



November 4 Ballot Issues Recommendations

CSFN considered the following ballot measures at its August and September meetings and recommends the following votes on the November 4 ballot:

Prop A: SFGH Rebuild Bond.

No position.

Prop B: Affordable Housing Set-Aside.

Vote No.

Prop C: Prohibiting City Employees from Serving on Charter Boards and Commissions.

Vote No.

Prop D: Financing Pier 70 Waterfront District Development Plan upon Board of Supervisors' Approval.

Vote Yes.

Prop E: Changing the Number of Signatures Required to Recall City Officials.

Vote No.

Prop H: "Clean Energy Act" (Public Power).

Vote No.

Prop I: Office of the Ratepayer Advocate.

Vote Yes!

Prop J: Creating a Historic Preservation Commission.

No position.

Prop K: Decriminalization of Prostitution.

Vote No.

Prop S: Policy Regarding Budget Set-Asides and Identification of Replacement Funds.

Vote Yes.

We did not consider Propositions F, G, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, T, U, V.

Following are the Ballot Arguments for Measures which we voted to submit to the November 4 Voter Information Pamphlet (VIP):

Prop B: Affordable Housing Set-Aside.

San Francisco's Neighborhoods Oppose Prop B.

This set-aside measure would change the Charter to create both a new **cash fund** and a **guaranteed budget** that escalates *each year* for 15 years... supposedly for building affordable housing.

It siphons off our tax dollars from going to other deserving safety, public welfare and quality of life programs.

It hamstringing our city budget!

The poorly written Charter revision would permit money to be spent in vague, contradictory ways, leading to possible abuses.

The measure *does not require that even one new unit be built* with its annual \$100,000,000.00+ budget for 15 years.

It provides for:

- *No* public accountability or citizen oversight of \$100 million/year!
- *No* performance standards to be met!
- *No* controls on wasteful spending!

We support new affordable housing — but this dangerously expensive scheme *does not deliver it!*

Vote NO on Prop B!

— Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods

(Cont'd on p.2)

Ballot Recommendations and Arguments

(Cont'd from p.1)

Prop H: "Clean Energy Act" (Public Power).

San Francisco's Neighborhoods oppose Prop H.

San Francisco Supervisors want to control the electric power system. They ask voters for authority to issue bonds without voter approval. **Don't let them!**

While they call it "clean energy", the aim is to take over powerlines and electric power facilities, then provide your electricity.

Public power. As window dressing, the measure sets *mandates* for renewable (clean) generation—mandates they won't be able to meet!

Electricity rates will be set by the Supervisors. This measure sets no limit on electricity rates!

Proponents claim that the City will buy infrastructure to deliver electricity *at no cost*. Don't be fooled. Probable cost: up to \$4,000,000,000. Rates must cover the cost of infrastructure as well as the cost of generating or purchasing electricity.

The City department that would provide public power is in the middle of rebuilding the Hetch Hetchy water system (\$4.4 billion), and soon starts on the aging sewer system (\$4 billion). Is now the time to undertake more? **It's just too risky.**

Vote No on Prop H.

— *Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods*

Prop I: Creating the Office of Ratepayer Advocate

San Francisco's Neighborhoods Support Prop I.

The ratepayer deserves a voice.

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission is not regulated by the State of California. It is an unregulated monopoly and **sets its own water and sewer rates**. The Commission which oversees the department consists of five *political* appointees.

Under the Charter, the Board of Supervisors is not required to approve rates; however, it may reject them. But the Board has shown no interest in scrutinizing rates. Last year, **it failed to even hold a hearing** on \$70,000,000 of water and sewer rate increases!

Ratepayers must pay billions for the Hetch Hetchy seismic upgrade, Wastewater Master Plan, recycled, groundwater and greening projects. **Rates will be going up every year.**

We need an Independent Ratepayer Advocate to:

- Safeguard the interests of the ratepayer and ensure transparency in the ratesetting process.
- Advocate proactively for the ratepayer in the formulation of programs and policies affecting rates.
- Provide a necessary check and balance to the authority of the Commission to set our water and sewer rates.
- Be *independent* of the Commission, the department and the politicians.
- Help ensure that efficiencies are identified and implemented, and waste is prevented.

MAKE SURE THE HETCH HETCHY SEISMIC PROJECT IS COMPLETED!

