

FEB - MAR 2010



DUBOCE TRIANGLE NEWSLETTER

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

Monday Feb 8

7:00 to 9:00 pm

PUBLIC MEETING

CPMC Davies Medical Center,
Auditorium, Lower Level B

Meeting Agenda:

- Meet your neighbors
- Office of Supervisor Bevan Dufty Update
- Upper Market Development updates
- Trader Joe's update
- SFPUC Water Programs update

Please join us!

Join us for a Forum with 2010 District 8 Candidates for Supervisor!

Moderated by Barbara Taylor, City Hall
Bureau Chief for KCBS News Radio

When: February 22nd (Mon), 7-9pm

Where: Harvey Milk Community Center
(50 Duboce at Scott Street)

After hearing positions and statements from the candidates, you'll have a chance to ask your own questions. Come prepared to find out where these candidates stand on your issues!

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Neighbors Association (LoHaMNA)

Buena Vista Neighborhood Association
(BVNA)

Duboce Triangle Neighborhood
Association (DTNA)

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Sat. Feb 13, 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Sat. Mar 13, 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Friends of Duboce Park Volunteer Day.

Contact Rose at rosegillen@sbcglobal.net
or 255-8370 for more information.

Trader Joe's Commits To Market And Noe Center



The Market and Noe Center, where Trader Joe's recently signed a lease

It's official: Duboce Triangle has a new suitor. On January 8th Trader Joe's signed a lease for the empty space at the Market and Noe Center, formerly occupied by Tower Records & Video.

The presence of a popular chain retailer such as Trader Joe's could greatly increase pedestrian traffic in the area and yield valuable spillover benefits to local businesses in its vicinity. To date, numerous merchants have voiced strong support for the project and have written heartfelt pleas to fill the empty space soon. At the same time, a substantial contingent of concerned businesses and residents has urged caution and diligence on important substantive issues before the approval of such a major project.

It is the goal of DTNA to encourage a dialogue among those of different per-

spectives, so that all residents and merchants can benefit equally from change in the community, such as from the new TJ's store's introduction.

As the project sponsor and a formula retailer, Trader Joe's has the responsibility of going through the review process required of them by the City. They will be required to conduct a traffic analysis, conduct an environmental review, submit architectural drawings, and apply for a conditional use permit. Residents will learn much more about the details of the store's operations in the coming months and will have opportunities to give feedback at hearings which will be scheduled at the City's Planning Commission.

Well before this formal City review process begins, however, and following *Continues on page 6*

Trader Joe's: What Lies Ahead...



Bevan Dufty
San Francisco Supervisor

I am excited to report that after years of searching for an appropriate location and after months of negotiating, Trader Joe's has signed a lease with Kent Jeffrey and his partners to occupy the former Tower Records site located at 2280 Market.

In the coming months, Trader Joe's will initiate a thorough traffic study that will include traffic modeling so that Trader Joe's and the City can work together to mitigate any potential impacts from the new store. In addition, both Trader Joe's and the community will be working together to encourage pedestrian shoppers and bicycle users to frequent the Market Street location.

Trader Joe's will be providing as many as 125 new jobs to the neighborhood and I am thrilled that they are continuing and strengthening their partnership with the LGBT Center's Economic and Workforce Development Program to provide jobs to

people in the neighborhood.

Over the last two months, I have received more than a hundred emails regarding Trader Joe's and I encourage neighbors and residents to reach out to me (bevan.dufty@sfgov.org) with their support or opposition for the new location. I also ask that you copy Michael Smith of the Planning Department (415-558-6322 – Michael.e.smith@sfgov.org) with your comments so that he can include them in his analysis for the Department.

Once Trader Joe's completes its traffic study, they will schedule a hearing at the Planning Commission for their Conditional Use Authorization. If approved by the Commission, Trader Joe's hopes to open its doors to our neighborhood in early 2011.

I appreciate the robust dialogue that Trader Joe's has begun and look forward to continuing the dialog in the coming months.

