In the works September 2017

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A milestone celebrated for the Moscone Expansion Project. See story inside.







A message from our director





10/1

Sunday Streets Excelsior

Come and enjoy the season finale of Sunday Streets in the diverse Excelsior neighborhood! There will be a bounty of fun and free activities for the entire family.

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Check out the route <u>map</u>.



10/28

<u>Community Clean Team</u> <u>Pre-Halloween Cleanup in</u> <u>District 1</u>

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 neighborhoods.

Washington High School 600-32nd Ave. 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. (Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.)



10/19

Commons on Third Thursdays

Don't miss the final Third Thursday event of 2017: Civic Center's public spaces will feature multiple stages of live music, food trucks, rollerskating, swing dancing and Skee Ball.

It's FREE and open to the public!

5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Civic Center Plaza (Fulton Street, between the Main Library and Asian Art Museum)





The newly-paved portion of Diamond Heights Boulevard on the 5300 block is magnificent! What a smooth ride! In addition, the traffic markings are already completed! It was amazing that all the work was done so quickly.

Many, many thanks!

Betsy E. Diamond Heights Community Association

I would like to commend the work of Public Works staff who came to my home recently to harvest two fruit trees. They are hardworking and a credit to the City and County of San Francisco workforce. I urge you to expand the Urban Harvesting Program because it provides such an important service.

Linda R.





Following

Following

.@sfpublicworks employees & volunteers doing the heavy lifting! Thank you for cleaning & beautifying our streets.



Krista Canellakis @kristallakis

Best feeling in the world: sweeping leaves on sidewalk into the street at 7am, then waving **@sfpublicworks** driver as truck sweeps them all up

Appreciate seeing @sfpublicworks regularly cleaning up the hairball making it a more pleasant/safe passage for peds and bikes. Thank you!

9:46 AM - 5 Sep 2017

Follow us at **sfpublicworks** for a unique perspective on San Francisco – from the eyes of those who work hard to keep the City clean, green and beautiful.





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Follow us on Instagram



PUBLIC WORKS

Premieres Friday, October 6, 2017 YouTube.com/SFPublicWorks



Follow & Subscribe



the growth of Our Urban forester

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Public Works Urban Forester Chris Buck with the book that uspired his career.

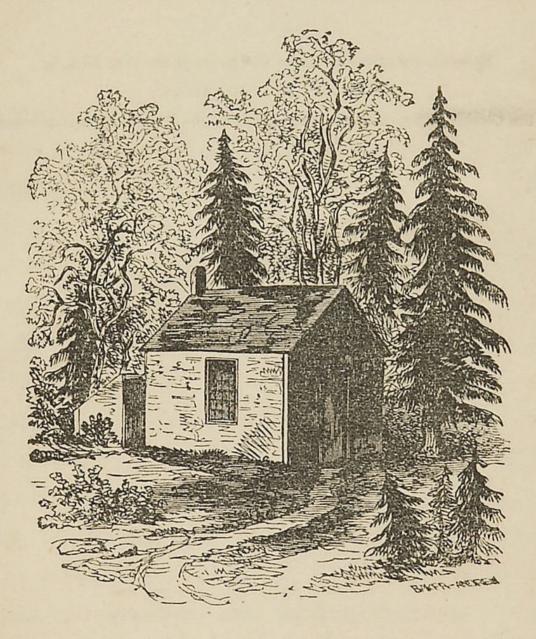
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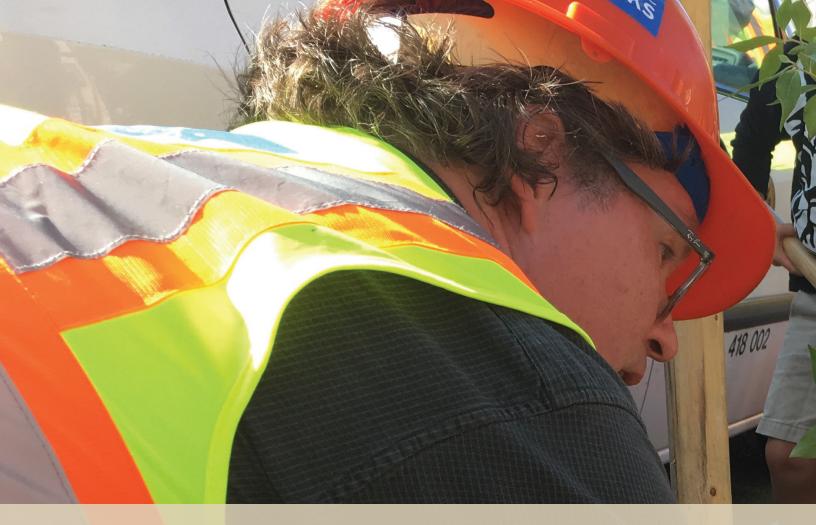
LIFE IN THE WOODS.