MAKE SURE YOUR MONEY IS WELL SPENT!

VOTE YES ON PROP I!

— *Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods*

Prop K: Decriminalization of Prostitution.

San Francisco's Neighborhoods Oppose Prop K.

- Proposition K is dangerous for San Francisco neighborhoods because it creates a refuge for sexual predators and human traffickers, putting the safety of every San Franciscan at risk.
- Our neighborhoods will see increases in individuals roaming our streets to solicit prostitutes without fear of prosecution.
- Young women and children could become targets for pimps looking to recruit them into prostitution.
- There are no supporting controls to this ordinance to regulate its impacts.

Vote NO on Prop K!

— *Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods*

How to Reach Us

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Land Use & Housing Committee Reports

September 15

The Special Meeting of the CSFN Land Use & Housing Committee was convened by Chair Hiroshi Fukuda on Monday, September 15, 2008 at 5:44 P.M. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

The Committee considered the following items:
Review Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plan EIR. It is a massive plan over 1700 pages long. It is doubtful that Supervisors and their staff were able to read it themselves. The EIR completed the previous year in 2007 does not consider all the changes that occurred in July 2008 and adopted in September 2008.

The next regular meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, October 13, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station located at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 P.M.

September 22

The Special Meeting of the CSFN Land Use & Housing Committee was convened by Chair Hiroshi Fukuda on Monday, September 22, 2008 at 5:48 P.M. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

Committee discussed the need to testify or write to the Board of Supervisors and emphasize that Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plan EIR is incomplete, inadequate, inaccurate, and insufficient.

The next regular meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, October 13, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station located at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 P.M.

October 6

The Special Meeting of the CSFN Land Use & Housing Committee was convened by Chair Hiroshi Fukuda on Monday, October 6, 2008 at 5:46 p.m. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

The Committee considered the following items:

1. Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plan hearing at BOS Oct 8, 2008. Most importantly reemphasize that EN Rezoning and Area Plan is not consistent with the General Plan as required by California State law. There are no plans for displaced residents. No economic analysis with new built-out development
2. 2009 Housing Element Citizen Advisory Body (CAB): **Resolved** that a thorough and current Data and Needs Analysis be made available in hard copy for the public and to be discussed at the Planning Commission before any future CAB meeting.
3. Japantown Better Neighborhoods Area Plan, Steering Committee to reconvene Oct. 14, 2008. The process will continue without the Japantown Center and Garage project. Any new project must comply with the new zoning.
4. Supervisor Maxwell is working on an Institutional Master Plan for Hospitals with Sue Hestor, need to follow up.

5. Supervisor Ammiano has introduced amendments to the noise ordinance which may make it more difficult to protest because the Director of Public Health who be the sole authority to determine compliance with the ordinance.

The next regular meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, October 13, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station located at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 P.M.

October 13

Chair Hiroshi Fukuda on Monday, October 13, 2008 at 5:49 P.M. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

The Committee considered the following items:

1. Planning Department staff Elaine Forbes and Craig Nikitas presented a draft of the new Discretionary Review policy for the committee's review and comments. The Planning Department's draft removes the Planning Commission from most DRs. CSFN want the Planning Commission to decide the DRs and not a single hearing officer. The Pre-Application process CSFN recommended in 2003-4 was not fully implemented; if it is then DR numbers will most likely decrease.
2. Eastern Neighborhoods Rezoning and Area Plan has many problems, General Plan consistency, deficient Housing Element, more than 6000 workers and jobs will be displaced without mitigating measure to continue their service needs for the city's operation and services.
3. 2009 Housing Element Citizens Advisory Body. We need to attend the next meeting November 5, 2008 (and all future meetings) as observers. There are only a few more of these meetings. Process may result in inadequate Housing Element again.
4. 2004 Housing Element EIR Notice Preparation of an EIR Report, scoping will be heard next month, Nov 6, 2008.
5. Noise Ordinance change will be heard in Rules Cmte next week, October 23, 2008. This may reduce grounds for protest.
6. Supervisor Elsbernd has introduced legislation to allow increased heights, increased density, and reduced parking on 19th Avenue, hearing is scheduled for October 20, 2008 at the BOS Land Use & Economic Development Committee.

A special meeting of the Committee will be held on Monday, October 20, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. in the Community Room of the Northern Police Station located at Turk and Fillmore Streets.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 P.M.

