

OCT - NOV 2022



# DUBOCE TRIANGLE NEWS

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**Tuesday, October 11, 2022**

**7:00 pm**

## PUBLIC MEETING

Join us in person at the  
Harvey Milk Center for  
Recreational Arts

### MEETING AGENDA

We'll hear news from the Duboce Triangle Historic District project, conduct a Q&A with Captain Jack Hart from SFPD (Park Station), and hear updates from the Bureau of Forestry on trees and repairs. There will be refreshments and snacks. For more information, visit [dtna.org](http://dtna.org). We hope to see you there!

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Sunday, October 2nd and November 6, 11 am to 5 pm

**Castro Art Mart.** Local artists and live music on Noe St. between Market and Beaver St.

Sunday, October 30th Castro Merchants  
**Halloween Block Party**

Monday, November 14, 7 pm

**DTNA Land Use Committee Meeting via Zoom.** To attend, email [landuse@dtna.org](mailto:landuse@dtna.org) to receive an invitation.

Every Saturday, 11 am to 5 pm

**Free COVID-19 vaccinations and testing** at the 18th Street parking lot behind Walgreens.

Note: For the latest updates on meeting location and protocols, along with other opportunities to get involved in neighborhood events, please visit us at [dtna.org](http://dtna.org).

## DTNA Board - Ballot Measure Endorsements

### Prop D - SUPPORT

DTNA wants to do whatever we can to support the development and maintenance of affordable housing. While seeing merits in both propositions D & E, the DTNA Board voted to endorse Prop D (Affordable Homes Now).

### Prop L - SUPPORT

DTNA has long been in support of public transportation and pedestrian improvements. The DTNA Board voted unanimously to endorse Prop L (Sales Tax for Transportation Projects).

See the "Land Use Committee Discussion of November Ballot Measures" below for additional information on the ballot measures discussed.

## Land Use Committee Discussion of November Ballot Measures

*By Kevin Riley, Land Use Committee Chair*

In August, the Land Use Committee met to discuss the upcoming November ballot measures we felt would have a direct impact on Duboce Triangle, consistent with land use topics discussed in the past – public transportation funding and affordable housing production. The committee tends to 'nerd out' on these types of policies and used this meeting to get into the weeds on these initiatives. The discussion centered on reviewing the pros and cons of each measure and giving everyone an opportunity to share their perspective. The ballot measures the committee discussed were: Props D & E - the competing affordable housing streamlining measures, Prop L - a renewal of an existing sales tax for transportation funding, and Prop M - the proposed residential vacancy tax.

### Prop L - Sales Tax for Transportation Projects

The committee started the discussion with Prop L, as it seemed the least contested measure on our docket to discuss. A YES vote on this proposition would maintain an existing sales tax used to fund a wide variety of transportation projects - such as public transportation and pedestrian improvements. The committee has long been in support of investments

in our roads, sidewalks, and transit lines. As an extension of a tax already in place and generating important revenue, everyone in the meeting expressed support for Prop L.

### Prop M - Tax on Keeping Residential Units Vacant

This residential vacancy tax is similar in spirit to the retail vacancy tax (Prop D, approved by voters in 2020), but in this case would apply to vacant residential units. If passed, Prop M would introduce a new tax on landlords/homeowners who have a unit vacant for more than half the year. The tax would only apply to buildings with three or more units (including condos). There are several exemptions from the new tax, including units being renovated. The tax varies depending on the size of the unit, would increase over time, and the revenue would help fund affordable housing.

Overall, neighbors agreed with the concept of incentivizing landlords to fill vacant units but felt this new tax would not have a significant impact. While supporters liked that revenue would go towards affordable housing, they acknowledged it would likely not be a large amount. Some neighbors who opposed the new tax felt it would be another bureaucratic

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District 8 Supervisor Candidate Q&A



Rafael Mandelman



Kate Stoia

1. What do you see as the most important issue facing our City? Facing Duboce Triangle?

Homelessness. No issue has occupied more of my time and attention over the last four years than our City’s concurrent homelessness, mental health, and addiction crises. I have led the push to help those who are unable to help themselves through conservatorships and expanded mental health placements, and I authored legislation that establishes a framework for the City to provide shelter for any unhoused San Franciscan willing to accept it. While I continue to support building as much affordable and permanent supportive housing as possible, the status quo of allowing our streets, sidewalks, and outdoor spaces to serve as the waiting room for housing is unsafe for everyone involved.