BY HENRY D. THOREAU,

AUTHOR OF "A WEEK ON THE CONCORD AND MERRIMACK RIVERS."



I do not propose to write an ode to dejection, but to brag as lustily as chanticleer in the morning, standing on his roost, if only to wake my neighbors up. - Page 92.



When San Francisco Urban Forester Chris Buck talks about trees – from nomenclature to their structure and textured canopies – his words often sound dreamy and poetic. Dig a little deeper into Buck's personal history, and it's clear that a love of words is at the root of his love of trees.

Buck, who joined Public Works' Bureau of Urban Forestry in 2005 and is now one of the City's foremost experts on the care of urban trees, faced two life-changing assignments in his senior year as an English major at the University of Iowa: Read "Walden" by Henry David Thoreau and keep a nature journal. He devoured the book, got an A+ on his journal and began assigning himself new goals – including memorizing hundreds of Latin genus and species names and learning to identify every tree he encountered.

After college, he moved to San Francisco to work as a researcher for a stock photo company, but he couldn't stop thinking about trees. One day, he picked up a phone book, counted 30 tree companies and proceeded to call every one of them, using the pitch line: "I love trees and I want to do the real work to get to know them more closely."

From his first job doing heavy physical labor dragging brush for a ground tree crew, he went on to consult as a utility forester for PG&E and, later, became the education coordinator at the Friends of the Urban Forest. Today, Buck admits that educating the public on tree maintenance and engaging youth to care about trees are two of his favorite things. His own education is ongoing, as evidenced by a peek into his home library. The wall of bookshelves is filled with more than 400 tomes on trees, arboriculture, natural history, flowers, plants and birds.

Just as architects can rattle off their favorite buildings around town, Buck has his own favorite icons, among them the coastal redwoods near the Lyon Street Steps and the blue gum eucalyptus trees at Octavia and Bush streets.

"Few trees are truly native to San



Francisco," Buck says, and admits that wind and fog exposure must be considered when deciding which species his team can plant. "In the Mission, we can plant over 100," he says. "In the avenues, we're looking at probably five."

Buck uses the analogy of automobiles when identifying trees. "When you see the angle of a car at a red light, you know right away it's a Lexus. When I see a tree from a distance, I know it's a Monterey Cyprus," Buck says. But when it comes to his favorite, the tulip tree, Buck reverts back to poetry, recalling Walt Whitman, who coined it, "Apollo of the woods."

Buck estimates that, of San Francisco's nearly 125,000

street trees, most have been planted within the past 50 years. Unfortunately, many were planted on sidewalks that would prove to be too narrow for the species or conflict with stop signs and utilities. Today, Buck says, "We study that stuff really closely and are always looking at changing and improving the selection of species – the right tree in the right place."

Proposition E, which was approved by San Francisco voters in November 2016 and implemented in July of this year, has transferred the maintenance of all street trees to the City. This means that the Bureau of Urban Forestry, overseen by Public Works' Superintendent Carla Short, has been exceptionally busy. In August, Short and Buck's team – with help from more than 600 volunteers – planted 500 trees in District 11 in a matter of hours.

