

APR - MAY 2011



DUBOCE TRIANGLE NEWSLETTER

Hand-delivered to **3000** households and businesses bi-monthly

Monday April 11

7:00 to 9:00 pm

PUBLIC MEETING

CPMC Davies Medical Center,
Auditorium, Lower Level B
North Tower (look for signs)

MEETING AGENDA:

- Meet your neighbors (7:00 - 7:15)
- Office of Sup. Wiener update
- Historic District update
- Castro Community Benefits District (CBD) update
- Recycling Center discussion led by Sup. Wiener

DTNA welcomes Supervisor Wiener, Historic Resource Commissioner Martinez and members of the Planning staff

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Wednesdays from 4 pm to 8 pm through December 21st

Castro Farmers' Market on Noe Street between Beaver and Market/16th opened March 16th. Fresh fruits, vegetables, bread, cheese, and more.

Saturday, April 9, 10 am-noon.

Friends of Duboce Park Volunteer Day.
Contact Rose at rosegillen@sbcglobal.net or 255-8370 for more information.

Saturday, April 16, 11 am-4 pm

DogFest. Visit <http://mckinleyschool.org/dogfest/> or call 241-6300 for more information.

Saturday, April 30, 11 am-3 pm

Youth Play Area Community Fundraising Kickoff at the Duboce Park Youth Play Area.
Contact Peter Cohen at pcohensf@gmail.com for more information.

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Trader Joe's Withdraws from Noe/Market Center

The Department of City Planning recently confirmed that Trader Joe's withdrew their application for a new store at the Noe/Market Center. The move came as a surprise, given that the project had been tentatively scheduled for a hearing before the Planning Commission on April 14th. While Trader Joe's gave no reason for the change, Supervisor Scott Wiener wrote on his facebook page "After two years of on-again-off-again consideration of the site, Trader Joe's decided that the location was not going to work for its business model, one that is fairly reliant on automobile visits."

Trader Joe's presentation at our February 14th meeting was widely publicized in advance to thousands of people via this newsletter and via Supervisor Scott Wiener's monthly email newsletter. It also was publicized on facebook on the Friends of Trader Joe's page, as well as through an email blast from Under One Roof asking supporters of Trader Joes to attend.

As a result of this advance publicity, there was a standing room only crowd at the meeting with over 160 people in attendance. Working with Supervisor Wiener, we encouraged a broad cross section of people living in the larger neighborhood beyond Duboce Triangle to attend as well. J.D. Petras from Café Flore did a robust business handing out large "Trader Joe's YES!" stickers for people who supported the project to wear while attending the meeting.

Representatives of Trader Joe's present-



Doug Yokomizo of Trader Joe's

ed the specifics of their proposal, Supervisor Wiener spoke, and members of DTNA reviewed project documents for the audience, especially those related to the draft traffic study and those related to the effect on other local businesses. Every member of the public who wished to speak was given the opportunity, even though the meeting ran quite late.

During the meeting, concerns about traffic, parking, and pedestrian safety were foremost, since the project would add pedestrian and vehicular trips to an already busy and complicated intersection.

The draft transportation study expected an additional 2100-2500 vehicle trips per day to the site, which has 39 parking spaces. The proposal also included an expanded loading area on Market Street, a zone to be located on top of

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I'm Working on Many Issues in my First 100 Days



Scott Wiener
San Francisco District 8
Supervisor

During the last two months, I've been focusing on both neighborhood and citywide concerns. Citywide issues have included calling for hearings on the Golden Gate National Recreational Area's (GGNRA) proposal to limit off-leash dogs at areas such as Fort Funston and Crissy Field, introducing a Good Samaritan Rental Ordinance to aid tenants displaced by disasters like the recent Castro arson fires, pushing the Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) to adopt peak hour permits for taxis to expand cab service in the city, and pushing the MTA to reform the work rules that are undermining Muni (yes, I push MTA a lot).

In Duboce Triangle, we learned this month that Trader Joe's has decided not to open a store in the old Tower Records building. While I'm disappointed by the news, we need to move

forward. I've been in close communication with the property owner and his broker and am providing whatever assistance I can to get the space filled in a timely manner and with a great use. This is a top priority for me. On a positive note, Mollie Stone's has opened on 18th Street, in the old DeLano's site. It's great to have this family-owned, high-quality grocer in the neighborhood.

