

SUPERVISOR CARMEN CHU

District 4 ° Sunset ° Parkside

August 2011

Message from the Supervisor



City's FY11-12 budget passed

Following unanimous approval by the Board of Supervisors, I joined my colleagues and Mayor Ed Lee as he signed the fiscal year 2011-2012 budget for our city on July 26. After several months' worth of meetings with community organizations, advocates, the labor community and city department staff, our city was able to produce a balanced \$6.83 billion budget that protected vital city services. The FY11-12 budget includes

funding for a new police academy class, support for small businesses, children and family programs, and critical health and human services.

With an initial budget shortfall of \$380 million in January, Mayor Edwin Lee worked with members of the Board of Supervisors, city departments, and the community to close the deficit. The Budget Committee, in concert with the Office of the Budget and Legislative Analyst, identified over \$14 million in additional savings from city departments. Coupled with an improving economy that resulted in additional sales tax revenue, the Budget Committee was able to make \$17.5 million in adjustments. Though the budget signing ceremony signaled the end of the budget season, there is still much to do including identifying long term solutions for our city's infrastructure needs, managing escalating costs to health and pension contributions, and assessing and addressing the impacts of state budget decisions on our local budget.



I am proud of the level of collaboration exhibited during this budget process, and am honored to serve as Chair of the Budget Committee as we continue to work together to ensure the City's financial foundation is strong.

Office of Supervisor Carmen Chu

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BEWARE OF CELL PHONE SCAMS



It has come to our attention that residents in our community have been victims of several cell phone intermediary shops. Many of the cases brought to the attention of the Taraval Police Station have been similar in nature, and while there are many good, neighborhood-serving stores, we hope to provide some tips to you to ensure that you are protected from fraud.

First and foremost, whenever in doubt about a plan, customers should contact the telephone company directly. Consumers should watch out for a few red flags. For example, customers need to be careful if a cell phone shop is aggressively pushing customers to open more lines and numbers than you originally wanted. In the cases brought to the police station, customers were routinely asked by the phone shops to open five lines even though it was much more than people needed. **Customers should also be cautious when they are required to bring unopened cell phones back to the store as a condition of a contract. It is possible that the store is using your account to order phones in which they later re-sell.**

Another red flag is when the shop sells customers a one-year phone plan in exchange for a free or heavily subsidized phone. Most cell phone plans have two-year minimums with an early termination fee if the service is canceled before two years. In these situations, it is advisable to check with the phone service provider directly to verify. In the cases reported to the police, customers who signed up for multiple phone lines and who tried to terminate their contract after a year ended up paying early termination fees for each phone line.

In other cases, customers were offered hundreds of dollars in rebates after several months and even up to a year after beginning cell phone service. Many customers have had trouble collecting these "rebates", and at least a few shops have closed without ever providing customers their "rebates". **Keep in mind that most rebates offered to customers by the actual cell phone service provider are one-time in nature and usually is a rebate applied toward the cost of the phone.** Again, it may be good to check in with the service provider directly.

Ultimately, we hope that customers are diligent with checking the details of any contract before signing up for service. Always, we encourage you to check with your cell phone service provider if you have any questions regarding the details of your plan or any rebates being offered. If you are or believe that you may be a victim of a cell phone intermediary shop, you can ask to have it recorded as a police report at your local police station. The Taraval Police Station can be reached at: (415) 759-3100. You can also contact our office at (415) 554-7460 or chustaff@sfgov.org.



OUTSIDE LANDS RETURNS

August 12 - 14

The 4th Annual Outside Lands Music & Arts Festival returns to Golden Gate Park on Friday, August 12th through Sunday, August 14th. This event benefits Golden Gate Park with a considerable portion of ticket sales going directly to the Recreation & Parks Department.

In past years, Another Planet Entertainment and the Recreation and Parks Department have worked to mitigate the impact of the event in our neighborhoods.