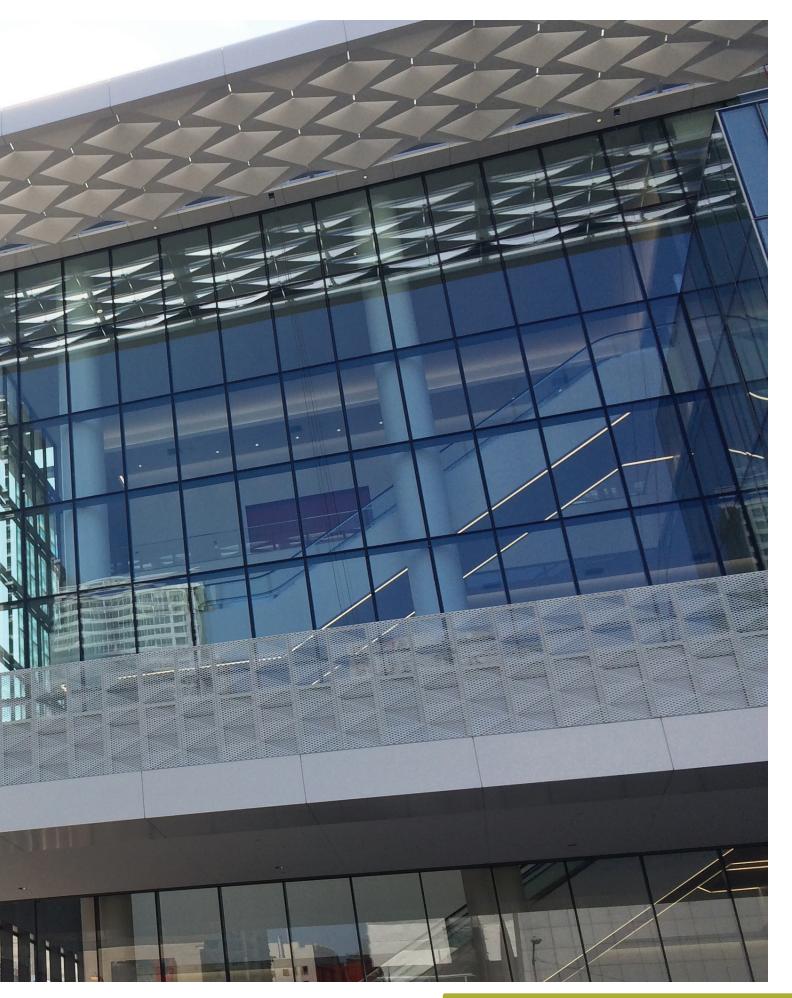
"With Prop E, we're up for the challenge," says Buck. "We don't plant 20 trees and hope that five make it. We plant 20 trees with the goal of having 20 healthy trees 20 years from now."

He adds, "We want to focus on tree protection. We're finally managing trees from start to finish throughout a tree's life cycle: planting, structured pruning, routine maintenance, sidewalk repair and, when necessary, removal."

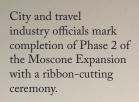
For some, that may sound like hard work. For Buck, it's pure poetry.

