

# in the works

July 2019

Volunteers beautify the  
Alemany Triangle during  
Community Clean Team.  
See story inside.





# EVENTS



8/4

### 1st Sundays Block Party

This family-friendly event features games, an open-air craft market, street soccer pick-up games and more.

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Fulton and Larkin streets



8/11

### Inner Sunset Sundays Flea Market

The Inner Sunset Flea is a grassroots-organized flea market in the heart of San Francisco's Inner Sunset neighborhood. The Flea features over 30 resident, artisan, nonprofit and local business vendors, as well as food, activities and more.

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Irving Street

(between 10th and Ninth avenues)



8/18

### Sunday Streets SOMA

The car-free open space gathering features activity hubs and an opportunity to check out the area's arts centers, tucked-away alleys, vibrant murals, street food and more.

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Folsom Street

(between Essex and 10th streets)



8/9 - 8/11

### Outside Lands

The annual weekend-long festival features music, arts, comedy, a crafts marketplace and more.

Golden Gate Park



8/17

### District 6 Community Clean Team

Community Clean Team is San Francisco Public Works' longest-running and largest volunteer program that keeps San Francisco beautiful through landscaping and gardening projects, graffiti removal and litter cleanup in our neighborhood.

Community Clean Team, in partnership with the Giant Sweep anti-litter campaign, needs your help to keep our city clean and green in 2019. Join us and volunteer!

8:30 a.m. registration

9 a.m.-noon: community projects

Boeddeker Park, 246 Eddy St.



8/25

### Bridge to Bridge Run

Named "America's most beautiful run" by Sports Illustrated, experience a sightseeing tour of San Francisco with historic sights and vistas at every turn. The 43rd Annual Bridge to Bridge Run benefits the Special Olympics of Northern California.

Starts at 8 a.m.

Ferry Building

[SFPUBLICWORKS.ORG](http://SFPUBLICWORKS.ORG)



# READY FOR IT?

“IT” could happen at any time - an earthquake, fire, storm or any other disaster. In a serious emergency, City services will be impacted, so a basic rule of thumb is for people to be able to take care of each other for 72 hours before help arrives.

## General Necessities:



Cash



First Aid Kit



Non-perishable Foods



Salty Snacks



Water

## Personal Needs:



Hygiene



Warm Clothes



Medication



Personal Documents



Games to Pass Time

## Equipment:



Can Opener



Charger



Flashlight



Radio



Tools

## Additional Reminders:



Establish a Meeting Spot



Choose an Out-of-State Contact



Don't forget about Fido and Dido!

For additional information, visit:

# SF72.ORG

Text the AlertSF to 888-777  
or visit: [www.alertsf.org](http://www.alertsf.org)



## THANK YOU

Hope your day is going well. My last day with the City and County of San Francisco will be Friday, July 19. I wanted to tell you that it has been an absolute pleasure working with you.

No matter how many times I emailed asking who to email, you were always so patient and kind.

Please pass my appreciation on to the rest of the guys.

Malika A.  
SF Health Service System

It is with great appreciation and respect I have for your fine staff for taking care of the removal of a tree on Thursday, June 27 and Friday, June 28.

Each of your field supervisors I have been in contact with is and was extremely polite, understanding and followed through with exactly what was planned for the removal. The execution of all time milestones was spot-on.

The coordination was phenomenal from beginning to end. The orchestration and planning was no easy task. From notifying the resident, the neighbors, parking permits, pre-removal limb cutting and cleanup, PG&E disconnect/reconnect, roundtrip haul out on flatbeds, the large chainsaw carving and the large crane removal was a sight

to behold by all neighbors in the immediate area.

The neighborhood's level of stress has dropped to a normal level now with the removal of the tree. Peace has been restored.

Thank you again for such a great job by Public Works.

B. Rowe

I couldn't be more proud of the two Public Works guys who showed up the night of July 4th with their street sweepers. They worked so damn hard.

Overall, one gun and over 500 pounds of dangerous fireworks were seized. There were several small fires, but thanks to the Fire Department, Public Works and the Police Department working all together, they were quickly extinguished.

Please extend a heartfelt congratulations to everyone involved from the Public Works side.

