

The Richmond is talking . . .

The Flower Pianos return for a fourth year at the San Francisco Botanical Garden from July 5 to 16. For 12 days, there will be 12 pianos, one garden and you. Stroll through the 55-acre, garden-turned-concert-hall where you are the star, and play anything you've a mind to—from random notes to the theme from Twin Peaks.

Orchids in the Park: The San Francisco Orchid Society summer show and sale, July 21 and 22, at San Francisco County Fair Building (Hall of Flowers). The orchids and exotic plants show and sale features orchid supplies, books, arts, T-shirts for sale. There will be local and international vendors, lectures, demonstrations, raffles and a special appearance by the Orchid Doctor.

The Richmond Neighborhood Center will be hosting Playland at the Beach on Saturday, August 4, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Local music, art, and food will be featured on Balboa Street from 36th to 39th Avenue.

Outside Lands returns for its 11th year in Golden Gate Park, August 10 through August 12. Headliners include The Weeknd, Florence and the Machine, Janet Jackson, Beck and Bon Iver.

Hardly Strictly Bluegrass returns for its 18th year, beginning Friday, October 5. The lineup has not been announced, but, as with years past, it will be a great weekend—thanks to the Hellman family—for people to enjoy the love of music.

National Night Out is August 7. Join your neighbors at the Sixth Avenue police station at 4 p.m. for this popular annual community-building event. Meet your district station officers and enjoy a fun family event.

Summer 2018 PAR Meeting

Public Safety Forum

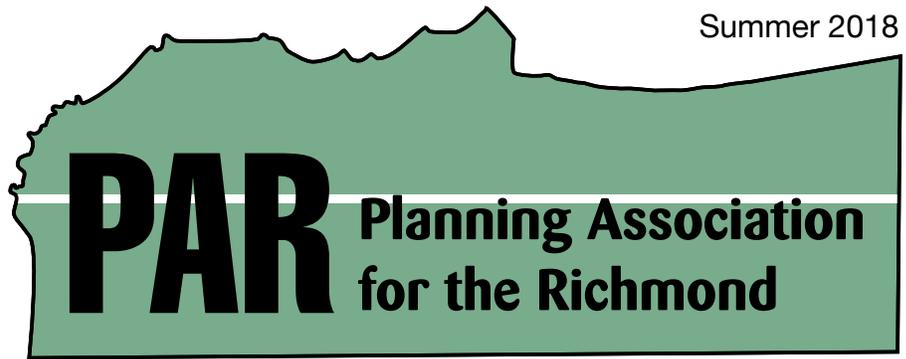
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Wednesday, July 18

7 to 9 p.m.

Richmond Recreation Center
251 18th Avenue
(between Clement & California Streets)
Limited street parking is available.

Muni: 1 California and 38 Geary



Geary Bus Rapid Transit plans finalized—phase 1 to start this fall

Plans for Geary Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), a civic improvement project aimed at improving reliability, reducing travel times for Muni customers and increasing safety for people traveling along the corridor, have been studied and approved for final design.

These changes are scheduled to be designed and built in two phases: first, the Geary BRT (between Market and Stanyan Streets) and then the Geary Boulevard Improvement Project (from Stanyan Street to 34th Avenue).

The first phase will start with side-running bus lanes.

To address the Geary BRT's goals to improve transit reliability and traffic

safety, a variety of improvements are proposed, including:

- Red, dedicated transit lanes on the sides of the street (adjacent to the parking lane) to reduce unpredictable delays;
- New transit bulbs to decrease bus delays by allowing buses to remain in the bus-only lane when passengers load and unload;
- Bus stop changes to improve efficiency, including relocating and removing bus stops;
- Upgraded transit signal priority system to make green lights more likely for buses;
- Pedestrian bulbs at intersections

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From civic pride to shopping locally

One Richmond Campaign to unite district

Those worried about the decline of community ties—and who doesn't worry in a time of celebrity suicides, homelessness and opioid abuse?—will welcome the One Richmond Campaign, a community-building initiative sponsored by Supervisor Sandra Fewer and the Richmond District Neighborhood Center.