Again, a Community Hotline will be in place so the appropriate agency can respond to any issues encountered during the festival. **The hotline number is 415-379-9063** and is available from 10:00am – 11:00pm on the festival days. To help alleviate vehicle congestion in the neighborhoods, patrons are strongly encouraged to take MUNI, private shuttles, bike or walk. There will be two dedicated tow trucks and a Parking Control Officer on each side of the Park to quickly respond to any blocked driveways or other parking issues related to the Festival. Rec & Park has printed signs alerting attendees not to block driveways, and they are available to residents at the front desk of the McLaren Lodge.

Park Access

To ensure public safety, the following Park locations will be closed as follows:

Polo Field – Due to renovation of the Polo Field, load-in will begin two days earlier than in the past to properly protect and preserve the integrity of the field grade. All of the Polo Field facilities will be closed to the public from Wed. Aug. 3 at 8:00am through Thursday Aug. 18 at 12:00pm.

Speedway and Lindley Meadows – The fencing in Speedway and Lindley Meadows will go up on Monday, Aug. 8 at 8:00am. There will be large breaks in the fence to allow public access to Lindley Meadow until Tuesday, Aug. 9 at 6:00am. Lindley Meadow will open back up to the public on Monday, Aug. 15 at 8:00pm and Speedway Meadow will open on Wednesday, Aug. 17 at 8:00am.

Lloyd and Metson Lakes - will be closed Aug 12 - 14. *Spreckles Lake and the Dog Run* will be closed to vehicles Aug 12 - 14.

Road Closures

The following entrances will be closed to the public from Aug 11th at 8:00pm through Aug 14th at 11:00pm:

On north side of the park:

- * Transverse Dr at Crossover Dr
- * JFK Dr at Transverse Dr
- * 30th Ave
- * 36th Ave
- * 43rd Ave (Chain of Lakes)
- * 47th Ave
- * The Great Hwy at JFK Dr.

On the south side:

- * Martin Luther King Jr Dr at Crossover Dr
- * 25th Ave
- * 41st Ave (Chain of Lakes)
- * Martin Luther King Jr Dr at Lincoln Ave

For more information about the festival, visit www.SFOutsideLands.com/311

SF PLANNING DEPARTMENT SEEKS INPUT

On Monday, July 25, the San Francisco Planning Department released a survey seeking public input on how it communicates with the public and on the level of public participation in its activities. With the mission of serving the public and engaging the community to help guide the future development of the city, the Department is asking community members for their feedback and ideas on how it can best inform and involve the public in the planning process.

Results from this survey will provide information on the Department's present strategies and guide its activities in the future so it can best serve the community. To fill out the survey, please go to: <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/595175>. The survey will close on **August 12, 2011**.

REBUILDING TOGETHER PROJECT DEADLINE IS AUGUST 31

Rebuilding Together San Francisco is now accepting applications for FREE repair programs serving both homes and nonprofit facilities.



Each April during **Rebuilding Day**, Rebuilding Together mobilizes teams of volunteers to provide free repairs and renovation work for low-income homeowners, as well as community centers, nonprofits and schools. The type of work depends on what the client needs, but may include: interior painting, landscaping, general cleaning, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, safety modifications, weather

stripping and replacing appliances. All the work is done by volunteers on the last Saturday of each April – mark your calendars, next National Rebuilding Day will be Saturday, **April 28, 2012**.

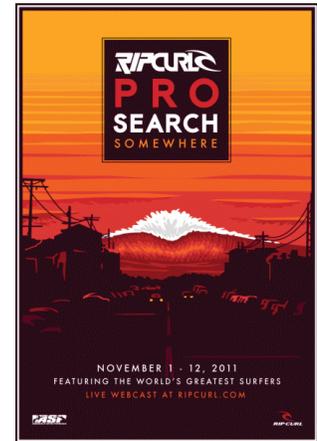
Rebuilding Together also offers a year round program **Home Safety & Independence** provides safety modifications (grab bars, smoke detectors, etc), energy efficiency upgrades and minor repairs to both homeowners and renters year round.