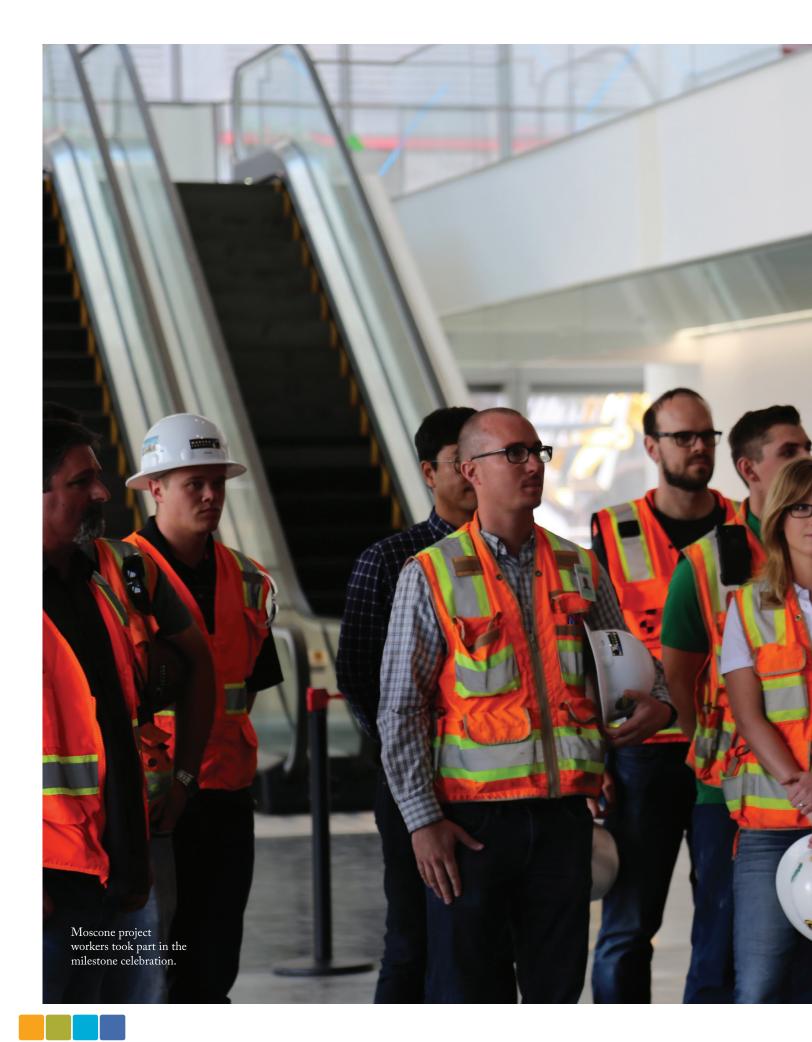
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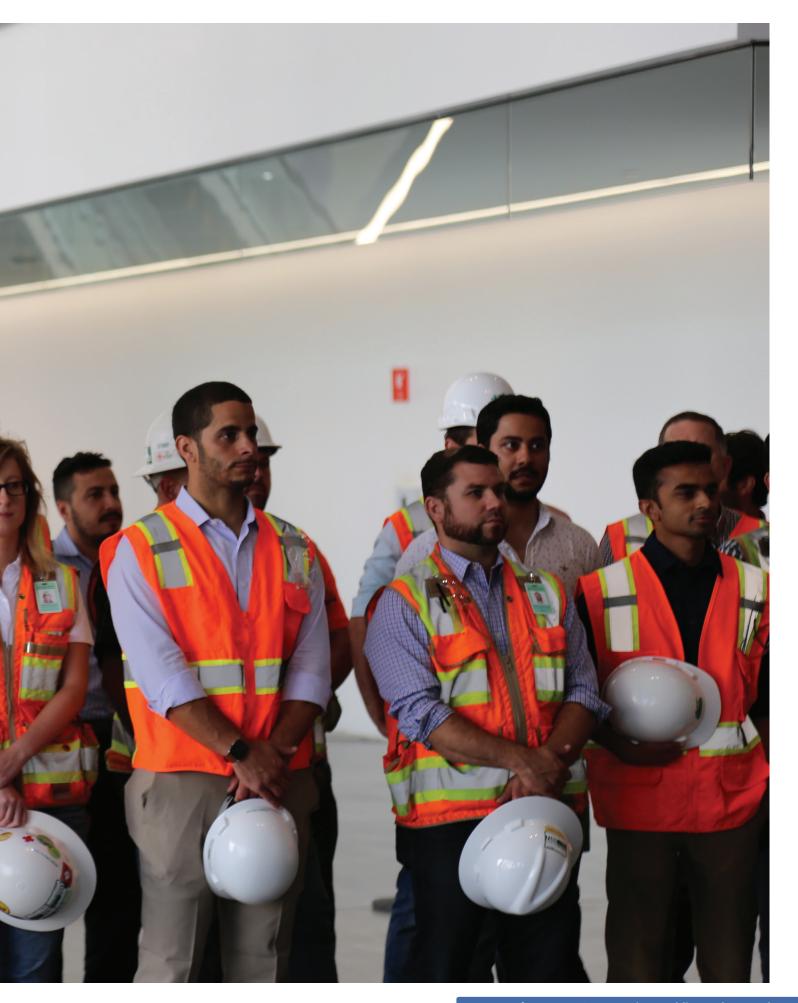
The completion of Phase 2 of the \$551 Moscone Expansion Project earlier this month was more than just a construction milestone:











It highlighted the project team's extraordinary efforts to finish on budget and on deadline to accommodate San Francisco's bustling fall season of conventions, including GSMA Mobile World Congress Americas, Oracle OpenWorld and Salesforce's Dreamforce.

The paint had barely dried on the walls of the new bigger and brighter lobby of Moscone South when Mayor Ed Lee greeted the large crowd at the Sept. 5 ribbon-cutting ceremony. The celebration was packed with City officials and representatives from the travel and hospitality industries. Members of the media seized the opportunity to tour the renovated building's 50,000-square-foot grand ballroom, flexible meeting rooms and expanded exhibition halls and got a chance to linger on the second-floor outdoor balcony with breathtaking views of downtown.

The Moscone expansion project will make our convention center an even more attractive and innovative site for visitors, boost the local economy and create a more livable and vibrant environment for neighbors.

A public-private partnership between the City and the San Francisco Tourism Improvement District Management Corporation, the four-year project is the result of the collaborative vision of Public Works' project management team, architecture firm Skidmore Owings and Merrill, Associate Architect Cavagnero & Associates and Webcor Builders.