Best,

Capt. Jack Hart  
Ingleside Police Station  
San Francisco Police Department

I had a meeting with Muni staff at the Muni station on Castro Street this morning at 8:30, and

they commented on how clean the street was. "You would never know there was a MAJOR party on the street over the weekend!" We were all impressed! I was proud of Public Works!

Carol K.



@SFAC and @sfpublicworks StreetSmARTS program in action. Behold the before and after of a private residence on 21st St featuring "Soy de Aqui" mural by Sirron Norris



**Brian Stokle**  
@urbanlifesigns

9 years since planting, the Valencia Street trees are nearly 3 stories (30 feet) tall. Thanks @sfpublicworks @SFUrbanForester @Livablecity and Obama funding.



9:25 AM · Jul 3, 2019 · Twitter for iPhone



**Eli Wirtschafter**  
@RadioEli

Anyone who has tried to clean up glitter will have mad respect for the heroes of this story.  
Nice work @priamaha!  
@KALW @CrosscurrentsFM @sfpublicworks #Pride



**Cleaning up after the San Francisco Pride March**  
Nearly one million people were at this Sunday's Pride March in San Francisco. It's one of the biggest events in the city — but, ...  
📍 kalw.org

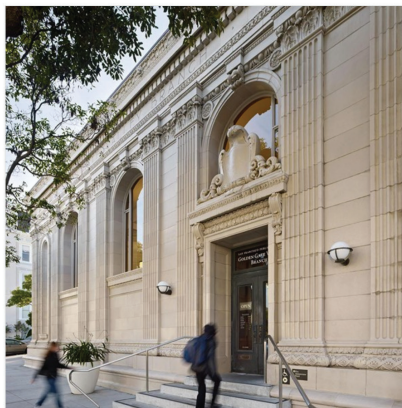
10:10 AM · Jul 5, 2019 · Twitter Web App



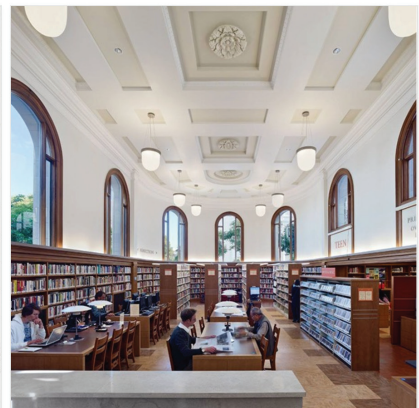
**TEF Design**  
July 15 · 🌐 · 📍

👍 Like as Your Page

As part of San Francisco Public Works' Branch Library Improvement Program, we updated San Francisco Public Library's San Francisco Public Library - Golden Gate Valley in 2011 to include seismic strengthening and energy upgrades. In #jointventure with Paulett Taggart Architects, we designated youth learning areas, a multipurpose room and support facilities in keeping with the historic integrity of the 1917 building's grandeur. An expansion at the rear of the building accommod... See More



San Francisco Public Library's Golden Gate Valley Branch



San Francisco Public Library's Golden Gate Valley Branch



San Francisco Public Library's Golden Gate Valley Branch

PUBLIC W



 **WORKS**  
sfpublicworkstv.org



# Building for the Future



Moscone Expansion Project manager Brook Mebrahtu speaks at the unveiling ceremony for the interpretive panels.



# , Recognizing the Past

The rich and diverse history of San Francisco didn't start in the 1840s with the California Gold Rush and the 49ers who poured into the City. Nor did it start when the Spanish established a mission and presidio in 1776. ►





## HUMAN HISTORY

Imagine that it is 1,500 years ago. There is no city, only plant-covered sand dunes around you. Behind you is a large marsh and, not far away, the city shore. Nearby, you see the rounded huts, and grass-covered houses of a Native village sitting among the dunes. Can you smell the smoke of cooking fires and hear the voices of women talking, children laughing, and a dog barking?



During construction of the Moscone Center Expansion, while archaeological site was partially uncovered near here, countless archeologists studied the first, soil blackened by charcoal and ash and bones left over from many meals. These remains were evidence a Native village occupied from about 1,500 years ago to about 600 years ago.

