San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail

Site Description for

Crane Cove Park

Location, Ownership, and Management: Crane Cove Park is located in the Dogpatch neighborhood of the City of San Francisco, south of the Chase Center on Illinois Street. The 7-acre park opened in 2020 and is managed by the Port of San Francisco.

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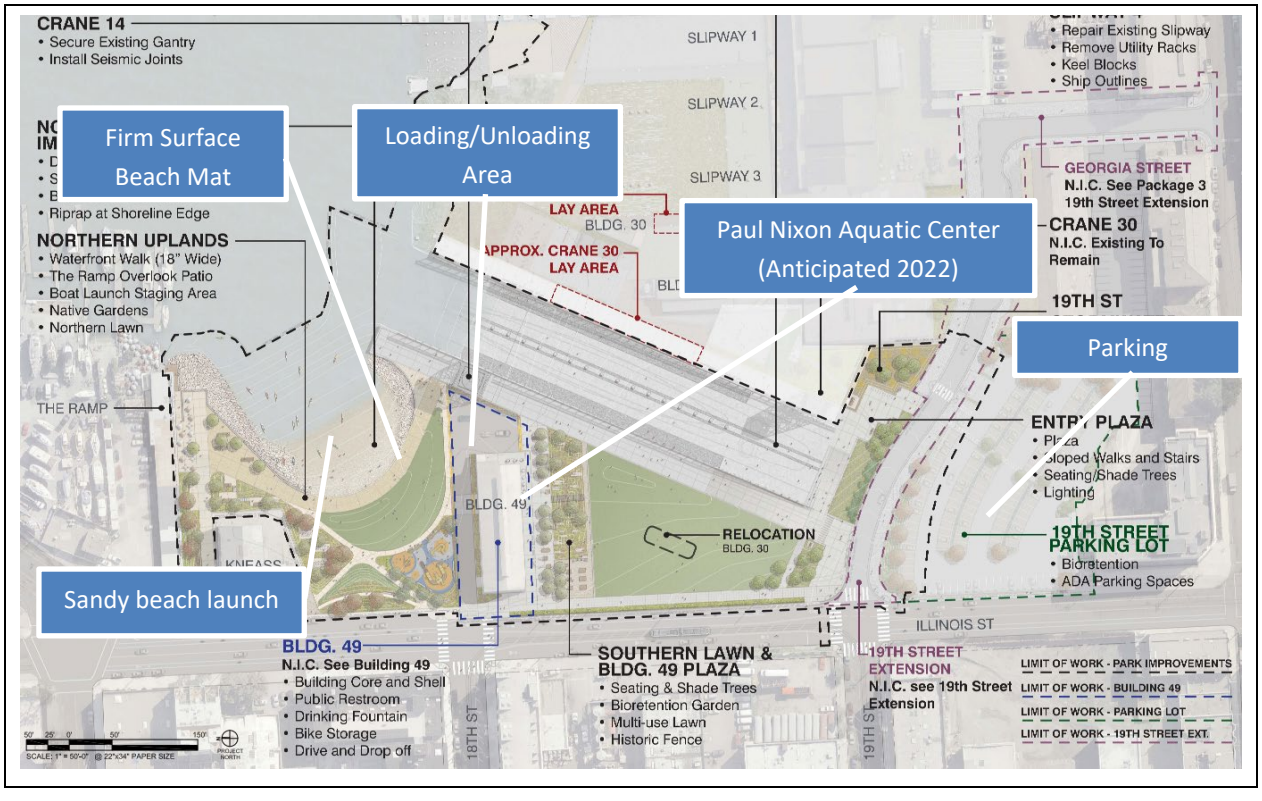
Sandy Beach	Firm Surface Beach Crossing	Future Aquatic Center

Facility Description: Crane Cove Park is a launch and destination for paddlers, providing a convenient access point for exploration of the southern San Francisco waterfront / Blue Greenway. The wide, sandy beach is suitable for lighter watercraft, such as kayaks, canoes, and stand up paddleboards. Boaters may want to bring "boat wheels" (small boat dolly) to help get their boats from the parking lot to the beach, because some of the parking is quite a distance from the beach. A boat drop-off is located adjacent to the beach and craft can be set on the grass lawn for staging prior to a paddle.