Phase 2 took 20 months to complete and employed an average of 400 workers each day. In all, the project has resulted in 3,400 temporary jobs and nearly 1,000 permanent jobs in San Francisco.

It's also on track to generate tremendous revenue for the City and is critical to ensuring Moscone's status as a premier venue equipped to attract the large, high-profile shows of the convention industry. In 2016, the City hosted 25.2 million visitors, generating \$9 billion in spending. Thirtyfive percent of visitors to San Francisco come to the City for conventions and meetings.

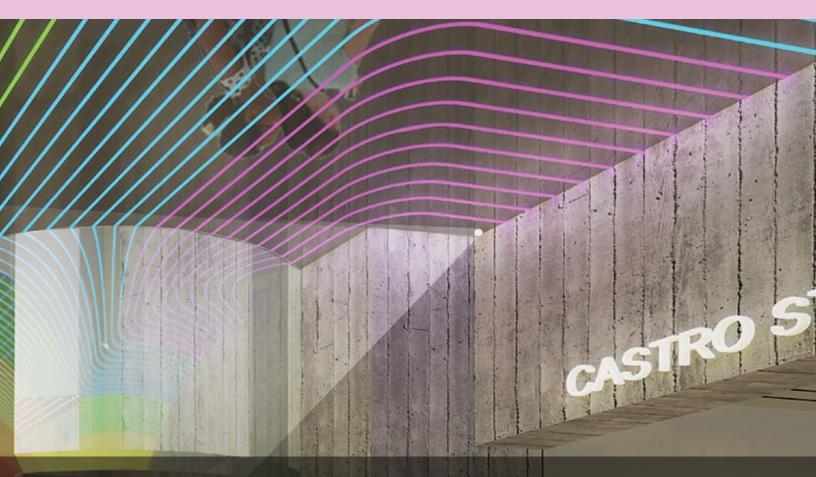
But it's not just for visitors. The project, when finished, will address the needs of people who live and work downtown by creating inviting outdoor paseos, expanded children's gardens, improved pedestrian walkways and public art installations, including the return of the iconic Keith Haring dancing trio sculpture that's been stored at the DeYoung Museum for the past couple of years.

When completed in fall 2018, the LEED Platinumdesigned facility will not only be beautiful, but represent San Francisco's green creed. Designed to save on energy and water usage, Moscone will be a zero-emission facility served by a zero-emission electrical grid and solar panels that generate nearly 20 percent of its energy needs.



Redesign of Harvey Milk P

A rendering of the Perkins Eastman proposal, one of the finalists in the design contest for Harvey Milk Plaza.



laza Sparks Lots of Interest



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September 2017 - San Francisco Public Works Newsletter











A sampling of the three finalists' renderings for the Harvey Milk Plaza competition.

Nearly 10,000 people have weighed in with their favorite of three final design proposals for an inspiring remake of Harvey Milk Plaza, the public gathering space in the heart of the Castro named after the pioneering LGBT civil rights and political leader.

The international design competition drew 33 submissions. A selection panel, made up of planners, community representatives and architects, including Public Works Deputy Director and City Architect Edgar Lopez, settled on three finalists: Perkins Eastman, Groundworks Office and Kuth / Ranieri Architects.

Their design proposals can be seen <u>here</u>. The winner is expected to be announced in late October. Once the preferred design is selected, an estimated \$10 million will have to be secured for construction and maintenance. And the project will need to successfully navigate City approvals.

The Harvey Milk Plaza Competition is a partnership of the <u>Friends of Harvey Milk</u> <u>Plaza</u>, the American Institute of Architects San Francisco, San Francisco Public Works, San Francisco Public Works, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency and the San Francisco Arts Commission. The Center for Architecture + Design is a charitable organization serving as the fiscal sponsor of the Harvey Milk Plaza Competition.

The competition organizers asked design teams to reimagine Harvey Milk Plaza, located at the southwest corner of Castro and Market streets, as a public gathering space "that truly honors Harvey Milk" in a way which:

- Inspires generations of visitors to come to the Castro, learn about Harvey Milk and be inspired by his vision of hope and civil rights, allows for public gathering for protests and celebrations.
- Is a high-quality design with an interpretive element that transforms the plaza into a truly unique and important San Francisco destination.
- Is a well-functioning urban transit center.
- Takes into account the new SFMTA elevator and accessibility projects.

Revelers gathered at PROXY SF in Hayes Valley for a showing of some of San Francisco's hidden gems.

