

SUPERVISOR CARMEN CHU

District 4 ◦ Sunset ◦ Parkside

June 2011

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

Message from the Supervisor



Budget Update

As we head into the month of June, the Board of Supervisors Budget Committee will be considering the Mayor's 2011-2012 budget proposal for the City. Over the past several months, I have been meeting with community organizations and have heard from many constituents about their budget priorities. In addition to contacting us directly, all residents also have a formal opportunity to weigh in on the City's budget at the Budget Committee on Friday, June 24th at City Hall's Board Chamber (room 250). The Budget Committee will be hearing public comment between 10:00am – noon and after 2:00pm until all members of the public have had an opportunity to speak. For more information regarding the budget process and hearing schedule, please visit www.sfgov.org/budget.

Pension Reform Efforts

In addition to working on balancing our annual budget, the City, through the leadership of Mayor Lee, Supervisor Elsbernd, and other elected and labor leaders, have been meeting to deal with the long term structural imbalances of our budget. Without structural reform, it is estimated that the City's pension and health costs will increase to over \$2 billion per year over the next 10 years. On top of that, the City's unfunded liability for retiree health care stands at over \$4.3 billion. That is why I recently co-sponsored a proposed Charter Amendment, along with the Mayor and Supervisors Sean Elsbernd, David Chiu, Malia Cohen, Mark Farrell and Scott Weiner that takes a comprehensive approach to these challenges. Under consideration by the Board of Supervisors, the pension reform measure may come to San Francisco residents for a vote in November.

The proposed measure provides for additional cost sharing for all city employees that is scaled based on an employee's salary, and this component alone is estimated to save the City at least \$800 million to \$1 billion over 10 years. The proposal also creates a new retirement tier for new employees that raise the retirement age and reduce costs, caps pensionable salary, reduces plan costs and addresses "pension spiking," requires existing employees to begin contributing to the retiree Health Care Trust Fund, and amends the make-up of the Health Services Board to ensure balanced decision-making by members of its governing board, among other things. The estimated savings resulting from these components have not been finalized. This proposed Charter Amendment will be discussed and considered by the Board of Supervisors in the coming months. We will continue to provide an update on the proposal moving forward.

NEW N-JUDAH EXPRESS SERVICE – PILOT BEGINS JUNE 13



Over the last few years one of the most consistent service complaints we have received surrounds the performance and reliability of our transit service. For many of you who ride the N-Judah line, it goes without saying that the N-Judah has had its share of problems. In the outer avenues, some of the concerns include early turn-backs, bunching of rail cars, or sometimes trains that are very late or even missing.

On June 13, the Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) will launch a six-month pilot N-Judah express bus service, called the Nx. The intent of the N-Judah Express is to be an additional service to the existing N-Judah LRV service - not a substitution. The intent is to provide an alternative for commuters who board the N-Judah from 19th Avenue to the ocean to be able to get to downtown San Francisco (6:30am -9:00am) and for riders to return home in the reverse direction (4:00pm- 6:30pm). For more information about the N-Judah Express service, please visit www.sfmta.com or call 311.

AM Express Route



PM Express Route



Our office has also called a public hearing on the recent performance of the Muni LRV lines, including the N-Judah and L-Taraval. The meeting has not yet been scheduled. Please check in with our office if you are interested in following up.

GREAT HIGHWAY UPDATE

Every spring the strong westerly winds pick up sand from Ocean Beach and the dunes and sweep it onto the Great Highway creating unsafe driving conditions. The Department of Public Works Operations staff has the responsibility to remove the sand and reopen the Great Highway. This spring has been particularly windy, requiring more sand to be swept and dumped and causing more road closures than usual. The City and the National Park Service have an agreement that all suitable sand swept up from the Great Highway is to be placed back on the beach or dunes. However, due to federal regulations regarding the snowy plover, this work can only be done during a very limited time. In June, when the snowy plover have left the beach for their breeding season, the City will move the large stock piles of sand that have built up along the Great Highway on to the beach.



One of the unfortunate consequences of these closures is increased traffic on the Lower Great Highway. Making matters worse, drivers in the mindset of rolling at a steady 40 mph to timed signal lights on the Upper Great Highway often do not alter their driving habits when using the Lower Great Highway. This is a problem for the Lower Great Highway residents, the preschool at Lawton, and the many people who recreate in the area. Our office has worked with DPW to install detour signs on the Great Highway gates, directing motorists to use Sunset Blvd. as an alternate. We have also worked with the SFPD to monitor traffic on the Lower Great Highway when these closures occur.