...Hiroshi Fukuda (RCA) Chairman

Even More Medical Helicopter Crashes!

Since August 2008, two more medical helicopters have crashed with 6 more dead. This brings the count to **10** destroyed helicopters and **22** dead since February of this year.

In other related news, Supervisor Tom Ammiano has proposed to change the SF Noise Ordinance making it harder for residents to protest neighborhood and construction noise problems. It also gives the Director of Public Health the sole authority to define what health risks or problems are caused by noise.

...Karen Cliffe (EMIA)

CSFN Draft Minutes General Assembly Meeting September 16, 2008

1. **Call to Order.** President Gary Noguera (MPIC) brought the meeting to order at 7:15 at Northern Police Station.
 - a. *Quorum declared.* Delegates and alternates represented 19 CSFN member organizations. 14 guests signed in.
 - b. *Agenda approved.*
 - c. *Introductions.* Delegates and guests introduced themselves. Hosts Patty DeVlieg (Excelsior District Improvement Assn, EDIA); and Peter Tenenbaum (New Mission Terrace Improvement Assn, NMTIA) described their organizations' objectives, history, and current issues.
2. **Minutes.** The August General Assembly draft minutes were approved as printed on p 4 of the September newsletter.
3. **Officers' Reports.**
 - a. **President Noguera** (MPIC) No Report
 - b. **1st VP Sherman** (CHA) No Report
 - c. **2nd VP Clark** (RHN) No report.
 - d. **Recording Secretary Berkowitz** (EMIA) Absent
 - e. **Treasurer Lew** (NBN) submitted a written report
4. **Committee Reports**
 - a. *Land Use & Housing:* Chair Hiroshi Fukuda (RCA) noted the Committee report is on page 3 of the August newsletter. • *Resolved* CSFN urges the Planning Department to select a 2009 Housing Element Citizens Advisory Body in compliance with State law. **Motion passed 19-0.**
5. **Unfinished Business.**
6. **New Business.**

Emergency Resolution from North Beach Neighbors (NBN): **Resolved:** Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods opposes the relocation of the new North Beach Library to the 701 Lombard site.

The property at 701 Lombard, known as the Triangle, was taken by eminent domain to become open space. We would like it to be used for that purpose. We also believe that the small lot size at 701 Lombard would limit the size, shape and functionality of the new library. This is an ill-conceived plan. **Motion passed 12-0-4.**
7. **Program.**

Candidates Forum

 - a. District 1 Supervisor Candidates: Nicholas Belloni, George Flamik, Jason Jungreis, Sue Lee, Eric Mar, Alicia Wang
 - b. District 3 Supervisor Candidates: Joseph Alioto Jr, David Chiu, Lynn Jefferson, Denise McCarthy, Wilma Pang
 - c. District 4 Supervisor Candidates: Ron Dudum, David Ferguson
8. **Announcements.**
9. **Adjournment.** The September CSFN General Assembly meeting was adjourned at 10:10PM.

...Angelique Mahan (EDIA) Acting Recording Secretary

Executive Committee Report

September 24, 2008

The CSFN ExCom was called to order at 7:05 pm at Northern Police Station by Chair Mark Sherman. Present were ExCom members Berkowitz, Noguera, Clark, Wilson, Mahan, Girardot, and Sherman. Millet, Lew, and Cauthen were excused absent.

Officers' Reports:

President Noguera – Working on annual Holiday Party

1st VP Sherman – Distributed supervisorial candidates' answers to CSFN questionnaire (found on page 5 of this newsletter).

2nd VP Clark – No report

Treasurer Lew – Absent

Recording Secretary Berkowitz – Thanked Angelique Mahan for filling in for her as Acting Recording Secretary at the September General Assembly. • Reported on total money raised for Market-Octavia fund. Barbara Austin (FHCA) and Charlotte Maeck (PHRA) volunteered to draft and send a letter to CSFN member organization presidents, VPs and delegates which will request donations to M-O fund. • CSFN's appeal of the Planning Commission certification of the Eastern Neighborhoods final EIR was heard at BoS on September 23. Hiroshi Fukuda presented the appeal, which was not granted. BoS vote was 7-1. All administrative remedies have been exhausted and now litigation is next step. • Update on 2009 Housing Element CAB: first meeting was September 3. Next meeting October 1. Berkowitz will not represent CSFN at the CAB, but will attend as individual. Planners briefed CAB on Part I of Housing Element: Data and Needs Analysis. CSFN members should attend as observers.