The single most important issue facing our City and every neighborhood is the lack of housing. Housing prices and rental rates are insanely high. San Francisco must remain a beacon of hope and a sanctuary for artists, families, and anyone who feels called to be part of this storied, multicultural place.

I was shocked but not surprised to learn that there is a whole group of people whose “job” in San Francisco is “permit expeditor,” which means they know people in the planning or building department and can cut the line for their clients. This is no way to structure development in a City as dense as San Francisco. It’s no wonder we have such an enormous housing crisis.

San Francisco must allow building development “as-of-right.” If all guidelines are met, the project moves forward. This will eliminate bureaucracy and corruption, and allow us to meet the overwhelming need.



99sanchezstreet@gmail.comDavid K. Highsmith

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San Francisco, CA 94114

District 8 Supervisor Candidate Q&A

2. How do you plan to work with DTNA, and our neighborhood’s residents and businesses?

**Rafael Mandelman**  
My staff attends nearly every DTNA and Castro Merchants Association meeting. That partnership helped us update the neighborhood’s zoning to streamline approval of new businesses and to allow new bars in the Castro (previously prohibited). We also have worked with the Office of Economic Workforce Development and neighborhood stakeholders to fill vacancies with pop-up uses and longer term tenants. I secured funding for the Slow Triangle Study to explore better use of streets. After the fire at Henry & Noe, my office connected affected residents with the Red Cross and Sushi Urashima’s owner with a disaster relief grant. Recently, two Castro-based small businesses (Giddy Candy and Skin on Market) were sent eviction notices and I intervened and brokered a deal to keep their doors open.

**Kate Stoia**  
As a 30-year resident of D8, I know firsthand how difficult it is to live in San Francisco. Even with a \$14B budget, the City is somehow dirtier and more chaotic than ever. Volunteer groups have formed citywide to do the City’s jobs. We deserve to live in a City that takes care of its residents. From making sure we have enough garbage cans to planting and maintaining trees, to ensuring our streets are safe and our small businesses can thrive, there is so much our City can do to serve its citizens. I am not a career politician and I am not running to give myself a government paycheck. I am running because as a parent, foster parent, lawyer, and community volunteer, I know we can do better.

3. What steps can the City take to make our neighborhood safer for pedestrians and cyclists?

As Chair of the County Transportation Authority, I have helped allocate millions of dollars to pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements citywide including: re-timing stop lights to allow pedestrian priority at crossings, installing bulb-outs, traffic calming improvements, and protected bicycle lanes.

In 2019, I worked with the Bicycle Coalition to push MTA to speed up its installation of bike parking infrastructure from ~600 bike racks per year to ~1200. I have persistently pushed MTA and SFPD to increase enforcement of traffic safety violations (particularly blocking bike lanes) and recently called for a hearing on the departments’ enforcement and non-enforcement of traffic safety laws.

I have strongly supported the Upper Market Safety Project and identified additional funds to install a new protected left-turn phase for outbound Market to southbound Castro motorists to protect pedestrians in what had become a very dangerous crosswalk. Additional improvements to make Market Street safer from Octavia to Castro are currently underway.

I think San Francisco should be at the forefront of innovation on these issues. I remember trying to teach my son to bike on San Francisco streets—it was terrifying. Bike lanes should be protected and we should be looking at microtransit options to move people around the City without cars. I am starting a free electric golf cart “taxi” which you will see around the neighborhood in the coming weeks. These are used to great effect in other cities around the country—why not here?

4. If elected, what three goals will you hope to accomplish during your term?

- Making good on the promise of shelter for all.
  - Significantly increasing our stock of appropriate beds for individuals with severe mental health challenges.
  - Implementing our Climate Action Goals to achieve net zero emissions.

I’m honored to have worked closely with neighborhood organizations like DTNA and the Castro Merchants Association. If re-elected, I look forward to all we can continue to accomplish together.
- Move to an as-of-right system of housing development. Eliminate corruption while supporting the creation of housing at all income levels.
  - Streamline permitting for small businesses. Explore opening small businesses in residential garages to lower overhead for people trying to get a new idea off the ground while creating more walkable neighborhoods.
  - Make City government a partner for San Francisco residents. My license plate was recently stolen and I had to pay the City to switch my parking permit to the new license plate. What?!? The City needs to do a better job caring for and supporting the people who make their lives here.