These are short term fixes for just one of the ongoing issues at Ocean Beach. Infrastructure, erosion and sea level rise, traffic and accessibility are all topics that are currently being studied by SPUR as part of the Ocean Beach Master Plan, which will determine an approach that best serves the future of Ocean Beach. **To find out more information about the Ocean Beach Master Plan, visit <http://www.spur.org/ocean-beach>**

WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN CITY GOVERNMENT?



Last month, Mayor Ed Lee launched a centralized online database of City boards and commissions including vacancies and appointments to advisory bodies for the City and County of San Francisco.

“This one-of-a kind interactive tool makes San Francisco government more transparent, efficient and easier to engage in for the public,” said Mayor Lee. “By creating an easy and efficient way to search commissions and board vacancies, we improve our ability to attract a diverse and talented pool of candidates.”

San Francisco is the first city in the nation to launch a centralized database, enhancing transparency in commission memberships and investing in good government.

To search the centralized online database of City commissions and boards, go to www.sfgov.org/commissionsdatabase or call 3-1-1.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FRANCIS SCOTT KEY'S PRINCIPAL DAVID WONG!

On May 23, Mayor Ed Lee honored three principals from the San Francisco Unified School District: JoLynn Washington of Jose Ortega Elementary School, Jim Fithian of Court Community Schools, and the Sunset's own David Wong of Francis Scott Key Elementary School.

The Mayor's Principal of the Year Program began in 2007 as a way to recognize the outstanding San Francisco public school principals for their dedication, professionalism, and work on behalf of the City's young people. Recipients of the Mayor's Award are nominated by parents, youth, educators, administrators, and other community members for excellence in their classroom, their school, and their City.



This is third year in a row Francis Scott Key Elementary School has been honored by the Mayor's office. Sheila Maffei was named Teacher of the Month in 2009; Karen Leong was Teacher of the Month in 2010; and now Principal Wong, Principal of the year for 2011.



"The Mayor's award truly validates the hard and outstanding work we have done in our school community," said Principal Wong. "As for the Principal of the Year Award, I was simply the recipient of the credit coming from my students, parents, and staff. We have all contributed to this achievement. This honor is to be shared with every constituent in this school community. My success is a reflection of our success." Congratulations, Principal Wong!

DEVIL'S TEETH BAKERY OPENS ON NORIEGA



Noriega Street just got a sweet new addition. The Devil's Teeth Baking Company opened softly last month, and is already winning fans from all over the City with owner/baker Hilary Passman's delectable cookies, muffins, beignets, sandwiches and other goodies. Devil's Teeth Baking Company is named for the Farrallon Islands, which resemble demonic teeth rising out of the ocean.



You can find the bakery at **3876 Noriega St** (between 45th & 46th Ave), or just follow your nose!

BIKE TO WORK DAY



Supervisor Chu was joined by several Sunset District residents on May 12 for Bike to Work Day. The ride from District 4 kicked off as usual from the House of Coffee on Noriega, and wound through the least hilly streets to City Hall.



REGISTER FOR SUMMER CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES THROUGH SF REC & PARK



Registration for summer classes began May 21, and there's still time to register! This summer, SF Rec & Park is offering a variety of classes, activities and events for everyone, including dance classes for seniors, yoga for adults and art and science classes for kids. Summer activities begin May 31, so check out the catalog of classes at sfrecpark.org today! Also, day camp registration is still open! Check out more than 60 day camps happening this summer throughout the city!

REPRESENT THE SUNSET DISTRICT - I LIVE HERE: SF

I Live Here: SF is a photography/portraiture project created by Julie Michele. It is an exploration of the city through the visages and stories of the people who participate, and reveals a different view of San Francisco and its myriad of nano-neighborhoods and micro-climates. Julie Michele is currently looking for Sunset District residents to participate in the project. It just takes an hour, you get a professional portrait and, who knows, your picture may be hanging in an exhibit here at City Hall! For more information, visit <http://iliveheresf.com>

SUPERVISOR CHU RECOGNIZES MARC & VICKI DUFFET AND THE OCEAN PARK MOTEL

Supervisor Chu recognized Marc & Vicki Duffett, proprietors of the Ocean Beach Motel, as part of Small Business Week in San Francisco.

Located at 2690 46th Avenue, the Ocean Park Motel is noteworthy in that it was the **first** motel in San Francisco, opening in April of 1937, just in time for the Golden Gate Bridge opening festivities.



During those days, Ocean Beach was San Francisco's playground, and the Ocean Park Motel was beachfront property.



