

SUPERVISOR CARMEN CHU

District 4 • Outer Sunset • Parkside



March 2010



Message from the Supervisor

As a District Supervisor, it goes without saying that my responsibility to the community is to listen to your concerns and suggestions for how to improve our neighborhood. In recent months, many constituents have contacted our office with a variety of concerns about a proposal for a Medical Cannabis Dispensary (MCD) to occupy 2139 Taraval Street (between 31st & 32nd Ave).

The City's Planning Code currently does not allow an MCD to be located within 1,000 feet from an elementary or secondary school (public or private), or a recreation building that primarily serves persons under 18 years of age. However, even if the proposed site meets the geographic restrictions, there are serious concerns to consider. Taraval Street is a major transportation thoroughfare for residents where many youth travel to and from school and extra-curricular activities everyday (especially with the presence of the L-Taraval line). All along Taraval we find youth-oriented resources including art, music or tutoring establishments, parks and playgrounds, preschools and daycare centers, the Parkside library and schools close-by. Many constituents have also expressed concerns about the impact to neighborhood public safety and to recent progress made by local merchants to create a vibrant and more inviting neighborhood commercial corridor.

The project sponsors are currently in the middle of the application process for the permit. While the project is not yet approved, I want to stress how important it is to have your involvement. **Ultimately, the Planning Commission will decide whether to grant a permit for the MCD and in making this decision, the Planning Commission heavily considers local neighborhood feedback and public testimony.**

Here is how you can weigh in on this permit application and proposal. Residents and community stakeholders can:

- Attend a Planning Commission hearing at City Hall and speak during public comment period. The hearing has been postponed to a to-be-determined date in **April**. (Please call our office if you'd like more information on the hearing time – 415-554-7460).
- Write a letter / email the Planning Commission. Address: 1650 Mission, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94103. Emails can be sent to: Cecilia.Jaroslowsky@sfgov.org. Planning Commission members include: Ron Miguel (President), Christina Olague (Vice-President), Michael J. Antonini, Gwyneth Borden, William L. Lee, Kathrin Moore, Hisashi Sugaya.
- Gather signatures from concerned district residents or merchants in a neighborhood petition and send to the Planning Commission prior to the hearing. You can also attend the hearing and bring your petitions.

If you would like more information regarding the proposed cannabis dispensary at 2139 Taraval Street, you can contact:

- Planning Department, Cecilia Jaroslowsky – Cecilia.Jaroslowsky@sfgov.org or (415) 558-6348
- Office of Supervisor Carmen Chu – chustaff@sfgov.org or (415) 554-7460

Office of Supervisor Carmen Chu

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: (415) 554-7460 Fax: (415) 554-7432 Email: chustaff@sfgov.org
Legislative Aides: Katy Tang & Cammy Blackstone

SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT REDESIGN

The Board of Education is scheduled to take action on the new school assignment proposal at its meeting on Tuesday, March 9th. The proposal to be voted on would remove the current criteria used to assign students to schools and use a different set of preferences. The list of preferences also differs for the elementary, middle and high school levels.

For public elementary school admissions, students will be assigned to schools based on: 1) whether an older sibling is enrolled and also attending the school; 2) the attendance area of a pre-kindergarten program; 3) census tract information on scholastic achievement levels; 4) where a student lives relative to the attendance area; and 5) whether a student lives in a densely populated attendance area that does not have sufficient capacity to accommodate all students living in that attendance area.

At the middle school level, students will be pre-assigned to a school based on where they attended elementary school, unless parents choose to select another school. The high school student assignment process will no longer include a local preference, but will instead look at 1) whether an older sibling is enrolled and also attending the school; and 2) census tract information on scholastic achievement levels. City-wide schools such as Alice Fong Yu and Lawton will continue with the same application process without changes.

If you are interested in providing feedback on this new proposal, you can attend the Board of Education meeting on **Tuesday, March 9th @ 6:00PM at 555 Franklin Street, 1st floor, Breyer Board Meeting Room**. For more information on the student assignment redesign, you can visit the School District's website at www.sfusd.edu or contact our office.