Special Call Out To All Neighbors: We Need You!



Frank Tizedes, DTNA President

Hi Neighbors,

I want to thank all of you for actively participating in the Slow Triangle project over the past year, especially during the summer workshops. Your leadership and engagement provided great insight into the challenges and opportunities you've seen in your corner of the Triangle.

We discussed concerns of cut-through traffic on Hermann, congestion on Sanchez, and the scary

intersection where Steiner meets Duboce and Sanchez (in the southeastern corner of Duboce Park). We also took the time to recognize some of the projects that have been successful in creating a safer, more active and energized neighborhood: safer crosswalks along 14th St. now that eastbound traffic has been reduced on those blocks down to a single lane, safer streets through the Slow Noe program, raised crosswalks at Waller & Steiner, and the ever-growing sense of a community hub an neighborhood activity space at Noe Street at Market, with the Wednesday Farmers' Markets, Sunday Art Mart, and other cultural events taking place throughout the year.

Together, we've demonstrated we can get things done. It takes each and every one of you to help out. I encourage you, if you are not yet a member of Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association, please join today. If you are

a member with an interest you'd like us to pursue, help lead a program or project; organize the neighbors on your streets to get those much-needed design interventions to lower speed limits and increase safety and visibility for pedestrians and cyclists.

It truly takes a village. The neighborhood is better when we are more inclusive and engaged. Tap into your passion, your drive, your energy. Meet new friends and neighbors while organizing around what matters to you.

*Continues on page 7*

Help Us Plant and Water a New Tree Near You

By Frank Tizedes

To the right is a list of addresses near empty tree wells in the neighborhood. If you live near one of these spaces, we'd like to plant a tree, but first we need your help. In order to have a tree planted, we need neighbors to volunteer to water the trees for a few years, until the tree develops deep enough roots. Please take a look at the addresses below and if one is near you, please help us protect the Duboce Triangle tree canopy by watering a new tree.

Addresses near empty tree wells:

- Castro St: Next to McKinley School
- Noe St: 101,123, 154, 168
- Sanchez St: 90
- Belcher St: 45
- Church St: 126, 130, 160, 178
- Potomac St: 57
- 16th St: 3635
- 15th St: 2220, 2262, 2263
- Henry St: 122
- 14th St: 751, 831
- Duboce Ave: 460
- Hermann St: 236
- Waller St: 335

# Castro

## FARMERS' MARKET

### YOUR FAVORITE FARMERS' MARKET RETURNS APRIL 6TH!

Join us every Wednesday evening from April to November from 3PM - 7PM at the intersection of Noe street & Market Street, for all the best that California farmers and local businesses have to offer!

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For questions email: [MassehV@sutterhealth.org](mailto:MassehV@sutterhealth.org)



Shelter and Solace in the Triangle

By Rose Linke

In the southwestern corner of Duboce Triangle, on Castro St. just up the hill from Market St., a nonprofit called [The Family Link](#) has been serving a vital need in our community for nearly 30 years.

The organization was originally founded in 1985 by the late Sister Ruth Hall and Brother Ray Cope during the early years of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, with a mission to provide affordable room and board for people coming to San Francisco to visit with loved ones whose lives were tragically cut short by this illness.

The organization moved to their current home on Castro St. in 1994. Clearly a labor of love from the very beginning, a group of volunteers worked for over a year to lovingly transform the run-

down building into a supportive community for visitors from around the world to seek shelter and find solace.

Many things have changed in our world and neighborhood since that time. For one thing, the public health landscape has shifted profoundly. Groundbreaking scientific research and development in HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment mean that fewer lives are being taken by the disease. While The Family Link does still host guests visiting loved ones with AIDS, these days it's more likely they are spending time with patients facing other life-threatening diseases, like cancer, or undergoing organ transplants, or receiving other forms of critical care at the end of life.

Guests staying at The Family Link have a few things in com-

*Continues on page 9*



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November Ballot Measures

*Continued from cover*

hoop for landlords to jump through but acknowledged that most small-scale landlords would not be affected (single-family and duplexes being exempt). Other opponents felt the tax did not go far enough and were concerned with the money and personnel that would be needed to enforce the tax. Sentiments in the meeting were split, with about half expressing support and the other half not in favor of the residential vacancy tax - no side particularly passionate either way.

