

APR - MAY 2020



DUBOCE TRIANGLE NEWS

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Monday, April 13, 2020

7:00 to 9:00 pm

PUBLIC MEETING CANCELED

All DTNA meetings are canceled until further notice due to COVID-19 outbreak.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

The Farmers' Market remains open. All other events are likely canceled at least through the end of April.

Wednesdays, 4-8 pm
Castro Farmers' Market. Noe St between Market and Beaver St.

Monday, April 6, 7-8:30 pm
DTNA Land Use Committee Meeting. Chase Bank at Sanchez and Market Streets.

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

Tuesday, April 14, 7-8 pm
Park Station Community Meeting. Park Station Community Room. 1899 Waller Street, sanfranciscopolice.org.

Monday, May 4, 7-8:30 pm
DTNA Land Use Committee Meeting. Chase Bank at Sanchez and Market Streets.

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

Tuesday, May 12, 7-8 pm
Park Station Community Meeting. Park Station Community Room. 1899 Waller Street, sanfranciscopolice.org.

Castro Farmers' Market is Back



The Castro Farmers' Market remains open as an essential service during the new coronavirus outbreak.

Your neighborhood Castro Farmers' Market has returned for the season, a reminder that everything good comes to those who wait! The intersection of Noe Street and Market Street is filled with all your favorite farmers of fine fruits and vegetables, eggs, honey, and baked goods – everything you could want from local farmers and other food producers. Best of all, this local gathering place is again filled with the sounds of chatter, music, and laughter as neighbors walk the street to select fine local produce and enjoy their community and local businesses.

At 5 p.m. on March 11th a ribbon cutting ceremony was held, officiated by community activist Donna Sachet and President of the Castro Merchants Masood Samereie. They and the gathered crowd presided over a special performance by Llano River Blue, with additional musical entertainment provided by Aprylle Gilbert.

Every Wednesday throughout the season, your favorite farmers will be offering a constantly changing variety of California-certified produce, emphasizing the importance of eating with the seasons. All the farmers grow what they sell, so you know where your food is coming from! Spring will be filled with greens like asparagus, baby lettuces, spring onions, celery, spinach, fresh peas, and fava beans. In May we will watch the arrival of sweet cherries and juicy apricots, with other stone fruit not far behind – peaches, nectarines, and plums, oh, yum! Tomatoes, corn, melons, and peppers arrive later in the summer. The bounty is worth the wait.

Right now you can visit Clara's Egg Farm of Royal Oaks for fantastic pasture-raised eggs, Fifth Crow Farm from Pescadero and Happy Boy Farms from Watsonville for some of the best vegetables around, and Pirate Creek Bees in Sunol for pure local honey. There will

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Supervisor's Message



San Francisco District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman

Dear Duboce Triangle Neighbors,

These last few weeks have been challenging for San Francisco, the country and the world. As District 8's elected representative, the safety of my constituents is my greatest concern, and I know how scary the threat of COVID-19 feels – especially for seniors and people with underlying health conditions and

their loved ones. We are also beginning to understand the pain COVID-19, and our necessary public health response, will have on our small businesses and the people who own and work in them.

COVID-19 Response

My office has been in regular contact with the San Francisco Department of Public Health, the Department of Emergency Management and the Mayor's Office as the City works to reduce the spread and impacts of COVID-19 in San Francisco. As of this writing, the latest guidance from the and DPH are to shelter in place, and to only leave your house for essential trips – to the grocery store for supplies, or to go to your job to provide essential services like health care or food preparation. No one should leave the house if they are showing any symptoms of even mild illness. To receive the latest COVID-19 information from SF public health

officials via text message text "COVID19SF" to 888-777 or visit www.sfdph.org for up-to-date information. You can also visit www.sf.gov/coronavirus for additional COVID-19 response information.

Small Business & Worker Support

Many of our small businesses and their employees are now confronted with closures of indefinite duration and, for those that remain open, a significant decrease in business as San Franciscans practice the "social distancing" being asked of us. I will be working with City, State and Federal officials to mitigate the economic impact on these businesses and workers. Mayor Breed has announced a series of initial resources and measures to alleviate pressure on employers and employees including deferred business tax for small businesses and a COVID-19 Small Business Resilience Fund. Up-to-

date information about these measures can be found at www.oewd.org/corona.