Crane Cove Park provides a variety of shoreside facilities, including portable ADA restrooms, trails, bike racks, picnic tables, benches and parking. The primary parking area will be located on 19th Street, which will provide approximately 160 spaces, including van accessible ADA spaces. Parking is also available on surrounding neighborhood streets.

Vicinity Map

Site Map



Other Identifying or General Information:

Site ID: SF18 In WT Plan: No Existing or Planned: Existing Ownership: Public County: San Francisco Geo-Region: Southern San Francisco Waterfront SF Bay Plan Region: Central Bay Launch or Destination: Launch	Home of a Club: Yes Used by a Program that Assists Persons with Disabilities: No Appreciated for Windy Conditions: No Near Food or Drink: Yes, The Ramp restaurant is located adjacent to the north of the beach and there are several other restaurants and cafes within short walking distance.

Proximity to Other Sites: The closest existing site to the north is Pier 52 Boat Launch, which located 0.5 miles north of Crane Cove and has a high freeboard dock with a low-freeboard attachment and an accessible gangway. Mission Creek (SF15), which has a low-float dock and accessible gangway is located 1.75 miles to the north. Designated Water Trail site Islais Creek is approximately 2 miles to the south; it provides a gravel beach and a high-freeboard dock with ADA gangway. The beach and kayak-in campground at Candlestick Point State Recreation Area is approximately 5 miles to the south.

The Mission Bay development is planned to provide a variety of access improvements for non-motorized small boats at China Basin (1 mile north of the site) and at India Basin Shoreline Park (3 miles south).

Description of Launch/Landing:

Fixed Dock/Pier Launch/Landing: No Float: No Transfer/Launch Assistance System: No Gangway: No Boat/Trailer Ramp: No Mudflats Affect Site Usability: No Beach Wheelchair Available: No	Beach: Yes Firm-Surface Beach Crossing: Yes Fee for Launch or Parking: No fee for launch; use of parking lot will require payment but street parking is free. Restrictions: The park is open daily from 6am to 10pm. Water Entry Path: No

Site Appears to be Suitable For:

Kayak: Yes Windsurfer: No Kiteboard: No Whaleboat: No Stand Up Paddleboard: Yes	Canoe: Yes Outrigger Canoe: Yes Sculling: Yes Rowboat/Dinghy: No Dragonboat: No
Notes: The beach is suitable for hand-carried boat launch, such as kayaks, SUPs, and canoes.	

Transportation and Parking:

General Spaces (number): 40 Duration (hours): To be determined Overnight Parking Possibly Allowed: No Loading/Unloading Area: Yes. A boat drop off is located adjacent to the beach. Cars can pull down the drive, unload craft onto the lawn or cement pad.	Bay Trail: Yes Public Transportation: Crane Cove Park is accessible from a variety of public transportation options, including the T-Line that runs along 3rd Street and has a stop a half block from the park. Additionally, the Bay Trail runs through the site.

Path of Travel:

Distance to Launch from Parking Area (feet): 800
Distance to Launch from ADA Parking (feet): 800
Distance to Launch from ADA Restrooms (feet): 200
Distance from ADA Restrooms to ADA Parking (feet): 400
Path of Travel Exists: Yes

Paved paths throughout the park have been designed for accessiblity

Other Site Amenities:

Total Restrooms: 4 Total ADA Restrooms: 2 Restroom Description: Portable restrooms currently provided. Formal restrooms will be provided in Building 49 when it is retrofitted.	Boat Washing: No Rigging/Staging Area: Yes Picnic Tables: Yes Benches: Yes BBQ: Yes Boat Storage: No

Building 49 is anticipated to be retrofitted to include an aquatic center, restrooms, café and/or other concessionaires in 2022. The boating center would provide programming, rentals, and other services to support public access to the water.