Props D & E - Affordable Housing Streamlining

The majority of the meeting was spent comparing and discussing Prop D (Affordable Housing - Initiative Petition) and Prop M (Affordable Housing - Board of Supervisors). The discussion was guided by a comparison chart of the two measures. Essentially, Prop D was created by a coalition of housing advocates & developers to allow projects with 25% or more affordable units to skip discretionary reviews (Board of Supervisors and CEQA) and would only have to undergo objective reviews (Planning, Building, and Fire departments). Prop E was created by the Board of Supervisors in reaction to Prop D and would allow projects with 30% or more affordable units to skip discretionary reviews while maintaining the option for the Board of Supervisors to review & approve.

over the intent of both propositions. Several neighbors felt that the Board of Supervisors has voted down housing for political reasons (not based on the merits of the projects), and CEQA has been used to kill housing. Those folks felt that Prop E was performative in nature - laudable goals but wouldn't really produce more housing while maintaining the Supervisor's ability to kill housing. Those in favor of Prop E felt that some oversight by the Board of Supervisors should be maintained (allowing neighborhood associations like DTNA to play a role in housing approvals) and that additional streamlining could happen in other areas of the planning process. On the flip side, even the neighbors who expressed skepticism of a developer-funded initiative expressed support for Prop D. Those felt that it was a financially sensible simplification of the planning process that would actually generate desperately needed new housing. Some supporters of Prop D went as far as to say that they would support any measure that limits the Board of Supervisors power to veto housing (in reference to [469 Stevenson St.](#)). By the end of the discussion, most neighbors were in support of Prop D (Affordable Homes Now).

For more details on measures discussed, visit the Land Use page on [dtna.org](#). To partake in future meetings like the one described, email [landuse@dtna.org](mailto:landuse@dtna.org) to join the Land Use email list!

There was a general skepticism



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Letter to the Editor

by Moyra Trigueiro

Our family has been in the Duboce Triangle since 1866. Generation after generation, we’ve watched people, trends, policies come and go. This Slow Triangle has been a very bitter pill for so many; most with a silenced voice. Few choose to be “that” neighbor commenting against the popular vote.

I am a loud and proud voice against the Slow Streets on Noe and an extremely hesitant/wary listener to

the Slow Triangle ideas. The Noe Slow Street has had huge consequences that were never planned for before implementing Slow Streets; none more felt than those impacting Sanchez St.: extreme backup/congestion north & south bound, blocking fire trucks from exiting firehouse, solid cars in both directions leave gridlock for trucks to respond to emergencies, increased rage/distracted drivers, inability to access personal driveways and ongoing blocking of crosswalks due to back ups on

14th St. and Market St., increased traffic on side streets of Henry, 15th, Beaver and Belcher.

Noe has provided illegal double-parking against the planter/barricades, promotes very poor pedestrian skills, taught our children to ignore built-in sidewalk safety by permitting walking in the middle of the street and given a very chosen few the chance to exclude full use of a public City street. We have greatly increased very dangerous and slowed response time for firefighters

and paramedics to respond to all of us; with the fire on Noe/Henry as a great example. So few using the Slow Noe St. should not be able to place such an extraordinarily high burden on the rest of the neighbors and neighborhood.

I shall remain against the Slow St. and against anything that is exclusionary to full access to all to enjoy our Triangle.

November Election Will Decide Important Local, State and National Questions – Vote!

by Erik Honda, DTNA Secretary

Triangle voters have been tops in the City lately in turning out to vote. In the June 7 primary election only 46% of the half-million registered voters voted citywide, but in our area (Upper Market and Eureka Valley) turnout was significantly better – over 58%. With a big election coming up in November that will determine control of Congress, whether we write reproductive freedom into our state Constitution, and other important state, national, and local issues, let’s try to do even better this time.

You should be receiving your ballots in the mail soon, and you can fill them out and return them as soon as they arrive, up to and including the day of the election, November 8. If you haven’t received your ballot, contact the San

Francisco Department of Elections – they have a ballot tracker where you can see if you are registered, when your ballot is mailed to you, when it is received back, and when it is counted. You can also receive the information via text: <https://sfelections.sfgov.org/registration>

There are lots of important issues on the local ballot, including whether to keep JFK Drive in Golden Gate Park car free, and measures to support our public libraries and public schools. The DTNA Land Use Committee and Board have done some special vetting and a deep dive into local housing and transportation measures, and the Board has voted to endorse San Francisco Propositions D and L. Prop L is a much-needed extension of a sales tax and bond measure that will not

raise taxes, but will provide a steady stream of funding for MUNI, our public transportation system. Prop D is a streamlining of the currently cumbersome process to approve affordable housing, hopefully an antidote to our city’s abysmal record on building such housing up until now. For more detail on both measures and why we support them, check out the endorsements on the front page, along with the article by Land Use Chair Kevin Riley on the front page as well.