I'm also focused on the Safeway parking lot at Church and Market, including the recycling center. I will be co-hosting a community meeting with DTNA, the Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association, and the Mission Dolores Neighborhood Association about the Safeway parking lot and the recycling center, at the DTNA meeting on April 11 at 7:15 PM at Davies Medical Center. We will have representatives from SFPD, the Department of the Environment, Safeway, and Community Recyclers. I'm eager to get all the interested parties in the same room so we can have a productive and comprehensive discussion.

In addition, on April 14th, I will be hosting a District 8 Town Hall Meeting with Mayor Ed Lee at Mission High School from 6:30 PM-8:30 PM. This will be an opportunity for everyone in the community to speak with our city leaders about issues and concerns in the district. Also in attendance will be District

Attorney George Gascon, Interim Chief of Police Jeff Godown, General Manager of Recreation and Parks Phil Ginsburg, Director of Public Works Ed Reiskin, and representatives from Muni, the PUC, and the San Francisco Unified School District.

Please come to either or both of these meetings to voice your opinions about Duboce

Triangle, District 8, and San Francisco.

For more regular updates, I have a monthly newsletter. If you'd like to be on the newsletter distribution list, please email Adam Taylor at adam.taylor@sfgov.org. You can also access all past newsletters by going to www.sfbos.org, clicking on my name, and clicking on "newsletter."

If You Don't Read the Examiner then Stop Having It Delivered!

Every Sunday and Thursday, the San Francisco Examiner drops thousands of free newspapers on the sidewalks (not the stairs or landings) of our neighborhood. Every Monday and Friday, thousands are still there, soaking up the winter rains. Many more responsible neighbors take them inside, and straight to the recycling bin. A few intrepid souls venture to read a couple of the stories first (or look at the ads). If you are not in the latter category, there is an easy way to clean up the neighborhood and/or stop the waste of useful resources.

Thanks to recent legislation, on each Examiner bag is printed a phone number and website info where you can go to stop delivery – all it takes is the click of a mouse! The information is also below, if you are feeling inspired... your neighbors thank you in advance.

Examiner Stop Delivery: Call 866-733-7323 or go to sfexaminer.com/delivery

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Duboce Park Historic District: The Time Is Now



Dennis Richards
DTNA President

What makes San Francisco a wonderful and unique place, in my opinion, is its people, cultural diversity, food, natural beauty, and its architecture.

Just like with our natural environment we are stewards of our "built" environment and history. We are a city rich in history and architecture. The City plans on eventually completing a city-wide "inventory" of each property in every neighborhood to rate its significance as to architecture and historical significance. Fortunately for Duboce Triangle, most of our neighborhood buildings have already been surveyed in conjunction with the rezoning process that took place under the Market and Octavia Better Neighborhoods Plan.

If a particular building is rated as architecturally or historically highly significant, it could be designated a historic landmark. If a group of significant buildings with

a common unifying theme are identified, as a group they could be designated as an historic district. The legislation in the Market Octavia rezoning contained provisions for requiring the city to do this.

There were several individual properties on both the north and south side of Market Street that have the potential to be designated as landmarks. One that you probably would recognize is the Swedish American Hall. Also, a pair of homes on 15th Street between Noe and Market Streets (2173 & 2177 15th Street) could be considered for landmark status.

There were 2 potential historic districts identified. One is the group of houses north of Duboce Park on Carmelita, Pierce and Potomac Streets (Duboce Park Historic District) which is eligible for the highest level of designation due to their cohesiveness, uniqueness, and integrity. The other one is pretty much the rest of Duboce Triangle east of Noe Street (the boundary of the M-O Plan Area) which is eligible for a lesser level of designation.

DTNA has consistently advocated with your support for both the survey and designation of historic districts and have featured several articles in this newsletter on the subject. We have been told by the City that limited dedicated funds are available

for the cost of designating historic districts in the M-O Plan Area, funds which will cover only 1 of 7 potential historic districts.

In addition to the cachet of being designated a historic district, there are studies that have shown that real estate values actually increase for homes that are included in a historic district. A potential downside of being designated is the fact that even though exterior alterations still would be required to go through a permitting process (regardless of whether a building is designated

or not), that process can be more rigorous. Because of the limited funds available for designation I feel that it is time for us to strongly advocate for the designation of the Duboce Park Historic District.

We will be hosting folks from the San Francisco Planning Department at our upcoming meeting who will do a presentation on this subject. We will also be discussing ways that we can advocate for our historic district. Your support is very important for this initiative!

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Neighborhood Association

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What's Happening at the Park?