SF REC ONLINE

If you're looking for activities for yourself or children for this spring or summer, check out www.SFRecOnline.org. Signups for the 2010 spring programs begin March 6. Summer Camp Registration begins March 20.

19TH AVENUE CORRIDOR STUDY

Part of the development plan for ParkMerced necessitated a traffic study for 19th Avenue. That study has been completed and is available at <http://www.sf-planning.org/index.aspx?page+1570>. Public comment on the study will be taken until March 12. If you have any questions about the ParkMerced project or the 19th Avenue corridor study, you may call Rick Cooper at 415-575-9027.

CHIEF GASCON MEETING

Last month, Supervisor Chu hosted a community meeting with Chief George Gascon to introduce him to Sunset residents. Over 60 people came to Sunset Recreation Center to share their public safety concerns with the new chief. The chief discussed the importance of community policing, and praised the officers of Taraval Station for their good work in the District. Many of the residents were concerned with the recent homicides in the District, which Chief Gascon described as isolated, targeted incidents. Chief Gascon also discussed his desire to provide tasers for the department, the necessity of structurally improving the Hall of Justice, the increase in property crimes associated with the operation of Medicinal Cannabis Dispensaries and the new COMPSTAT evaluation meetings. COMPSTAT, which is a monthly performance review of each station, is open to the public. The next COMPSTAT meeting for the Taraval Station is **March 17, 10:00am at the Scottish Rite Center**.



SUNSET MONTH AT FRIENDS OF THE URBAN FOREST

Don't forget that the Friends of the Urban Forest is devoting the entire month of May to projects in the Sunset District. For one month, every department of the organization will be working to promote greening in the district by identifying neighbors who want to plant trees in front of their residences, dispatching their "tree care" team to care for many of the nearly 4,000 trees that FUF has already planted in the Sunset over the years, and conducting their youth programming in the neighborhood. If you are interested in getting a tree in front of your residence during "Sunset Month" at FUF, the package is \$75 per tree and includes: the cutting and removal of concrete, city permitting, an arborist recommendation for species selection, the tree itself, the planting, all related arbor ties and stakes, as well as 18-months of arborist led tree-care. The cost of purchasing a tree or removing pavement often far exceeds this program price alone. If you want to participate in a May planting, fill out the two forms located on www.fuf.net or contact greg@fuf.net by the beginning of April.



More FUF news: Please join Supervisor Carmen Chu and Friends of the Urban Forest for a special "Tree Care Day" on **Saturday, March 13**. This volunteer event is to care for the trees planted in July of 2008, and is the first "FUF Tree Care" event of 2010. Register in advance by calling (415) 561-6890 x102. Meet at the **Sunset Strip Café**, 2605 Judah @31st at 9:00am. Supplies provided.

WE NEED A DISTRICT 4 REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE!



The San Francisco County Transportation Authority is looking for a few good people to apply for the San Francisco County Transportation Authority's Citizens Advisory Committee! Interested in the Transbay Terminal? Central Subway? Safer streets and sidewalks? Bike lanes? Over the past decade the CAC has helped the Authority Board guide the investment of nearly \$1 billion in transportation funds into projects that improve mobility for all.

Your voice is needed on the CAC. There are currently vacancies on the Authority's Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). The Plans & Programs Committee will be considering the incumbent(s) and applicants to fill these vacancies by March. We are looking for diversity and district representation for District 4.

Applicants are required to attend one of the Authority's Plans and Programs Committee meetings to speak on their own behalf. Note that appearing before the committee is a prerequisite for appointment, though not a guarantee. The Committee will then make recommendations for appointments to the full Authority Board of Commissioners, which makes the final decision. The Authority has appointed a CAC consisting of 11 members representing a broad spectrum of transportation and community concerns. The CAC's mission is to assist the Authority by reflecting community values in the development of the mission and programs of the Authority; and communicating information about the Authority's mission and programs back to the community. The CAC accomplishes this mission by providing the Commissioners and staff of the Authority with input on nearly all matters that go before the Authority Board and its standing committees. The CAC also assists in publicizing transportation projects and plans to neighborhoods, and solicits the neighborhoods input for feedback to the Authority.