Corresponding Secretary Millet – Absent

Program for October – Candidates for Board of Supervisors – District 5, 7, 9, and 11.

Unfinished Business – Berkowitz requested update on Noguera and Sherman's contacts of member orgs with low attendance records at CSFN General Assembly. Ramona keeps no records of past hosts, so we cannot track last meeting attended. Contacts of these member orgs will begin this month.

New Business – None

Adjournment – The September ExCom meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

The next ExCom meeting will be October 29th at 7:00 pm at Northern Station.

...Mark Sherman (CHA) Chair

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Land Use & Housing • Monday 5:30PM Oct 13 • Northern Station • Chair Hiroshi Fukuda • ninersam@aol.com • 386-2632

Gov't & Elections • Chair Melinda LaValle • melindalavalle@aol.com

Bylaws • Chair Evelyn Wilson • evelynwilson@earthlink.net • 566-7826

Open Space • Chair Nancy Wuerfel nancenumber1@aol.com • 731-6432, R. Albright 621-9621

Water Task Force • Chair Joan Girardot • 346-5525

Transportation • Chair Gary Noguera • garynoguera@earthlink.net • 469-8899

CSFN Questionnaire to Candidates for Board of Supervisors

1. Philosophically, are you in favor or not of the privatization of city-owned recreational lands with long-term 20 – 30 year leases?
2. Many San Francisco neighborhoods have zoning designations that include RH-1 (single family housing). However, there is great pressure to increase density in the City to the point that RH-1 zoning could be compromised or disappear. Do you support keeping RH-1 zoning, as it is now to preserve this choice for future San Francisco families?
3. Do you support Proposition A to borrow \$887.4 M to rebuild SF General Hospital and trauma center?
4. Do you support giving the Board of Supervisors more authority to issue revenue bonds without voter approval, as proposed in Proposition H?
5. Do you support Proposition H, the Clean Energy Act? If yes, why? If no, why not? Please explain in some detail.
6. Do you support Proposition I, the Office of Independent Ratepayer Advocate? If yes, why? If no, why not? Please explain in some detail.
7. Are you in favor of “tiered” water and sewer and electricity rates, wherein a ratepayer’s bill increases the more units she/he consumes, but the unit cost increases, too?
8. Do you support legislative action to broaden the “Sunshine Ordinance” to include non-profit organizations, which receive funding from the City?
9. What is your position on relaxing current zoning restrictions to allow more densification in the City’s residential neighborhoods? Do you favor relaxing height restrictions in Neighborhood Commercial Districts?
10. The Mayor has proposed a mandatory recycling and composting law be passed for residential customers with garbage inspectors reviewing the trash and large fines for noncompliance. As supervisor, would you vote for such an ordinance? Can you suggest any alternative ways to encourage recycling that would be less draconian?
11. Prop B would change the Charter to provide a property tax set aside and create a complicated mandatory budget baseline for housing programs, together totaling a required minimum of \$100,000,000 to be earmarked each year. Are you in favor of this Charter amendment as written? As supervisor, what programs would you cut to fund this \$100,000,000+ set aside should Prop B pass?

...Mark Sherman (CHA)

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

BENEFACTORS

David Winthrop Allen Family Trust
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San Francisco Police Officers' Assn

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Committee on Jobs
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Russian Hill Neighbors

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Buena Vista Neighborhood Assn
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Diamond Heights Community Assn
Dolores Heights Improvement Club
East Mission Improvement Assn
Ewing Terrace Neighborhood Assn
Fair Oaks Community Coalition
Forest Knolls Neighborhood Org
Friends of the Music Concourse
Golden Gate Heights Neighborhood Assn
Greater Geary Blvd Merchants & Property Owners Assn
Laurel Heights Improvement Assn
Miraloma Park Improvement Club
New Mission Terrace Improvement Assn
North Beach Neighbors
OMI Neighbors in Action
Pacific Heights Residents Assn
Panhandle Residents Org Stanyan Fulton (PROSF)
Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Assn
Richmond Community Assn
Sunset Heights Assn of Responsible People (SHARP)
Sunset Parkside Education & Action Cmte (SPEAK)
Telegraph Hill Dwellers
Twin Peaks Improvement Assn
West of Twin Peaks Central Council

