

# SUPERVISOR CARMEN CHU

District 4 • Sunset • Parkside

May 2010

## MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERVISOR

Changes are on the way with MUNI. The St. Francis Circle MUNI project will begin this month, which will affect the K and M light rail lines. The replacement of tracks and other improvements at St. Francis Circle are set to start on Monday, May 17 and conclude in late summer.



On May 8 and 9, and then again from May 17 through the duration of construction, the M Ocean View rail line will be suspended. The K Ingleside rail line between 14th Avenue and Balboa Park Station will also be suspended, although service will continue from Downtown to West Portal Station. Service in the Metro subway will be maintained at current levels during commuting hours.

While construction is in progress, service between West Portal Station and Balboa Park Station will be provided by special buses that will be routed around the construction area. Customers need to take any K, L or S train and transfer from rail to bus at West Portal Station in order to reach destinations on the K and M lines.

Details of the changes were explained at a community meeting on April 29 at West Portal Lutheran, and there is another upcoming community meeting on **Wednesday, May 12 at West Portal Elementary School (5 Lennox Way) from 7:00– 9:00pm.**

In addition to the St. Francis Circle work, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) will implement schedule changes to bus routes and rail lines effective **May 8**. These changes may include reducing frequencies or hours of operation.

For information on how these changes will affect you, visit <http://www.sfmta.com/cms/malerts/MunischedulechangesMay82010.htm>

As always, if you have any questions regarding MUNI or anything else, please feel free to call our office at (415)554-7460.