Rebuilding Together is currently accepting applications from both community facilities (nonprofits, community centers, schools, etc) and homeowners in need of repairs – the deadline is August 31st. Please tell your friends and neighbors and keep an eye out for any community organizations in need of our work.

For questions, or more information, please call (415) 905-1611. **You can download an application, look at pictures from past projects or find out more information by visiting:** www.RebuildingTogetherSF.org

MAJOR SURF EVENT COMING TO OCEAN BEACH

For the first time ever, the **Rip Curl Pro Search Contest** will happen "somewhere" and some time in San Francisco. Like many major surf events, the Rip Curl Pro Search is planned for a window of time but the waves determine the exact dates. The contest depends on optimum surf conditions and organizers make the decision each morning, so there is no set schedule or structure for spectators to follow. The expectation is that there will be a 5 day competition sometime between **November 1 and 12**.



The Rip Curl Pro Search is the only event on the ASP (Association of Surfing Professionals) World Tour with a floating license, allowing it to move to a new location each year, much like the Super Bowl. As one of the most anticipated and exciting contests in professional surfing, the greatest surfers in the world always look forward to the next Rip Curl Pro Search - "Somewhere".

This event goes to areas that are highly secretive & often environmentally sensitive, so Rip Curl prefers to use the caption "Somewhere" when talking about the location prior to the official announcement. Currently the plan is to have the event near stair case 20 at Ocean Beach, but surf conditions and/or sand bars could necessitate a move to a secondary site at Kelly's Cove/Stair case 1. The sponsors of the event will have a better idea of the exact location a few weeks prior to the event.

The ASP has crowned surfing's undisputed world champions since 1976. The ASP World Tour consists of 11 events in 7 regions including Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, Hawaii, North America and South America. The Rip Curl Pro Search San Francisco is Stop 10 of 11, so it is quite possible that ASP World Champion will be crowned right here in San Francisco. For more information, visit www.aspworldtour.com

Join us for a workshop on

ADA Compliance for Small Businesses

August 3, 2011 (Wednesday)

5:00 – 6:00pm

**Taraval Police Station Community Room
2345 24th Ave (between Santiago & Taraval)**

Presented by the Office of Supervisor Carmen Chu & Bar Association of San Francisco

Learn about:

Overview of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Compliance with the ADA

How to respond to lawsuits

Loan programs for construction

Legal services available, and more...

“DONORS CHOOSE” HELPS LOCAL SCHOOLS

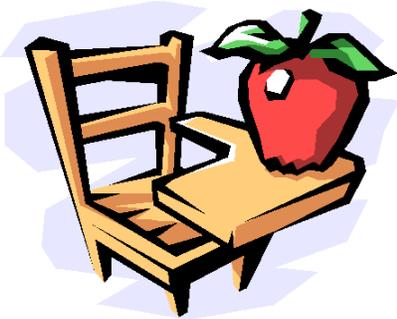
“Donors Choose” is an online charity connecting people to classrooms in need. Teachers can post what they need in their classroom. Donors can pick the project that interests them.

“Donors Choose” then delivers the materials to the classroom. Currently two teachers at both Lawton and Francis Scott Key Elementary Schools have proposals on the site, and it would be wonderful for these needs to be met for the upcoming school year.

Here are a few examples of requests from Sunset District schools:

Lawton Alternative School:

Ms. Netkin says her classroom needs new chairs: “So many of these old chairs are broken and cracked. Not only is a good comfortable chair important for a child's physical being, but it will assist in contributing to healthy work habits. These colorful chairs will create a cheerful work environment for all of us. And believe me, it means a lot to all of us.”



Mr. Lavezzo needs desks for his classroom, “Three desks have broken this year alone. One desk at \$175 does not seem like much. Thirty-five desks at a cost of \$6,000 is daunting. But we need them desperately.”

If you would like to help these teachers, or any teachers, with their classroom needs, visit: <https://lawton-sfusd-ca.schoolloop.com/donorschoose>

Francis Scott Key Elementary School:

Ms. Santos' students are K-2nd grade children who belong to a special day class that focuses on developing their speech through intensive language learning, as well as achieving academic and social goals. The resources requested are mobile bookcases with bins and a quiet reading area with a bookcase. These resources would give them a proper and clear reading area, where they can enjoy reading books much more comfortably.