Homelessness, Mental Health & Public Safety

Addressing the crisis of street homelessness remains a top priority for my office, and the emergence of COVID-19 further underscores the need to move people off our streets, out of tents and into safer spaces.

At my request, the neighborhoods of District 8 have been prioritized for additional City resources to address homelessness and, beginning last year, neighborhood 'hot spots' now receive increased visits from Homeless Outreach Team, DPH and DPW staff. I have been working with the Mayor's office to coordinate efforts to get the neediest and most challenging people living on the streets in the Castro,

Continues on page 7

Happy Spring!



Kimyn Braithwaite
DTNA President

We at DTNA hope everyone is staying healthy and safe, and taking the appropriate precautionary measures needed during these unprecedented times we are experiencing.

A few weeks ago, before the Covid-19 was classified as a pandemic and before the lockdown, I was excited to use this President's message to highlight the many new businesses that have opened their doors on the Market Street hypotenuse of our Triangle. As you all know, we continue to suffer from too many empty storefronts, and in the last few months, some new businesses have opened, which is very exciting and it deserves to be celebrated.

Eureka Sky, a cannabis dispensary, opened in the former Wild Card space on Jane Warner plaza, and Café de Casa, which provides tasty Brazilian food, opened across the way. On Market Street, Core MVMT, a Pilates studio, took over the vacant spot formerly occupied by Illy Coffee. Bonita Taqueria y Rotisserie took over the former Squat and Gobble on 16th Street, and Ohm Thai Massage opened at 2275 Market, Suite C.

However now, post-lockdown, I want to share with everyone all the ways that we as a community can support each other and our local businesses. This is by no means a new topic and many of you may already know some of the following suggestions. The DTNA Facebook page has been extremely busy with

members offering up a variety of ways that we can help our community.

One prevailing concern is the health of the small businesses that make up the bulk of our neighborhood's retail corridor, and whose owners and employees are often our neighbors. A popular idea, and one that my family has been doing, is purchasing gift certificates with the desire to inject funds into the business now for redemption when things have gone back to normal (or the new normal, whatever that may be). SaveourFaves (www.saveourfaves.org) is a website created specifically to help people purchase gift certificates for their favorite restaurants in San Francisco. On a national level, Rally for Restaurants (rallyforrestaurants.com) is a good source. Ordering take-out locally will help as well, so long as when we go to pick it up we all abide by the social distancing guidelines that are crucial to keeping the Covid-19 pandemic at bay.

For non-restaurants, gift certificates are great, but what about shopping on-line? Just make sure to focus on local businesses; even though they are closed many are still accepting online orders. And don't be discouraged if their website is not up-to-date, send an email asking how you can help. In these difficult times, who wouldn't want to receive a lovely bouquet of flowers from a friend?

There are a lot of things that we as community members can do to support and care for each other. We call Duboce Triangle and San Francisco our home, and we need to do what we can to protect it and secure it, so that it continues to be the great neighborhood and city that we are proud to live in.

See you out there in the neighborhood picking things up and playing at the park – just for now from a safe and respectful distance. A smile travels a long way.

Construction of N Line Subway Connection on Duboce Avenue
Image from the SFMTA Photography Archives, sfmta.com/photo



April 16, 1971 - A view of Duboce Avenue and the now Safeway parking lot, looking East from Church Street. This construction provided an exit point for the N from the Muni Metro subway being built under Market Street. Prior to the Muni Metro construction, Duboce Avenue was a through street for auto and surface streetcar traffic.

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Changes Coming to the Triangle – Land Use Updates

The Land Use Committee had a busy start to the year as we discussed projects proposed in and around our neighborhood. It is our goal to support growth while maintaining the beloved character of Duboce Triangle. Below is an outline of projects we have recently been discussing. As always, DTNA members are welcome to attend Land Use meetings on the first Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m., at the Chase Bank Community Room located at 15th Street and Sanchez Street.

240 Church Street: This proposed six-story development would replace the single-story brick building currently occupied by Thorough Bread Bakery. The plan, proposed by the developer Ty Bash, is for Thorough Bread to move back in after the project is completed and occupy the new ground-floor retail space as well as the back patio, which will be slightly expanded and made ADA accessible. The rest of the building is proposed to consist of 18 market-rate residential units and two below-market-rate units, well below the 20% on-site affordable goal DTNA has always championed.