The campaign took shape in a series of six outreach meetings during which Richmond residents of diverse ages and ethnicity were asked to discuss how the residents could better work together to preserve what they love in the neighborhood. Almost 900 people filled out questionnaires asking them to identify favorite activities, shops, restaurants and other neighborhood amenities.

Four guiding values emerged from the meetings and questionnaires: inclusivity, compassion, civic pride and shop-

ping local. Further, the people attending the outreach meeting came to envision One Richmond as an umbrella organization supporting other community-based organizations in support of these values.

Youthful—and enthusiastic—volunteers from the Richmond District Neighborhood Center distributed posters for shop windows and fanned out at the Clement Street Farmers Market handing out flyers announcing a kickoff party for the One Richmond Campaign on June 16 at Argonne Elementary School.

Conceived as a kind of districtwide block party, the event featured music, free local food, and neighbors socializing.

The kickoff also featured important organizational steps. Participants were invited to take a One Richmond pledge, committing them to the four core values.

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Letter from the President

Dear PAR Members,
I'm very pleased to have been elected as PAR's new president. First and foremost, I want to thank Richard Correia, who served as PAR's president for the past three years. Rich's esteemed career with the San Francisco Police Department shone through in his no-nonsense leadership style and his focus on the issues that have the greatest impact on our neighborhood. I look forward to building on his great work and am very happy that he has chosen to remain on our board. I'm also delighted that Vice President Nicholas Belloni, Treasurer Christopher Wright and Secretary Mary Dee Beall are staying on as PAR officers.

I grew up in the Richmond and believe I'm the first second-generation PAR president. Admittedly, my principle childhood memory of PAR is of the leftover snacks from when my dad hosted a board meeting at our house. But more substantively, at our last General Membership Meeting, my dad recounted that, a few decades ago, it was PAR members who brought their kids

out to advocate for the construction of the Richmond Rec Center, which now hosts PAR meetings and other valuable community activities. This long-running legacy of engagement is a big part of why we all love living in the Richmond, and it's PAR's mission to further foster this commitment and advocacy for our neighborhood.

One topic that's gotten significant interest among our neighbors is homelessness. The PAR board recently heard from Ward Naughton, who is leading a grassroots neighborhood effort to address homelessness in the Richmond. Those of you who follow the Richmond posts on Nextdoor may know that Ward and others have been working on a new, highly localized approach of direct outreach from neighborhood volunteers to homeless individuals. The hope is that individualized and consistent attempts to get people the help they need can make a real difference. PAR members wishing to get involved in this effort should contact us at PAR and we will connect you with Ward.

We know many of our neighbors are

doing great work and have great ideas for the Richmond, and PAR wants to connect with more of you. As described in this newsletter's article about the Membership Committee (see below), we plan to be at more neighborhood events, including the Clement Street Farmers Market.

We're also looking for neighbors interested in joining our membership committee. I'm grateful to Mary Dee Beall, PAR's secretary and membership chair, for spearheading this outreach effort. When you see the PAR banner, please come by and say hello. We're looking forward to getting to know our members better and to signing up new neighbors to join PAR.

We also hope to see you at our next General Membership Meeting, on July 18 at the Rec Center. And if we don't see you out and about, please feel free to share any question, suggestions or ideas with us by email at sfparpresident@gmail.com.

I'm excited to lead PAR in its next chapter, and hope to meet you all soon.