Make our neighborhood proud. Be a voter!

The Duboce Triangle News 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 Slow Movement

by Rose Linke

As COVID-19 swept across the globe, cities around the world implemented measures to meet the urgency of the moment. The pandemic coincided with another global challenge—our need to greatly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the consequences of climate change.

In San Francisco, we saw the introduction of the Slow Streets program. We were not alone—cities across the country (and beyond) started experimenting with both the form and function of their streets. “Stay Healthy Streets” in Seattle, “Active Lanes” in Montréal, “Open Streets” in NYC, “Shared Streets” in Boston, “Corona Cycleways” in Paris—the

names may vary from place to place, but the core concept behind these initiatives is the same.

City streets are a shared commons. They should serve a variety of needs beyond simply moving and storing cars. Can we develop streets for diverse uses through discourse and design? Can these interventions encourage healthier modes of movement to and through neighborhoods, by making people feel safer on foot or bicycle? And maybe most importantly, can our streets bring people together, by giving neighbors a way to feel more connected to the place they inhabit, a chance to get to know one another, and an opportunity to work collectively toward common goals?

Perhaps I’m a dreamer, but I believe

the answer to all of the above questions is, undoubtedly, yes. The Slow Triangle project may have initially been prompted by the Slow Streets program, but it has become something else entirely. More than any particular proposal or plan, the Slow Triangle project is a process—an opportunity for us to work together as a community, to get to know our neighbors, to speak openly about our hopes and our fears, and to find the kind of common ground that can empower change in our neighborhood.

The more people we have involved in this process, the better. For updates and opportunities to engage, reach out to [slowtriangle@dtna.org](mailto:slowtriangle@dtna.org). If you have thoughts on Slow Streets or the Slow Triangle project you can submit for consideration at [editor@dtna.org](mailto:editor@dtna.org). We would love to include your voice in the conversation!

Special Call

Continued from page 4

Leadership is needed at all levels; whether it's leading a committee of neighbors or taking on smaller projects – speed bumps on your street, better lighting, a summer social gathering, tree plantings, outreach, or simply throwing a party – none of this is possible without your help and involvement.

We need people to join together to plant and help maintain our tree canopy. Last month, we walked the neighborhood and identified approx. 22 empty tree-wells (TW-spaces where trees once stood). Letters were left at nearby addresses seeking new tree watering support.

Please join in keeping our neighborhood a great place to live. [president@dtna.org](mailto:president@dtna.org), [info@dtna.org](mailto:info@dtna.org)

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## Website/Membership Tips for [dtna.org](https://dtna.org)

[Bob Bush](#), DTNA Vice President, Web Manager

[Paige Rausser Grey](#), DTNA Board Member, Membership Manager

Latest Triangle News and Events  
Find them at [dtna.org](https://dtna.org).

### Membership Directory – changes coming in January 2023

Reminder that the online Membership Directory is only viewable by DTNA members when a member is logged in. The Directory is never accessible to the public. Starting January 1, 2023, the Membership Directory will be populated with member names – only viewable by fellow members. Members can make their name private by making changes in the “Privacy” portion of a member’s profile. If a member would like more of their information to be viewable by members, they can add their phone number, email address and/or street address in their “Privacy” settings. Otherwise, the default will be for that information to stay private. Members can also opt-out and remove their name and/or other contact information from the Membership Directory. Please contact [info@dtna.org](mailto:info@dtna.org) if you have any questions or concerns.

### Membership and Advertising

We hope you’ve had a chance to get familiar with our new website, where you can [join](#) DTNA, log in and pay your [membership dues](#) and even pay [advertising fees](#) – all online. If you are paying your membership dues online, check the [FAQ](#) to learn how to access your account for the first time. You can still mail in a check if that is preferred. Membership reminders are now sent by email so please make sure to update the email address in your account. Postcard reminders will be mailed to members without email addresses.

Our [website FAQs](#) has lots of additional information about all things membership.