Hon Mike Antonini	Hon Mark Leno
Barbara Austin	Phil Lesser
John Bardis	Hon Fiona Ma
Judith Berkowitz	Charlotte Maeck
Sue Cauthen	Hon Carole Migden
Sheryl Connell	Dick Millet
David Crommie	Gary Noguera
Karen Crommie	Linda Peterson
Mary C & Al Harris	Hon Gerardo Sandoval
Larry & BJ Holmberg	Andrew Segal
Hon Quentin & Mara Kopp	Patricia Vaughey
Denise LaPointe	

Special thanks to Office Depot for photocopying services!

Hosting Schedule

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Oct | • Miraloma Park Improvement Club — MPIC
Marina Civic Impvnt & Property Owners Assn — MCI&POA |
| Nov | • Mission Creek Harbor Assn — MCHA
Oceanview, Merced Hts, Ingleside - Neighbors in Action — OMI-NIA |
| Jan | • North Park Neighbors— NPN
Pacific Heights Residents Assn — PHRA |
| Feb | • Outer Mission Residents Assn — OMRA
Panhandle Residents Org/Stanyan Fulton — PROSF |

Boondoggle II: General Hospital Rebuild

The San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH) rebuild, — Proposition A on this November’s ballot — is being aggressively marketed to San Francisco voters.

Almost every political organization, local politician, union, and special interest group in town will either endorse Proposition A, or will be pressured into not being “against” the bond measure. The City, already worried about the tremendous \$1.7 billion cost of this bond, has gone to great lengths to ensure the SFGH rebuild is the only general obligation bond measure on the ballot.

Officially, San Francisco is claiming that the bond will “only” cost \$887.4 million. But additional, remaining hidden costs haven’t been considered or discussed publicly: \$30 million preparing the bond; \$640 million to service the debt repaying interest; and \$157 million for furniture, fixtures and equipment — all of which seem to have been forgotten.

The future costs of seismically retrofitting the rest of the hospital campus haven’t been mentioned. And bond costs are open-ended because by the City’s own admission, the project may be underfunded by \$55.6 million, if the City’s projections that construction costs may reach \$943 million prove accurate.

Voters who own property will be annually taxed \$59 for every \$100,000 of property assessments over the next 23 years. Due to a 50% pass through clause, renters face annual \$100 to \$300 rent increases.

The City’s public relations machine is set to inundate voters with slick brochures, mailers, and automated phone messages. The local media will start placing favorable SFGH stories between September and the November 4 election. The City’s main arguments to voters will be emotional, because the facts and the City’s numbers simply don’t add up. Voters are going to be hearing a lot of public relations propaganda about “Compassion,” “desperately needed,” “no time left,” and “State law requires.”

Has anyone heard that the Titanic is about to leave the dock?

Voters should support SFGH’s healthcare mission and want a seismically-safe hospital. But the proposed SFGH rebuild is a poorly planned, poorly located, and an overpriced “trophy” hospital. The project should be re-thought and re-designed, before asking voters to approve bond financing.

In 1994, state law SB1953 created new seismic standards for hospitals. Current California standards require hospitals should be able to withstand an earthquake without collapsing. But SB1953 created a second, higher compliance standard that requires hospitals to also be able to continue to operate, and function, after an earthquake.

The proposed new, 90-foot-high, glass-walled SFGH hospital will be wedged forty feet or less between two non-seismically retrofitted brick buildings built in 1915. The 93-year-old brick buildings are 85 feet high, and aren’t scheduled to be retrofitted until some time after the year 2015. The proposed hospital sits within the fall-zone of both brick buildings. In the event of a catastrophic earthquake, the brick buildings will collapse on the new hospital and render it inoperable.

The City is claiming that a large basement underneath the hospital called a “super-floor” will supposedly allow them to build the hospital at this location. This super-floor does not actually retrofit the two red brick buildings.

When asked about the strength of the non-retrofitted brick

buildings, Gene O’Connell, SFGH’s CEO, stated on August 13 that “the brick buildings did not collapse during the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake,” and said she felt that they would not collapse in a future earthquake.

The City needs to retrofit the adjacent red brick buildings before building the proposed replacement hospital.