The Ultimate Inside San Francisco's Hide

URBAN R

r's Guide: den Gems

Every September, the American Institute of Architects San Francisco and the Center for Architecture and Design host ►

- 6 10

Games, food trucks and people watching were on tap at the PROXY SF gathering.

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The "Hidden in Plain Sight: A Secret City Tour of Market Street" entourage take a pause to learn and observe along the route.

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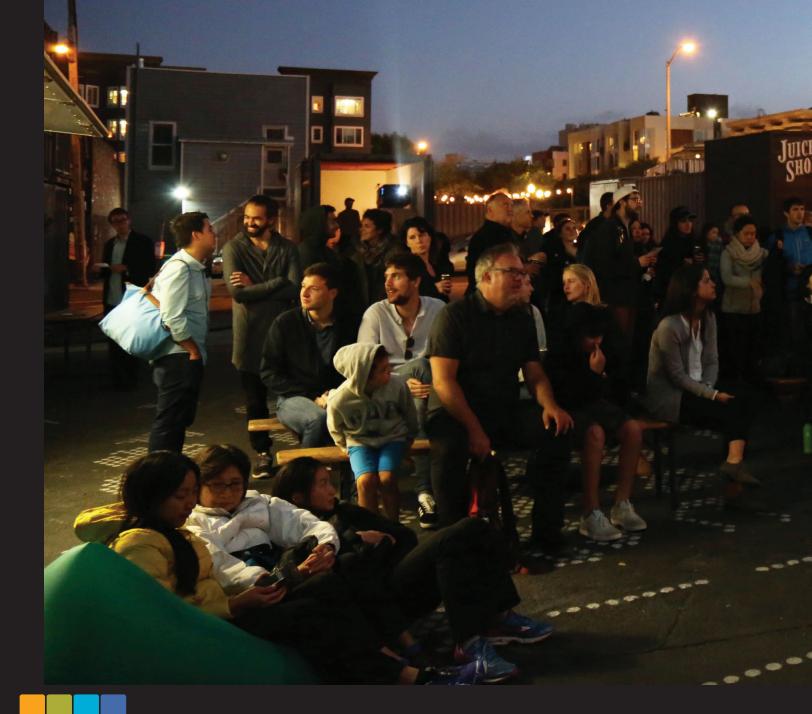
the Architecture and The City Festival – a month of programs celebrating design, planning and the building process.

> This year, the public got an ultimate insiders' guide to San Francisco through the lens of some of the people who really know the City: our very own staff here at Public Works.

An arts-centric crowd gathered at <u>PROXY SF</u> in Hayes Valley on Thursday, Sept. 14, for a funfilled evening where images and stories of favorite San Francisco hidden gems were shared among the guests and designers from our Building Design and Construction Division. We celebrated the beauty of the built and natural environment spread across the City's nearly

47 square miles.

The hidden gems ranged from lesser-known romantic settings, such as the <u>Shakespeare Garden</u> in Golden Gate Park, to sites hidden in plain sight, including the <u>City Hall Dome</u> and the <u>Noe Valley Town Square</u>. Others included newly completed Public Works projects, among them the <u>Public Safety Building</u>



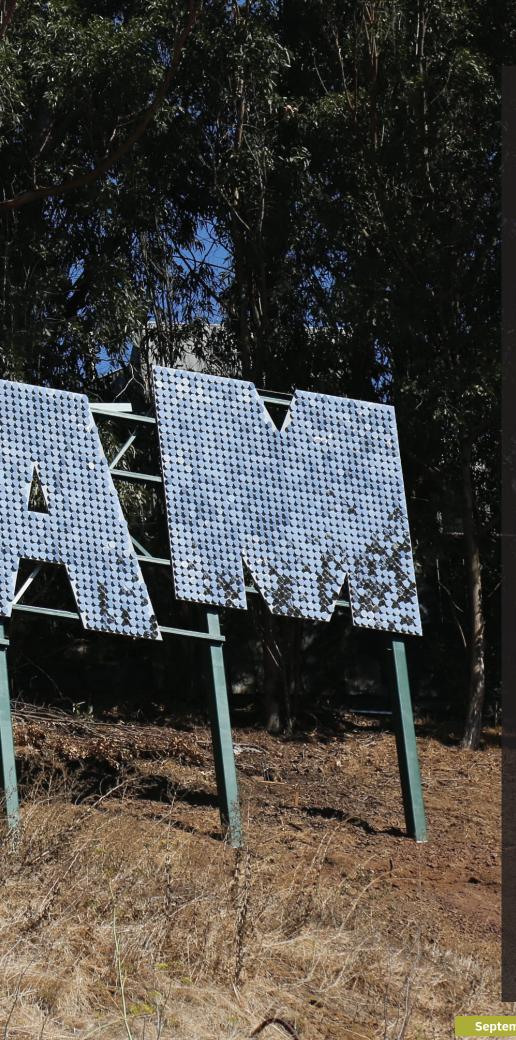
and the <u>La Placita</u> community space in the Mission.