The Duboce Triangle Newsletter is published at the beginning of February, April, June, August, October and December by the Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association (DTNA), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

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A Good Marriage?



Dennis Richards
DTNA President

Finally, Trader Joe's has signed a lease for the ground floor retail space as well as a portion of the upstairs space at the Market Noe Center. This building has sat mostly vacant for over the past three years and a large entity would be, I feel, an appropriate use of the space.

For better or worse, Trader Joe's is seeking to have a relationship with this neighborhood that will last for decades to come. It is in this "courtship" period where we, the "couple" (our neighborhood and Trader Joe's), understand and work through the real issues, rather than "get married" and be surprised to find that we weren't such a good match after all.

Both the people who feel that a Trader Joe's is not a good fit for this neighborhood and strident supporters agree that there are real substantive issues that need to be noted and worked on together beforehand. Trader Joe's will be asking the City for special zoning approvals and use

permits that they will need. Even the strong proponents of Trader Joe's who run the SaveTheCastro.com website say: "It is very (emphasis theirs) understandable that some people are concerned about traffic increases when the Upper Market/Castro area becomes more commercially vibrant..."

DTNA has put together a list of issues and is working with Trader Joes on solving them to potentially make this a good project for the neighborhood. Our issues list was compiled with comments from people who attended Oct. 19, 2009, DTNA general meeting, neighbors' comments, member comments, and comments people at large made to us. These were gathered and organized and written so that they are useful not only to just us but also to Trader Joe's and the Planning Department and for times in the future where any neighborhood finds itself with such a suitor.

Trader Joe's has told us that anticipating issues and addressing them before hand is helpful to them. The issues list is also meant to ensure that the project is reviewed thoroughly before it is approved and that there is time during the approval process to work together to vet these issues. By the way, our list is all issues. That's because it's what we have to work together to solve. We don't need to solve how much folks like the peanut butter filled

pretzels.

Nobody, least of all Trader Joe's, wants a repeat of what happened at the Masonic store, with all its negative publicity, where problems that should have been anticipated and solved beforehand were not. We will report back to the community at our February meeting on the progress that we have made to date in working with Trader Joe's. The Whole Foods/Prado Group project at Market and Dolores is setting the standard for a large Formula Retailer engaging the neighborhood around a host of issues. It is fact based and not a bunch of opinion and emotions masquerading as fact.

We look forward to Trader Joe's working with us in a similar manner. After all, everybody wants the newly-married couple to have many happy years together.

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Sunrise, Corona Heights



Standing atop Corona Heights looking south-east.

One upside of the encroaching darkness this time of year is that you don't have to get up quite so early to see a beautiful sunrise; and a 15-minute climb to the top of Corona Heights for this daily spectacle is well worth rolling out of bed for.

From that vantage point high above the city you'll discover that on clear days our autumn dawns arrive in two waves of color. About half an hour before the sun appears, any clouds lounging above Berkeley and Oakland will flame to a deep, glamorous red, with the white spotlight of Venus hanging over them. But this hue quickly fades to gray with only faint pastel highlights, and if you don't know better you might think the show is over. Within a few minutes, though, the second wave begins to build. From north to south the whole eastern horizon turns to gold, and an entertaining new feature appears:

the nubbly, criss-crossing arrows of contrails, fired from below with gold and orange and sometimes casting long, ghostly shadows onto the upper layers of the atmosphere. Most of them point to the east, and you can follow their converging tracks at least a hundred miles to where they finally vanish out over the Nevada desert. Meanwhile, the golden glow that was smeared over the whole horizon is now contracting and coalescing in one spot, as though it were all draining down a hole in the dark ridge.

Watching this light show from the stillness of the hilltop, you become aware of a multitude of distant sounds — the gasp and howl of garbage trucks, human voices, barking dogs, alarm clocks, car alarms, cell phones, the crunch of footsteps on a gravel path, doors opening and closing. In the park itself the birds are waking up, one species at a time.