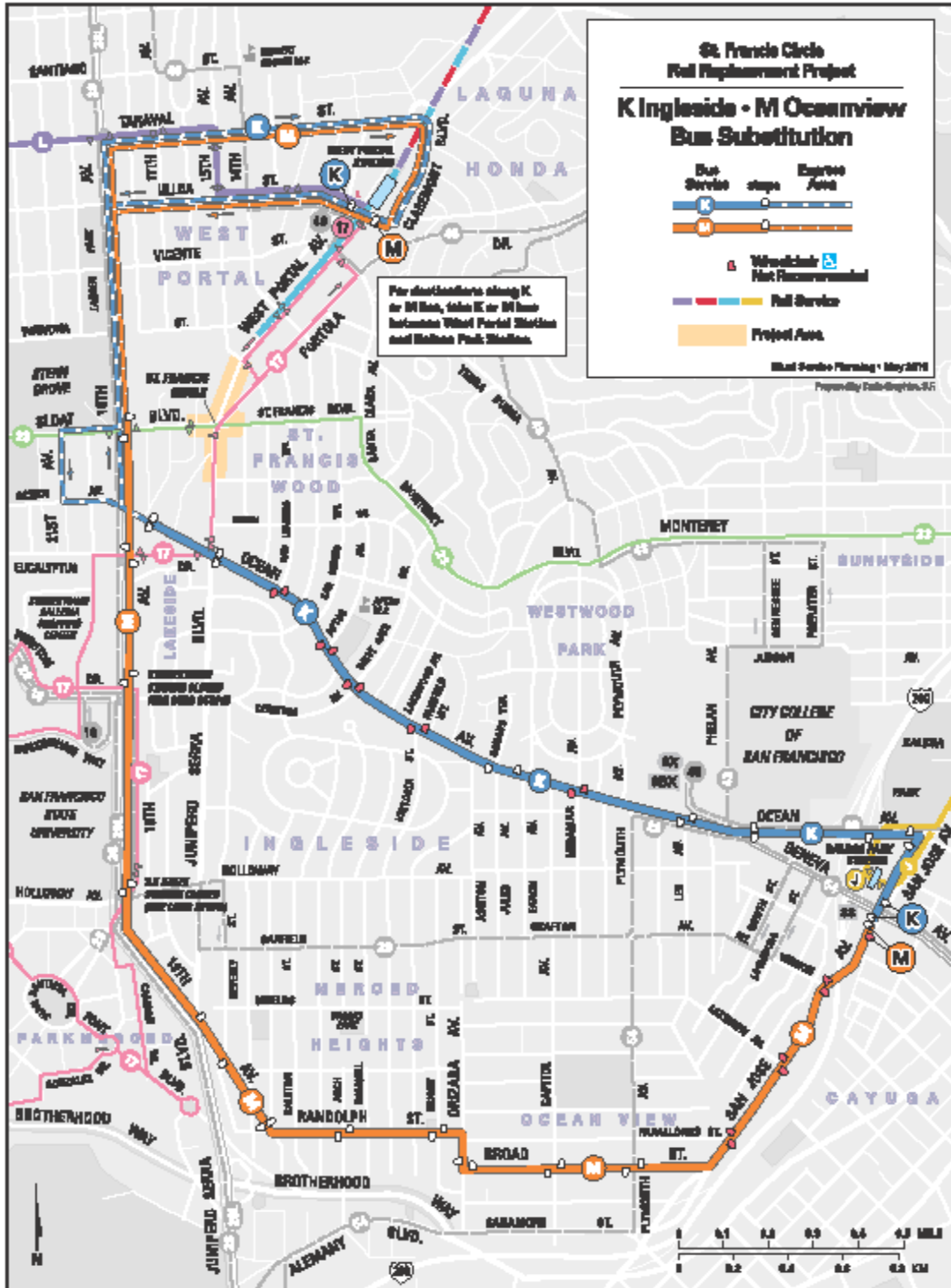
### Office of Supervisor Carmen Chu

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# ST. FRANCIS CIRCLE RAIL REPLACEMENT PROJECT BUS SUBSTITUTION FOR K-INGLESIDE AND M-OCEANVIEW LINES

map also available at:

<http://www.sfmta.com/cms/mproj/St.FrancisCircleProject.htm>



## IMPORTANT NOTICE – YOUR INPUT IS CRUCIAL

The Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing and making a decision on the application for the Medicinal Cannabis Dispensary proposed for 2139 Taraval Street on **Thursday, May 20**. The hearing is at City Hall, room 400 at 1:30pm.

Please note that the meeting begins at 1:30 pm, but the discussion and action to be taken on this item may not begin until later in the meeting. The date and agenda for the hearing is subject to change. Please contact our office to confirm the meeting information as the hearing date approaches. If you have any questions or concerns about the project, please call us at (415)554-7460 or email us at [chustaff@sfgov.org](mailto:chustaff@sfgov.org)

### LARSEN PARK PLANNING MEETING

One of the most frequent questions to our office is: “Whatever happened to the jet at Larsen?” Many people still refer to Larsen Park as simply “the airplane park” and have great memories of climbing the old jet, imaginations running wild.

For nearly 50 years, a succession of military airplanes, one at a time, were parked at 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Vicente as play structures for children. The last plane, a 1950s era Vought F-8 Crusader, was removed in the early '90s due to concerns related to its lead paint. Since then, a very modest swing structure has taken its place.

This small play area, less than 2000 square feet, is often utilized by neighborhood children and the younger siblings of the kids involved in sports on the adjoining playfields.

Many residents know that the existing area would benefit immensely from a renovation. Some residents have even suggested that we work to bring back a plane or a structure that pays homage to the planes that have entertained thousands of Sunset and Parkside children for years.



One of our largest challenges is funding. To that end, our office is working with the Neighborhood Parks Council and Recreation & Park Department to kick off a community brainstorming session on **June 16 at 6:30pm at the Sava Pool Community Room**. If you are interested in participating, please call our office at 415-554-7460.



Carl Larsen donated the land that would become Larsen Park "to the city of San Francisco for park pleasure purposes", as it says on the memorial plaque at 19<sup>th</sup> & Ulloa. While many San Franciscans are able to utilize the athletic fields or it is time to work on improving the play structure at Larsen for our youngest residents.

For more information about Mr. Larsen and the creation of Larsen

Park, read Lori Ungaretti's article: <http://www.outsidelands.org/carl-larsen.php>

## SUNDAY (SOGGY) STREETS

Sunday Streets came to the Great Highway on April 11, but the weather did not cooperate. Thanks to the few, the wet and the brave who came out. Sunday Streets returns to the Great Highway on August 22, and details for Sunday Streets events are available here: [www.sundaystreetsf.com](http://www.sundaystreetsf.com)





## BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY



Sporting a fuzzy, white, custom-designed helmet by Andy Thornley of the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, Supervisor Chu rode with over 120 students from Sunset Elementary School for Bike to School Day on April 15th. The number of students participating in Bike to School Day doubled from the inaugural event last year, and Principal Sophie Lee acknowledged what a great community building activity it has become.

"Last year was just more of a first annual event riding to school, and this year it's about more than riding to school," said Principal Lee. "It's our community, it's about helping the environment, and it's about getting kids to exercise and save on pollution."