The outdoor event also included lively music, games, locallysourced food and drink and the distribution of a limited-edition series of postcards designed by some of our creative designers.

Public Works hosted a second event as part of the month-

long celebration. The "Hidden in Plain Sight: A Secret City Tour of Market Street" took place on Sept. 16, when Public Works designers shared the larger themes of history, social justice, infrastructure, ecology ad climate change found along San Francisco's most famous thoroughfare.





DREAM Big

There, on a Bernal Heights hillside, are five, 10-foot-tall shimmering letters spelling out a simple but powerful word: DREAM.

The public sculpture, which was unveiled at a Sept. 22 ceremony, is meant to inspire people who view it "to start identifying their goals and aspirations, from a place of consciousness and awareness, and to begin the process of pursuing them."

That's the goal laid out by <u>Yerba</u> <u>Buena Center for the Arts</u>, which commissioned the piece.

But even if you're not quite ready for that awakening, the sign – staked into a public hillside with a metal frame – offers viewers a touch of whimsy.

DREAM is San Francisco's version of the "HOLLYWOOD" hill sign in Southern California, offering a new marker for the east-facing Bernal Heights slope above the Alemany Farmers Market.

It can be seen from the bottom of the hillside, the freeways near the 101/280 split and from various points in the Portola neighborhood. Fashioned out of shiny metal discs, the letters glisten when they catch the sun.

Public Works co-sponsored the project, ushering it through the official sign-offs and making sure it is structurally sound.

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Home Sweep Home

Longtime Portola resident Mike Goff spends his weekday mornings giving back to the feels-like-asmall-town neighborhood he's called home for more than five decades.

Goff can be found sweeping litter from the sidewalk, cleaning tree basins and helping troubleshoot graffiti vandalism and broken street furniture along San Bruno Avenue, the Portola neighborhood's main commercial corridor, between Silver Avenue and Wayland Street, on the southeast side of town.

Bright and early Tuesday through Friday, the Public Works employee puts on his safety vest and grabs a broom and trash can and heads to work where he helps maintain the cleanliness and safety of sidewalks fronting many local homes and businesses. He scoops up discarded coffee cups, apple cores, wind-blown newspapers, cigarette butts and other trash that sullies the urban landscape.

He waves to the merchants and the bus drivers. Neighborhood regulars give him a friendly nod hello.

He began his stint with Public Works about 10 years ago. Prior to that, he cultivated his passion for serving his community at the San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners, better known as SLUG. The local nonprofit teaches residents the importance of community gardens and open space maintenance, while providing workforce development opportunities for people with little job experience.

Next time you're strolling through your neighborhood's commercial districts, stop and get to know the dedicated men and women who wake up every day to keep our City looking great. Everyone has a story to tell – it's just a matter of who's going to stop and listen.

🔍 The Epoch Times

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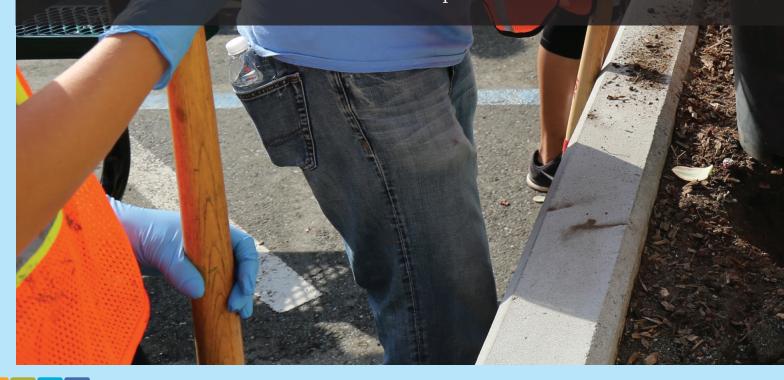
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Coastal Cleaning: San Francisco Volunteers Join a Global Initiative

Volunteers shined this month as they came out to support the internationally celebrated Coastal Cleanup Initiative.