First a mockingbird, then the chup-chupping of thrushes, the squawk of a cranky scrub jay, a rattle of hummingbirds, the whinny of a robin, and a tittering of gold-

finches in a flyby, all backed by the soft roar of the city, which sounds like the muffled draft of a huge furnace.

You may be sharing this absolutely free spectacle with one or two other meditators, a silent birder, a jogger or two, and a few busy canines with their sidekicks.

Otherwise, you'll have the place to yourself when the sun finally pops over the ridge, rapidly taking the edge off the chill, but also washing away most of the colors and removing a lot of the romance from the scene. It's nice to know there'll be another one tomorrow, but now it's time for coffee.

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We welcome our neighbors from the
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Upper Market Development Update

Upper Market Corridor: The single block of Upper Market between 16th and 17th Streets lies outside the Market and Octavia Plan NCT area. As a result, only this single block, of all the blocks from Van Ness to Castro, has “old” zoning. DTNA has begun to work to build collaborations with neighborhood groups, developers, elected officials, and City departments for a comprehensive rezoning for the Upper Market corridor from Noe to Castro to be consistent with the Market/Octavia NCT zoning. This would bring consistent height limits, project requirements, and zoning to the corners of Castro and Market and Noe and Market, and to this currently anomalous block, and spot zoning would be eliminated.

Arco Station: A proposed project for this site is making its way through Planning. The plan includes a request for spot zoning for increased height to 75', housing, and retail below. Planning is requiring them to reduce parking to .5:1 consistent with Upper Market NCT for most of the rest of the Market St corridor. We will have more details in our next issue.

Gold's Gym-2301 Market: One of the owners, the architect, and Gold's manager came to the January DTNA Land Use Committee meeting to discuss their proposed project. They have concept drawings both for a 50' build-

ing, the current zoning, and another for 65' which would require spot zoning. The basic project is for units above, a mix of studios to 2 bedrooms, with no on-site parking for residents. All parking for the project would be for the gym which would expand in floor space and move up in the building. The gym would stay open during construction.

Hole-in-the-ground-2299

Market: The developer had a Pre-Application meeting in mid-December, which they held in the afternoon at the Planning Dept so was lightly attended. Planning staff reviewed the initial project proposal and has communicated several requirements for revisions to the proposal including reduced parking consistent with Upper Market NCT for the Market St corridor and an increased rear yard setback and streetscape improvements. The Planning Department's requirements on the project are very similar to comments from the coalition of organizations DTNA has joined with on this project including EVNA, CAPA, HVNA, TLC, SFBC, and WalkSF. It remains to be seen if the developer complies with Planning's requirements and revises the proposal, then management will decide whether to take the project to the Planning Commission on Staff-initiated discretionary review.

Former Shell Station-2198

Market: The owners com-

plied with conditions that they fence and landscape the lot just in time for the Christmas tree lot to open Thanksgiving weekend. Thanks to the community and Planning people who pursued this and helped make the required compliance a reality.

2200 Market: The project is on hold and Leticia, the property owner, has taken over the restaurant space and reopened Leticia's, her Mexican lunch and dinner restaurant, which was across the street for nearly

20 years. Drop in for lunch or dinner and welcome her back to the 'hood.

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Continues from front page

from discussions at two DTNA community meetings in the fall, our Land Use Committee has initiated a detailed review of the Upper Market TJs proposal and is analyzing the site to determine potential substantive issues to be worked through.

As residents of the immediate area, we know the

with the confidence that the Trader Joe's proposal as it takes shape will be molded to address the particulars.

Starting as early as November 2009, the Land Use Committee approached TJs in order to begin discussing the site. Using the criteria established by its 'Formula Retail Evaluation Matrix' (available for viewing at <http://www.dtna.org/retailmatrix>.

gaged with Trader Joe's at the preliminary stages of the City's review process. With documented community input, Trader Joe's will have the opportunity to address the neighborhood's concerns proactively through their project design process. A dialogue with TJs before designs are finalized should also expedite the city's conditional use process. Considering that opposition

ty, they will be able to devise creative solutions to address them.