In 2006, the proposed design for the SFGH replacement was a rectangular building, estimated to cost \$622 million. The Department of Public Health then reconsidered the design, and chose a more aesthetic, oval shaped hospital with glass walls. The redesigned building added \$265 million dollars, including \$7 million for art.

The proposed hospital’s bed capacity is insufficient for future needs. The project only adds an additional 32 beds, increasing 19 neonatal ICU and pediatric beds, and eliminating 16 medical/surgical beds.

The City’s final project report does NOT discuss emergency room capacity. The hospital was designed before the DPH’s commissioned Lewin report cited a citywide shortage of 533 acute hospital beds by 2030, 24% below the City’s projected needs.

The same DPH administrators who planned the disastrous Laguna Honda Hospital (LHH) rebuild are also in charge of the SFGH rebuild. This should give voters absolutely no confidence that the SFGH rebuild is well planned. LHH’s ten-year rebuild is currently \$241 million (60%) over budget and 420 beds (35%) smaller than originally promised.

Voters were led to believe that LHH’s primary mission would be to provide long-term care for our frail elderly and severely disabled. Suddenly, LHH’s new primary mission will be to provide 90-day stay short-term and rehabilitative care.

The City and the DPH have no accountability to voters. Who knows what the DPH will do or accomplish with the SFGH rebuild money, given its track record.

The 2013 deadline for completing the hospital is man-made. Senate Bill 306 (October 2007) provides building extensions to 2020 and beyond.

The City should take the time to correct project flaws before constructing the replacement hospital. The City must reconsider using the original plans for the rectangular hospital, increase bed capacity, and retrofit the brick buildings adjacent to the proposed SFGH hospital location.

Proposition A: It’s a poorly planned, poorly located, and overpriced hospital bond measure.

Note:

Among other issues, Gene O’Connell failed to mention that the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake registered 6.9 magnitude (on the more-precise “moment magnitude” scale, superior to the Richter scale). She avoided mentioning the Loma Prieta quake lasted approximately 15 seconds, was 11 miles deep, and was centered in Santa Cruz County on the San Andreas fault.

O’Connell cleverly failed to discuss whether the two red brick buildings on SFGH’s campus could withstand a longer, 30-second event exceeding a 6.9 moment-magnitude, or higher, quake further up the coast, say in Daly City on the San Andreas fault line, or if less than 11 miles to the surface. She failed to discuss the impact of a greater magnitude, or a multi-factorial, quake. Former City safety employees knowledgeable about SFGH’s structural issues are not as optimistic as Ms. O’Connell is; they frankly disagree with her blind-faith pronouncement that the red-brick buildings will withstand a catastrophic quake.

Host Organizations for the October General Assembly Meeting

Marina Civic Improvement & Property Owners Assn

Over 50 years ago, a small group of prominent Marina residents — including two retired US Army generals, a retired colonel, a businessman, a lawyer, a future supervisor, and (the lone woman) the secretary to five San Francisco mayors — came together to form Marina Civic Improvement & Property Owners Association. The idea was to create a counterbalance to the district's large tenant population, which outnumbered homeowners four to one. Many property owners who lived in the Marina also owned the flats and apartment buildings that were rented out.

The mission was adopted to preserve and improve the residential quality of life in the Marina and to participate in the civic life of the City. Boundaries were set at Chestnut (later Lombard) down to the Bay, and Van Ness to the Presidio. Today, there are four neighborhood groups and two merchant groups active in the area.

Over the years MCI/POA always had a close relationship with the military at Ft Mason and the Presidio. Many Army personnel retired to the Marina in order to be close to the amenities the base offered them. At one time MCI/POA membership included five retired Army generals, six retired colonels, and a retired admiral! MCI/POA's longtime beloved president, Jack Crowley, was a retired brigadier general whose last assignment was commander at Ft Mason. He was then appointed General Manager of the SF Public Utilities Commission by Mayor Alioto, and later acted as a bridge between the Army, the National Park Service and the neighborhood as a longtime member of the GGNRA Advisory Committee.

Because the Marina is surrounded by arguably the most beautiful open space in the City, including the grounds of the Palace of Fine Arts, the Marina Greens, the public shoreline of San Francisco Bay, Ft Mason, the Presidio, and Crissy Field, over the years MCI/POA has dedicated much effort and thousands of volunteer hours to participation in the transitioning of these areas into the new entities of today.

