

PAR Planning Association for the Richmond

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Candidate Forum for Supervisor in District 1

co-sponsored by PAR and the League of Women Voters

Join us as we meet the candidates, ask questions, and hear the candidates' priorities for representing the Richmond District at City Hall.

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Wednesday, 15 October 2008, 7:00 p.m.

Richmond Recreation Center

251 18th Avenue (between Clement & California Streets)

Paid parking is available one block away in the lot behind the Alexandria Theatre between Clement Street and Geary Boulevard.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Members,
This has been one very, very busy summer!

At the beginning of the summer, PAR's Board of Directors reorganized itself into eight standing committees, contracted with Singer Management Group for its administrative services, and began to bring its databases and Web site into the modern era. Thanks to Michele Stratton and Julie Burns for providing leadership on these three projects.

PAR, in collaboration with Friends of Lands End, entered into a settlement agreement with the Veterans Administration Medical Center at Fort Miley that ensures that plans for future development at the VAMC will comply with the National Environmental Protection Act. In that respect, the VAMC will begin a series of quarterly meetings with its Outer Richmond District neighbors regarding those plans. The first meeting is scheduled for October 7 in the Auditorium (Bldg. 7, first floor) of the VAMC at Clement Street

and 42nd Avenue. Thanks to Ron Miguel, Gene Brodsky, and Julie Burns for providing leadership on this issue.

PAR is still developing its comments and suggestions with respect to the Presidio Trust's "Main Post Update" and its draft "Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement." Submission of those comments is expected in October, and they should be available on PAR's Web site under the "position papers" link. Thanks to Redmond Kernan, Bill Shepard, and the Federal Government Projects Committee for providing leadership on these very complex issues.

In late April, PAR provided its comments and suggestions with respect to the Municipal Transportation Authority's proposed new routes and schedules in its "Transportation Effectiveness Project" (TEP). After some of those initial suggestions were adopted, PAR reiterated some previous proposals that were not adopted and provided some additional suggestions on September 16. Thanks to Maria Sousa,

John Kalin, Paul Rosenberg and PAR's Transportation Committee for representing PAR and Richmond District residents on these issues.

During the summer, the Recreation and Parks Commission permitted several concerts to be staged in various locations within Golden Gate Park. While all of the events caused parking, traffic, and noise disruptions in various parts of the Richmond District and the City and denied public access to various parts of this public park, it has been PAR's experience that some of those disruptions can be significantly mitigated by different approaches from the concerts' promoters and various City Departments. Thanks to Camille She and PAR's Parks and Recreation Committee for its skilled leadership on these issues.

PAR offered its comments and suggestions to the Department of Public Works with respect to its enforcement of the trash receptacle storage ordinance

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DPW begins cutbacks on street sweeping

If you haven't heard the hum of the street sweeper as often in your neighborhood, there's a reason why. At the end of August, the Department of Public Works (DPW) began rolling out a plan to reduce mechanical sweeping throughout the city.

What does this mean for the Richmond District? On most residential streets in the Richmond weekly street sweeping will be reduced to the second and fourth weeks of the month. According to DPW, the day and time of sweeping will be the same for the time being.

Some major commercial corridors schedules remain unchanged. They are:

- Fulton Street from Arguello Boulevard to the Great Highway
- Geary Boulevard out to 32nd Avenue and between 41st and 43rd Avenues
- Balboa Street from 32nd Avenue to 42nd Avenue
- Clement Street from Arguello to Park Presidio and 18th to 27th Avenue
- 25th Avenue from California Street to Fulton Street

A number of other blocks throughout the Richmond will also continue to receive weekly sweepings. For a block-by-block overview, visit the DPW Web site at www.sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/sfdpw/bses/NewSweepingSchedulePhase1.pdf

If you have comments, concerns, or suggestions, contact Armando Casco at DPW armando.casco@sfdpw.org or 415-695 2134.

Future events in Golden Gate Park—mitigating the neighborhood impact

Large events in Golden Gate Park attract visitors and contribute to the economic health of the City. The influx of large numbers of people impacts Richmond District residents and businesses—especially those adjacent to the Park—in ways that may not always be optimal.