Applications are due **Wednesday, March 17, 2010**. The Plans & Programs Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, **March 23 at 10:30 a.m. at City Hall, Room 263**. Visit www.sfcta.org/cac to download an application, or contact the Authority at 415.522.4800

SUPERVISOR CHU HONORS LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL COACH: **KENYATTA SCOTT**

At the February 23 Board of Supervisors meeting Supervisor Carmen Chu gave a special commendation to teacher and athletic director Kenya Scott of Abraham Lincoln High School.



"The heart of every community is the youth," said Supervisor Chu. "We are lucky in the Sunset District to have Mr. Scott at Lincoln High School, encouraging and mentoring our young people. With all Kenya does, as athletic director, coach and algebra teacher, it is my honor to recognize him today."

Kenyatta Smith teaches Advanced Algebra, is head coach of the Varsity Soccer team and athletic director for the entire school.

"With a student body of 2300 and more than 25 teams to schedule, the job of athletic director can be an administrative juggling act," said Principal Barnaby Payne, "Kenyatta's energy and commitment to the students is key to the success of the program."

A native of Richland, Mississippi, Kenya Scott has been at Abraham Lincoln High School since 2002, and was recently named "Athletic Director of the Year."

LUNAR NEW YEAR EVENTS



Lunar New Year is always a busy time, and the Year of the Tiger has been eventful from the get-go. Supervisor Chu kicked the off the festive season with a merchant walk in the Sunset. Joined by Captain Denise Schmitt of Taraval Station and David Chan of Safety Awareness for Everyone (S.A.F.E.), Supervisor Chu visited many stores reminding merchants and residents to be safe and cautious during the New Year events, and passed out safety tips. Supervisor Chu celebrated the Year of the Tiger at the Botanical Gardens event, the San Francisco Zoo, and San Francisco's Lunar New Year Parade - the largest Lunar New Year parade in the country. Our office wishes you all a healthy and prosperous New Year!



REMEMBERING PLAYLAND AT THE BEACH



A new documentary, "Remembering Playland," will premiere at the Balboa Theater in San Francisco on Tuesday, **March 16th**. This is a full-length documentary by Tom Wyrsh about San Francisco's famous 10-acre seaside amusement park, Playland at the Beach. Located next to Ocean Beach, it was torn down in 1972 to make way for a condominium development. Gone now for more than 3 decades, it remains one of the city's most revered lost treasures. Go back in time to see Laffing Sal, the Fun House, the Carousel, the Big Dipper, the Diving Bell, Dark Mystery, Limbo, Fun-tier Town, and much more, all through the eyes of the people that were there. The first and only documentary ever made about Playland.

Balboa Theater, 3630 Balboa Street, San Francisco. 415-221-8184.
Cost is \$6.50 to \$9.

Additional information and pre-ticket sales: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/100972>

SUNDAY STREETS RETURNS

Sunday Streets is coming back! After a very successful 2009 season, San Francisco's Sunday Streets will return with more events in 2010. The first route of the season will be March 14 along the Embarcadero. Sunday Streets returns to the Sunset District along the Great Highway on April 11, World Health Day. For more information and volunteer opportunities check out: <http://sundaystreetsf.com/>



Here's a list of the complete season:

- **March 14:** Embarcadero, starting at Fisherman's Wharf and PIER 39, south to China Basin and Terry Francois Blvd.
- **April 11:** Along the Great Highway, coinciding with World Health Day's "1,000 Cities, 1,000 Lives" international event, as one of thousands of cities hosting simultaneous car-free events worldwide.
- **April 18:** Bayview, along 3rd Street from King and 4th (Caltrain Station) to Bayview Playground.
- **May 23:** Bayview, in conjunction with the 3rd Street Corridor Project and Bayview Merchant's Association's "3rd Street Festival."
- **June 20:** Mission, along Valencia and 24th Streets.
- **July 11:** Mission.
- **August 22:** Great Highway/Golden Gate Park.
- **September 19:** NEW: Western Addition, exact location TBD.
- **October 24:** NEW Civic Center/Tenderloin, exact location TBD.