We do not know why people left their village. Whatever the reason, the wind gradually covered everything they left behind with several feet of sand. Later, developers who needed more level land added a deep layer of artificial fill over the sand dunes. The remains of the village were buried and forgotten for hundreds of years.



From the smallest pieces of shell, bone, and other items, archaeologists gathered information about the lives of the village and how they lived.

These shallow shell fragments and possible tools, fragments were among the earliest found.



# UNDER OUR FEET



Archaeologists have found buried evidence of several prehistoric settlements around the many hundreds of years of human occupation and many different kinds of activities. The landscape of the area has changed over time. The group to the west for centuries, and Native Americans period.

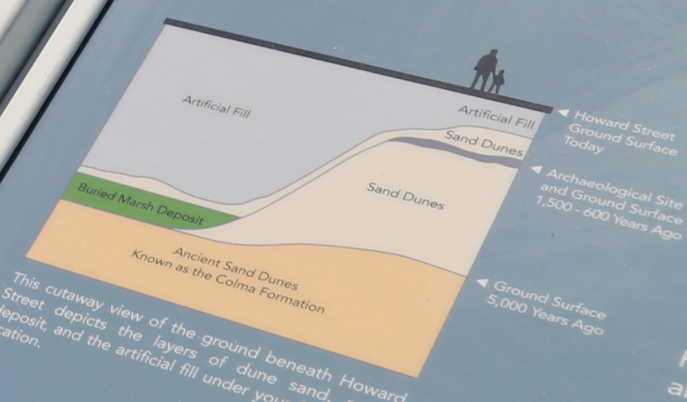
In the 1700s, this area was the territory of the Ohlone Indians, about 200 people spread over several locations around San Francisco. Ohlone and then Americans displaced the Ohlone people living throughout the Bay Area are working to preserve their dunes, scrape, and stones, and revise their Native languages.

deeply buried  
dunes stopped  
and ash from  
and the  
ance of  
ago.



# AN ANCIENT

For thousands of years, sand dunes covered much of the San Francisco Peninsula. Today, city streets, high-rise buildings, and artificial fill as much as 30 feet deep hide the dunes and the history they hold.



This cutaway view of the ground beneath Howard Street depicts the layers of dune sand, marsh deposit, and the artificial fill under your feet.

# HUMAN HISTORY

*Imagine that it is 1,500 years ago. There is no city, only plant-covered sand dunes around you. Behind you is a large marsh and, not far away, the bay shore. Nearby, you see the rounded tule- and grass-covered houses of a Native village sitting among the dunes. Can you smell the smoke of cooking fires and hear the voices of women talking, children and a dog barking?*



*During construction of the Moscone Center, an archaeological site was partially uncovered while archaeologists studied the find: soil blackened by countless cooking fires, tools and ornaments made of shells and bones left over from many meals. These findings suggest a Native village occupied from about 1,500 years ago.*

*We do not know why people left their village. The site was gradually covered everything up by modern city developers who built over the site.*



The archaeological excavations of the Yerba Buena site that were performed during the multi-phase Moscone Expansion Project yielded a treasure trove of knowledge about ancient San Francisco.

- ▶ Rather, San Francisco’s history extends back thousands of years. During those millennia, California was the land of Native Americans, and the [Ohlone Tribe](#) called San Francisco – and much of the surrounding Bay Area – home, as do its descendants today.

It may seem an impossible task to envision what everyday life was like for the Ohlone people, as the land where they once dwelled is now the site of the recently expanded Moscone Center which lies in the heart of San Francisco’s vibrant urban setting.

Fortunately, the archaeological excavations of the Yerba Buena site that were performed during the multi-phase [Moscone Expansion Project](#) yielded a treasure trove of knowledge about ancient San Francisco. During construction of the Moscone Center’s expansion, soil blackened by charcoal and ash from countless cooking fires, tools and ornaments made of shell and stone, and the shells and bones left over from many meals were discovered. These remains were evidence of a native village that occupied this land from roughly 1,500 to 600 years ago. This village was later identified to belong to the Ohlone Tribe.

