislation — which calls for a six-month trial of car-free space on JFK Drive on Saturdays just like on Sundays — will be voted on by the Board of Supervisors' Land Use Committee on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. If it passes, the trial period would begin May 27, 2006.

"People love the magic of Sundays in Golden Gate Park," says David Miles, of the California Outdoor Roller Skating Association, who runs a free skating & dancing area in the Park every Sunday. "For many people, Golden Gate Park is the only place to enjoy a safe, open space to play, exercise, and simply enjoy the outdoors."

With the opening last Fall of the 800-car Concourse garage, people driving to the museums and the Park still have full access during the car-free days. Individuals with disabled placards are also allowed to drive on JFK Drive.

"We need to make sure that Golden Gate Park is safe and accessible for the thousands of people who come out each week to recreate and enjoy the beauty of the Park itself," says Leah Shahum, of the SF Bicycle Coalition. "The Park is one of the few places in the city where it is safe for kids to learn to bike and skate. With disturbing increases in obesity-related illnesses, we need more public places for safe physical activity."

*See photos and background information at [www.sfbike.org/ggp](http://www.sfbike.org/ggp)*