Outdoor Movie Night, May 21
Save the date, as outdoor movie night returns to Duboce Park on Saturday, May 21st, with “The Rock,” starring Sean Connery, Nicolas Cage, and Ed Harris.

The movie was filmed in 1996 on Alcatraz and in San Francisco. The movie is rated R for strong violence and language.

Plans are being made to show the family-friendly, animated, “The Incredibles” (2004) in the fall.

“The Rock” will start when it gets dark at about 8:15 p.m. but “The Incredibles” can be shown at a much more kid-friendly time in the fall when it gets dark earlier. The event is free and is sponsored by Friend of Duboce Park and Rec & Park. Friends of the Harvey Milk Recreation Center will once again host a refreshment stand with popcorn and other movie goodies.

Dogfest Returns April 16
The fourth annual DogFest, a community dog show and family fun event that raises key funds for art, science, and literacy programs at our local McKinley Elementary returns April 16.

See opposite page for more information.

Youth Play Area Fundraising Kickoff Event, April 30
Youth Play Area organizers are hosting a Community Fundraising Kickoff Event at the site of the Youth Play Area on Saturday, April 30, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Of the \$100,000 needed to complete the project, a total of \$65,000 in grants have already been received. A goal of raising \$25,000 in the community by the end of July has been set to complement other grants that are being applied for.

At the Kickoff, neighbors will see plans and pictures of the site and equipment and can ask questions about the project, as well as doing a walkthrough of the site. The project is essentially shovel-ready, and the conceptual plan was approved by the Recreation and Parks Commission in October, 2009.

The YPA, to be built in the unused space next to the basketball court and behind the playground, is designed for children who have outgrown the existing children’s playground, but who are not yet old enough for unsupervised play. The design started as a community concept with the motivation to do something positive with the unused space. After successful renovations occurred in other areas of the park, the idea to transform this unused patch of dirt was a natural progression.

Duboce Park Community Meeting, May 18
Rec & Park offers Quarterly Community Meetings so that the public can become acquainted with and discuss issues related to Duboce Park with key Rec and Park staff members. Eric Andersen, Park Services Manager for Park Service Area 6, leads the meetings and reports on all of the maintenance and construction projects and issues in Duboce Park and at the Recreation Center. The next Duboce Park Community Meeting will be Wednesday, May 18, 6:30 pm, at the Harvey Milk Recreation Center.

Pierce St. Planting Circle
The fence for the Pierce St. Planting Circle will be funded by Rec & Park’s Capital Division. Although original plans called for a decorative fence to match the playground fence, Rec & Park is now considering installing bollards and chains to match the Dog Play/Multi-Use Area fence. A more substantial tree is also planned for that area.

Labyrinth
Skateboarders are creating streaks on the surface of the Labyrinth that makes it more difficult for labyrinth walkers to see the lines of the path.

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Dogs and Kids Woof It Up at McKinley Elementary DogFest



DogFest 2010

Drag Superstar Heklina and official Lemony Snicket representative, Daniel Handler, are among the many local

celebrities slated to appear at McKinley Elementary DogFest, April 16, 2011 from 11 am to 4 pm in Duboce Park.

DogFest is a celebration of dogs and kids benefitting SFUSD McKinley Elementary School, a K-5 public school at Castro and 14th Streets.

The festival offers something for dogs, kids, and parents of both breeds. Enter your dog in an “everyday dog show,” with contests for best trick, best costume, best look-alike duo, and other categories. Local celebrity judges include mayoral candidate Bevan Dufty, Top Chef contestant Ryan Scott, and morning DJ Fernando Ventura.

Treat your human child to a day of jumpy houses, face painting, carnival games, lots and lots of delicious food, and more. All proceeds offset the continued cuts to public education funding and directly help McKinley children.

Everyone is invited to watch or join in the canine contests, catch some crooning from Heklina, make a bid on an auction prize, and buy a ticket for the grand prize raffle. Children’s activities take place during the entire festival. Dog lovers are invited to take in the specialty merchandise featured in Dog Zone or take a breather in the Doggie Spa.

When: April 16, 2011. 11 am-4 pm.

Where: Duboce Park, Noe Street at Duboce Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94114.

Who: Dogs and kids of all ages and their parents.

Contact: www.sfdogfest.org, or email dogfest@mckinleyschool.org

Free admission.

Fees vary for dog contests and purchases of yummy food. Visit the website to pre-register your pup and get the scoop on the DogFest poop!