We are still trying to learn what will happen to Thorough Bread during construction and would love to see this treasured business remain in our neighborhood. The project is still in early stages and is currently being reviewed by the Planning Department. We look forward to their feedback and to tracking the project as the design develops.

2135 and 2140 Market Street: 2135 Market Street is the lot formerly occupied by Open Bible Church, and 2140 Market Street is the lot across the street, occupied by the Lucky 13 bar. These two multi-family projects are almost identical to each other. They are proposed by the same developer, designed by the same architect (Macy Architecture), are both nine stories tall, would both provide some ground-floor retail space, are alike in terms of their exterior design, and contain similar “affordable by design” unit types. 2135 Market Street will have 30 units while 2140 Market Street will have 90 units. The developer’s “affordable by design” units will be as compact and economical as possible in order to make them (relatively) affordable. 2135 Mar-

ket Street has been submitted to the Planning Department, which is conducting its review. 2140 Market Street seems to be on hold. We will continue to track these developments.

55 Belcher Street: This mid-block, four-story, 25-unit multi-family development was approved by the Planning Commission in November 2019 and will contain five below-market-rate units, hitting DTNA’s goal of 20% on-site affordable. The development has ground-floor residential units rather than retail as appropriate for this quiet residential street. It will have 25 bicycle parking spaces and 12 automobile parking spaces. Local Belcher Street neighbors were very involved in the entitlement process, resulting in a development that DTNA supports. We look forward to seeing the existing surface parking lot replaced with housing for future neighbors.

1965 Market Street: An eight-story, 96-unit multi-family housing development received preliminary approval in February 2018. A permit for construction was issued in July 2019 but the Planning Department reports no start date. The existing three-story Spanish Revival structure occupied by offices and FedEx will remain, as it is deemed historic by the state. It is unclear if and when this project will start construction. We will continue to keep an eye on this development and hope to provide an update soon.

2100 Market Street: Sterling Bank will be moving into the ground-floor retail space at the corner of 14th Street and Market Street. The exact date remains unknown but the developer, Brian Spears, gave DTNA an estimate of late April 2020. Given that interior work has been slow to start, it may be a few months until that space is open. Like all empty ground-floor spaces in our neighborhood, we look forward to that space being filled as soon as possible.

Sheet Metal Workers Union Hall: Earlier this year, the City of San Francisco purchased the Sheet Metal Workers Union Hall at 1939 Market Street. The existing building and surface parking lot will be replaced with an estimated 80-100 units of affordable housing. The San Francisco Chronicle reports that these affordable homes may be made available to LGBTQ seniors. This project is still in its infancy and it could be a few years until a new

Greening the Triangle

One of DTNA’s goals for 2020 is to enhance what is already a strength of our neighborhood, our “leafy” sidewalks. To reach our goal DTNA is engaging with California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC), Supervisor Mandelman’s office, and the Department of Public Works, which manages street trees along with street design.

CPMC: In January DTNA President Kimyn Braithwaite and DTNA Secretary Erik Honda met with new California Pacific Medical Center - Davies CEO Tami Chin, and talked over how CPMC can contribute to the look of the neighborhood by continuing and enhancing programs for campus beautification. Beginning in 2008, DTNA negotiated with CPMC on streetscape improvements surrounding the planned development of the Davies campus as part of a planned larger five-campus upgrade at CPMC facilities. The upgrades never happened at the Davies campus; however, DTNA has managed to work with CPMC on delivering some of the improvements nonetheless. Chain link fence and ivy was re-

moved along Duboce Avenue, along with the installation of Japanese maples and bamboo on the roof of storage facility. Street trees were added on Castro Street. On 14th Street, the chain link fence with ivy was partially removed and pedestrian-scale lighting installed. Most recently, street trees, including Japanese maples, were added on Noe Street.

The next step is to move the Hand Therapy Unit, which has been housed in two “temporary” portable structures in the 14th Street parking lot since 2006. Ms. Chin, who was involved in the original relocation of the unit, promised that that it would finally be relocated and the portables removed offsite by the end of this year. Provided that construction of the new behavioral health and inpatient unit is complete by then, the construction trailers in that area will also be gone. DTNA is looking forward to the daylighting of driveway entrances on 14th Street and Castro Street, and for the removal of the remaining chain link fencing around the campus perimeter. On our wish list are a more “ceremonial” entrance to the cam-



Fifteen new trees have been planted on 14th Street.

pus on 14th Street, a direct path onto campus from Noe Street, and access from the corner of Noe Street and Duboce Avenue to the Privately Owned Public Open Space (POPOS) on the roof of the North Tower.