Following the ride to Sunset Elementary School, which began at the Sunset Recreation Center, Supervisor Chu joined students and parents at the schoolyard and presented Principal Lee with an award for encouraging safe routes to school so that students can feel safe walking and biking everyday.

Over 30 schools participated in Bike to School Day throughout the city, and we would like to acknowledge Jason Serafino-Agar from San Francisco Bicycle Coalition for organizing the great community-building event.



## NEW BANNERS FOR IRVING STREET



Supervisor Chu joined the Outer Sunset Merchants & Professional Association on April 13th as a banner was hoisted up by 19th Ave and Irving Street. As part of their efforts to let more residents know of this wonderful neighborhood merchant area, the Outer Sunset Merchants have installed several banners throughout Irving Street between 19th Ave - 22nd Ave. Members of the merchant association worked together to

develop a design for the banners. Look out for the banners the next time you're eating or shopping on Irving Street!

## FRANCIS SCOTT KEY STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT CITY GOVERNMENT

Third grade students from Francis Scott Key Elementary School had the opportunity to learn about city government with a lesson taught by Supervisor Chu on April 16th. Students from Ms. Yackzan, Ms. Tom, Mr. Dunne, and Ms. Ling's classes discussed how ideas that stem from community problems can result in new laws being passed, and how Francis Scott Key's own student body council functions similar to the Board of Supervisors for San Francisco. The students asked great questions, and came up with their own ideas for solving issues such as preventing bully behavior at school.



### GET THE LATEST FROM SUPERVISOR CHU



Supervisor Chu is on Twitter, as **SupervisorChu**. Follow her for District updates.

**facebook**

Look for **Carmen Chu** on Facebook!

## IS YOUR HOME READY FOR AN EARTHQUAKE?



The recent anniversary of the Great Earthquake and Fire of 1906, and the recent devastation brought on by earthquakes in Haiti, Chile, China and other places are urgent reminders that San Francisco must be prepared for the next major earthquake or emergency. The Loma Prieta quake in 1989 was a striking example of what an earthquake can do to San Francisco. A U.S. Geological Survey indicates there is a 63% probability of a large earthquake striking the Bay Area within the next 30 years.

In addition to encouraging residents to be personally prepared for an emergency (see [www.72hours.org](http://www.72hours.org)), the Board of Supervisors recently passed legislation to encourage home and building owners to voluntarily make seismic retrofits to buildings prone to collapse in an earthquake by reducing or waiving City fees.

In the Sunset and Parkside, many homes may be vulnerable to a significant earthquake. Specifically, wooden structures built prior to May 1973 where the bottom floor may have an unreinforced opening (like a garage) may be vulnerable to seismic action. The cost for reinforcing these “soft-story buildings” vary depending on the number of floors of the building and types of opening on the bottom floor.

The legislation, which took effect on April 19<sup>th</sup>, does the following:

- Waives Building and Planning Department Plan Review fees – saving hundreds or even thousands of dollars per project (about \$591 for a single family home);
- Expedites the processing, review and approval of permits for voluntary seismic retrofit upgrades of soft-story, wood-frame buildings;
- Enables those who retrofit voluntarily now, and who meet the building performance standard established by the Department of Building Inspection (DBI) for these voluntary retrofits, to be exempt for 15 years from any mandatory requirements that may be adopted in the future.

## STERN GROVE SPRING CELEBRATION

The Recreation and Park Department threw an “egg-cellent” event at Stern Grove on April 3. With rides, games, a petting zoo, and arts and crafts, it was a fantastic day for San Francisco families to enjoy our parks. Proceeds from the event benefitted the Recreation & Park scholarship fund, so that no one is turned away from City- sponsored recreation programs and activities due to their inability to pay for classes.





*Recreation & Park Dept staff's ribs were so good, there were none left to judge!*



*Supervisor Chu with Richmond Station Police Captain Corriea*

The highlight of the day was definitely the “Essential Services Rib Cook Off”, a fierce competition between the San Francisco Fire Department, Police Department, and the Recreation and Park Department. Supervisor Chu joined Rec & Park Commissioners Mark Buell and David Lee to judge the entrees. It was not an easy choice, all were delicious, but in the end, it was the Richmond Police Station that walked away with the trophy this year.

## NEMS CLINIC TO OPEN IN THE SUNSET

North East Medical Services (NEMS) is one of the largest community health centers in the United States targeting the medically underserved Asian population. The non-profit community health center offers comprehensive health care services to a variety of patients, a majority of whom are uninsured or low-income, and offers linguistically-competent and culturally-sensitive health care services in several Asian languages and dialects.