DISCUSSION ISSUES

Existing Vision, Design, and Planning Documents:

These documents provide planning and design guidelines for development in the neighborhood. Collectively, they establish an important overall vision for the community that the Trader Joe's proposal can reference to best integrate within its urban context. Documents include the Market/Octavia Plan Fundamental Design Guidelines, the Upper Market Community Vision and Recommendations, the DTNA Formula Retail Matrix, and the Market/Octavia Area Plan (section 3, Building with a Sense of Place, and section 4, Streets and Open Spaces), among others.

Street Congestion:

Concerns exist that heavy store-related vehicular traffic may compromise the strong residential character of Noe Street and the surrounding Duboce Triangle neighborhood. Additionally, exhaust from idling cars in the parking lot queue may pose a health hazard to pedestrians in the area. Questions have been raised about the store's distribution practices and the effects of large trucks circulating through the neighborhood.

Continues on page 7



site very well; we know the entrance to the proposed parking garage lies on one of our neighborhood's most beautiful streets, Noe; we know that a weekly Farmer's Market has recently found a home at the same intersection; we know the owners of independent markets and grocers that could be affected by a large national retailer. We want to make sure that Trader Joe's understands the site and the adjacent neighborhood as well as we do,

pdf), the Land Use Committee noted several issues of compatibility that could be resolved through the design process. These were brought to the company's attention. Fortunately, Trader Joe's has demonstrated an initial willingness to work with the community. Ironing out the details of the store's operation will take time, and the process has only begun.

The Land Use Committee is fortunate to have en-

exists and the review and approval process for formula retail uses can often be cantankerous, DTNA's goal is that Trader Joe's smooth the process by adapting DTNA's proposal and attend to substantive issues that have been raised before it goes into the intense public hearings stage.

As a committee, we have shared the following comments and issues with Trader Joe's, the idea being that, working with the communi-

Continued from page 6

Parking:

With only 39 spots, the Market and Noe Center parking lot will have a challenging time meeting the parking demand typical of a Trader Joe's store. Street parking is limited. Creativity will be required to reduce the store's parking demand and promote a more pedestrian-oriented business. Several proposed strategies to encourage customers to walk, bike, or take Muni to the store include a delivery service for customers' purchases, designated and secure bike parking facilities, a discount for customers who reach the store via walking, biking, or public transit, and a taxi-call service for customers who arrive by foot but have too much to carry home. An hourly fee for parking is also recommended.

Operations Related:

Several considerations related to store operations would yield significant gains in regards to the retailer's compatibility with the neighborhood. Customer loading and unloading on Market Street, for example, of both passengers and purchases, should

be well managed to prevent pedestrian congestion at the storefront that would be a barrier to sidewalk circulation. Community members have also voiced a preference for the loudest operations such as garbage and recycling pickup to occur during daytime hours to avoid noise disturbance in the evening. Deliveries by smaller delivery trucks should be considered for reasons of noise reduction, congestion, and diminished visual impact on the neighborhood.

Impact on Local Grocers:

Large, national retailers with superior purchasing capacity have an advantage when it comes to offering low prices. Conversely, small, locally-owned retailers typically offer an intimate shopping experience unachievable in a larger format. The ideal is co-existence. The Upper Market Area is home to dozens of local grocers, over 15 of which are located within a 3-block radius of the proposed Trader Joe's site. Their ability to compete will be dramatically affected.

Acknowledging that local retailers play an important role in maintaining the charac-

ter of the neighborhood, the suggestion has been made that Trader Joe's limit its inventory of certain goods, i.e., beer, wine and liquor, to improve the ability of local shops to stay competitive. Several Trader Joe's stores in the Boston metro area don't sell alcohol per a Massachusetts State law, perhaps setting a precedent to consider for a similar policy in San Francisco.

THE PROCESS AHEAD

The introduction of a large

retailer often comes with related challenges. The Trader Joe's proposal for Upper Market is no exception. It is in everyone's best interest, however, to see that these challenges are worked out and to help the retailer fit appropriately within the existing neighborhood context. DTNA welcomes the idea of a Trader Joe's on Upper Market, and looks forward to working with the retailer to make sure that the metamorphosis of the idea is to a presence that all can appreciate.

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CPMC Update



Proposed medical office building on Davies campus looking west from the corner of Noe St. and Duboce Ave.

The California Pacific Medical Center is moving forward with plans to renovate their four campuses in the city. Specific to our neighborhood, they plan to begin long-delayed construction on a new building along Noe St. between Duboce Ave. and 14th St. by the end of this year.

DTNA Land Use Committee members have met with project supervisor Geoffrey Nelson and expressed DTNA's interest in monitoring the project. Mr. Nelson assured the committee members that CPMC intends to abide by earlier agreements with DTNA, which included specifics about building design, landscaping, maintenance, and parking.

In the interim, DTNA has expressed its interest in seeing the Davies campus turn a better face to the neighborhood, not just along Noe

St., but all along the campus. Committee members have done a walk-around with several CPMC executives and pointed out some areas that could be worked on: replacement of missing or damaged street trees,

tree pruning, sidewalk repair, removal of graffiti and construction material, and (longer term) changes to the uninviting aspect of ivy-covered chain link and hidden, uninviting entrances. The CPMC officials were receptive, and we have seen some movement in the right direction.

If you something you'd like to see happen to make CPMC's Davies campus a better neighbor, e-mail DTNA board member Erik Honda with your suggestions: ehonda@acalanes.k12.ca.us

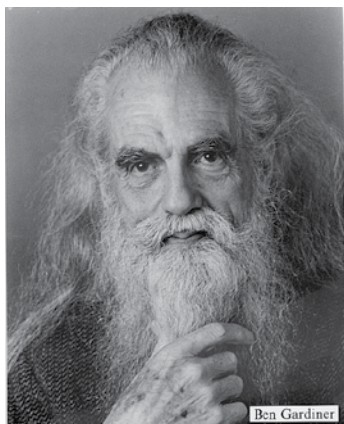


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Ben Gardiner, Long Time Triangle Resident, Passes Away



Ben Gardiner: Long-Time DTNA Board Member and Sys-op, AIDS Activist, and Neighborhood Friend Dies

On January 23rd, as we were preparing this issue, we received a call from former DTNA president Bob Bush that Ben had died at the Davies ER where he had been taken after collapsing on Noe Street, the street on which he had lived for decades. Ben was 89 or 90 years-old.

Decades ago, Ben came to California from the East Coast and settled on Noe St. You might have seen him down in his basement apartment near Noe and Henry working on his computer, or walking around the neighborhood, a tall gaunt man, almost always dressed in coveralls, with a flowing white-grey beard, hair to match, and piercing eyes.

Ben's contributions to our neighborhood and the wider world were numerous. In 1986, Ben Gardiner's AIDS BBS went on-line with in-

formation representing all viewpoints on the disease and the crisis, a first. It was and remains a touchstone for the beginning of wide dissemination of information about the disease that has killed so many of our neighbors.

Ben put up the DTNA Web site long ago and tended it lovingly. He printed labels for our newsletters that go into the mail and maintained the mailing list. And he served for years on our board of directors, always an advocate for his views on what was best for the Triangle.

We hope to have more information about plans for a celebration of Ben's life at our General Meeting on February 8th. We will have a longer article about Ben's life in our next issue. If you have stories about Ben that you would like to share, please email ben-g-dtna@sbcglobal.net.

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Board Notes

We heard a report from the Trader Joe's working group, which is engaged in a process with TJ's to address neighborhood concerns in a variety of areas, to ensure that this new addition to our neighborhood is a positive one.

We also heard a report from the Land Use Committee on a variety of development projects in the neighborhood that are moving forward, and some complaints about another business, and agreed to have a margarita at Leticia's to welcome them back to the neighborhood.

The Board then discussed questions for our co-spon-

soring of the Candidates Night for District 8 Supervisors Seat, which will take place Monday February 22nd at the Harvey Milk Rec Center.

We heard a financial report from our treasurer and discussed membership development, and discussed a plan to conduct an internship program with San Francisco State's Public Policy grad school; interns would help with DTNA's organizational development and capacity building. We planned the agenda for the general meeting on February 8, see you there!

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Five New Classes Added At Harvey Milk Rec Center

Five new classes have been added to the Harvey Milk Recreation Center Winter 2010 schedule: Conscious Stretching, Monday 5:30-6:30 p.m.; Healing Yoga, Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30-3 p.m.; Paint in the New Year, Tuesday 4-5 p.m.; Ukulele (for youth 6-10 years), Tuesday 4-5 p.m.; and, Violin (for youth 6-10 years).

The complete Winter schedule is listed in the 2010 Winter Activity Books, now available in the Rec Center lobby. The 88-page guide details all of the classes, lessons, programs, and activities that are planned for early 2010 at parks and rec centers throughout San Francisco. You can register for a class at www.SFRecOnline.org. Friends of Duboce Park Kids!

Friends of Duboce Park Kids is a relatively new organizing effort launched last year to focus on parents, families, and kids and functions as a component of Friends of Duboce Park. Kids have lots to do in the park these days with youth-oriented resources clustered at the upper end of the park: the children's playground; the renovated upper lawn area; lowered youth hoops in the basketball court; activities at the Rec Center; and, the future Youth Play Area next to the basketball court. One of their goals is to increase the volunteer base and stewardship commitment. To become involved or to receive

updates, please sign up on their listserve, DubocePark-Kids@gmail.com.

Kids! organizers are planning activities in four major areas in 2010: family events 4 or 5 times a year, continuing to recruit, coordinate, and increase the number of volunteers, fundraising for the Youth Play Area, and partnering with the Rec Center and Rec and Park to support programs for families and youth.

Movie Night in Park Being Planned

Friends of Duboce Park and the Harvey Milk Recreation Center are planning a Movie Night in the Park this coming Spring/Summer 2010. Plans are to offer at least one movie outside in the park. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact FDP president Doug Woo at doug@dubocepark.com.

City Park Conditions Improve

According to the City Controller's report released in December, 84.8% of San Francisco parks scored an 'A' or 'B' grade. The report is based on evaluations conducted by Controller's office staff, as well as Rec & Park managers and supervisors. Evaluators use park maintenance standards as a guide to grade lawns, trees, playgrounds, benches and tables, and other park features. City parks improved for the fourth consecutive year.

The citywide average score in FY 2008-9 was 87.3%, up from 86.2% in FY 2007-8 and 60.5% in FY 2005-6. Duboce Park scored 91.0 in FY 2008-9, a -0.2% change from the previous year. Other nearby parks scored: Corona Heights 81.6% (-7.4%); Dolores Park had the fifth worst score 74.6% (-11.8); Buena Vista 81.0% (+2.5%); and, Alamo Square 87.5% (+5.7%).

Park Maintenance

Maintenance updates were provided at the last Quarterly Duboce Park Community Meeting in November. The Carmelita St. stairs restoration is delayed while a topographical report is done to determine the allowable grade of the slope from Carmelita St. into the park. A 5% grade is normally the limit to meet ADA standards, but DPW has issued a waiver that will allow a 10% slope. A circular decorative fence, sponsored by the Pierce St. Dead Enders and similar in style to the one surrounding the playground, will be installed at the Pierce St. entrance planting circle at the same time that the Carmelita St. stairs work is done. A curb to keep sand in the playground sandbox will also be installed at that time. Anti-pigeon devices have not yet been installed on top of the east wall of the Rec Center and bird droppings continue to streak that wall.