14th Street: 14th Street, which bisects the Triangle and is a major traffic corridor, is short on comfortable pedestrian space due to narrow sidewalks and loss of trees. The sidewalks are less than half the width of most other sidewalks in the neighborhood. And the pepper trees, that make up most of the tree canopy, are coming to the end of their natural life. Some trees were irresponsibly removed by construction crews at Sanchez Street and 14th Street.

Recently a coalition of neighbors has put together a plan to reconfigure 14th Street with additional pedestrian space and bike lanes. Through the Department of Public Works’ (DPW) new “quick build” program, these requests could be done relatively cheaply and quickly, with paint and plastic barriers, rather than with poured concrete or street construction. In support of these asks, Supervisor Rafael Mandelman used discretionary money in the District 8 budget to replace the lost trees. As of this writing, DPW has installed seventeen new trees, fifteen of them on 14th Street. Thank you Supervisor Mandelman!

If you are interested in helping with or have input about the 14th Street redesign, or would like to help with a survey of missing street trees Triangle-wide, come to the next DTNA Land Use Committee Meeting – we meet the first Monday of every month, from 7-8:30 p.m., in the Chase Bank at Sanchez and 15th.

Street trees and green infrastructure are not only key contributors to reducing global warming since they absorb and store carbon and reduce urban heating, they also have been shown to elevate mood, and to reduce both blood pressure and crime rates. Let’s all do our part to make the neighborhood less mean and more green!

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Everything I Know about Diversity and Inclusion I Learned...At My Kid’s Preschool

By Kimyn Braithwaite, DTNA President

I thought I was liberal. Progressive, even. I thought that being kind to all people — different, similar; richer, poorer; darker, lighter; Native, immigrant; more educated, less educated — was enough. I thought I (a financially secure white woman) was an ally.

Then our children started attending Friends of St Francis, and my eyes were opened.

One of the first things I observed was the boisterous play among the children, and that, unlike in most schools, children were not segregating themselves by likeness. I later learned that the staff thoughtfully orchestrate the mix through partner, small-group, and large-group activities. The children get to know one another in the organized activities, then seek each other out during free play.

I heard many languages and accents in the air, and I saw the children understanding it all perfectly.



At Friends of St. Francis, diversity and inclusion is by design.

I saw how attached a brown-skinned girl was to a brown-skinned doll, and the easy comfort a white-skinned girl had with another dark-skinned doll. To the one child, the likeness mattered; to the other child, it didn’t. And all of that matters in shaping an inclusive mindset.

At Friends of St. Francis, diversity and inclusion is by design, from the students it enrolls, to the staff it employs, to the learning materials it curates, to the interactions it facilitates. In the

- St. Francis community they believe that
- Diversity and inclusion are crucial to a thriving San Francisco
 - Inclusion benefits ALL community members
 - The only way to combat systemic inequality is through systemic inclusion

If you agree, you have a rare opportunity to support the work the school does. There are several ways you can make a difference:

- Attend the Spring gala and auction, Kaleidoscope, at the Randall Museum - Saturday May 9th from 6 pm - 9 pm. Food, drink, and live entertainment (see the St. Francis website for updates).
- Donate goods or services to the auction (email Erika Friday at ebfriday@gmail.com)
- Donate directly to Friends of St. Francis, a 501(c)(3) organization. Visit fosfchildcare.org and navigate to Get Involved: Donate. There you’ll also find a list of contributions the school would appreciate.

More ways Friends of St. Francis fosters diversity and inclusion

Halloween: Children look forward to Halloween with heightened anticipation. But not all families have the time, money, or familiarity with American customs to buy or make a costume. The FoSF way: The students themselves make costumes out of humble materials such as paper bags, construction paper, paint, and feathers. The 2-year-olds were cats, the 3-year-olds were dogs, and the 4-year-olds were butterflies. The costumes were tied into hands-on learning experiences in the school’s backyard. Books: It’s well known that books in the home foster literacy. But not all families have a culture of reading, a habit of going to the library, or access to books in their native languages. The FoSF way: Story Cycles book bags are sent home with the students every Thursday, and families return them every Tuesday. Over that long weekend families have access to four age-appropriate books with compelling pictures and multicultural stories. Books are in English, Spanish or Chinese, with some in both a foreign language and English. Reliability: Working families need child care that is reliable and comprehensive. The FoSF way: The doors are open from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm, allowing for a full work day and commute. There are enough teachers on staff and on the substitute-teacher roster to allow for full coverage, back-up care in case of teacher absence, and appropriate breaks during the workday to allow the teachers to be at their best.