To commemorate the Ohlone people who once lived in ancient San Francisco, two interpretative

panels were installed above the site of discovery, and the official unveiling was held on July 23. These panels summarize and memorialize this chapter in our City’s history. The panels also are testimony to how the successful implementation of environmental laws and regulations involve a concerted, collaborative partnership – in this case, among Public Works, San Francisco Planning’s Environmental Planning Division, Far Western Anthropological Research Group and Ohlone representatives.

You can find the interpretative panels on the north side of the West Bridge at Yerba Buena Gardens, near the corner of Howard and Fourth streets. ■

# Sunset Boulevard B

An enthusiastic group of volunteers joined Public Works employees to become temporary field scientists and get some good exercise during the first-ever Sunset Boulevard BioBlitz, where we ►

A man with grey hair, wearing a blue jacket and a bright orange safety vest with reflective stripes, stands on a grassy area next to a large, leafy tree. He is holding a smartphone up to take a photo of the tree. The tree has thick, gnarled branches and dense green foliage with small, light-colored flowers. In the background, a residential street with multi-story houses and parked cars is visible under an overcast sky.

# Bio Blitz

An amateur field scientist helps document the ecosystem on Sunset Boulevard.

A volunteer uses the iNaturalist app to document a wild mushroom.





Even this dandelion will be added to the field study.





The goal is to document as much biodiversity – from bees to bamboo – in a specific location in one day.

Wildflowers grab the attention of this BioBlitz sleuth during the one-day survey.



- ▶ married technology with curiosity to document the flora and fauna along the City’s important westside corridor.

We conducted the block-by-block survey on July 21 with the goal of finding and identifying as many different species as possible. Participants used the [iNaturalist app](#), which records field observations and lets users share and discuss their findings.

The BioBlitz initiative is a joint project of the California Academy of Sciences and the National Geographic Society. The goal is to document as much biodiversity – from bees to bamboo – in a specific location in one day. Our event partners included SF Environment, Climate Action Now!, the California Academy of Sciences, Nature in the City and, of course, the residents who took time out of their Sundays to take part.

Led by the Public Works landscape architecture team, we focused on Sunset Boulevard because of the significant improvements underway on the iconic San Francisco greenway that connects Golden Gate Park to Lake Merced.

You can learn more about our initiatives by watching the “[Sunset Boulevard: Reimagined](#)” episode of Public Works TV.

The new [Sunset Boulevard Master Plan](#) looks to reinvigorate the 2-mile stretch to make it more beautiful and more sustainable. The data collected at the BioBlitz will help inform our work going forward. ■

The ESER bond program ensures that San Francisco's first-responder facilities, such as fire stations, will be shored up for resiliency.



Earlier this month, the Board of Supervisors voted to place a \$628.5 million Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response (ESER) Bond proposal on the March 2020 ballot for voter consideration. If passed, ►



d Headed to the Ballot



Safeguarding San Francisco is a top priority of the ESER bond program.









There is also a one in five chance that a 7.5 magnitude quake could hit the Bay Area, which would be devastating to life and property, and could result in up to \$200 billion in damages.

- ▶ the bond will fund seismic upgrades and much needed improvements to aging first responder facilities and capital infrastructure in San Francisco.

These improvements will increase San Francisco's capacity to quickly respond to a major earthquake or other disaster and to recover from the aftermath. The ability to respond quickly in an emergency will have a direct impact on how well our City recovers after the next major earthquake.

We all know that San Francisco is located in earthquake country. In fact, a major quake can occur at any time. There is a 72 percent likelihood that a 6.7 or greater magnitude earthquake will strike the Bay Area in the next 30 years, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. There is also a one in five chance that a 7.5 magnitude quake could hit the Bay Area, which would be devastating to life and property, and could result in up to \$200 billion in damages.

The ESER 2020 bond consists of five program components. Of the \$628.5 million, \$153.5 million will be allocated towards renovating, expanding and seismically upgrading the City's aging Emergency Firefighting Water System; \$275 million will fund seismic retrofitting and resiliency projects for neighborhood fire stations and support facilities, such

as firefighting training facilities; \$121 million will be given to fund seismic retrofitting and resiliency projects for San Francisco Police Department district stations, and support facilities; \$70 million will be used to upgrade or replace critical City-owned disaster response facilities; and \$9 million will be allocated to expand the 9-1-1 Call Center to accommodate more dispatchers, new technologies and increased efficiencies.