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Duboce Park Update

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Rec & Park will clean the surface periodically to remove the streaks.

Boulders may be installed in the planted area behind the Labyrinth to deter homeless people from using the area as a sleeping spot and bathroom.

Vandalism and Graffiti

There has been a rather obvious increase in graffiti along the walls next to the entrance to the Muni tunnel at Duboce Avenue and Noe Street. Rec and Park and MTA are working together to keep this area free of graffiti.

Bicycles and Skateboards

San Francisco law prohibits riding bicycles and using skateboards in San Francisco parks. New pavement stencils have been painted on the pathways at most of the major entrances to park as reminders. Park users have expressed safety concerns, particularly around the playground entrance gates and near Carmelita Street. "Skate stoppers" will be installed on retaining walls and railings around the Carmelita Steps and the Recreation Center to deter skateboard use.

Dog Play Area/Multi-Use Area

The water fountain is leaking underneath the doggie bowl.

Compaction, turf damage, and drainage continue to be problems and the DPA remains in very poor and soggy conditions during the wet season. Although Rec & Park installed new sod and fenced off areas while the grass took hold, those same areas are now getting bare and worn again. Part of the problem is the heavy use of the DPA, another is the drainage problem that was supposed to be fixed when the DPA was built. When new grass is installed, it is a "Bermuda grass blend" that is supposed to be a hardier grass. Aeration and overseeding is required twice a year in any case.

There is rusting at the bottom of the bollards that will result in "failure" within a couple of years. The iron shop will be asked to address this problem.



February 2011 General Meeting

We had quite a turnout for a rainy night on Valentine's Day! DTNA's February meeting attracted a more-than-full house of over 160 people.

Joel Bubek of the Castro Community Benefits District asked for volunteers for the Castro Ambassadors program; if you're interested you can contact them at CastroCBD.org. They are also looking for block captains to agree to call 311 when spotting graffiti, dumping, or people in need on the street.

Jeff Benjamin from McKinley Elementary announced DogFest on April 16 in Duboce Park – check out SFDogfest.org (and see the article in this newsletter.)

Supervisor Scott Weiner, who was very pleased by the large turnout, described a few things he's done in his first 5 weeks in office. He and Mark Leno are working the issue of the Safeway recycling center, which would require a change in state law, which currently requires them at large supermarkets. He is also working on the 16th and Noe intersection; he wants to bring it up to what is envisioned in the Market and Octavia Plan.

Battalion Chief Dennis Sutter spoke about the recent arsons in our neighborhood. If you witness a fire, watch the crowd that gathers (arsonists come back to watch),

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www.dtna.org

Street Trees in the Triangle and Beyond

One of the defining characteristics of the Duboce Triangle is the number and variety of street trees living throughout the neighborhood.

Many of the largest trees were planted in the 1970's as sidewalks were improved and bulb outs added at intersections. When several trees were recently removed at the northwest corner of Noe and 16th Streets, many residents expressed concern.

The Castro/Upper Market Community Benefits District (CBD) and DTNA sent letters to the Department of Public Works/Bureau of Urban Forestry (DPW) to clarify the facts surrounding the tree removal, and plans for replanting. Fortunately, according to Chris Buck, Urban Forestry Inspector for DPW, new trees should be planted within the next month.

The prior trees were silver dollar eucalyptus trees which appear to have been poorly maintained and pruned contrary to arborist standards for many years. Last August, the owner of the corner building, which houses Lookout Bar and several other businesses, applied to remove the trees on the 16th Street frontage and plant new trees. DPW approved removal of the trees due to their poorly pruned shape, the danger of weakened branches, and the absence of any protests over their removal.

Subsequently, DPW decided to remove two additional trees on Noe Street which had suffered the same ill treatment, but which were the responsibility of DPW. These trees were also posted and approved for removal and replacement.

The CBD sent a protest letter, but, according to DPW, it was received after the posting period, so no further action could be taken. DPW also stated that the department wanted "to start over at this site" with a new tree species which could get larger and contribute to the urban landscape. The department also received assurances that the new trees will be pruned properly to achieve a larger growth pattern and canopy.

After considerable discussion, the tree species selected for replanting on both street frontages is the strawberry tree (*Arbutus marina*).

The strawberry tree is described as being similar to the native madrone tree, but easier to grow. It has deep green leaves, pinkish flowers



16th Street at Noe Street, prior to trees being removed

In the fall, and reddish bark. Following standard practice, the city will plant 24" box sized trees on the Noe Street frontage and has requested the same from the owner; though smaller trees would be allowed on the 16th Street frontage. In either case, larger trees should eventually embrace this corner and add green to the urban forest.