Supervisor's Message, continued

Continued from page 2

Upper Market, Duboce Triangle and Dolores Park into care and housing. In addition, my office has requested and received additional resources for increased SFPD foot patrols and drug sale enforcement in the Castro. We continue to meet weekly with the Mayor’s Homelessness Policy Advisor and monthly with the Captain of Mission Station to monitor the progress of these efforts.

In February, Mayor Breed and I also announced a proposal to open a 30-bed behavioral health navigation center at 1156 Valencia Street specifically for unhoused people with mental illness and substance use disorder. The Valencia Street Hummingbird Place will be the City’s first community-based behavioral health navigation center (the only existing such facility is on the SF General campus) and will more than double the number of these beds that currently exist in the City.

Economic Impacts

The Mayor and the Board of Supervisor’s Budget Committee (of which I am a member) have begun work on the 2020-21 budget. Already it is clear that, after many years of surpluses, the economic impacts of COVID-19 will be far-reaching and challenging for the City’s finances.

In addition to the small business impacts noted above, we have seen catastrophic reductions in hotel occupancy rates, full cancellations of all Moscone Center conventions until mid-May and sharp week-over-week restaurant losses — especially in neighborhoods near downtown where employees are now telecommuting to work. These declines are likely to continue as various levels of government impose increasing restrictions on travel, events, and other activities, as necessary to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Editor's Note

Hello Neighbors, In the last edition of the DTNA Newsletter (Feb-Mar 2020), the article attributed to Luke Bruner had changes made to it inconsistent with the author’s intent or style. DTNA apologizes for this misrepresentation and parts of the article have been redacted.

We can expect significant losses to the City’s General Fund, including significant hits to our Hotel Tax, Sales Tax, Airport transfer tax and other revenues. The losses will come on top of the \$420 million projected budget shortfall that Mayor Breed had already announced for the coming two budget years. At the same time, we anticipate having to significantly increase new City expenditures associated with our COVID-19 response. Anticipating what will likely be a difficult budget process, I will

of course continue to advocate strongly for services and investments that are important to the residents of District 8, including our public health system, public safety and our public schools.

If you have any questions or concerns, my office is here to help. Please don’t hesitate to reach out via email, at mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org.

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The Neighborhood Turns out Big on Super Tuesday

March 3 was Super Tuesday, and our super-responsible voters turned out very much in force to choose a Democratic nominee for President, and to weigh in on some important local issues.

The City approved Proposition D, a vacancy tax on empty retail spaces, which will hopefully make a dent in the seemingly intractable problem of retail vacancies in the neighborhood, especially along the Market Street corridor. Starting January 2021, vacant storefronts will be taxed based on the number of feet of street frontage (for example the owners of the former Pottery Barn at Castro Street and Market Street would pay a larger tax than a small storefront), and the tax will double each year until the property is rented. Hopefully this tax will be enough incentive for the corporate and absentee landlords who have left spaces like 2175 Market vacant for years to work with potential businesses to bring Market Street back to life.

In a sign that voters are willing to try just about anything to make a dent in the affordability and homeless crisis, the voters approved Proposition E, which attempts to get big commercial developers interested in building affordable housing by restricting future office development if San Francisco fails to meet state-mandated affordable housing goals.

Voters approved Proposition B, an earthquake safety bond measure to finance infrastructure improvements at police and fire stations, the 911 call center, and other disaster-response facilities, and Proposition C, which ensures that employees of the San

Francisco Housing Authority can access their City retirement medical benefits if they found another City job following the agency's collapse.

Statewide, voters were feeling a little less generous than San Francisco voters – Proposition 13, a bond to help rebuild schools and colleges, got 75% of the vote here, but not a majority statewide, so did not come close to the 66.6% required (thanks to the old Prop 13) to pass. Maybe the name didn't help. In the "top two" primary for State Senate District 11 (San Francisco and a little bit of San Mateo county), progressive candidate Jackie Fielder significantly outpolled Republican Erin Smith. Thanks to the top-two primary system, Fielder will face Democrat, the incumbent moderate, and top vote-getter Scott Wiener, in November.