ESER 2020 builds on the necessary work that began under the voter-approved 2010 and 2014 ESER bonds, which both passed with nearly 80 percent approval. The upcoming bond measure focuses on continuing to improve the structural resilience of essential facilities to ensure the effective delivery of fire and police services and improve disaster response facilities to be safe and operational during and after an earthquake or other disaster.

San Francisco Public Works manages all of the projects that have been funded through the previous two ESER bonds, and if passed next spring, will manage those funded by the third phase of the ESER program.

To learn more about the Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response Bond Program and its 2020 installment, visit [sfearthquakesafety.org](http://sfearthquakesafety.org). ■

The Pit Stop on Grove Street adjacent to Civic Center Plaza remains one of the busiest.

# Pit Stops

This month marks the 5th anniversary of our innovative Pit Stop public toilet program, which began in the Tenderloin with three locations and now operates at 25 locations in 13 neighborhoods. ▶



# Turn 5!



The Ocean Beach Pit Stop is the newest addition to the roster of the staffed public bathrooms.





The Pit Stop at 16th and Capp streets brings much relief to the Mission District.





- ▶ Over the next year, thanks to support from Mayor London Breed and the Board of Supervisors, we plan to add another seven Pit Stops, and expand the hours of operation at the existing ones. We also will operate them around the clock at two locations as part of a three-month pilot. The 24-hour Pit Stops will be located in the Tenderloin and the Castro.

What makes Pit Stops Pit Stops is that they are staffed to ensure that they're used for their intended purpose: to provide people a clean, safe place to relieve themselves with dignity. We also provide passersby with free dog waste bags and have receptacles for used needles.

Our nonprofit workforce development partner, Urban Alchemy, staffs all but one of the Pit Stops; the Lower Polk Community Benefit District staffs the other. Public Works manages the program.

Collectively, the Pit Stops average more than one flush per minute. We're proud of this program, which has been modeled by other communities, among them Miami, Denver, Sacramento and Los Angeles. ■

An army of Community Clean Team volunteers came to District 9 on a mission to thoroughly spruce up the neighborhoods. More than 350 volunteers, including 155 of them from the Project Pull summer youth program, spent a sunny morning on July 20 to help rid the area of litter and graffiti. ►

# Volunteers Take Action b

John O'Connell High School campus got some extra TLC at this month's Community Clean Team event in District 9.



# City Cleaning and Greening



The kickoff for  
Community  
Clean Team  
drew more than  
300 celebrants.





Pulling weeds kept our  
dedicated volunteers busy.



Volunteers spruce up Esmeralda Slide Park in Bernal Heights.



A large group of young volunteers make sure the Guerrero Street median looks its best.





► Neighbors at Esmeralda Slide Park in Bernal Heights partnered with the volunteers working on landscaping projects to make the park more beautiful and welcoming! Alemany Triangle also got quite a bit of attention from a large group of volunteers, including District 9 Supervisor Hillary Ronen. There, they pulled weeds, removed dead plants and spread chips to tidy up the area under the freeway overpass. The landscaped medians along Guerrero Street also got some needed sprucing up.

Other projects included refreshing street furniture with a fresh coat of paint, beautifying community gardens and spiffing up the John O'Connell High School campus and surrounding blocks by picking up litter and painting out graffiti.

Our corporate partner, Recology, provided Gigantic Three bulky item recycling service to residents in both Districts 8 and 9 to help San Franciscans properly dispose of unwanted furniture and electronic devices around their homes.

Community Clean Team takes place in a different supervisorial district each month. Our next volunteer workday is on August 17 in the District 6 neighborhoods of the Tenderloin, SoMa and Civic Center. We'll kick off the day at 9 a.m. at Boeddeker Park, 246 Eddy St. Please sign up to volunteer [here](#). After the work is done, we'll provide volunteers with a tasty, free lunch. ■

A locksmith from our Bureau of Building Repair makes a few tweaks to fix the little squeaks on a City Hall door.