Overnight Accommodations:

Hotel: Yes	Hostel: No	Ship: No	Camping: No	Other: No
Accommodations Description: There are several hotels within two miles of Crane Cove Park. The kayak-in campground at Candlestick Point State Recreation Area is located 5 miles south.				

Additional Notes Related to Accessibility:

Crane Cove Park has been designed to provide a high quality, accessible experience. The park provides ADA access to and across the sandy beach, with firm surface mats placed across the sand to provide ADA access to the high tide line. Upland accessible features include portable restrooms, trails, and picnic tables.

Additional Notes on Use of Site (Boating and Non-Boating) and Existing and Planned Management:

Crane Cove Park features a wide sandy beach with an accessible firm surface path that runs from the top of the beach to the high tide line. The area also contains benches and a segment of the Bay Trail/Blue Greenway, trash/recycling receptacles, and educational signs.

The park was completed in Fall 2020 so use is relatively new. The beach launch has been popular with a variety of recreational boaters, particularly kayakers and paddleboarders. The Dogpatch Paddle Club formed after the park opened and has over 600 members. Estimated use is 20-40 paddlers on nice weekends and 5-10 during weekdays.

Other Existing or Anticipated Water Trail-Related Issues and Opportunities:

There are several restaurants and cafes within easy walking distance of the park, including The Ramp restaurant located adjacent to the north end of the park.

Safety and Security, including Parking:

Marine industrial activities operate near Crane Cove Park. Small boat operators should maintain a minimum 300-foot buffer from the dry docks and maritime activites that occur to the east of the beach. The Port of San Francisco has placed bouys and boaters are required to stay on the shoreside of these markers. Boaters also need to be aware when other recreational boats, barges, and tugboats are in transit. Ships need lots of room to maneuver and long distances to stop. On large vessels, propeller wash can cause dangerous, unstable conditions, even at a distance.

During the wet weather season, when heavy rain can cause runoff that may contain higher levels of bacteria, the PUC monitors beaches where people may contact Bay water to determine whether bacterial water quality poses a health risk. In some cases, notices are posted and/or beaches are closed based on those reports. More information about that program is available at at https://sfwater.org/sapps/beachesandbay.html.

SMALL CRAFT PLEASE STAY 300' FROM PIERS & DRYDOCKS

Wildlife and Habitat Considerations:

Crane Cove Park is located in a densly urban area of San Francisco with a long history of industrial disturbance. Crane Cove Park has installed native landscaping and tidepool features to provide urban habitat, but the park is surrounded by urban uses so no sensitive terrestrial habitats are known occur within the vicinity of the site. No nesting or roosting locations or sensitive aquatic habitats are known to occur in the vicinity of the site.

Education, Outreach, and Stewardship, Including Signage:

Crane Cove Park includes a variety of historic structures and several interpretive panels decribing the site's maritime history. One of the historic structures is planned to become a community boathouse that would provide interpretive boating and other education programs.

Accessibility of Sites within the Southern San Francisco Waterfront Geo-Region:

There are seven potential Water Trail sites identified within this geo-region: Pier 40 (South Beach Harbor), Pier 52 Boat Launch, Crane Cove Park, Mission Creek, Islais Creek, India Basin Shoreline Park, and Candlestick Point State Recreation Area. Of these, only India Basin and Candlestick Point do not have some sort of accessible launch/landing facilities.

The experiences that are available in the Southern San Francisco Waterfront Geo-Region are urban. Several sites have benefitted from the commitment of the Port of San Francisco to improved access to the public along the waterfront. As a result, there are several sites that offer a variety of accessible features. Pier 52 Boat Launch offers a low-freeboard dock, transfer system, accessible parking, and a loading and unloading area. Mission Creek provides an accessible gangway to a low-freeboard dock, as well as accessible restrooms. South Beach Harbor has ADA compliant gangways and high-freeboard docks, as well as accessible parking. The Bay Area Association of Disabled Sailors (BAADS) serves approximately 50 participants each weekend at Pier 40. BAADS provide lessons and/or equipment for dinghy and keelboat sailing for people with disabilities and a Veterans Sailing Program for all veterans.