Beyond the Triangle, city-wide efforts like the Better Streets Program seek to expand the number of street trees for all the benefits they provide. Everyone can help create a great urban forest by having basic information about street trees. For example, although maintenance for most street trees is the responsibility of the property owner, certain street trees are maintained by DPW, as mentioned above.

In the Duboce Triangle, DPW is responsible for trees on the following streets: Market, Castro, Noe, Sanchez, 14th, and parts of Duboce.

All street trees should be pruned according to the appropriate standards published by DPW; and whenever a tree is removed, the Urban Forestry Ordinance requires that a replacement tree be planted. The only exception is if there is not adequate room for a replacement tree.

If you are unsure how to care for a tree, information about proper care and maintenance can be found at www.sfdpw.org or Friends of the Urban Forest www.fuf.net. You can also help to green the city by planting a single street tree, or organizing a whole neighborhood planting as happened last year here in the Triangle. Contact Friends of the Urban Forest for more information.



Strawberry Tree

New Public Parklet Opens on 16th Street at Market Street

The new 16th Street Parklet is under enforcement action by the city as it has received many complaints that it actually isn't a parklet but an extension of the Squat and Gobble cafe.



16th Street Parklet on opening weekend showing Squat and Gobble offering table service

San Francisco hopes to reallocate public parking spaces into “people spaces” with the Pavement to Parks program. The goal of the Pavement to Parks projects seeks to turn public rights-of-way city land into new public plazas and parks. They are intended to be seen as a piece of street furniture, providing aesthetic enhancement to the overall streetscape. While permit holders sponsor the parklets, parklets are public space and must be publicly accessible.

Retail businesses, cafés, restaurants, and community benefit districts (CBD’s) may apply for a permit to install a parklet. Individual citizens may not. An applicant is not required to send notices to neighbors, however they are

required to post an 11 X 17 size notice of intent and it must be posted so it’s visible at the place of business. The business that sponsors the parklet is required to provide daily maintenance. The Department of Public Health may require pest abatement.

San Francisco’s Pavement to Parks program was inspired by similar projects in New York City, where plazas and public seating have been created on reclaimed streets. New York City has targeted areas to create a vibrant pedestrian corridor and plazas, creating pedestrian-friendly spaces throughout the densely populated city.

Jane Warner Plaza at Castro and 17th was a temporary experiment that was made permanent, through the efforts of local volunteers and businesses. Castro at 17th provides a community gathering place, which includes tables and chairs and a beautiful screen of low-water, wind tolerant greenery. This space provides an open shelter from the busy transit rich intersection with multiple Muni interchanges, cars, and pedestrians. The space is a vibrant

gathering place for locals and tourists.

The new 16th Street Parklet opened on March 5th. Squat and Gobble is the sponsor of the Parklet. They worked with Andres Power, the project manager from the Planning Department, to make the concept become a reality. Andres gives personal attention, leadership, and manages the coordination with other city agencies to bring Parklets to life around the city. He’s a dedicated; get it done steward of the city Pavement to Parks program.

The 16th Street Parklet reclaimed two commercial parking spaces. While the intersection of 16th St and Market Street is intensely busy and overflowing with cars and pedestrians, the Parklet sits within the crossroads as if no traffic exists.

Enjoying breakfast and watching the sights is busi-

ness as usual for a corner known for people watching. While table service by a restaurant in a parklet is a violation of city code, on a sunny Saturday with all the tables full the Parklet appeared to be an extension of the Squat and Gobble commercial real estate. Apparently this violation is being addressed.

The city has identified Parklets as an opportunity to slow down the day and give people the chance to connect with community. A parklet should respond to community needs and the neighborhood context. The 16th Street Parklet can become an active neighborhood destination so as to leverage the much needed public space. The use of this public space can restore a sense of continuity with tangible benefits for those who actively participate in what the Pavement to Parks programs seeks to accomplish, a sense of community.



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Participation involves completing one face-to-face interview. Each interview takes approximately 90 minutes to complete. Both partners must participate. Each person receives \$40!

Trader Joe's

Continued from page 1

the newly approved bicycle lane. According to the draft traffic study, this loading area would have been available for use by other local businesses as well as Trader Joe’s. It also appeared that Trader Joe’s wanted to remove the existing traffic calming island at Noe and Beaver Streets, and reconfigure the garage exit, removing a large mature street tree to facilitate traffic flow. In a critical oversight, the traffic study had failed to consider the impact of the popular Farmer’s Market on traffic at all.