As regards the transition of the Presidio from the Army to the National Park Service to the Presidio Trust, MCI/POA participated at every step of the way in every land

use decision from serving on the Army's Selection Committee which established the Presidio Restoration Advisory Board, then serving on that Board for many years; serving on the BoS Doyle Drive Task Force; serving on the SFCTA Doyle Drive CAC; serving on CalTrans Doyle Drive Work Group; and the transition of Crissy Field.

MCI/POA formulated the idea (and convinced then-Supervisor Leland Yee to sponsor it) to create the BoS Presidio Neighborhood Representative Work Group for the purpose of establishing a forum to force recalcitrant City Agencies (particularly the Planning Department, City Attorney's Office, and the Controller) to work together with neighborhood stakeholder groups and environmental organizations to formulate the City's official responses to all future Environmental Impact Studies released by the Presidio Trust.

MCI/POA vigorously fought the Presidio Trust legislation (1994–1996), heavily lobbied Congress, and together with Joel Ventresca, Chair of Preserve the Presidio Campaign (and former CSFN president) wrote his testimony which was delivered before the House Resources Committee in Washington DC. Marina Civic Improvement had the high honor of being slammed by the Marina Times newspaper as the only neighborhood group in the city to officially oppose the legislation creating the Presidio Trust.

Today the loopholes in the legislation that we foresaw and tried unsuccessfully to amend are now finally becoming apparent to all the johnny-come-lately neighborhood groups, which are opposing the new development proposals for the Main Post. We, however, veterans of these struggles, are leaving the current battle to the lawyers for the National Park Service, whose very mission is to uphold and defend the National Historic Preservation Act.

...Joan Girardot, Gloria Fontanello

Miraloma Park Improvement Club

Miraloma Park Improvement Club represents the approximately 2400 homes on the slopes of Mt Davidson, just west of Diamond Heights/Twin Peaks. We have just over 500 paid members. Our neighborhood is fairly unique, as the majority of homes are in the art deco style, having been built in the 1930s. We are almost entirely RH-1 zoned and have strict residential building design guidelines.

The boundaries of our group are roughly Portola, Foerster, Congo with Diamond Heights to the East. Issues of concern for us included traffic calming, the future of the 36 bus, and an increase in house break-ins. We recently worked to get a notorious pot growing house shut down and the tenant evicted. We work very actively with SFPD to mitigate issues.

...Gary Noguera

AGENDA
General Assembly Meeting
October 21, 2008

- 6:30 I. Sign In and Refreshments
- 7:00 II. Call to Order/Ascertain Quorum
 - A. Introduction of Delegates and Guests / Short Announcements
 - B. Hosts
 - 1. Marina Civic Imprvmt & Property Owners Association — MCPOA
 - 2.. Miraloma Park Improvement Association — MPIC
- 7:10 III. Approval of September Minutes
- 7:15 IV. Officers' Reports
 - A. President
 - B. Vice-Presidents
 - C. Secretaries
 - D. Treasurer
- 7:20 V. Committee Action Items — written reports in Newsletter
 - A. Land Use & Housing
 - B. Open Space
 - C. Water Task Force
 - D. Transportation
 - E. Government & Elections
- 7:40 VI. Unfinished Business
- 7:50 VII. New Business
- 8:00 VIII. Program:
 - Candidates for Board of Supervisors — Districts 5, 7, 9, and 11
- 9:00 IX. Adjournment

*CSFN meets the third Tuesday of the each month except for December at Northern Police Station, Turk & Fillmore Streets (Parking in rear off Turk)
 Public Transit: Muni #22 Fillmore, 31 Balboa & 38 Geary Lines*

Visitors Please Sign the Guest Roster

Neighborhood Views is published monthly, the official voice of the Coalition for SF Neighborhoods, Inc., a 501(c)4 organization.
 To Submit Articles: Email articles by the 5th of the month to sfberk@mac.com.
 Either inline text or an attached document can be used.
 Articles reflect the opinions of the submitter, not necessarily the opinion of the CSFN. We invite material from member organizations as well as rebuttal to articles already printed. We reserve the right to edit where necessary. Member organizations receive the newsletter without charge. Subscription: Members/\$10, Nonmembers/\$15.

*Coalition for SF Neighborhoods
 P.O. Box 320098 San Francisco 94132*

Next Meeting
 Tuesday
 October 21

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