In the November 2019 election the Castro/Upper Market neighborhoods had a strong voter turnout of 42%, beating most neighborhoods in the City, but still a long way to go as most of eligible neighbors did not vote. DTNA is very happy to report that this Spring, voters destroyed our old record, and had 74% voter turnout. Castro/Upper Market was the best turn-out in the City. Statewide, California turnout was at about 49%, so we far outdistanced that as well, nice job voters! There is a still a bit of improvement to be had in November, when the other 26% of our neighbors will hopefully also show up, to set the course of our country for the next four years, and maybe the planet for the next 100. If we all can manage to make it to the polls, we might set ourselves up for that happy future we are all dreaming of, rather than the dystopia we keep worrying about. For the planet's sake, and for the neighborhood's, 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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Walking the Triangle Part II – The Hypotenuse

By Erik Honda, DTNA Secretary

When we last met in the February/March Issue of the DTNA News, we had circumnavigated half of the Triangle; beginning at Henry Street and Castro Street, we traveled up Castro, down Waller, across Fillmore, and down Herman to Duboce Avenue and Church Street. If you missed the first half of our walk it's still available at www.dtna.org/newsletter.html.

We had arrived at 1 Church Street, the largest affordable housing development in our area, which constitutes the Northeastern corner of the Duboce Triangle. From here, we picked up the trail on yet another rainless February day, and headed West behind Safeway to the corner of Market Street and Duboce Street, the Easternmost point of the Triangle. On the fence of a disused MUNI yard, historical signage tells the story of the



Canary Island palm trees that were installed on Market Street ten years ago are now coming into their own.

Continuing up Market Street, past Church Street, neighborhood stalwarts like the Academy of Ballet and Crossroads vintage clothing occupy an elegantly historic brick building, and share the space with bustling new neighbors like Verve Coffee. High-end bar Blackbird, restaurant Wooden Spoon, the whimsical City landmark the Swedish American Hall, and more casual places like Lucky 13, Willkommen, and the family friendly video, board, and pinball game emporium The Detour, all welcome a passerby.

It is here, on Market Street that vacancy problems start to become apparent, with long-unfilled spaces at The Duboce and 2175 Market Street, and a scruffy and underused parcel, now occupied by Catarra Real Estate.

On the bright side, now under construction midway up Market Street, is the long-delayed project at the former Sullivan's Funeral Home and adjacent parking lot, which received permits in 2015 but didn't start building until late 2019. This block is a good spot to stop and admire some city infrastructure and greening – Canary Island palm trees that were installed ten years ago and are now coming into their own, marching in a stately row from Castro Street to Guerrero Street, and guiding the eye Eastward toward the sparkling towers of downtown and the Ferry Building, just visible at

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Castro FARMERS' MARKET

The Castro Farmers' Market is back for the 2020 season! Throughout the season, your favorite farmers will be offering a constantly changing variety of California-certified produce. All the farmers grow what they sell so you know where your food is coming from! Spring is filled with greens like asparagus, baby lettuces, spring onions, celery, spinach, and more.

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DTNA General Meeting

On Monday February 10, the bi-monthly DTNA General Meeting occurred at California Pacific Medical Center.

DTNA President Kimyn Braithwaite gave introductory remarks, thanking CPMC Davies for providing space for the meeting, the DTNA newsletter distributors, and to all the newsletter advertisers. She briefly shared developing DTNA 2020 goals, such as addressing public safety issues in the neighborhood and garnering more street trees. DTNA Board Member Kevin Riley provided an update on DTNA Land Use matters (see Land Use Update in this newsletter for details).

State Assemblyman David Chiu provided a legislative update. He discussed his initiatives on housing, homelessness, and transportation. As Chair of the Housing and Community Development committee, Assemblyman Chiu is championing tenet protections against predatory and discriminatory evictions. He passionately shared details about Assembly Bill 2057, the Bay Area Seamless Transit Act, which instructs Bay Area transit agencies to implement steps toward a more seam-

less rider experience. AB2057 creates a task force to work towards larger, structural transit changes that would lead to fuller integration among all Bay Area transit operators.

Daniel Anderson spoke about Prop D, the Retail Vacancy tax and answered questions from neighbors. Prop D is an effort to incentivize finding tenants for blighted commercial properties. The prop passed in the March 2020 election.