Playland, Fleishhacker Pool, Sutro Baths and the Army base at Fort Funston may all be gone, but the motel that accommodated visitors to those attractions still thrives. The Ocean Park Motel is an architectural gem, built in a nautical theme with style and craftsmanship not seen much these days. Marc and Vicki have been dedicated to preserving the Motel's character and style and, in 1987, were recognized by the Art Deco Society with a special award for their careful preservation of this Streamline Moderne beauty.

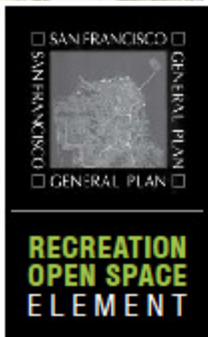
With recent rave reviews of the Sunset District's many cultural, gastronomical, retail and natural resources, in publications ranging from the New York Times to Sunset Magazine, our neighborhood is becoming a popular destination. Keep the Ocean Park Motel in mind when you have visitors coming to town.

SUPERVISOR CHU RECOGNIZES MARTIN LAM FOR APA HERITAGE MONTH

May marked the celebration for Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and Supervisor Chu took the opportunity to recognize Martin Lam as our District 4 honoree.



Martin is the Store Manager of the Goodwill store in the Sunset District on 25th Ave and Irving. In addition to his leadership and efforts in the Outer Sunset Merchants & Professional Association, Martin's generosity really shines through his other volunteer work. Martin volunteers once a week at Project Open Hand, twice a month as an acolyte at St. Ignatius Church, and, Martin has donated blood 85 times because of / since September 11, 2001! Thank you Martin for all of your dedication to the Sunset District and beyond!



Please join us for a Public Open House to view the Revised Draft of the Recreation and Open Space Element!

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

In May 2009, we released the first Draft of the Recreation and Open Space Element. We have since received numerous public and agency comments and have incorporated the appropriate changes in this Revised Draft. Please join us in celebrating the release of this important document!

Planning Commission Hearings on the Revised Draft are proposed for June 23rd and for August 4th. Please make sure you're on our email list, and we will confirm these meetings as the date gets closer.

June 8, 2011
Wednesday 5:00-7:00 PM

Planning Department
1650 Mission Street
Room 431 

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT:

Susan Exline
(415) 558-6332
susan.exline@sfgov.org

<http://openspace.sfplanning.org>

SAN FRANCISCO
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Para información en
Español llamar al:
(415) 558-6307

中文詢問請電
(415) 558-6282

Para sa impormasyon sa
Tagalog tumawag sa:
(415) 558-6251

Upcoming Events

June 8 (Wed)

Recreation & Open Space Element Open House

Planning Department
1650 Mission St., Room 431
5:00 – 7:00 pm

June 8 (Wed)

Red Cross Disaster Preparedness Course

Are you prepared for the next major disaster? Become Red Cross ready and improve personal preparedness at this one hour course.
San Francisco Public Library
100 Larkin Street San Francisco
6:30 – 7:30 pm

June 10 - 12 (Fri-Sun)

Academy of Sciences Free Neighborhood Days

Sunset District residents, show your ID for free entry into the Academy of Sciences

June 11 (Sat)

Hidden Garden Steps Work Party

Meet near the foot of the steps at Kirkham and 16th Ave.
1:00 – 3:00 pm

For more information go to:
<http://hiddengardensteps.org>

June 12 (Sun)

Sharon Art Studio Celebration

Celebrate FOSAS' 20 years of support of the Sharon Art Studio, San Francisco's largest public art center. Auction, refreshments and live entertainment.
Sharon Art Studio, Golden Gate Park
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

June 13 (Mon)

SFMTA/Rec & Park Community Meeting

Golden Gate Park Bikeway Plan
SF County Fair Building
6:30 – 8:00 pm
Join your neighbors, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency and San Francisco Recreation & Parks Department staff to discuss bikeway improvements on JFK Drive from Stanyan to Transverse Drive. Help evaluate possible configurations and let the SFMTA know what you'd like to see in the new bikeway!

June 18 (Sat)

Mount Zion Community Health Day

Outdoor Street Fair
11:00 am – 4:00 pm
Post Street between Divisadero and Scott streets

June 19 (Sun)

Stern Grove Music Festival

First concert of the season:
Sharon Jones & The Dap Kings
2:00 pm

June 21 (Tue)

Taraval SFPD Community Meeting

Taraval Police Station
Captain's monthly meeting
2345 24th Ave.
7:00 pm

July 10 (Sun)

Sunday Streets

Great Highway
Golden Gate Park to Sloat Blvd.
11:00 am – 4:00 pm
Details: www.sundaystreetssf.com

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