The new Sunset location will open May 7 at 1450 Noriega Street. Look for the colorful mural adorning the Noriega wall. “Zen Garden” was painted by **Vera Gordeev Lowdermilk**, and is part of a city-wide anti-graffiti initiative sponsored by the Department of Public Works.



Friends of West Sunset Playground invites you to attend

# Tastes of the Sunset

featuring local Sunset District Restaurants

**Saturday, May 15th**  
**6pm - 10pm**

Janet Pomeroy Center, San Francisco



## Food Sponsors:

Beautiful  
Beach Chalet  
Celia's  
Lam Hoa Thuan  
La Playa Taqueria  
Pacific Catch  
Tazaki Sushi  
and more...

## Honorary Host Committee:

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Senator Leland Yee  
Assemblywoman Fiona Ma  
Supervisor Carmen Chu  
Assessor-Recorder Phil Ting  
Neighborhood Parks Council  
San Francisco Recreation & Parks

**\$50 includes open bar, food, DJ**

For tickets, please visit [www.fowsp.org](http://www.fowsp.org) or call 415-839-8875

All proceeds directly benefit West Sunset Playground

WELLS  
FARGO

## SUNSET BOULEVARD



Sunset Boulevard is one of the most beautiful thoroughfares in our City. The lush green lawns, the stately old trees, and the 700 new young trees, create a park-like atmosphere out of what would otherwise be simply a roadway. Recently our office has received calls about the maintenance of these green strips. We checked in with Liz Lerma, Acting Superintendent at the Bureau of Urban Forestry, to get an update. Here are some responses to commonly asked questions:

**Who maintains Sunset Blvd.?** The Department of Public Works (DPW) is responsible for Sunset Blvd. Currently, DPW has a citywide staff of 9 gardeners and 1 laborer to maintain greenways and medians. DPW has one dedicated tree care worker who waters

young trees up and down the beltways between Sunset and 36<sup>th</sup> – 37<sup>th</sup> Avenues.

**Why hasn't the grass been mowed?** During the rainy season, DPW must wait for the ground to be dry enough to support vehicles and avoid creating ruts up and down the medians. DPW recently mowed from Ocean Avenue to Rivera, and now that the weather is improving, will continue working their way North.

**What about the garbage?** Litter pick-up and other work is done on an as-needed basis, based on service requests. Litter pick up is done before mowing. When residents see a problem, whether it is a concern about the mowing, litter, or illegal dumping, the most effective way to communicate to DPW is by calling 311 so that DPW's Bureau of Urban Forestry can address the problems as quickly as possible.

### **WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!**

*The Office of Supervisor Chu and the Bureau of Urban Forestry are teaming up for a big clean up and planting event on Sunset Boulevard, **Saturday, May 8 from 9am to 12pm. Meet at 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Yorba Street.** DPW will provide clean-up supplies and plants, but we need volunteers to help. Please call our office at 415-554-7460 to sign up.*

## SUNSET DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT: RENEE LAZEAR

Sunset District resident Renee Lazear is an advocate, promoter and team leader for the American Lung Association. After a close family member passed away from lung cancer in 2001, Renee was inspired to a member of the American Lung Association in 2001, and has dedicated countless hours to promote awareness of lung disease.



*Right to left: Renee Lazear and Kathy after finishing the 66-mile Cinderella Ride that started and finished at Pleasanton Fair Grounds.*

Renee strives to educate the citizens in the Bay area about the effects of first- and second-hand smoking, influenza, asthma and pollution and how we can prevent them. Her role on the ALA's leadership team provided her with the opportunity to network groups of people, businesses and charities around San Francisco to fundraise and promote a cure for lung cancer and lung-related diseases (asthma, emphysema and C.O.P.D.).

Currently, Renee is organizing a cycling team and fund-raising for the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Breath Easy Ride, happening in Rohnert Park on June 26. Anyone who can raise \$150 for the ALA can participate, and there is a route for every skill level, 12 – 30 – 66 or 100 miles. Your \$50 entry fee pays for lunch, rest stops, repairs and emergencies. Renee is pleased about how much time people have committed towards this and states, "I hope that I can get the people of San Francisco and District 4 involved as much as possible. The opportunities are endless!"