Other issues raised during the meeting were the apparent mediocre score of 45 given to Trader Joe’s by the Human Right Campaign for its GLBT policies. This score was disputed by the representative from Trader Joe’s. Many supporters of the project said they would walk to the store, or use public transit. Others argued that a more “urban store” could fit with the neighborhood. They pointed to other Trader Joe locations which have both no parking and delivery services available, but representatives from Trader Joe’s had previously stated they would not consider either of those options at this site.

After the general meeting, in preparation for the hearing, DTNA members reviewed the project files at the planning department. Those files revealed that even as the hearing date approached, many unanswered questions remained. Planning and Municipal Transportation Au-

thority (MTA) staff had reviewed the draft traffic study and found serious deficiencies. In a 4 page letter, MTA requested clarification on many specific projections in the transportation study, and stated that the proposed loading zone on Market Street did not satisfy the Planning Code, which requires an off-street loading space.

DTNA members also discovered that the project may have required several more ‘Conditional Use Approvals’ than had been previously indicated. Conditional approvals are needed when a project does not meet the basic zoning requirements. For example, the basic zoning for the property limits retail spaces to 2,999 square feet. The previous ground floor Tower Video space had been granted an exception to this size limit on the condition that the space be re-subdivided if Tower vacated.

It also appeared that the traffic island and orientation of the garage were part of the original conditions of approval tied to the construction of the building. These conditions would have had to be modified to accommodate the Trader Joe’s proposal.

Finally, in a separate letter dated February 22, the Director of Planning, John Rahaim, requested that Trader Joe’s incorporate several items into the project proposal, including a “market basket study” to address economic impacts on local grocers. A similar basket study was pre-

pared by Whole Foods as part of their recent application to locate in the neighborhood.

Rahaim also requested that several transportation demand management practices be incorporated into the project. Those included close collaboration with a delivery/shuttle service, easily accessible bicycle storage, installation of a parking guidance / pedestrian alert system, construction of sidewalk bulbouts and curb improvements, and management of any queuing on Noe Street.

Since the withdrawal of this proposal, members of the public and Supervisor Wiener have made several suggestions about possible new tenants. One recurrent idea is to divide the space into smaller ones for more neighborhood serving businesses. It is our hope that the information which surfaced during this application process will help the owners quickly find a tenant or tenants that fit well with the neighborhood, resulting in a quick approval from the city.



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Market Street Recycling Center - 25 Years in the Neighborhood

Many of us have probably never been inside the facility, but most everyone knows where it is – for 25 years the Market Street Recycling Center has been a fixture in the neighborhood at the small triangular corner where Market/Buchanan/Duboce come together.

The Recycling Center is one of 18 recycling centers in San Francisco, ten of which are sited in grocery store parking lots. Large grocery stores are required by the 1986 California Bottle Bill to have recycling centers on their parking lots or nearby so that the public can redeem their California Redemption Value (CRV) items. The CRV is an incentive to recycle beverage containers. Recycling is popular in San Francisco, where now over 75% percent of waste is diverted from landfill through recycling, reuse, and composting efforts.

About the recycling center
The Market Street Recycling Center is operated by San Francisco Community Recyclers (SFCR), which was founded in the early 1980s to promote citywide recycling and reuse. SFCR also operates a used building materials yard (the only one in the city), Building Resources, in the Bayview district. The Recycling Center employs seven people.

The Market Street center is open daily from 10am-5pm and, according to SFCR staff, serves about 120-150 buyback customers a day. Payments for amounts over \$2.50 are made by check to customers, and the average transaction is about \$12.00. In addition to redeeming bottles and cans, Market Street also receives drop-offs of cardboard and paper (which customers are



Market Street Recycling Center

not paid for), generating the equivalent of one 20-yard dumpster a week.

SFCR estimates that 5% of recycling in the City and 51% of beverage containers go to recycling centers.

SFCR makes a point of enforcing a code of conduct and has posted rules at the site.

- Wait outside on the Duboce sidewalk until the staff is ready
- Please recycle sober.
- No profanity.
- No soliciting other customers.
- No bare feet.
- No selling for other customers who have been refused service.
- We pay for California Redemption Value beverage containers only, so please co-operate when staff checks your material for any contamination.
- Please don't break glass or remove labels.