DISTRICT 4 PARK IMPROVEMENTS

New benches at Parkside: Supervisor Chu visited with the several neighborhood groups about Recreation and Park Department facilities. Working with the Rec & Park Department, we are proud to be able to provide new benches around the tennis and basketball courts, in addition to benches for spectators around the baseball diamond! If you are interested in honoring a loved one with a plaque on one of the new benches, contact Donalda Watson-Walkinshaw, Associate Director of Membership at San Francisco Parks Trust, Phone: 415.750.5443 donalda@sfmt.org



MERCHANT SPOTLIGHT: DOUG MARSCHKE

Co-Owner of The Taco Shop @ Underdog's
1824 Irving Street (between 19th & 20th Ave)
(415) 566-8700 | www.tacoshopssf.com



If he's not too busy traveling around the world or brushing elbows with celebrities like Rose McGowan or Johnny Depp on the red carpet, you can find Doug Marschke at The Taco Shop @ Underdog's on Irving Street. Not only has Doug taken leadership over filling the void in a previously taco-dry neighborhood – he is also currently the President of the Outer Sunset Merchant and Professional Association (OSMPA) and working to help tourists and even San Franciscans discover what he calls a “secret neighborhood.”

While living in the Outer Sunset, Doug saw a changing district with an influx of young professionals such as himself.

“The Outer Sunset has been like a sub-group – people don't really know what's out there, which is unfortunate,” Doug said.

With that in mind and as head of OSMPA, Doug has set out to make the neighborhood more visible and works with other merchants on Irving Street to develop ideas for a cleaner, more attractive and cohesive neighborhood. As if Doug didn't have enough on his plate as co-owner of The Taco Shop and President of the merchants association, he also owns a consulting company that provides high-end network consulting and training – and which also helps him rack up at least 125,000 miles in the sky per year. He also runs a movie production company and recently returned from Africa after filming a comedy called Mad Cow. Doug is slated for his fourth year on the red carpet at the Cannes Film Festival in France in May, where Mad Cow will premiere.

Incentives are aplenty to visit the Taco Shop @ Underdogs, including the opportunity to ask Doug what it was like to chat with Francis Ford Coppola and Quentin Tarantino last year at Cannes, or simply to try the Taco Shop's signature item: the Baja fish taco. Doug recommends getting it made “Nick's Way,” which entails two tortillas (one soft and one grilled), guacamole, pinto beans and cheese. Nick Fasanella is co-owner of the Taco Shop and apparently doesn't even like the Baja fish taco “Nick's Way.” Either way, we encourage you to try it.

Doug can be reached at: doug@tacoshopssf.com



SATURDAY MARCH 20 2010

11:00AM - 4:00 PM

ST. STEPHEN PARISH CENTER • 473 EUCALYPTUS DRIVE, SF



FREE CONE DAY!

To benefit the SFRPD Youth Scholarship Fund and GGP Nursery

If you're available...

Scoopers and site team leaders (and volunteers to canvas the long lines; give out information) are needed for Ben & Jerry's annual, world-wide **"Free Cone Day" Tuesday, March 23**, any time between 10am and 9pm (2 hour or more shifts; ages 15 and up; event runs from 12-8pm).

You get a free B&J's t-shirt and free ice cream. Locations are the Haight/Ashbury store, the store in the basement of Macy's (Union Sq.) and the Ben and Jerry's at the Argonaut Hotel. We hope to have entertainers, and, just basically a festive atmosphere. Coordinators are currently working on getting celebrity scoopers, which could include Ben and Jerry themselves (of Ben & Jerry's). If you're available and want to participate, call 831-6334 or email ramona.mcgary@sfgov.org for a slot.

