



SAN FRANCISCO  
PLANNING  
DEPARTMENT

# PLANNING DEPARTMENT Director's Report

PLANNING DIRECTOR:  
**JOHN RAHAIM**

Week of April 16, 2012

## PROJECTS

- Oceanside Historic Resource Survey:** This community-sponsored survey provides historic evaluations for buildings located at the western edge of the Sunset District, formerly known as Oceanside. Within the study area fifty-seven properties and five clusters of buildings were surveyed for historic significance. The draft survey findings are now posted on the Planning Department website. In summary, the survey made the following historic resource determinations:
  - o Individual historic resources: 31 properties qualify, 23 do not qualify, and 3 require further research
  - o Historic districts: 3 small clusters of buildings qualify (a total of 37 properties); 2 small clusters of buildings do not qualify (a total of 11 properties).



The Historic Preservation Commission will consider adoption of this community-sponsored survey at its May 2nd hearing.

For more information, visit <http://www.sfplanning.org/index.aspx?page=3071>.

- Central Corridor:** About 60 people attended the March 6<sup>th</sup> workshop and provided valuable feedback. The team will refine the initial concepts (land use, urban form, street and open space) and hold a final public workshop in May.



There is still opportunity to provide feedback. Visit the project website, <http://centralcorridor.sfplanning.org>, to view the workshop presentation and fill out a comment form.

- Excelsior to Open First Parklet:** Through the efforts of the Out of Site Youth Center, the Excelsior Action Group, and support from the community, Excelsior's first parklet will be open to the general public this month. The student-designed parklet is located in front of Mama Art Café (4754 Mission Street).



We applaud the students and local organizers; community-driven initiatives like this have taken up the challenge of the 'Pavement to Parks' program, bringing vibrancy and life to San Francisco's public realm.

- **American Planning Association (APA) National Planning Conference:** The national APA conference was held in Los Angeles from April 14 – 17, 2012. A number of Planning staff led or moderated sessions:



- **New Directors Institute:** All-day training session for new and prospective Planning Directors (John Rahaim)
- **Urban Regeneration and Large Scale Planning:** Comparing large-scale planning in U.S. cities with the Greater Paris Project, set to revitalize northern Paris (John Rahaim)
- **Future Planning Directors:** Discussion on challenges facing future directors (John Rahaim)
- **Municipal Design Studios.** The more prominent role of urban design in planning has given rise to the municipal design studio. Learn about these studios – what they are, how they operate, and what their goals are. Discuss the relationship between the municipal design studio and other municipal departments, the development industry, design community, and local stakeholders. Review the benefits, challenges and tools associated with these studios. (David Alumbaugh)
- **Healthy, Vibrant Communities through Urban Design:** Presentation on an evaluation metric that inserts health considerations into land-use proposals. San Francisco's Healthy Development Measurement Tool examines community health objectives and baseline neighborhood conditions, evaluates land-use plans and projects in light of those conditions, and recommends ways to improve baseline conditions. The tool's use by other governments and private planners will be explored. (Paul Lord)
- **Greening Your Corridor:** Strategies to incorporate environmental sustainability and complete streets objectives within constrained streets and corridors, while creating a better utilized public realm for people. The session addresses multi-agency design goals that include issues related to stormwater management, multimodal accessibility and mobility, redevelopment and parks/open space. (Adam Varat)
- **Developing Environmentally Just Design Plans:** Explores two environmental justice planning grants awarded to the Planning Department by Caltrans – Chinatown Broadway Street Design and Cesar Chavez East Community Design Plan. (Ilaria Salvadori, Lily Langlois, Adam Varat as moderator)
- **Health Impacts of Traffic Pollution:** A session to discuss conflicting land use and air quality goals, and thoughtfully analyze potential land use policy solutions. The City and County of San Francisco will share experiences and lessons learned with implementing an ordinance that requires design solutions for housing in close proximity to freeways. (Jessica Range)

**Events**

PROJECT:	DESCRIPTION	DATE(S):
<b>PAVEMENT TO PARKS</b>	Public session to discuss the Pavement to Parks program with SF Beautiful. 10:00 a.m. at the "Deepistan" parklet, located on Valencia at 22nd Street.	April 19, 2012
<b>GREEN CONNECTIONS</b>	Green Connections Walk: Visitacion Valley Greenway Walk Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (bring a bagged lunch) Meeting location: Meet at the first Greenway garden (Rutland St. and Tioga Ave.)	April 21, 2012
<b>GREEN CONNECTIONS</b>	Office Hours: Bayview Time: 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Location: Joseph Lee Recreation Center, 1395 Mendell Street	April 25, 2012

**AWARDS**

- National Planning Achievement Award for Candlestick Point-Hunters Point Shipyard Phase II EIR:** The Bayview Hunters Point community of San Francisco was challenged by unemployment, extreme poverty, and high crime rates. Bayview was ranked by the Department of Justice as one of the 10 least advantaged locations in the U.S. The Candlestick Point-Hunters Point Shipyard Phase II Project goal is to revitalize the community through multiple channels, including maximizing reuse of a naval shipyard (a Superfund site); increasing business and employment opportunities; providing housing options at a range of affordability levels; and integrating transportation.

To analyze the environmental impacts of the project, the team was confronted with a number of challenges including ongoing hazardous materials cleanup at a Superfund site; addressing sea level rise; assessing biological resources; and phasing of parkland and infrastructure improvements with project development. The result is a 10-volume environmental impact report that is now being used by the city as a "model environmental document".

This work effort previously received the Northern California APA Hard Won Victories Award as well as the California State APA Hard Won Victories Award. (Joy Navarrete and Lisa Gibson accepted award).