

SUPERVISOR CARMEN CHU

District 4 • Sunset • Parkside

July / August 2011



Supervisor Chu at the Pride Parade

Message from the Supervisor

City's Budget

July marks the month when the Board of Supervisors adopts the City's spending plan for the new fiscal year. As the Chair of the Budget Committee, I spent the months leading up to July meeting with many community members and organizations, and listened to their concerns as we worked to close a \$306 million budget deficit. As each year in recent times has proven true, balancing the City's budget is no easy endeavor as we strive to preserve important services for our residents while maintaining fiscal responsibility. As Budget Chair, I have made it a priority to foster a fair and transparent budget process and to produce a budget that will ensure financial viability for our city in future years. I would like to thank everyone who provided their feedback during this process, whether it was through attending a budget town hall meeting in the

neighborhood, contacting our office directly, or by speaking in front of the Budget Committee at City Hall.

Pedestrian Safety Improvements

Those of you who frequent our local Java Beach Café or live near La Playa and Judah Street may have noticed a few changes to the intersection recently. The intersection is a unique one in our city, where a two-car Muni Light Rail Vehicle (LRV) is often parked in the middle of the street. This situation has contributed to safety hazards for pedestrians, bikers and drivers. I worked with neighbors through a series of community meetings to discuss ideas for improving safety at the intersection, and we explored alternatives such as relocating the rest area for the N-Judah train and installing crosswalks with flashing lights



when pedestrians are in the intersection. What resulted were ideas for initial improvements we could make, given limits in resources and feasible ideas.

Thanks to the generosity of two companies who decided to contribute during these tough economic times and the Department of Public Works, we were able to make two improvements to the intersection. Flint Trading and Crisp Company donated supplies and labor to create a high-visibility pedestrian crosswalk in front of Java Beach Café. The in-laid brick pattern within the reflective crosswalk provides drivers a more clear delineation of a pedestrian's path of travel. Additionally, next to

the median area by the newly created La Playa Park (south west of intersection), the Department of Public Works installed two large planter boxes to prevent vehicles from squeezing by and making dangerous maneuvers when an N-Judah train is parked in the intersection. We hope to build upon these changes over time to improve safety for everyone.



Throughout the years, our office has pursued many pedestrian safety improvements for our district. These have included the installation of median gardens at Yorba Street and 35th & 36th Ave, speed radar signs, newly striped crosswalks by schools, and traffic medians along Noriega Street. Coming soon, there will be a change in the driving speed limit around all schools in the City. A new policy was passed by the San Francisco County Transportation Authority, which requires the driving speed to be 15 mph around all school areas in San Francisco. Signs will be installed around schools in two phases in July and March.

Office of Supervisor Carmen Chu

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SUNDAY STREETS RETURNS TO THE GREAT HIGHWAY



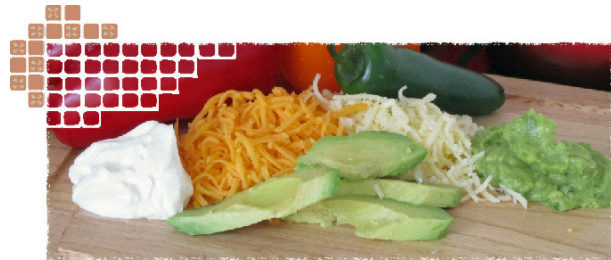
Get ready for Sunday Streets on **July 10th**! Our office will be out on the Great Highway, and we hope to see you there, too. Sunday Streets is a great activity for friends and family, and free bicycle rentals will be available.

The car-free route runs from Crossover Drive in Golden Gate Park all the way to the San Francisco Zoo. For more information about Sunday Streets, visit: <http://www.sundaystreetsf.com>.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO EL BURRITO EXPRESS!

El Burrito Express has been feeding hungry Sunset District dwellers for 30 years, a lifetime in restaurant years! Located on the corner of **Taraval Street and 26th Avenue** since 1981, this family run restaurant has become a Sunset institution.

Phil Havlicek, son of owners Mila Lopez and Phil Havlicek, Sr., says the secret to the success of his family's two restaurants, El Burrito Express (EBX) and Celia's, is quality food and good customer service.



"Our food is made with some of the best ingredients you can find. Our recipes are authentic, from Jalisco, Mexico, and that's why people tell us our food is even better than what you find in the Mission District. My Grandpa Perfecto, one of the original inventors of the burrito, taught me that if you treat your customers and employees like family, they will treat you the same."



YUM!

The Norcal Burrito has fries inside!

Innovation is also important. This year El Burrito Express released three new burritos: El Norcal (most popular), El Bajacal, and El Gigante in honor of the World Champion Giants (black and orange in every bite!). And their commercials on Youtube, have made EBX an internet star.