CENSUS 2010

The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States, and is required by the Constitution to take place every 10 years. The 2010 Census will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds each year for things like:

- Hospitals
- Job training centers
- Schools
- Senior centers
- Bridges, tunnels and other-public works projects
- Emergency services

Why the Census is important:

According to a 2007 Social Compact Economic Drill Down Study conducted on behalf of our city, San Francisco's undercount in the 2000 Census was estimated to be more than 100,000. Most of the undercount was with hard-to-count populations, including the homeless, children, renters, immigrants, monolingual, and linguistically, socially or economically isolated. The estimated undercount translates to a loss of over \$29 million in funding per year for the City (over the past decade, a loss of over \$291 million).

The data collected by the census also help determine the number of seats your state has in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The image shows a sample of the 2010 Census form. It includes instructions for how to fill out the form, such as using a blue or black pen and counting everyone living in the household on April 1, 2010. The form also contains several questions, including: 1. How many people were living or staying in this house, apartment, or mobile home on April 1, 2010? 2. Were there any additional people staying here April 1, 2010 that you did not include in Question 1? 3. Is this house, apartment, or mobile home... 4. What is your telephone number? 5. Please provide information for each person living here. 6. What is Person 1's sex? 7. What is Person 1's age and what is Person 1's date of birth? 8. Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin? 9. What is Person 1's race? 10. Does Person 1 sometimes live or stay somewhere else?

In March of 2010, census forms will be delivered to every residence in the United States and Puerto Rico. When you receive yours, just answer the **10 short questions** and then mail the form back in the postage-paid envelope provided. If you don't mail the form back, you may receive a visit from a census taker, who will ask you the questions from the form.

The majority of the country will receive English-only materials. Households in areas with high concentrations of Spanish-speaking residents may receive a bilingual (English/Spanish) form. Any personal data you provide is protected under federal law.

Supervisor Chu will be providing residents with information on the 2010 Census on **Saturday, March 20th**
11:30am – 1:00pm @ Noriega Safeway at 30th Ave
1:30pm – 3:00pm @ Irving Street between 19th – 20th Ave

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, March 4

4pm to 7pm

CIVIC CENTER

Join the "Rally for California's Future" as students, parents, educators and other school workers join with social service providers, retirees, unionists and friends and allies. Protest cuts to funding for schools and social services. Demand full funding.

Saturday, March 6

10:00am – 3:00pm

Concourse Exhibition Center

8th & Brannan Streets

Family Summer Resource Fair

Over 200 exhibitors with info of summer activities for children, youth and families. More details at www.sfkids.org

Saturday, March 6

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

30th Annual St. Patrick's Dinner and Concert at St. Cecilia's

For tickets, call Terry or Mary McHugh at (415) 716-7906.

Wednesday, March 10

6:00pm – 7:30pm

West Sunset Playground Renovation

Public Community Meeting

AP Giannini Middle School Library

3151 Ortega St.

Saturday, March 13

9:00am – 1:00pm

Friends of the Urban Forest Tree Care Day: help maintain the trees planted in July of 2008, between 32ⁿ-35th Aves, and Lawton and Lincoln. Kick off at Sunset Strip Café, 2605 Judah @31st RSVP (415) 561-6890 x102

Saturday, March 13

11:30am

St. Patrick's Day Parade

Market & 3rd Streets

Sunday, March 14

10:00am – 6:00pm

Java Beach at the Zoo's presents a

St. Patrick's Day Block Party!!

45th Avenue between Wawona St and Sloat Blvd

Tuesday, March 16

7:00pm

Capt. Schmitt's Public Safety Meeting

Taraval Police Station - 2345 24th Ave

Wednesday, March 17

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Saturday, March 20

10 am

MTA budget townhall

1 South Van Ness, 2nd floor atrium

Saturday, March 20

1:00pm – 3:00pm

Free Property Management Seminar

For home and rental property owners

Taraval Police Station

For info & rsvp call 415-255-2288

Saturday, March 20

11:00am – 4:00pm

St. Stephens - 473 Eucalyptus

2nd annual YMCA Craft Faire

Over 50 local artists will display their wares, including: photography, jewelry, fine art, books, and music. YMCA chefs will be whipping up delectable delicacies in Cafe de Paris.

For questions, contact our office at (415) 554-7460 or chustaff@sfgov.org
You can also view our newsletters and obtain more updated information on upcoming community events at www.sfbos.org/chu

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