- Please verify your weights and counts. All transactions are final.
- Please clean-up after yourself.
- No loitering in or around the recycling center
- The line will be cut off at 5:00 PM

Recycling Center staff are expected to do cleanup at opening, closing, and throughout the day around the outside of the facility, and special attention is paid to cleaning up glass on the Duboce bike-way. There is also a restroom for customers on the site.

Addressing neighborhood issues

Safe to say that a recycling center is a messy operation to run, especially with the large daily count of customers as there is at the Market Street center. While the staff have committed to maintaining the grounds on and around the site and enforcing the

You May Not Realize It: Crime Does Happen in our Neighborhood

Welcome to the new crime column in the DTNA newsletter. I hope this effort may expand beyond my own observations to include responses to your own concerns and ideas for improving neighborhood safety and security in general. Please feel free to write to me at KenCraigCA@gmail.com and I'll respond personally and may include your content in future articles.

The arson incidents on 16th Street and Hartford Street undoubtedly captured most people's attention. The SFPD/SFFD joint arson task force continues to work that investigation and fortunately no other related incidents have been reported.

While scary for sure, these incidents also serve to remind us that emergencies and disasters happen when we least expect them. Pre-planning, preparation, and practice can pay enormous dividends when that time comes. If you don't have an emergency escape plan for your home, develop one now. Check the batteries/connections in your smoke detectors and make sure you have one outside your bedroom door(s). They provide precious life-saving seconds of warning.

The Statistics

Within a half mile radius of 100 Henry Street, there were 697 incidents reported to the SFPD between 1/15 and 3/15/11. Of these, 204 were disturbing the peace reports, 107 assault/battery reports,

81 involved theft or larceny, 37 involved burglaries, 33 involved robberies, 32 involved vehicle thefts, 27 involved thefts from a parked vehicle, 25 were sex crimes. Numerous other incidents fill out the total. Sunday, Saturday, and then Monday in that order are the days when most assaults occurred.

Auto break-ins, vehicle thefts, and burglaries on the Sanchez Street and Noe Street corridors are the more prevalent and repetitive incidents in this period. The close proximity and timing of some of the incidents suggests it could well be the same criminal, or group of criminals, who are responsible for most of the incidents.

Here are some steps to take to keep from becoming a victim of these types of crime:

- Always lock your doors and windows, and use limiters/blocks on windows at night to prevent them from opening far enough to allow a criminal to slip through.
- Don't admit unsolicited service people or salespeople into your house. If they arrive unannounced, ask for ID and call their companies to verify before letting them in.
- Let a trusted neighbor know when you leave on a trip and stop your mail during the trip or have your neighbor collect it.
- Leave nothing inviting in the passenger compartment

of your vehicle, including loose change, empty sunglasses cases and holders for GPS units etc. These all act as magnets for smash & grab thieves.

- If you put shopping bags or packages in the trunk of your car, move the car immediately as someone may have observed you and may target your vehicle if you leave your vehicle.

Community involvement and neighborhood participation are vital components of increasing the safety and security of any environment. Neighborhood watch programs can make a big dent in crime within the block you live on. Castro Community on Patrol's (CCOP) goal is to help create a Neighborhood Watch on EVERY block in the Castro and Duboce Triangle area. For more information contact CCOP at info@CastroPatrol.org or SF-SAFE at info@SFSAFE.org.

DATES TO REMEMBER (continued from front page)

Thursday, April 14th 6:30-8:30 pm

District 8 Town Hall Meeting with Mayor Ed Lee and other City representatives at Mission High School

Thursday, April 28

The Stop AIDS Project invites you to Dining Out for Life www.diningoutforlife.com

Saturday, May 14, 10 am-noon

Friends of Duboce Park Volunteer Day. Contact Rose at rosegil-len@sbcglobal.net or 255-8370.

Wednesday, May 18, 6:30-8pm

Duboce Park Community Meeting @ Harvey Milk Rec Center

Saturday, May 21, 8:15 pm

Free Outdoor Movie Night in Duboce Park -- "The Rock." Contact doug@friendsofdubocepark.org for more information.



Market Street Recycling, continued

Continued from page 10

rules for the operation, the area around the Duboce bikeway, Safeway, the recycling center, and the railway are heavily used and at times unkempt.

DTNA played a leadership role previously regarding neighborhood issues that had come up around the Safeway perimeter and in the vicinity of the Market Street Recycling Center.