## All Hail the Guerilla Birdhouse Builder



*Birdhouses spotted in the area of Henry and Castro.*

by Erik Honda

What makes a neighborhood charming? Elegant architecture? (Check) Generous tree coverage? (Check) Warm and smiling and helpful residents? (Check). But there also has to be a certain extra undefinable je ne sais quoi, an unknown something floating in the air that you wouldn’t find anywhere else.

In the Triangle that must be the artsy spirit that decorates the signs of our Slow Street with whimsical shapes and designs, or at-

taches architecturally innovative wind-mills to power poles, or sets out a seed exchange table. Or, in the most recent example of fun and funky street art, builds and weaves and paints and hangs a series of charming little birdhouses to the trees in the area of Henry and Castro. It’s impossible to come across the little gems without feeling a little bit better and smiling a little bit broader than you had before.

So thank you to the artist, for uplifting our eyes, and our days!

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## Who was Noe?

by Esther Honda

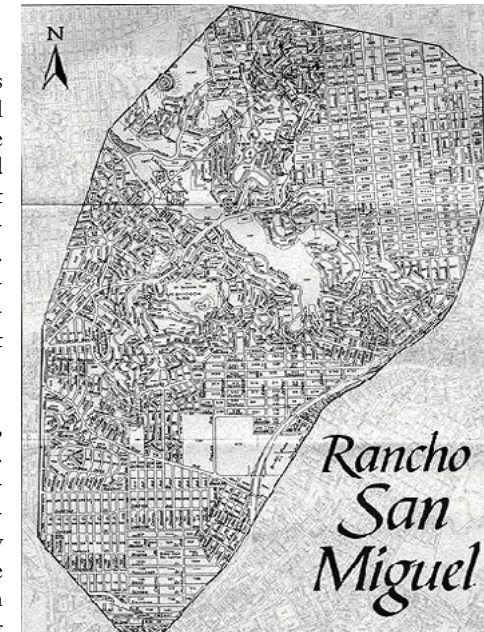
Imagine owning one-sixth of the land that is San Francisco. What could you do with all that real estate? How about grazing a couple thousand head of cattle, planting orchards, and growing wheat and other crops? That’s what José de Jesús Noé did with his land grant during the brief Mexican period of California. Noé, who eventually had a street and neighborhood named for him, was granted the 4400+ acre Rancho San Miguel by California’s last Mexican governor, Pío Pico in 1846.

Noé himself never lived on his namesake street, but in a home around 14th and Mission Streets. At first, he built a small but thriving ranch operation in the Mission, and soon proposed expanding it by taking over what was then largely empty land west and south of there. Once he was granted this land, called Rancho San Miguel, he owned what is now a mind-boggling expanse that includes today’s Castro/Eureka Valley, Glen Park, Diamond Heights, Mt. Davidson, Mt. Sutro, Balboa Park, Sunnyside and (of course) Noe Valley neighborhoods. Many of us lucky Duboce Triangle residents today live on former Rancho San Miguel lands.

Born in Puebla, Mexico, José de Jesús Noé also twice served as alcalde or mayor of San Francisco. After the US war with Mexico, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ceded San Francisco and all of Alta California plus other territories to the US, but also stipulated the honoring of Mexican land grants such as Noé’s. Not surprisingly, multiple lawsuits ensued for the Noé family, as he was harassed by Anglo squatters and speculators. Noé and his descendants were forced to sell off large tracts of the land in order to pay for legal challenges to the family property rights.

One notable sale of Rancho San Miguel lands was to Adolf Sutro (for only \$6 million in today’s dollars), who, working with the naturalist Joaquin Miller, planted huge forests. The large wooded park areas of Mt. Sutro, St. Francis Wood, Forest Hill, were all once part of Noé’s Rancho San Miguel.

Noé died in 1862, and is reported to be buried beneath the floor of Mission Dolores. However, only his wife and daughters names are listed there, so his final resting place is something of a mystery. But Duboce Triangle residents know where to find a peaceful, tree-lined, slow street named for him, don’t we?



*José de Jesús Noé was granted the 4400+ acre Rancho San Miguel by California’s last Mexican governor, Pío Pico in 1846.*

## Shelter and Solace

*Continued from page 5*

mon. First, they are very low income. The Family Link welcomes all—whether they can afford the suggested donation of \$30 per night or not. Second, they are going through one of the hardest universal human experiences: saying goodbye to someone they love, advocating for their care, and navigating the complexities of the health system.