Kate Lazarus

sfparpresident@gmail.com

Officers & Directors

Officers

Kate Lazarus, President
Nicholas Belloni, Vice President
Mary Dee Beall, Secretary
Christopher Wright, Treasurer

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Jean Barish	Margie Hom-Brown
Dan Baroni	Jason Jungreis
Richard Correia	Natalia Kresich
Eliote Durham	Brian Larkin
Herb Elliott	Michael Murphy
Paul Epstein	Zachary Nathan
Robert Fries	Marjan Philhour
Sharon Gadberry	Chris White
Peter Winkelstein	

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Eugene Brodsky • Jim Lazarus • Ron Miguel
Paul Rosenberg • Michele Stratton

PAR Representatives in Other Organizations

Friends of Mountain Lake Park Playground:
Claire Myers
Housing Action Coalition: Dan Baroni
Kaiser Permanente Citizens Task Force:
Peter Winkelstein
Neighborhood Associations for Presidio
Planning: Paul Epstein, Sharon Gadberry,
Ocean Beach Master Planning Committee:
Julie Burns
Richmond Community Coalition: Nick Belloni

Looking for volunteers to help PAR grow

Join PAR's Membership Committee as we continue to re-activate our current membership and enroll new members.

Membership Chair Mary Dee Beall is looking for volunteers who want to help expand the organization and become more involved PAR's activities.

As one of the oldest and largest neighborhood associations, PAR plays an important role in shaping policies that impact our neighborhood. By joining with our Board to increase PAR's membership, you can play an important role in raising PAR's voice in the Richmond District and throughout the City.

Invite your friends and neighbors to join PAR. Join our Board at various outreach activities by staffing our table at the weekly Clement Street Farmers

Market and at other community events. Help us reach out to other neighborhood organizations you know that would be interested in learning more about PAR.

It won't take a lot of your time, but it will make a big difference. With your help, we can ensure coverage at the weekly markets and other neighborhood events to spread the word about our organization.

This is a wonderful opportunity to get involved with your neighborhood, meet new people and help our organization thrive.

Please let us know if you're interested or would like more information about this opportunity by sending a quick note to Mary Dee at newsletter.par@gmail.com.

Is your membership information current?

With recent administrative changes, PAR is moving to a new database management program to maintain member records. We'd appreciate your taking a moment to renew your membership information to be sure our listings are current.

- Name
- Street Address
- Zipcode
- Home phone
- Cell phone
- Email address

Send to newsletter.par@gmail.com

One Richmond Campaign to strengthen district ties

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In exchange, they received a membership card, or “Richmond passport,” that would entitle them to special deals at local stores and restaurants.

The initial response among merchants seems positive; each participating merchant is free to choose a discount or promotion of their own choosing.

If the program proves popular, both among residents and merchants, the Richmond “passport” may become a feature of life in the neighborhood, encouraging people to resist the lure of online shopping, to stay with favorite merchants and to try other others.

As a visual symbol of the initiative, the One Richmond Campaign has chosen an eye-catching logo consisting of an artistically designed “R” inside a circle.

The party also offered community-based organizations an opportunity to introduce themselves and to gain wider recognition and enroll volunteers. The Richmond Community Coalition, an organization of neighborhood nonprofits, met five days later to

discuss the directions and new resources offered by the One Richmond Campaign. The hope is that the campaign can serve on an ongoing basis to enlist volunteers to meet particular needs of the organizations.

Any gathering of Richmond residents inevitably generates conversation about the skyrocketing costs of housing. The themes of compassion and inclusivity would seem to lead to a consideration of this crisis. At this stage, the One Richmond Campaign has avoided policy issues, but it may still add momentum for needed action.

Seeing a need for further outreach, a year ago Supervisor Fewer delayed the implementation stage of Richmond Strategy, a planning department program that aimed to mobilize professional expertise to address common concerns and aspirations in the field of housing.

The energy engendered by outreach in the One Richmond Campaign may now stimulate a search for ways to pursue the values of inclusivity and compassion in this fraught area.

Geary Bus Rapid Transit project slated to start soon

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to shorten crossing distances, make pedestrians more visible to motorists and to reduce vehicle turning speeds;

- Enhanced medians at intersections to provide a safe refuge for pedestrians to wait in the middle of the street, if needed;
- Calming the Geary Expressway between Gough and Scott Streets by decreasing the number of travel lanes from four to two general-purpose lanes and one bus-only lane in each direction;
- Pedestrian countdown signals that let people walking know how much time they have to safely cross the street; and
- Removing the Steiner bridge and improving the safety and visibility of the ADA-compliant, surface-level crosswalks and medians to improve accessibility and safety for people walking.