In honor of their anniversary, El Burrito Express will be offering a 2-for-1 burrito special - check out their website for details: <http://www.ebxsf.com>. Also, be on the lookout for the grand re-opening of Celia's Restaurant, the first family jewel, located on Judah and 45th Ave in August.

SAFE BIKING CLASS COURSE OFFERED

If you want to start biking in San Francisco, but are concerned with the safety of urban biking, this four-hour, in-classroom introductory course is perfect for you. The class will cover the basics on how to choose the right bike and properly fit a helmet as well as tips for the safest ways to ride on city streets. You'll also learn techniques to avoid or handle street hazards and emergency maneuvers along with the best way to lock up your bike and how to use a bike in combination with public transit, and biking rights and responsibilities.

This free class, hosted by the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition, is open to anyone over 14 years of age. Preregistration is required. Sign-up at www.sfbike.org/edu.



MAKE THE SWITCH TO THE CLIPPER CARD

Kids, it's time to make the switch! Beginning in August, the paper Fast Pass will be discontinued and all Youth MUNI monthly passes must be loaded on to Clipper cards.

You may apply for your Clipper Card by filling out and mailing the application at <https://www.clippercard.com/ClipperWeb/downloads/Clipper%20Youth%20and%20Senior%20Application.pdf>.

Your card will be mailed to you within 10 days. Or you can get one immediately by going to a Clipper In-Person site at:

- The Embarcadero BART/MUNI Station, mezzanine level, Mon-Fri, 5:45am-7pm
- The Bay Crossings storefront in the Ferry Building, Mon-Sat 6:45am-7pm
- The SFMTA Center located at 11 South Van Ness will be open the following Saturdays to accommodate the transitional period and will issue cards on the spot: July 30, August 6 & 27, September 3, from 9-5.

The following forms of identification are accepted as proof of your eligibility:

- Birth Certificate
- Driver's license issued by any state
- Identification card issued by any state
- Alien Registration/Permanent Resident Card
- Matricula Consular/Consular Identification Card
- Passport
- SF City ID Card

As a reminder, a social security number is never required at any facility for an applicant.



SAN FRANCISCO WINS EPA AWARD



Thanks to the Sunset Reservoir Solar Project, the City & County of San Francisco recently received the Environmental Protection Agency's 2010 Green Power Leadership Award for the city's generation of renewable energy. Located atop the Sunset Reservoir on 24th Avenue and Ortega, The Sunset Solar Project includes 24,000 solar panels that create as much as five megawatts of energy per day and are estimated to reduce carbon emissions by 80,000 metric tons.

The plant is a product of the Power Purchase Agreement between the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and Recurrent Energy. Facilities using the plant's power include public schools, the San Francisco International Airport, the Muni light rail, and San Francisco General Hospital.

Supervisor Carmen Chu introduced and carried the legislation making this project possible in 2009.



HOMEOWNERS MUST INSTALL CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS BY JULY 1

A new State law requires **CO devices must be installed in all specified single-family dwellings by July 1, 2011**. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate carbon monoxide (CO), which is an invisible, odorless and colorless gas created by the incomplete combustion of carbon fuels, kills 500 people a year and injures another 20,000 people nationwide. To prevent these accidental deaths and injuries, the California legislature enacted SB 183 – mandating residential property owners to install carbon monoxide detectors in existing dwelling units having a fossil fuel burning heater or appliance, fireplace, or attached garage.



An information brochure about these important warning detectors will be posted on the DBI, Fire Department and Mayor's Office web sites. Visit www.sfdbi.org or www.sffd.org

FINANCIAL INCENTIVES TO IMPROVE HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY

In an effort to help San Franciscans afford energy efficient home improvements and work toward meeting the City's carbon reduction goals, the Department of the Environment has partnered with Energy Upgrade California to develop the San Francisco Home Improvement & Performance program which offers financial incentives of up to \$7,000.

Some of the projects that qualify include adding insulation, upgrading heating systems and water heaters. These types of home improvements can help homeowners save money on utility bills and increase the overall value of the home.

If you are interested in participating with this program, please know that if the project is started before August 31st, 2011, homeowners qualify for a \$1,000 bonus. For a list of participating contractors, please visit: <http://www.sfenvironment.org/SFhip> or call [415-355-3769](tel:415-355-3769).

SOUTH SUNSET PLAYGROUND MURAL & MOSAIC PROJECT

Thanks to Sunset District artist Renee McKenna for taking the lead on the South Sunset Playground community art project! Renee has already beautified walls at Playmates Preschool and St. Gabriel School, and has taken on the South Sunset Playground as her next challenge.