If you’re looking to give back to the community, there are several ways to contribute to The Family Link. Direct donations by check or online are the simplest way to give. You can also designate The Family Link as your beneficiary for those Amazon purchases that might be difficult to get in the neighborhood. Or, the next time you donate to Community Thrift on Valencia Street, tell them you’d like proceeds to go to The Family Link (Acct. #15).

Learn more at [thefamilylinksf.org](https://thefamilylinksf.org).

## Think Local Think Duboce Triangle



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## Slow Triangle - Takeaways and Next Steps



by Hans Galland, DTNA Board Member and Slow Triangle Supervisor. Hans has lived on Noe Street with his husband and his dogs since 2014.

As a busy summer of neighborhood research and public realm design came to a close, neighbors had the opportunity to review the outcome of our Slow Triangle effort at the DTNA General Meeting on August 9, 2022 (See “DTNA Presents an Exciting New Vision of a Walkable and Sustainable Future”). The full pre-

sentation summarizing findings, design proposals, and multiple rounds of feedback can be viewed on the DTNA website.

As one of the organizers behind the Slow Triangle effort, I walked away with three key conclusions:

Firstly, the Duboce Triangle is home to a community of engaged neighbors who are passionate about the neighborhood and want to make it a better place. That doesn't mean we all need to agree, in fact we appreciate candid debates and respectful conversations. The Slow Triangle effort was more about a change in the process than advancing a specific agenda. And we are happy to see how many felt inspired by it. I hope we can leverage this newfound energy and work together on making the recommendations a reality.

Secondly, developing a holistic vision of the public realm in the Duboce Triangle allows us to consider trade-offs. We incorporate dimensions of equity such as: “Yes, many want more parking, but are we okay to reserve parking for community members with special needs?” Or to include aspects of sustainability: “Yes, we want a pedestrian crossing mid-block on 14th street, but it will slow down MUNI and reduce the appeal of public transit.” I was glad to learn that many neighbors were asking us to incorporate the perspectives of those who weren't naturally present at our meetings, such as the elderly, children, or other minorities.

Finally, many of the topics that emerged are deeply intertwined. Traffic calming offers opportunities to create more livable public spaces and, in turn, improve the image and

identity of our neighborhood. This has begged the question of whether the master plan developed as part of these efforts should serve a broader purpose to be a Vision Triangle 2030, rather than just a Vision Slow Triangle.

As the next step, DTNA's Land Use Committee invites interested neighbors to a first implementation session on October 6 at 7 pm. We will discuss the priorities of various proposals included in the master plan, potential budget resources, and opportunities for neighbors to champion their implementation. If you are interested in participating, have questions or feedback, please contact us at [slowtriangle@dtna.org](mailto:slowtriangle@dtna.org).

## Heirloom Apples – A Taste of History

by Debra Morris  
Pacific Coast Farmers' Market Association

The aroma of apple pie on a Fall day, the smooth flavor of home-made apple butter on toast, or a tempting square of apple cake can signal fall is on its way. Your farmers' market has a seemingly endless selection of heirloom apples, most of which are relatively uncommon. Each apple brings its own history and interesting name.

After almost disappearing, older apple varieties, popular 50 to 100 years ago, have been making a comeback. Discerning farmers' market customers have learned to differentiate between a delightfully sweet or tart heirloom apple and the waxed, shiny, almost tasteless varieties that are available in supermarkets. Each heirloom has a distinctive flavor profile, gorgeous skin color, and crisp bite that are sure to become favorites.

Many of the commercial apple va-

rieties we see in grocery stores are hybrids, combining the favorite attributes of various heirlooms - namely, predictable traits of size, color, transportability, and storage life. Heirlooms, on the other hand, are open pollinated and have been preserved and passed along for generations in their “pure” form. These heirlooms are particularly important for genetic diversity. Maintaining rich genetic diversity is essential for increased disease resistance, temperature hardiness, and for preserving the species.

Today many apple growers have returned to growing heirlooms. Gravenstein apples, a variety named by the Danes, meaning “gray stone,” was introduced to Northern California in the 19th century by Russian fur traders. It is one of the most common heirloom apples and grows mostly in the Sebastopol area. The heritage Fuji and Pink Lady apples also have a long history. These apples, among others, were brought back

from near extinction by local farmers who desired to save these older breeds. These farmers and local farmers' markets have been first in line to offer these special apples to customers. Direct to market sales have increased their visibility and desirability.