Ms. Wong is a technology teacher who would like two iPads. She explains, “Our school has four classes with students with special needs that include speech, emotional and physical challenges. My students need two iPads, two covers and an audio visual adaptor, in order to have equal access to technology. Due to physical disabilities, they can't use the mouse and would benefit from the touch screen. These iPads will solve that problem for my students.”

If you would like to help these teachers, or any teachers, with their classroom needs, visit: <http://www.donorschoose.org/school/francis-scott-key-elementary-school/4422>



ABRAHAM LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL

ALHS PTSA 2011 FALL FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

To all Lincoln Families & Friends: Your help is needed!

The **ALHS PTSA is currently planning their 2011 Fall Fundraising Raffle**. The past several years have brought severe budget cuts to Lincoln and the PTSA is raising much needed funds through a raffle. 100% of the proceeds will directly benefit the students.

The grand prize will be \$1000 cash, and there will be lots of other prizes as well. Winners will be drawn at the PTSA Holiday Potluck on December 14th, and winners need not be present to win.

If you are interested in helping by donating prizes or buying a raffle ticket, contact the Lincoln High School PTSA at lincolnptsa@yahoo.com

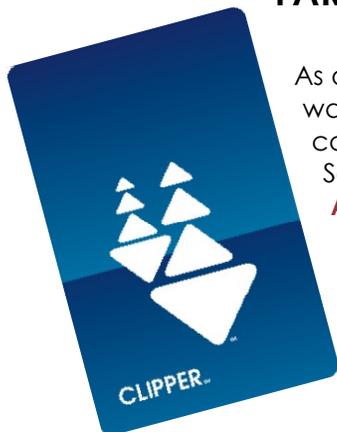
WHAT'S "GROWING" ON AT EDGEWOOD?

Edgewood Center for Children and Families celebrates their **160th Anniversary** this year with the installation of the **Edgewood Garden Learning Center**. This new garden project will incorporate an outdoor classroom space that offers alternative, experiential learning for Edgewood children and families, many of whom have suffered from abuse and neglect that requires Edgewood's individualized attention. The garden will provide experiences that link to and extend classroom curriculum with a focus on **nutrition, health, and exercise**, and integrate this with **arts, science, literacy, and math** and the role of **organic food** and sustainability within the community.



Edgewood invites the community to the opening of the Garden and its programs and curriculums on **Sunday, August 28 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm**. RSVP by emailing events@edgewood.org or calling 415-682-3201.

FAREWELL FAST PASS, HELLO CLIPPER CARDS



As of August, the SFMTA will discontinue the Youth paper passes and the only way to receive a discounted Youth fare is to have it loaded onto a Clipper card. To help with this transition the SFMTA Customer Service Office at 11 South Van Ness will be open on the following Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m: **August 6, 27 and September 3**. These special hours are to process **Youth Clipper cards only. No other services will be available**. Remember, once you get your Clipper card, you must load it to use it. For more information, you may call 877-878-8883

SUNDAY STREETS SCENES FROM THE SUNSET



UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 3 (Wed)

Workshop: ADA Compliance for Small Businesses

Taraval Police Station – 2345 24th Ave
5:00 – 6:00pm

Aug 6 (Sat)

Noriega Food Fair

Noriega St. between 30th & 33rd Ave
11:00am – 4:00pm

Aug 12-14 (Fri-Sun)

OUTSIDE LANDS

Golden Gate Park

Aug 16 (Tue)

Police Captain Lum's Monthly Community Meeting

Taraval Police Station – 2345 24th Ave
7:00 pm

Aug 21 (Sun)

Stern Grove 2011 Festival Finale - San Francisco Opera

Stern Grove
2:00 pm

Aug 28 (Sun)

Edgewood Center for Children

Opening Reception of the Edgewood – 1801 Vicente St
Garden Learning Center
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm