

JUNE - JULY 2016



DUBOCE TRIANGLE NEWS

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

Monday, June 13, 2016 7:00 to 9:00 pm PUBLIC MEETING

CPMC/Davies Hospital, Gazebo Room
Castro Street & Duboce Avenue
(outside, ground-level entrance from
plaza between North and South Towers)

MEETING AGENDA:

- Meet your neighbors (7:00 - 7:30)
- SFMTA – Presentation and Q&A for changes to Upper Market circulation and how it affects your street
- SF Dept of Public Health – Presentation and Q&A regarding Syringe Access and Disposal Program
- Neighborhood safety, street trees, street lighting and private property security lighting

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Saturday, June 11, 10 am - noon
Friends of Duboce Park Volunteer Day. Contact Rose at rose@friendsofdubocepark.org or 415-255-8370.

Tuesday, June 14, 6-7 pm
Monthly Park Station Community Meeting.
Park Station Community Room.

Saturday, July 9, 10 am - noon
Friends of Duboce Park Volunteer Day. Contact Rose at rose@friendsofdubocepark.org or 415-255-8370.

Tuesday, July 12, 6-7 pm
Monthly Park Station Community Meeting.
Park Station Community Room.

State Senator Candidates Respond to Questions from DTNA



Scott Wiener

1. What have been your most successful efforts in addressing homelessness as a supervisor, and if elected, what specific actions will you take at the state level to help San Francisco to reduce homelessness?

I have worked hard to address this frustrating problem. I obtained funding for expanded housing options for homeless people, as well as increased resources for homeless services such as healthcare and nutrition access. In Upper Market, I obtained funding for Castro Cares, an innovative program to bring dedicated homeless outreach and enforcement services to the neighborhood. I also worked to improve restroom access by converting the failed restroom on Market Street by the Safeway into an actively managed restroom.



Jane Kim

1. What have been your most successful efforts in addressing homelessness as a supervisor, and if elected, what specific actions will you take at the state level to help San Francisco to reduce homelessness?

In addition to building more affordable housing, addressing homelessness, particularly for children and their families, is one of my top legislative priorities. After personally going through the shelter reservation process and spending a night at one of our shelters, I have been pushing for a greater public health focus in addressing chronic homelessness. I worked with the Department of Public Health to complete a mental health assessment of all shelter residents and funded four full-time nurses to rove our shelters. I recently won \$6.6 million in the current budget year to build and expand a 24-hour medical respite

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State Senator Candidates, continued

Continued from page 3



regional Metropolitan Transportation Commission. In the State Senate, one of my highest priorities will be to increase state support for public transportation.

Environment and Open Space: I'm proud to have the endorsement of the California League of Conservation Voters. I will pursue an aggressive environmental agenda in Sacramento, focusing on smart water policy, clean energy, and transit. I authored legislation to require that new developments install water recycling systems and solar panels. I've taken the lead in protecting San Francisco's urban forest. I authored several pieces of legislation to preserve open space and create new parks.

Public Education: I work closely with the San Francisco Unified School District and individual public schools to improve education in San Francisco. For example, I obtained funding for after-school programs, improved access in schools to water bottle filling stations, and better support for LGBT students. I will champion improving California's inadequate investment in public education and increasing access to STEM education, so that our own kids can access the 21st century jobs we are creating.

5. Why are you a better choice for state senator than your opponent?

People can agree or disagree with me on specific issues, but even my harshest critic would acknowledge that I work hard, know how to pass difficult and impactful legislation, and work well with people with whom I disagree. Whether it's my recently passed legislation to expand paid parental leave or my work to improve transit and expand housing opportunities, I get things done for our community.

I'm honored to have the endorsements of the Democratic Party, Senator Mark Leno, U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, Congresswoman Jackie Speier, Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom, and Attorney General Kamala Harris.

It is a deep honor to represent you on the Board of Supervisors, and I would be honored to represent you in the State Senate.



the need for more and higher wage jobs and stronger educational opportunities. These issues all share the same end goal - we need to make real progress in each area so we can address the tremendous inequalities that are hollowing out our middle class and making it hard for working families to get ahead. Education has been a strong passion of mine -- I have continuously advocated for our children and youth since I was a Youth Community Organizer at Chinatown CDC and member of the San Francisco Board of Education.

Recently, I put forward a proposal to make City College free for San Franciscans. I have led the effort to secure San Francisco dollars and resources for our schools and supporting partnerships with the San Francisco Unified School District. Last year, I led the re-authorization and strengthening of the Public Education Enrichment Fund (PEEF), which allocated \$47.5 million just this past year alone in critical city funding for school libraries, arts, sports and music. I believe that we have a responsibility to invest in the education and success of our youth, and this is what I would fight for in Sacramento if elected.

Finally, I'm proud to have authored the measure that increased San Francisco's minimum wage to \$15 an hour - the most progressive measure like it in the country. With costs of living skyrocketing and income gap widening, it was essential that we give our workers a raise.

5. Why are you a better choice for state senator than your opponent?

I have built a strong base of support through the work I've done in my community and my time in office. More importantly, as an elected official I have demonstrated an ability to listen and work with stakeholders on all sides of an issue while also fighting for the best interests of San Francisco residents. I stood up to developers to increase affordable housing in new projects. I stood up to special interests to raise the minimum wage. And I fought to protect tenants throughout our city.

We face a crossroads - will we continue to be a city and a region that is welcoming to people from all walks of life or will we become a hollow city with no room for anyone but the ultra wealthy? I will fight for the working and middle class families of this district to make sure we have a city, region and state that works for all of us.

Hours: Tuesday through Saturday
10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Appointments recommended



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Formula Retail vs. Empty Storefronts

It's a tough balance. We all agree that empty storefronts are detriment to a neighborhood, and the vast majority of us will concede that the best and most interesting neighborhoods have few or no chain stores, and a lot of small local businesses. What happens though when a storefront has been vacant for a long time? Does that change the equation?

Some will argue that having vacancies is far worse than the damage formula retail businesses may do to the fabric of the neighborhood. Another group insists that diluting neighborhoods with chain stores will bring about their ultimate demise. While both claims are relevant, there is a deeper issue that we are currently facing in the Upper Market. Thanks in part to current codes, developers are creating more and more very large (over 2,500 square feet) ground floor retail spaces. If the rents per square foot trends resemble those downtown, they are simply not affordable for local businesses.

When retail spaces remain empty to the point of 'vacancy exhaustion' often the only recourse is for the Commission to agree to a formula retail establishment. DTNA suspects that this is the case with Kent Jeffries, owner of the old Tower Records building at Noe Street and Market Street, now housing CVS. For many years Mr. Jeffries refused to break up the ground floor into more affordable spaces, waiting until an "acceptable" big box tenant would come along and agree to the asking rent. He seems to be pursuing the same course of action with the remaining ground floor space, formerly occupied by Radio Shack. The DTNA Land Use committee recently heard from a formula retailer, Massage Envy, who expressed interest in the space.

How does a neighborhood achieve balance? Over a two-year period from 2012-2014 DTNA crafted a solution - the "Formula Retail Concentration Index" - that was ultimately enshrined into city code for the

Upper Market corridor in 2014. When a formula retail application is received, the Planning Department calculates the percent of commercial frontage within a 300-foot radius already occupied by chain stores. If it exceeds 20%, the Planning Department recommends against approval. Under this standard, the Massage Envy store would likely not be approved, because the corner of Noe Street and Market Street already has several large formula retail businesses (CVS, Bank of the West, Max Muscle).

The same is true in the case of Laser Away, a formula retail business asking to move into the old Noah's Bagels/Sprint store at 410 Castro Street. The building owner has a large formula anchor tenant, Soul Cycle, and the Concentration Index for Castro Street and Market Street is a whopping 53%. Over half of the street frontage at the signature corner of gay culture in the world is occupied by chains: Soul Cycle, Pottery Barn, and gas stations. The majority of the

vacant retail spaces on Castro Street are owned by Les Natali, the owner of the former Patio restaurant (vacant since 2002) and three other vacant spaces on Castro Street and 18th Street.

DTNA knows that when a space has long remained vacant, it is tempting to lean toward the "anything is better than nothing" side of the argument. Often when constituents see vacancies, which have deleterious effects on the vibrancy of the district, neighborhood leaders give in. But in our view that just validates the "wait until they cave" strategy, and leads to a neighborhood no different from any other in the country. We'd have all the benefits of Serramonte, but without the parking.

DTNA will continue to oppose chain stores that exceed the 20% limit, and welcome formula retail to the neighborhood when it is part of a balance. Hopefully that way we can build a neighborhood we all want to live in.



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DTNA Pursues Transparency on Homicides and Assaults

Ever since the our neighborhood suffered two homicides in 2014, that of Brian Higgins (known to friends as Feather Lynn), a neighborhood resident who was beaten to death at Duboce Avenue and Church Street, and that of Michael Marquez, who was shot during a botched robbery at the corner of Noe Street and Henry Street, DTNA has been asking a representative from the SFPD homicide department to attend one of our neighborhood meetings and talk about what is being done to solve these crimes, both of which can now be considered “cold” cases. To date, no representative has been willing to meet with us. DTNA is disappointed in the lack of transparency from the Police Department, and is now pursing taking a citywide look at the homicide problem.

Unlike many cities around the country, San Francisco does not publish homicide clearance statistics on a regular basis. With the help of Supervisor Scott Wiener’s office, DTNA was able to find out that the 2014 clearance rate (the percentage of homicides that were solved) was 62%, 2% below the national average of 64%. By comparison, Philadelphia, a much more violent city with far more murders, and one that publishes clear statistics yearly, cleared 70% of their homicides in 2014.

A recent article in the Economist (“Getting Away with Murder.” *The Economist*. The Economist Newspaper, 4 July 2015) indicated that falling clearance rates are a national problem. National clearance rates fell from 90% in 1965 to 64% in 2012. Ac-

cording to the *Economist* article, changing the culture of a police department to focus on clearance, and paying investigators overtime in the first 48-72 hours after the crime, is the key to improving these statistics. We would like to ask the San Francisco Police Department whether this has been done, and when a representative will come to one of our meetings.

At the April DTNA General Meeting, the board asked Captain Sanford of Park Station to bring information on homicide and assault clearance rates for the neighborhood, Park Station, and the City. DTNA is concerned by the lack of progress on solving the recent brutal assault on neighbors Dean Ayers and Mary Artist on Sanchez Street on February 23. DTNA has been working with Captain Sanford on a number of issues (see previous articles in this newsletter) and we very much appreciate his attention to our neighborhood, es-

pecially his recent addition of a two-officer foot patrol of the Triangle. Captain Sanford has promised to work on getting the statistics together, and DTNA hopes to receive them in time to publish them in our next newsletter.

Sadly, the two murders in the Triangle in 2014 may never be solved – despite the fact that both cases have cooperating eyewitnesses, and one (Feather Lynn) has video surveillance evidence – including what was basically a close-up photo of the suspect and his actions. DTNA wonders how much information the SFPD Homicide Department needs to solve these crimes? In the view of DTNA, the government is not accountable if government officials refuse to provide this type of standard performance data or make themselves available for questions. DTNA will continue to pursue the transparency and homicide statistics issues and keep you updated.

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Think Duboce Triangle



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(415) 295-1530

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Foot Patrols and Other Responses to Crime and Safety Issues in the Triangle

Capt. John Sanford announced in the May 6 Park Station newsletter that there is now an additional way for citizens to report quality-of-life issues that impact you by emailing him directly at John.Sanford@sfgov.org. He has created 11 colored-keyed area zones as references. The Duboce Triangle is Zone 4 Gold and he requests that you put the zone number, color, and issue in the subject box, e.g., Zone 4 Gold – Illegal Dumping at Duboce/Church. You should still call 415-553-0123 for a more immediate response.

City Attorney Megan Cesare-Eastman made a presentation to the Park Station Community Police Advisory Board on April 18 to explain how civil prosecution code enforcement can help solve quality-of-life problems that the District Attorney doesn’t handle. These include zoning violations by businesses and residences, all forms of public nuisances, substandard housing, abandoned vehicles, unpermitted short-term rentals (e.g., Airbnb or VRBO), unpermitted remodeling and construction, habitability issues caused by hoarding, drug houses and gambling parlors, illegal dumping (into the city’s storm or sewer drains) and graffiti on city property.

“We are complaint driven,” she emphasized. “All our cases come from complaints the community makes so we rely on the public to help us do our job helping the public.” Cesare-Eastman said the City Attorney’s codes

enforcement can martial the power of any city agency, easily get property inspection warrants, issue injunctions, and prosecute recalcitrant violators in civil court. “What we mostly deal with are the extremes: the greedy sociopaths, the incompetent and absentee (owners).”

Captain Sanford reminds everyone that Officer Alaric Wu is the station’s codes officer and can be reached directly at (415) 242-3033. Complaints made to the station that the officers there cannot handle go directly to Cesare-Eastman.

Capt. Sanford also led a special two-hour Duboce Triangle Town Hall Meeting to address quality-of-life issues and crime on March 28 (after our last newsletter had already gone to press) at the Harvey Milk Recreation Center. He introduced the two officers – Officers Mikayla Connell and Nathalie Peraza -- that will patrolling the Duboce Triangle regularly on the newly established Duboce Triangle foot beat patrol and he encouraged residents to talk to them when you see them on patrol.

The forum came in the wake of the February 23 violent mugging that left a local young couple seriously injured, two homicides in the Triangle in 2014, and an “explosion in car burglaries.” Sanford said that violent crime is down in the Duboce Triangle, but has still

created a new strategic plan of action to combat crime in the Triangle.

Sanford said he created a “Frank 53” unit that will deal with quality-of-life problems and is developing a special “Frank 90” rapid response team squad of three officers to deal with serious problems more quickly. Officers Jeff Sung and Ryan Crockett are Park Station’s Homeless Outreach Officers and can be reached directly at ryan.crockett@sfgov.org and jeff.sung@sfgov.org.

Quality-of-life issues and theft from autos still remain the biggest problems in the Duboce Triangle.

Citywide, thefts from vehicles rose 34 percent to a total of 26,491 in 2015 compared with 19,827 in 2015 and increased 155 percent from 10,369 break-ins in 2011, according to SFPD statistics. There have been 72 reported auto break-ins in the Duboce Triangle in the first five months of 2016 compared to 74 during the same period in 2015.

Car break-ins averaged about 70 per day citywide in 2015, usually in areas frequented by tourists who often leave their cars with iPhones and iPads, backpacks and suitcases, cameras, GPS devices and money visible inside. In Park District, most of those occur in Golden Gate Park, the Haight Street corridor, and at Christmas Tree Point on the top of Twin Peaks. Sgt. Salazar, who lead the plain clothes unit at Park Station, said at the April 12 Park Station Community Meeting that undercover units and bait cars are deployed to catch thieves. He said that they are frequently organized gangs, often from outside San Francisco, who can smash-and-grab a number of cars in “a matter of seconds.” He said that “it took a swat team, an investigative team and our undercover team” to recently catch a gang that had been terrorizing the Twin Peaks tourist area. Rental cars used by visitors are easily identified by the company stickers and decals on windows and bumpers. Please don’t leave anything in your car.



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City Hall Update: Supervisor Scott Wiener



Scott Wiener
San Francisco District 8
Supervisor

Best Value Contracting for Public Projects

I recently introduced legislation to ensure we are receiving the best value from contractors that receive city funds to perform infrastructure work. We are making unprecedented investments in our public infrastructure, spending billions to bring our city's aging physical plant into the 21st century. These investments will provide long-

term benefits for all of us, with improved parks, streetscapes, transit, roads, and sewer and water lines.

For taxpayers to receive the best bang for our buck, we need to ensure that these projects move forward on schedule, within budget, and with high-quality results. Under San Francisco's current approach to awarding public contracts, only the bid price is considered, with the lowest bidder automatically receiving the contract award. No other factor, including past performance (e.g., quality of work, staying within budget), safety record, or relevant experience is included when awarding bids. While bid price clearly plays a significant role in determining best value, a low bid followed by poor performance – whether poor workmanship, delayed work, under-staffed work, or excessive change orders – can result in higher costs to the public.

To address this challenge, my legislation changes the low-bid process so that City departments, in addition to considering bid price, can also consider

the contractor's track record. The legislation will increase the odds that taxpayers receive the best overall value from public contracts. The legislation authorizes departments to create a methodology to evaluate contractors based on a defined set of criteria, including but not limited to their safety record, past performance, labor compliance, demonstrated management competence, financial condition, and relevant experience. Each contractor receives a score based on this criteria, which is then factored into the bid cost.

The legislation is long overdue and will help ensure taxpayers receive the best results for our infrastructure investments.

Banning Public Spending when States Discriminate Against LGBT Communities

Sadly, anti-LGBT hate laws are being introduced and passed by state legislatures in various parts of the country. The most high profile has been in North Carolina, which bans cities from passing statutes to protect LGBT people and requires peo-

ple to use public bathrooms that correspond with the gender on their birth certificates. The laws are despicable, and we need to put an end to this nonsense.

In San Francisco, these laws can seem a world away, but we have a responsibility to act. That's why I introduced legislation to prohibit City spending - travel, purchasing, and contracting - in states that have passed anti-LGBT hate laws. This law codifies Mayor Lee's executive order banning publicly funded travel, and expands the ban to public contracting and purchasing.

We need to be very clear that we won't do business in states that attack the LGBT community and define us as second-class citizens. I hope other cities across the country will join us in making this strong statement.

Scott Wiener represents District 8, including Duboce Triangle, on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

Shifting Traffic onto Residential Streets

As we reported in May of last year, SFMTA has been designing safety upgrades for Upper Market Street from Castro Street to Octavia Boulevard. In the five-year period from 2007 to 2012, there were 27 collisions involving vehicles and pedestrians, 32 vehicle-bicycle collisions, and 102 vehicle-vehicle collisions on Market Street between Octavia Blvd and Castro Street.

SFMTA recommends restrict-

ing left turns onto Market Street from Noe Street, 16th Street, and Sanchez Street. These changes have the potential to change the character of our neighborhood and turn our residential street like Henry Street and 15th Street into a cut-through for people traveling from outside of the neighborhood.

Come to our general meeting for a Q&A with MTA to better understand their vision and how it affects your daily travel.



Jay Greene, JD, CPA

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President's Message



Dennis Roybal
DTNA President

As we head towards the warmer weather and longer days of summer, public safety, crime and quality of life remain the biggest concerns of Duboce Triangle neighborhood residents. Several community meetings and forums were held in March and April where representatives from the SFPD, District Attorney's office, Public Works, and other City departments responded to our concerns with not just answers and solutions, but recommendations as to what residents and businesses can do to protect themselves and their property. Despite the assaults in February, I believe our neighborhood is on the path to increased public safety. With our neighborhood all under Park Station (with the exception of Safeway and the north side of Market Street) we now have a consistent and effective police presence that is making a huge difference. Residents on certain blocks are reaching out to one another, engaging with project SAFE, and starting neighborhood watch groups.

What else can be done? There has been much discussion over the last several years about street lighting in our neighborhood: "there's not enough", "it's obsolete", "it il-

luminates the roadway but not the sidewalks", and "it would be relatively inexpensive to add additional lighting to the existing poles in order to illuminate the sidewalk" (which it's not). There's also been a lot of concern about street trees: trees falling due to age, lack of proper pruning, the City's inability to fund a maintenance program, and the City's transferring responsibility and liability of many street trees to homeowners over the last few years.

As a lifetime resident of San Francisco, a property owner, and a property manager, I've learned the importance of proper street lighting, building exterior lighting, landscaping, and tree pruning. I also learned long ago that maintenance of street lighting and trees by the City is request-driven, and it is up to residents to call in these issues for resolution. The 311 system, introduced by Mayor Gavin Newsom, has developed to the point that we can now submit and track our requests using our phone.

In April, I took several evening walks to evaluate and improve street lighting and trees in order to promote public safety. As I did, I looked around, intersection-by-intersection, block-by-block, tree-by-tree, streetlight-by-streetlight, and building-by-building to look for problems and solutions. We have about the same amount of street lighting on the blocks in our neighborhood as in any other neighborhood, with about the same spacing, but that we have a preponderance of overgrown trees blocking the light. I came across several streetlights that were completely out and a few that were flickering off and on. I submitted 311 requests for these streetlights. Some have been taken care of, some have not, but one thing is clear... no one had reported any of these to 311, and that, my neighbors, is a problem! When a streetlight is flickering off and back on, it means the lamp is at the end of its service life and needs to be replaced. The resident who lives clos-

est to that streetlight ought to take responsibility for it by contacting 311. If the nearest resident doesn't do it, someone on the block needs to do it.

As I walked along Sanchez Street, from Duboce Avenue to the scene of the brutal assault in February on the couple, Dean and Mary, I noticed most of the trees are severely overgrown and blocking the streetlights. Noe Street is actually darker than Sanchez Street, as the overgrown trees are everywhere. Other blocks had similar pruning and lighting issues.

At the scene of the assault on Sanchez Street, two streetlights are hopelessly shrouded by trees and the light from the streetlight up the block are blocked by a huge tree in the middle of the road.

At the end of my walks, I submitted nearly 30 requests to 311 for tree pruning. The Bureau of Urban Forestry aims to survey reported tree issues within 72 hours, but it can take as long as 90 days for the trees to be pruned. A few of these requests were closed in the system due to requests already in the system, but most remain pending.

Supervisor Weiner has proposed a Charter Amendment for the No-

vember ballot that would fund the maintenance of street trees from a combination of a parcel tax and a guaranteed amount from the City's General Fund. This would allow the City to continue to have primary responsibility for tree maintenance and, just as importantly, continue to bear the burden of liability for tree failures. It's important to understand, however, that this will not change the process through which tree maintenance issues are brought to the attention of the City.

Residents who live nearby streetlights that are blocked by overgrown trees should be taking greater responsibility for the public safety on their block by contacting 311. Residents are an integral part of the process and when residents don't notice or don't care enough to call it in, they can become part of the problem.

For the sake of public safety, the community needs your help to identify and improve poor street lighting and overgrown trees. Simply call 311 and make sure to give a specific description of the problem to ensure it's adequately addressed.

Best,
Dennis

la Mediterranée



288 Noe St. at Market
(415) 431-7210

Things We Love about Noe Street – 5-cent Psychiatric Care

What do we love about Noe Street? The urban buzz around Café Flore and the Lookout as the F-Market squeaks its way around the corner and turns south toward the heights of Liberty Hill? The way the City buzz gives way graciously to tree-lined quiet and bliss as one meanders North toward the park? The carefully tended median island with brick-work, a palm tree, and a blossoming flower that informs a walker that, “you have arrived in a neighborhood where people care”? The street lined with an eclectic array of pots and trellises and benches and planters that nurture a fantastic array of horticultural delights? The broad smile of Guy The Flower Guy, his eyes a-twinkle in his bright yellow outfit, brightening the corner of Noe and 15th as he greets each passer-by?

Yes, all these and more, but probably none more than the site of Lucy’s little psychiatric/ and or lemonade stand, holding its own in a discreet enclave, welcoming all who happen by to contemplate the mysteries of the universe. Usually the merchandise or guidance is priced at the traditional level of 5 cents, for example, recently “Cat Videos” and an opportunity to “Make Donald Drumpf Again” were both offered at that bargain level. Sometimes the price is cut, for example, this winter we got “Rain – Free While Supplies Last!” and at other times it’s too dear (“Purple Rain” was “unlimited” after the untimely demise of its beloved supplier). When Apple was struggling with the FBI, “Encryption” was 5 cents, but “Decryption” was “Not Available”. We know, you were just on your way to get a



Lucy's Psychiatric Stand

coffee, but a little metaphysical or political contemplation can't harm you, can it? You can keep up with the postings at <http://noesocute.com/> but it's better to wander by and encounter them unexpectedly.

All hail the mystery artist responsible for tweaking our brains this way, and for taking us back to a time of childhood innocence when we thought Lucy and her ilk might just be able to help us with the answer. We appreciate you!

Duboce Triangle Tree Update – Three Saved, Eight Planted

Three of the seven large ficus trees on the northwest corner of Steiner Street and Waller Street – the old Bean There coffee shop location – that were scheduled for removal were saved after neighbors rallied to support keeping them. 201 Steiner Street landlord Danny Scher originally requested and received approval from SF Public Works to remove all of them, citing public safety concerns and concern about repeated sidewalk damage caused by this species. Public Works decided at an April 25 hearing to only cut down four.

Eleven members of the public testified against the proposed removals citing their concerns about the impact that the loss of the large mature trees would have on the immediate neighborhood and block. At least 28 written protests were also received as well as a petition signed by 69 people stating their opposition to the proposed removals. The official determination letter from Public Works made this compromise recommendation: “After consideration of letters and testimonies presented at the hearing and multiple site visits, the recommendation is to approve the removal of three trees on Waller Street (trees numbered 3, 4, 5 - furthest from the intersection) and one tree on Steiner Street (tree number 1 - the 2nd tree from the corner), and deny the removal of tree 2 on Steiner Street and tree number 1 & 2 on Waller Street. The trees approved for removal shall be replaced with minimum 24”

box size replacement trees with a large stature species (at maturity) to be approved by Urban Forestry staff.” The Triangle gained eight new trees at Friends of Urban Forest’s Duboce Triangle/Castro/Hayes Valley tree planting on Saturday May 14. 45 new trees were planted, including eight at the following Triangle locations

(species noted in parentheses): 2253-2255 – 15th Street (Coast Live Oak); 156-158 Noe Street (Brisbane Box); 64 Sanchez Street (Victorian Box); 64 Walter Street (Sweetshade); 146 Hermann Street (Cajuput); 267-271 Hermann Street (Victorian Box 24” box); 344 Hermann Street (Little-leaf Linden); 231 Waller Street (Carob).

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General Meeting Tackles Crime and Affordable Housing

DTNA President Dennis Roybal opened the April General Meeting and thanked DTNA members and neighbors for their strong participation at the February meeting, where Sharper Future presented their plans to open a Sex Offender Rehabilitation Clinic at 100 Church and the community responded by reiterating all of the reasons why such a clinic could not possibly open in that location. He discussed the work that DTNA and neighborhood watch groups are doing to improve nighttime safety, which clearly has room for improvement, as evidenced by a brutal attack in February on a neighborhood couple. Dennis has been on public safety walks with Park Station officers, attended their community safety meeting, and done some walk-arounds with the new beat officers who are patrolling our neighborhood. He addressed the issue of non-functioning streetlights (neighbors should call 311) and the proliferation of overgrown trees in dire need of pruning that block many streetlights. He continues to work with Safeway to improve their maintenance, upkeep and security at the Market Street store.

Andra from the Victorian Al-

liance, who lives on Carmelita Street, reported on plans for a Duboce Triangle tour (the last two were held in 1995 and 2002). If you are interested in the tour or in offering up your home contact Anita Denz via their website at victorianalliance.org.

Ryan Hudson, General Manager of the Apothecarium medical marijuana facility at Church and Market, presented their plans to move into the former Mecca restaurant site across from Safeway. Apothecarium has been in business for five years at Church and Market and has been, in DTNA’s view, a good neighbor. They are a nonprofit and have donated upwards of \$300,000 to neighborhood organizations. They have 30 employees, who have full benefits and 401K plans. The new facility will occupy 5,000 square feet, up from a relatively tiny 1100 square feet currently. Neighbors in attendance were supportive of the move and thanked the Apothecarium for their ongoing work in the community.

Peter Cohen, chair of the Council of Community Housing Organizations and a Noe Street neighbor, spoke in favor of Proposition C, which will be on

the June ballot. Prop C will take the affordable housing requirement for new developments out of the City Charter and place it in the hands of city supervisors, with the current requirement of 12% affordable increased to 25% (the supervisors could then adjust the percentage based on market conditions). The proposition would add affordable housing for middle-income persons, many of whom are being priced out of San Francisco in the same way that low-income households are. Affordable housing rental units are priced at 30% of the renter’s income, units to buy are offered to folks making up to 100% of the area median income. Peter reminded of us the origin of the meaning of “inclusionary” housing – it goes back to the Civil Rights movement. The intention was (and is) to include people of all races and incomes in the community, rather than excluding or segregating them. DTNA President Roybal spoke of the need to keep this inclusionary housing in our neighborhood, to not allow it to be exported to other parts of the City, and also of DTNA’s intent to endorse Prop C at its upcoming Board meeting. Don’t forget to vote in June

DTNA Vice-President Erik Honda reported on DTNA’s efforts to get the Sutter Health Corporation, that owns the CPMC Davies Medical Center, to do more to improve the landscaping around the perimeter of its campus, as reported in our February 2016 newsletter. DTNA Board member Bob Bush, who works for CPMC, indicated that the long put off neurosurgery building may be back on the drawing board, but that we probably won’t see anything until 2026. In the meantime, DTNA will keep pushing to beautify the campus.

Captain Sanford of Park Station

gave an update on policing in the area, and introduced one of the new beat cops, Officer Natalie Peraza. Officer Sung of Park Station discussed the policing efforts to improve the situation at Church and Market St. Captain Sanford was less forthcoming about information he had been asked to provide regarding homicide and assault clearance rates in the Triangle (see related article on page 6 of this newsletter).

Supervisor Scott Weiner was the last to speak. He thanked Captain Sanford for assigning beat officers to the Triangle. He explained that, thanks in large part to his efforts, the SFPD is methodically building up staffing levels, which will help provide more person power for foot patrols. He also pointed out that half of the Board of Supervisors is oppositional to hiring more police officers. Supervisor Weiner covered the city’s efforts to work on homelessness, including clarifying that it is illegal to erect a tent on a public right-of-way, new Navigation centers at Pier 80 and in the Dogpatch, and an increase in psychological resources for our ever-more-evident mentally-ill street population. He continues to support the City fully funding road resurfacing, and is still working on street trees – he is opposed to the “owners are responsible model” and wants the City to take back all 105,000 street trees. He will attempt to place a modest parcel tax on the November ballot to fund the tree maintenance. Current polling indicates that the initiative has a good shot.

President Roybal thanked the residents for attending and we adjourned in concord just a bit before 9pm. Thanks to all who came, we appreciate you neighbors!



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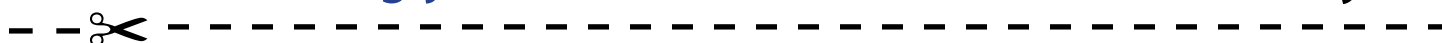
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Join your neighborhood association now!

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- Support historic preservation on your street
- Support our wonderful Duboce Park
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Join online using your credit/debit card! Visit
www.dtna.org/join.html **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:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land use/development | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

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 3673 16th St.
 San Francisco, CA 94114

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