Thick-skinned apples, because they hold their shape, tend to be good for baking whole. Try Fuji, Pink Lady, or Gala. You might find the early harvest Gravenstein apple, one of the true heirloom varieties still grown. They're good for apple sauce, cider, and just plain good eating. Tart apples are best for baking because their flavor holds up. Try Pippin, Granny Smith, Empire, or Rome.



*There are some wonderful varieties of heirloom apples offered at your Castro farmers' market.*

There are some wonderful varieties of heirloom apples offered at your Castro farmers' market. Allard Farms from Westley has Camoe, Braeburn, Empire, and other delicious apples and Rainbow Orchards from Apple Hill in Camino has Granny Smith, Rome, Cameo, Honey Crisp, and so many others.

This fall, visit your local certified farmers' market where you'll find a wide range of this tasty fall fruit, where the farmers who grew and harvested them bring them to you.

## DTNA Presents an Exciting New Vision of a Walkable and Sustainable Future

by Erik Honda

A lively crowd of Triangle neighbors gathered on August 9th at the Harvey Milk Center for the Arts to discuss the culmination of DTNA's design efforts for the Slow Triangle, and to plan next steps. DTNA President Frank Tizedes complimented all the engaged neighbors who turned out for the workshops that helped shape the design options. DTNA Land Use Committee chair Kevin Riley explained the origins of Slow Triangle in the committee, and encouraged folks to email him via our website to participate. He credited Supervisor Rafael Mandelman with pushing us to come up with a master plan, and reviewed the preliminary survey work done last year by Professor Zach Lamb's class of UC Berkeley students, who took the pulse of neighbors and business owners on what changes they'd like to see.

Slow Triangle subcommittee chair Hans Galland explained how in retrospect the Slow Street on Noe, implemented by the City during the pandemic without much process, was a provocation to have a more inclusive dialogue to find out what folks in the neighborhood want. He explained how our Slow Triangle interns, Eugene Lau and Martine Kushner, were hired to zero in on design options that the neighbors found appealing, and that could present the core of an “ask” to City government for funding.

Eugene began with a review of the previous three Slow Triangle meetings, which created design values, brainstormed options, and tweaked the aesthetics and practicalities of preliminary designs. He also described the team's multiple venues of outreach, which went well beyond the email surveys and workshops to individual conversations, and tabling at the Farmers' Market. Hans detailed DTNA's determination to emphasize equity in the process by finding ways to talk to people who can't come to meetings or answer email surveys, including interviews with children and members of various minority groups, as well as disabled and elderly folks who live at 25 Sanchez and aren't mobile enough to attend meetings.

According to survey data the neighbors' most desired intervention is improved paving and pedestrian signaling, and the second is greening. Collision data from 2017-2022 reveals a need for slowing traffic, but how to do it? Mar-

tine explained that data from the MTA study of traffic changes before and after the Slow Street implementation found that neighboring streets are not over capacity, but emphasized a need for ongoing check-ins. She then showed a series of lovely slides that explained how we can brand the neighborhood more effectively with typography, signage, murals, and wayfinding, and how we can extend the pedestrian realm using plantings, paint, paving, and street furniture to enhance the opportunity for gatherings and social engagement, as well as to help the environment via more and better street trees. The slide show of possible design options, which also include LED lighting, string lighting, wider sidewalks, bikeways, sidewalk art, exercise options, and a plethora of other cool ideas, is available on the Slow Triangle page of our website (under the “Initiatives” tab): <https://dtna.org/page-18211>

The very engaged audience had lots of questions and even some new ideas which hadn't been thought of before. Stay tuned for more in-

put opportunities as we home in on our first priorities and complete our budget ask to the City. Go Slow!



*Free COVID-19 testing and vaccination including boosters are available every Saturday at the 18th Street parking lot behind Walgreens.*



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- Support your neighborhood as we all live, work and look out for each other
- Support the newsletter

Join online at [www.dtna.org/join](http://www.dtna.org/join) and become a member today!  
 "Touchless" is our preferred mode of receiving your payment, but we will still gladly take a check, see below:



☒ **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
 ☐ Social events

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:  
 Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association  
 Attention: Treasurer  
 2261 Market Street, PMB# 301  
 San Francisco, CA 94114

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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