In mid-2003, DTNA organized a coalition along with Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association, Castro Area Planning & Action, and the Mission Dolores Neighborhood Association to coordinate the various businesses and operators in that perimeter area with the various city agencies that have purview and responsibilities for the area, as well as the District 8 Supervisor. The effort was named the "Safeway Perimeter Stewardship Project" and it was sustained for more than a year during which time a complete Action Plan was agreed upon and there were a number of accomplishments:

- a full re-landscaping program around the Recycling Center.
- two additional trash cans were installed along the Duboce bikeway, and an increase in the frequency of emptying trash cans along the bikeway.
- extending the service area

for the Special Patrol Officer to include the Safeway perimeter.

- replacing and improving lighting along the Duboce bikeway and sidewalk areas at Duboce/Market to discourage loitering at night.
- coordinating Mission and Northern police precincts to ensure late afternoon & nighttime patrols.
- re-alignment of the fence along the perimeter of the Market Street Railway yard near Buchanan to eliminate an attractive nuisance area that had become a hangout spot.

The stated objectives of the project were:

1. To raise collective awareness about untended and unsafe public environment around perimeter
2. To stimulate a sense of collective stewardship responsibility among stakeholders
3. To gain commitments from all users to improve management of areas around their operations
4. To create a Stewardship Team for the perimeter with contributions from all stakeholders
5. (Longer term) To formulate a vision for a permanently redeveloped Safeway site and an inviting and inclusive public realm around its perimeter.

As neighborhood issues are raised related to the Safeway

Perimeter area and the Recycling Center, DTNA will continue to advocate for a collaborative approach that recognizes the history and roles we all have as stakeholders in the neighborhood.

It has been nearly eight years since we last looked at the recycling center and its impacts, positive and negative, on our neighborhood. Fittingly, the recycling center will be a major discussion topic at our General Meeting on Monday, April 11. (See front cover for details.)

San Francisco District 8 Supervisor Scott Wiener and representatives from San Francisco Community Recy-

clers will be on hand to discuss the Market St. recycling center and get your views on how the center is meeting the needs of our neighborhood.

We invite you to attend and share your views.

"From fruits to nuts"



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McKinley Corner: Notes from the Little School that Could

Even as McKinley Elementary prepares for its annual DogFest event in Duboce Park, big things are still going on every day on campus.

You may have heard music wafting from the school building, or seen students parading the grounds in masks and colorful beads. Students were recently treated to a Fat Tuesday celebration, complete with a New Orleans-style jazz band and a mini-parade around the grounds. The event was funded by a grant from the First 5 Foundation to foster diversity at the school.

hip-hop dance performance.

Outside the building proper, McKinley families have been hard at work preparing the native plant garden for spring, complete with a new pollinator garden and rain-

and bright campus.

Beyond McKinley's borders, the school has been hard at work in the Duboce/Castro neighborhood. McKinley volunteers worked and played at the 2010 Castro

shopping night at Books Inc on Market Street. Families packed the store and filled their bags with gifts and books. Both sides came out ahead, as Books Inc saw a jump in sales, and McKinley received a portion of the proceeds back as a donation.

And don't worry if you see fire trucks and police cars on the McKinley campus in late April. It's just McKinley students taking part in Safety Day. Police, fire fighters, EMTs, and other service professionals will be out in force to teach children how to navigate the neighborhood and the city in the safest possible manner.



Photo: Flickr/TheNickster

This same grant also funded a Black History Month assembly, with local African-American country/western musician Miko Marks, and a

water collection system. Parents pitched in with a spring workday to spruce up the garden and grounds so that everyone can enjoy a clean

Street Fair, earning money for the school, while giving back to the larger community. McKinley also participated in the traditional holiday

Great things happen at McKinley every day. And the school is proud to be part of the Duboce Triangle and the Castro community.

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Join your neighborhood association now!

- Show your pride in our Triangle
- Support historic preservation on your street
- Support our wonderful Duboce Park
- Encourage your neighbors to volunteer
- Supports the costs of your newsletter
- Maintain our neighborhood character and quality of life

**Join online using your credit/debit card! Visit
www.dtna.org/join and become a member today.**

☒ **Yes! I want to join DTNA.**

☐ I want to get involved/volunteer, too!

Please contact me. I'm interested in:

☐ Land use/development ☐ Newsletter

☐ Transportation issues ☐ Web Site

☐ Other _____

Mail to:

Treasurer

Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association

2224 15th Street

San Francisco, CA 94114

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

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Comments: _____

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