A Project Shaped by Community Involvement

The current Geary BRT proposal reflects numerous design changes in response to community input. These include:

- Retention of 38R Geary Rapid bus stops at Laguna Street;
- Retention of 38 Geary bus stops at Collins Street;
- Changing the 38R Geary Rapid bus stops at Spruce Street into 38 Geary bus stops to preserve on-street parking;
- Modifications to passenger and commercial loading zone locations in response to feedback collected via a door-to-door merchant survey;
- Retention of the Webster Street pedestrian bridge; and
- Addition of more pedestrian bulbs to further improve safety for pedestrians.

Implementation Anticipated to Begin in September

After two open houses in June and incorporating any additional changes, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) board will consider approving the final design of the project, which is anticipated in August. Implementation is expected to begin in September.

The first work that would happen includes bus stop changes,

bus-only lanes and roadway striping changes across the entire Geary BRT limits from Market Street to Stanyan Street, as well as coordinated utility work sponsored by the SF Public Utilities Commission that would occur primarily between Van Ness Avenue and Masonic Street. As implementation gets closer, the SFMTA will conduct additional public outreach activities focused on what to expect during construction.

PAR remains opposed to the Geary BRT project but keeps a dialog open with the SFMTA, with the hope of changing parts of the project and also to keep our members informed about the latest project developments.



Jack Tillmany Collection, wnp67.0028
The Coliseum Theatre, circa 1954, with the old blade sign. (Neighbors may remember the simple “COL” sign that replaced it.) The 1989 earthquake ended its days as a theater, but the building is recognizable today at Clement Street and Ninth Avenue as a Walgreens with condos on upper floors.

Join PAR now and make your voice heard.

Membership is open to all persons living, working, or owning property in the Richmond District of San Francisco. PAR is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Your contribution is tax-deductible as provided by law.

Yes! I/we want to support the Richmond District.

First name(s)		Last name	
Name of business (for business members)			
Address			
City		State	Zip
Primary phone		Cell/other phone	
E-Mail <i>PAR respects your privacy and will not share your email.</i>			
Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Business			
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting membership, \$20.00/year and above			
<input type="checkbox"/> Subscribing membership, \$25.00/year and above			
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor membership, \$50.00/year and above			
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron membership, \$100.00/year and above			

Please complete and cut out this form and mail it together with your check (payable to the *Planning Association of the Richmond*) to

PAR
5758 Geary Boulevard, Box 356
San Francisco, CA 94121-2112

THANKS for helping to support the quality of life in San Francisco's Richmond District.

Pay Your PAR dues online!
sfpar.org/site/join-par-via-paypal.html
to join, contribute or pay your dues the easy, electronic way!

Meet PAR's newest board member

Natalia Kresich is a native of the Richmond District. Her great-grandparents came to the San Francisco in the 1950s and were active in the Russian émigré community in San Francisco, helping to build the Holy Virgin Cathedral on 26th Avenue. She currently lives in her family home, bought by her great-grandparents upon their arrival to San Francisco.

Natalia attended St. Vincent de Paul elementary school in Cow Hollow, San Domenico Upper School in Marin County, and graduated from UC Davis, where she studied geography and comparative literature.

Following graduation, she worked as the communications director at the International Forum on Globalization, a research institute in the Presidio, and continues to work with the founder and director on archival projects. She then went to work as the executive assistant at a public policy nonprofit.

She is also a freelance writer on local San Francisco issues, and is published in 48 Hills, the online presence of the former Bay Guardian. She is currently working on a visual art project archiving San Francisco history through film photography.

Natalia is the current proprietor of 34 Trinity Arts & News, a bookstore and arts events space in the Financial District. In October 2017, she and a small group organized to preserve the former brick-and-mortar location of G.F. Wilkinson Books, the last remaining used bookstore in downtown San Francisco.

SFPAR.ORG

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