This project will have three components: a mosaic tile design of nature and animals, a collage mosaic of found or donated toys and kid related objects, and a mural of the word "PLAY" written in the many languages of the families who use South Sunset Playground. She needs your support and creativity to make this happen. If you would like to participate with this fun community project, contact our office at 415-554-7460 or Renee at reneemcknn@yahoo.com

with your help and support we can



Turn this



Into this...

This will be a community art project.



Save the Date: August 2 SNBC's Free Summer BBQ & Block Party!

**What: SNBC's Free Summer BBQ and Block Party
celebrating National Night Out**

When: Tuesday, August 2, 5:00 pm -- 8:00 pm

Where: Noriega Street between 46th and 47th Avenues

Join SNBC for a block party and free BBQ to celebrate National Night Out, our community, and public safety! We're closing down the block between 46th and 47th Avenues and will be filling the street with free food, games, and entertainment.

Fun activities include:

- Performances by SNBC's West Sunset Rec Connect Steel Pan Drummers, Hip-Hop Club, and Robotics Club
- Music by SNBC's DJ Club
- Meet and greet with the SF Police Department and Fire Department
- Fire engine and police car on display
- Free fingerprinting by the Police Athletic League Cadets
- Free information on disaster preparedness from the Red Cross
- Booths featuring Noriega Street businesses
- And more activities for the whole family!



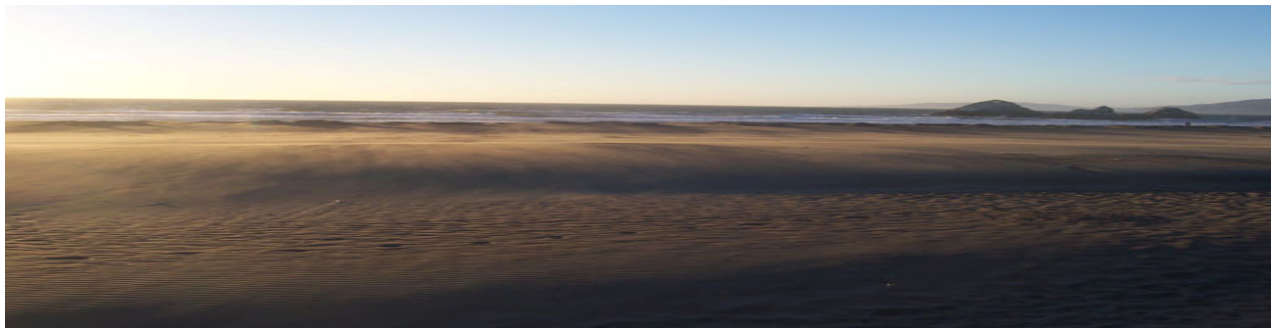
Hope you can join us as we celebrate a safe community!

More information at www.snbc.org.



SNBC
SUNSET NEIGHBORHOOD
BEACON CENTER

Upcoming Events



- Sun. 7/10** **Sunday Streets**
11:00 am – 4:00 pm
Celebrate and recreate in car free space from Golden Gate Park along the Great Highway to the Zoo at San Francisco's biggest street party
- Wed. 7/13** **World Cup Soccer Women's Semi-Finals**
View on the big screen at Civic Center Plaza
11:45 am
- Sun. 7/17** **World Cup Soccer Women's Championship**
View on the big screen at Civic Center Plaza
11:45 am
- Tues. 7/19** **Captain Lum's Monthly Community Meeting**
Special guest: Mayor Ed Lee
7:00 pm
Meeting is moved to Scottish Rite Center
2850 19th Avenue & Sloat
- Tues. 7/19** **Lake Merced Watershed Community Update**
SFPUC and Rec & Park provide updates on the Lake Merced Draft MOU, Boathouse and more.
Harding Park Clubhouse
99 Harding Road
6:30 – 8:00 pm
- Wed. 7/27** **"Getting Ready for Kindergarten" workshop**
Parents for Public Schools presents this workshop on the transition parents and children face entering kindergarten. Get information concerning developmental stages, academic expectations, parent responsibilities, engagement strategies, and practical school tips.
6:00 pm
West Sunset Clubhouse at 3223 Ortega Street
- Tues. 8/2** **National Night Out & SNBC 15th Anniversary Party**
block party on Noriega Street (between 46th and 47th Avenues) to celebrate National Night Out and SNBC's 15th anniversary. Free BBQ, games for children, entertainment, and more,
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Sat. 8/6** **Noriega Street Food Festival**
Noriega St. between 30st & 31st Avenues
11:00 am – 5:00 pm

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