

**City and County of
San Francisco**



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市參事佩斯金

**President, Board of
Supervisors**

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President Peskin and Chinatown Community Leaders Call for Affordable Housing at Kirkland Bus Yard Dedicated to Transit Advocate Phil Chin

San Francisco – Board of Supervisors President Aaron Peskin joined Chinatown community leaders to honor the memory of transit advocate Phil Chin, whose lifelong dream was to develop affordable housing for Muni drivers at SFMTA’s Kirkland Yard bus depot in Fisherman’s Wharf. President Peskin authored new legislation which provides much needed local source of financing for workforce and middle-income housing and which can fund affordable housing at SFMTA’s Kirkland bus yard with little or no city subsidy. The new legislation passed the Board of Supervisors unanimously in July and was signed by the Mayor in August.

Phil Chin, founder of Chinatown Transportation Research and Improvement Project (TRIP), was a pioneer in transit equity for Chinatown and citywide, and who rose to become the highest ranking Asian-American to serve the SFMTA. Through Phil’s leadership, Chinatown TRIP organized for expanded service by the 30 Stockton, the extended bus service to the Richmond, brought scramble signals to Chinatown for better pedestrian safety and many other improvements bringing equity to our transportation system. Phil passed away in March at age 77.

“Thanks to our new workforce and middle-income housing legislation, we have new financing tools which can make Phil Chin’s dream a reality” said President Peskin, “I am calling on the city to dedicate this site to Phil Chin, address our climate crisis through electrification, and build affordable housing for our Muni operators at the same time.”

“The majority of Muni drivers live outside the city because they can’t afford to live here. Many drivers work twelve to fourteen hour split shifts including their commute from the East Bay and beyond.” Said Irwin Lum, a retired Muni driver, who served Muni for thirty-two years and was the first Asian-American president of the Transit Workers Union Local 250A. “Many drivers sleep in their cars in between shifts because they don’t have a home here to lay their heads. We need affordable housing to live in the City that we serve.”

“Our community has dreamed of affordable housing at this site for years, and now it can come true with the help of WHAMI”, said Queena Chen of Chinatown TRIP. “In the old days, diesel buses at this site prevented it from becoming housing. The planned electrification of Kirkland yard is the perfect opportunity to build affordable housing at this site, and we want it dedicated to Phil Chin.”

“Phil Chin had the heart of a Peace Corps volunteer and eyes of a linebacker. He was an outstanding humanitarian and had the determination that never missed an opportunity to help his community win with a game saving effort” said former Mayor Art Agnos “His dedication to Muni and to transportation fairness for the community was unmatched.”

San Francisco Planning department studied the site in 2017 and concluded that 284 units of affordable housing could be built at the site, in addition to a modernized bus depot.

Additional Resources

Phil Chin Obituary: [Philip Chin Obituary \(1947 - 2024\) - Fremont, CA - San Francisco Chronicle \(legacy.com\)](#)

President Peskin presentation on [Workforce and Middle-Income Housing Program](#)