For more information on-line, go to:

[http://action.lungusa.org/site/TR?fr\\_id=1320&pg=entry](http://action.lungusa.org/site/TR?fr_id=1320&pg=entry)





**Taraval's Got Talent!**  
 Join Us @ Sunset Movement Arts  
 1647 Taraval Street

Talent, raffles, prizes, dress-up, art, bake sale,  
 and fun!

*Saturday May 15th*  
*Fun Starts at 12:30 p.m.*  
*Show starts at 2:00 p.m.*

Part of Small Business Week  
 and Taraval's Sidewalk Sale & Family Day



The Department of Children, Youth & Their Families and San Francisco Public Library are pleased to announce that now through December 31, 2010, San Francisco families with children up to age 18 enjoy FREE entrance to 18 Participating Attractions. Families visit any San Francisco Public Library, use a library card to check out a FAMILY PASS, take the FAMILY PASS to the selected attraction within a week, and receive FREE entrance for up to 2 adults and 4 children. Available to San Francisco residents only. Quantities limited. Restrictions apply. Find a complete list of Participating Attractions and other details are available through [www.SFkids.org](http://www.SFkids.org).

### GOODWILL IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Supervisor Chu joined neighbors and Irving Street merchants at the grand opening ceremony for the new Goodwill store on 25th Ave & Irving Street. Welcome to the neighborhood!



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## May 6 (Thursday)

### Ocean Beach Community Meeting

Janet Pomeroy Center - 207 Skyline Dr.  
6:30 – 8:30pm

DPW will update the bluff erosion and discuss public participation, environmental considerations, and longer term planning in the area.

## May 8 (Saturday)

### Sunset Blvd. planting & clean up

9:00am – noon

Meet at Sunset Blvd. & Yorba Street  
DPW will provide supplies & materials  
For more information or to sign up, call Supervisor Chu's office 554-7460

### Great Teen Book Swap at Ortega Branch

Library at 10:00am

The Teen Librarian will bring out several books and hand them out to the first people who want. You will, in turn, swap a book mark review by the end of the month. For information or to register, contact Dorcas Wong, [dwong@sfpl.org](mailto:dwong@sfpl.org)

## May 9 (Sunday)

### Mother's Day BikeAbout at SF Zoo

8:30am – 10:30am

A leisurely hour-and-a half-long tour will be followed by a relaxing continental breakfast. Bring the whole family along for the fun! <http://www.sfzoo.org/>

## May 11 (Tuesday)

### Town Hall meeting with Police Chief Gascon

5:00 – 7:00pm

1800 Oakdale Ave

## May 12 (Wednesday)

### St. Francis Circle rail replacement community meeting (SFMTA)

7:00 – 9:00pm

West Portal Elementary – 5 Lennox Way

### Lake Merced Watershed Plan

Community open house to review draft  
3:30 – 7:30pm

SF Main Library, Latino/Hispanic Room  
For more info: 415-554-3204

## May 13 (Thursday)

### Bike to Work Day

## May 15 (Saturday)

### Taraval's Got Talent

Sunset Movement Arts

1647 Taraval (26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Ave)

Fun starts at 12:30pm, 2:00pm showtime  
Event is part of Small Business Week activities throughout the city.

### Dawn Festival @ CalAcademy

7:30pm

Late night cultural arts festival in celebration of Shavuot

Video premieres, comedy performances, readings, live music – [www.dawnfestival.org](http://www.dawnfestival.org)

### Inner Sunset Festival

10<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Irving

10:00am – 8:00pm

Dining, live music performances kids' activities, circus acts, free health and safety demonstrations, local artisans and more.

### TASTES OF THE SUNSET

Janet Pomeroy Center

6:00pm – 10:00pm

207 Skyline Blvd.

\$50 Per Person ( [www.fowsp.org](http://www.fowsp.org) )

## May 18 (Tuesday)

### Capt. Schmitt's Public Safety Meeting

7:00pm

Taraval Police Station - 2345 24<sup>th</sup> Ave

## May 22 (Saturday)

### Supervisor Chu Office Hours

10:00 – 11:30am

Tennessee Grill – 1128 Taraval St (21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>)

### Dianne Feinstein Elem. School Carnival

2550 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue

10:00am – 4:00pm

## May 27 (Thursday)

### District 4 Merchant Summit

6:00 – 7:30pm

Pirro's Pizza – 2244 Taraval Street

All merchants invited to join! Free!

## Office of Supervisor Carmen Chu

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