All of these problems were promised to be fixed in June

2009, but have not yet been corrected. Supervisor Bevan Dufty is aware of these delays and is working to get them completed. The next Duboce Park Community Meeting is Wednesday, February 24, 6:30 p.m. at the Rec Center Lower Level exhibition room.

ParkScan

ParkScan is still a great way to report any problems or issues in Duboce Park. Visit <http://www.parkscan.org/> to submit your park maintenance issue, staff compliment, or general park comment. You can also report a problem by calling 3-1-1. In either case, you will be given a tracking number to track the status and progress of your complaint.

Don't miss the 2009 ParkScan Annual Report, published in January, which highlights ParkScan data trends both citywide and by district. The Neighborhood Parks Council distributes the report to Rec & Park administrators and elected officials so that they have the most current data for parks in San Francisco. The report is available online at www.ParkScan.org/report.

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Bicycles in the City (Part One)

Living in the Triangle, chances are you know someone who doesn't own a car and uses Muni, walks, or uses a bicycle for transportation. We live in an area with some of the highest rates of car free households in the

City has been unable to add so much as a bike rack for the past three years. Meanwhile, the numbers of cyclists keep going up. Bicycle ridership in SF has increased 53% since 2006. People of all ages are realizing that a bike makes

store. We can help the businesses in our neighborhood by supporting cycling.

In a recent MTA study in North Beach and the Marina, the MTA found that 85% of shoppers arrived by tran-

new one at Scott and Oak.

In Portland you could tell that thought and care is put into figuring out how cyclists will get around the city, and where they will lock their bikes. We saw on-street bike parking, bike lanes and bike boxes, bike boulevards, and traffic calmed streets which attracted cyclists and discouraged fast car traffic.

All of this meant that the cyclists were calmer, felt safer, and rode in a more predictable manner. I watched the SF cyclists who had traveled to Portland for the conference change their bike riding style in response. I know I changed mine while I was there. People started signaling turns, we all slowed down to enjoy the bike boulevards and marvel at the roundabouts and wave at children actually playing in the street. You didn't feel that you wanted to just get your bike trip over with and get off the street as quickly as possible, or that you were competing with cars for space on the street. You saw families, more women, people running errands on bikes designed to hold cargo, and a shocking lack of aggressive cycling or driving in the urban core of the city.

So what type of cyclists are our streets designed for?

Tune in for Part 2 of this article in the April-May Issue of the DTNA Newsletter



With the implementation of the bike plan getting around the city by bike will be easier

City, and some of the best access to public transportation. That makes living without a car not only easy, but enjoyable.

Our neighborhood and adjoining neighborhoods will be adding thousands of new residents in the next few years as planned developments start moving forward, and the City of San Francisco has a goal of making sure that not only our new neighbors, but also current residents, can choose not to drive and live just as happily and safely as we already do.

The ongoing legal injunction against the San Francisco Bike Plan has meant that the

sense in San Francisco; more people are biking, but we have had very little in the way of new accommodation for them.

Why should we support the City's efforts to make public transit, cycling, and walking good and safe options for urban trips? Well, if only 30% of people decided to swap out car trips of 2 miles or less that would mean fewer cars, less pollution, less congestion, quieter and safer streets.

We all like our neighborhood stores. One of the main reasons we live where we do is that we can easily walk or bike to grocery stores, restaurants, and the hardware

sit, on foot, or by bike, with only 15% arriving by car. What that means for businesses in our area is that we can help them get more customers by making it easier to bike, walk, and take transit to shop.

How do you go about making a bicycle a good option for urban trips?

I realized after a trip to Portland for a conference in the Summer of 2008 that a city really gets the type of cyclist they design for. Just as with road design which can encourage fast car traffic or discourage it, we can shape how cyclists ride with bike lanes and bike boxes such as the

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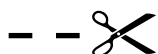
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