District 8 Supervisor Rafel Mandeleman closed the General Meeting. He shared his excitement about the Valencia Street Hummingbird Place opening, and touched on his office's activities around housing, transit performance, and neighborhood trees. A lively question/answer time followed Supervisor Mandeleman's updates, with neighbors curious about the status of Cafe Flore, SFMTA Reliability Working Group, safe injection sites and City College. Supervisor Mandeleman encouraged neighbors to reach out to his office at mandelmanstaff@sfgov.org with questions or concerns.

Changes, continued


Continued from page 4

building is constructed on that lot. Even though this project is outside the Triangle, we will keep an eye on it as we continue to support efforts to provide affordable housing in and around our neighborhood.


33 Gough Street: This site is not in Duboce Triangle and therefore outside our purview, but we wanted to give an update as this will become the closest navigation center to the neighborhood. The vacant CCSF building will be reused to provide 200 shelter beds

for those experiencing homelessness. This 24/7 shelter will provide much-needed services and will allow people to bring in their partners, pets, and possessions.

At a meeting for the proposed center, the general attitude of local community members was supportive. The Board of Supervisors approved the center in early March and it is slated to open later this year. The City is determined to work with the community to make the center as successful as possible.



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Castro Farmers' Market, continued

Continued from first page

be grass-fed beef from Victorian Farmstead Meat Company in Sebastopol, Pakistani foods from the Malik Brothers in Fremont, and luscious baked goods from Feel Good Bakery in Alameda, as well as a new purveyor of fine baked goods, Native Baking Company.

Another great thing about visiting your local farmers' market, rather than enduring a run to the grocery store, is that you can talk to your farmers, learn about their farm and their produce, and even pick up a quick recipe. You'll find the camaraderie of the farmers' market one of the most pleasant experiences you can have, while also getting to know your neighbors, rekindling old relationships, and finding new friends – all while supporting your local farmers, as well as your local community and the surrounding businesses.

Thank you for your support in years past. Let's make this season's Castro Farmers' Market one of the best ever! We'll be here every Wednesday from 4pm to 8pm through No-

vember 18th, at 290 Noe Street at Market Street.

Corona Virus Update: Some of the larger markets have closed but for now the Castro Farmers' Market remains open. You can check the Pacific Coast Farmers Market Association website to be sure it is still running.

The PCFMA has also started a campaign to keep the farmers' markets open because they feel they are healthier options than the grocery store. If you would like to join the campaign, you can send an e-mail to Governor Newsom's office by following this link: gov-apps.gov.ca.gov/gov40mail/

Suggested text: "Dear Governor Newsom. Please extend grocery story exception for large gatherings to farmers' markets as well. With your help, we can keep farmers' markets open across the state, which will allow Californians access to fresh and local foods while also supporting farmers, many of whom have no other sales outlets. Thank you!"

Walking the Triangle, continued

Continued from page 9



View from 16th Street and Castro Street.

the end of Market Street.

These last two blocks of the hypotenuse contain a number of long beloved small businesses – Sui Generis high-end vintage clothing, SF Photoworks, Canela Spanish restaurant, the Lookout see-and-be-seen bar, Starbelly, Giddy Candy, Café La Méditerranée, and Ken Wingard Designs, as well as newcomers like

Ritual Coffee, Stag & Manor, and the Art Attack gallery. Unfortunately, the most beloved neighborhood restaurant, Café Flore, an institution since 1973, recently closed. Like swiss cheese holes, these blocks are also punctuated by ugly vacancies at the former Harvest Market, Pottery Barn, and a former real estate office.


Hiking the steep slope up Castro Street from Market Street we begin the last leg of our journey along the Western edge of the Triangle. Here, the spirit quickly turns from commercial to residential, with stately Victorians and Edwardians, many of them undergoing substantial renovations, offering knockout views of the hills to the South and East. Even more

impressive are the views from the top of the hill at 16th Street, where it is possible to look East past Mission Dolores and Mission Bay to the San Francisco Bay itself, the East Bay hills, and even Mt. Diablo 40 miles away.

Castro Street is lined with mature magnolias just now popping out their almost impossibly huge white blossoms, and cooperative neighbors between 16th Street and Beaver Street have added lovely brick planters festooned with an array of native plants and succulents. It is that sort of care for the neighborhood that makes the last easy roll back to Henry Street pleasant, a gentle up and down meander that rewards those willing to stop and gaze.

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