The OutsideLands festival in August brought upward of 130,000 people to the park over three days and was the first night-time concert in the park. The event organizer, Another Planet Entertainment, paid \$150,000 for a permit as well as donating a portion of concert revenues to the Recreation and Parks Department—ultimately contributing around \$850,000, according the San Francisco Chronicle. The consensus is that advanced planning helped to mitigate some, if not all, of the stresses to the neighborhood, considering the event's size.

On September 6, the Power to the Peacemakers concert left a less happy impression. The parking situation was surprisingly chaotic for this much smaller one-day event. Not only were cars parked blocking driveways, but grassy lawn areas in the park itself were taken over by cars.

It is certainly reasonable for RPD to explore the potential gains to be had from permitting a greater number of events in Golden Gate Park. PAR does not oppose this goal in and of itself. However, we believe the department has not adequately acknowledged the impacts on the adjacent

neighborhood. To this end, PAR's Parks Committee intends to work with RPD to help formalize some measures to lessen the negative impacts on neighbors during future events.

Questions we seek to address include:

- What are the current hours allowed for "amplified sound"? What are the current hours allowed for events
- What is the public notification process for road closures? What is the notification process for events?
- Is there a maximum number of large events that RPD will allow in Golden Gate Park per year? How about per venue (Speedway, Polo Field, Concourse, Sharon Meadow) so that the impact on neighbors is spread out geographically?
- Are there formalized increases in services that are required per event based on estimated attendance (for instance, increase in patrol or parking officers, increased Muni service, etc.)?
- What is the procedure to change any of the above requirements (i.e., exceptions granted at commission hearings), and what is a reasonable limit to granting exceptions, which preserves and respects the original intent of the rule?

For those who have additional questions or concerns, contact Margot Shaub, Director of Partnership & Resource Development, at 415-831-2704 or margot.shaub@sfgov.org.

PAR's only income is the tax-deductible dues contribution paid by our membership either to PAR or by naming PAR as a United Way designated recipient. PAR does not accept any government money or any grants, thus maintaining its complete independence.

You have made PAR the largest neighborhood organization in San Francisco and kept it as a viable voice for the Richmond District since its inception in 1970.

In the following list, we gratefully acknowledge those members who have contributed in excess of the basic \$15 membership dues since the Summer 2008 newsletter—their generosity helps us thrive.

Patrons (\$100 and above)

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Meet and question the Richmond District candidates

PAR and the San Francisco League of Women Voters are jointly sponsoring the Board of Supervisors District 1 Candidate Forum, which will be held at the Richmond Recreation Center at 251 18th Avenue, as part of PAR's quarterly General Membership Meeting. The forum will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 15, from 7 to 9 p.m.

Attendees will have the chance to submit questions to the candidates regarding the District issues that interest and concern them the most.

This nonpartisan forum will provide voters an invaluable opportunity to hear candidates explain their positions and address issues of specific interest to the Richmond District.

District 1 Supervisor Candidates' Forum on Housing and Family Issues

If you aren't able to attend the candidates' forum sponsored by PAR and the League of Women Voters on October 15, you have another opportunity to hear the candidates speak.

On Monday, Oct. 6, the Northwest Convener Initiative of the Richmond District Neighborhood Center (www.rdcn.org) is hosting a forum focused on issue affordable housing and other key issues affecting youth, children and families.

The forum, at Star of the Sea School, 360 Ninth Avenue (between Geary Boulevard and Cabrillo Avenue) will run

from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Childcare and Cantonese translation will be provided.

Contact Angela Tsang at angela@rdcn.org or 415-751-6600 for more information.

Additional forum sponsors include Children's Council of San Francisco (www.childrenscouncil.org), Richmond Community Coalition, Richmond District YMCA (www.ymcasf.org/Richmond/index.html), Richmond Area Multi-Services (www.ramsinc.org), and San Francisco Organizing Project (www.sfop.org).

Volunteers sought for mid-District cleanup

Keep Our Neighborhood Clean invites everyone to join a cleanup effort on Saturday, Oct. 4, from 9 a.m. to noon. Participants will gather at the Richmond Recreation Center, 251 18th Avenue (between Clement and California Streets).

The cleanup will focus on the area bounded by 14th and 25th Avenues and Geary Boulevard and Lake Street. Tasks

will include eliminating graffiti, picking up litter, cleaning out tree bins, and lightweight gardening. There will also be large dumpsters into which residents can dispose of bulky waste and items for recycling. Snacks and treats will be provided for all after the clean up!

To volunteer, or for more information, please e-mail koncsf@hotmail.com.

You can learn more about the District 1 candidates by viewing their Web sites or contacting them via e-mail.

Nicholas Belloni

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More information about the Nov. 4 election is available at www.smartvoter.org/, www.voterguide.sos.ca.gov/, or <http://ca.lww.org/>.

Subscribers (\$25-\$49)

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Bromfield, David/Beth
Brousal, Gertrude M. & Pauline H. Mitchell
Bruschera, Jean
Capellino, Judith
Casciato, Reginia M.
Catchings, John & Lynn
Chan, Curtis & Janice
Chan, Jennifer
Chang, Edward & Meimei
Cheung, Tien Shang
Chi, Tom T.
Coleman, Edward
Cutrufo, Rosa
Cwiklinski, Mila & Lydia
Daniel, Don & Marcie

Demartini, Joe
Dubash, Rustom & Diana
Faibusch, Ronald
Fleishhacker, William
Freeman, John
French, Muriel
Ginsberg, Howard & Barbara
Grubb, Joseph
Han, Hung S.
Harada, Peter & Chris
Hee, Carolyn L./Frederic
Heyman, Eve
Holsinger, Paul/Janet
Hong, Lillian
Honn, Josephine
Hudson, Mary & Michael
Janakes, Ethel & Nick
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Jennings, Esther

Jones, Mary
Jow, Richard/Elizabeth
Karpowicz, Cheryl/Ronald
Kim, Lawrence
Kiyasu, William & Kikue
Lane, Charles/Carol
Mahoney, Catherine
Maki, Joan & John
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Storz, Marshall/Lois
Swaner, Betty
Takeda, George/Rosalina
Thacher, Carter
Thompson, Charles
Thompson, Mrs. Yolanda
Toscanini, Joan
von Beroldingen, Paul
Wattles, Bob & Tera
Webber, Christina
Whilt, Judith A.
Whisman, Elaine
Yip, Esther and James Heard

Editor's note: This list was compiled in advance of the newsletter deadline. For that reason, recent contributors' names may not appear here.

President's letter

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and with respect to its implementation of new reduced mechanical street sweeping. Thanks to Jason Jungreis and PAR's Community Services Committee for providing leadership on these two sets of issues.

PAR's Tile Project at the Richmond District Milton Marks Branch Library is now nearing completion, and it is an outstanding success on two counts. It will provide an innovative and attractive addition to the library when its remodeling is completed, and it has raised sufficient

funds to permit Friends of the Public Library to purchase and install a new play structure adjacent to the branch. Thanks to Camille She and PAR's Parks and Recreation Committee for their outstanding leadership in this very creative project.

Whew! For a nonprofit organization without any employees of its own, this is a pretty impressive record!

Sincerely,

Raymond R. Holland, President

WWW.SFPAR.ORG

TIME TO RENEW?

The date code above your name on the mailing label indicates when your membership expires. Please renew your membership by that date.

PAR tax-deductible memberships are:

- \$100+ Patron
- \$50+ Sponsor
- \$25+ Subscriber
- \$15+ Supporter

Mail checks to: PAR

3145 Geary Boulevard, #205
San Francisco, CA 94118-3316

PAR's voicemail number is
415-974-9332.

Buffalo Bill and his Wild West show return to Ocean Beach



In September 1902, Buffalo Bill Cody brought his "Wild West and Congress of Rough Riders of the World," featuring a troupe of sharpshooters, cowboys, and Indians, to San Francisco. During their visit, the troupe posed for a photograph on Ocean Beach. More than 100 years later, artist Thom Ross (www.thomrossart.com) recreated the scene with life-size plywood cutouts of the colorful performers. For a few days in September 2008, Buffalo Bill rode again.

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