Garbage cans got a fresh coat of paint during the neighborhood improvement workday.





Before the day's work began, District 3 Supervisor Aaron Peskin pumped up the crowd and emphasized the importance of community service and giving back to our neighborhoods. We also heard from the principal of Francisco Middle School, Patrick West, who generously hosted the kickoff on his campus.

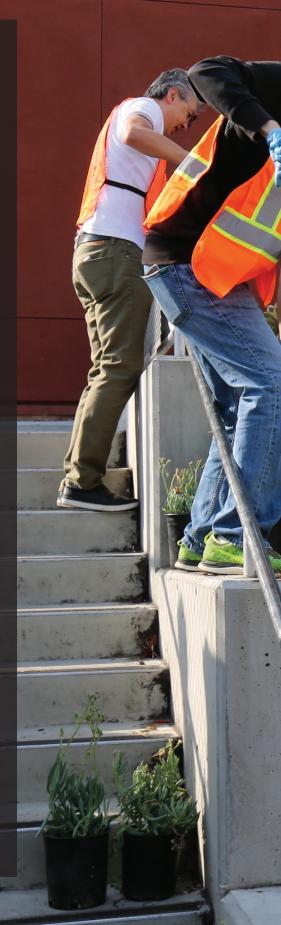
Several teams stayed close by Francisco Middle School to refresh street furniture, paint over graffiti and fill planter boxes with drought-tolerant plants. Other teams ventured off to The Embarcadero to sweep and remove litter along the coastline, install gravel on the Drumm Street median between Washington and Clay streets and weed overgrown plants at the Filbert Street Steps.

Once the work was complete, the volunteers met back at the school grounds to enjoy a communal meal and celebrate a morning well spent. While Community Clean Team may have been the most fun volunteer event of the weekend, hundreds of other volunteers also took to the City's coastlines to support the globally recognized Coastal Cleanup. In fact, Coastal Cleanup is the world's largest volunteer event, with more than 700,000 people across the world contributing each year.

Thanks to these hardworking helpers, International Coastal Cleanup has become a beacon of hope, leading and inspiring action in support of our oceans and coastal cities. Public Works has participated in the initiative for the past 17 years and makes a continuous effort to keep our shores clean all year long.

Community Clean Team will be back next month! Join us for some pre-Halloween cleaning in District 1 on Oct. 28 where we'll be kicking off the event at Washington High School. As always, registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the speaking program begins at 9 a.m.

Check out our <u>volunteer page</u> for more information about Community Clean Team and how to get involved with our other volunteer programs.









Public Works crews join with neighbors to fête the new median.



Jonathan Goldberg from Public Works and neighborhood leader Carol Dimmick.

Work on the Dorchester Way median improvement project culminated with a celebratory block party that drew neighbors, Public Works crews and District 7 Supervisor Norman Yee.

Rejoicing over a roadway median is not an everyday occurrence. But neighbors, led by Carol Dimmick, wanted to fête the successful completion of the complex infrastructure project. The party was held Sept. 9. The one-block median stretches along Dorchester Way between Portola and Ulloa streets in the West Portal neighborhood.

Public Works' structural engineers, maintenance planners, carpenters,

plumbers, sheet metal workers, landscapers, general laborers and cement masons all helped get the job done. Among the work: demolishing and removing old curbs and gutters and building new ones, reinforcing the roadway with pilings, patching asphalt and sprucing up the median with fresh landscaping.

Volumeens Ple

At first glance, cybersecurity firm <u>Lookout</u> and <u>The San</u> <u>Francisco School</u> may not have a lot in common. But they are joined together by a commitment to take care of our neighborhoods.

Students from The San Francisco School spruce up a patch of land near their Portola district campus.

eir Civic Pride



The San Francisco School community take pride in their mulching work.

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Employees from the tech firm Lookout took time out of a recent workday to pick up litter around the Castro and Mission neighborhoods.

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More than two dozen volunteers – students and parents from The San Francisco School – grabbed rakes and shovels on Sept. 8 to work on a street park down the block from their Portola district campus. The patch of land, once a dumping ground, has been turned into a mulched plot of paradise.

A few days later, on Sept. 12, 45 employees from Lookout picked up litter in the Castro and Mission neighborhoods, filling bright orange Giant Sweep bags with the trash that others carelessly tossed on the ground.

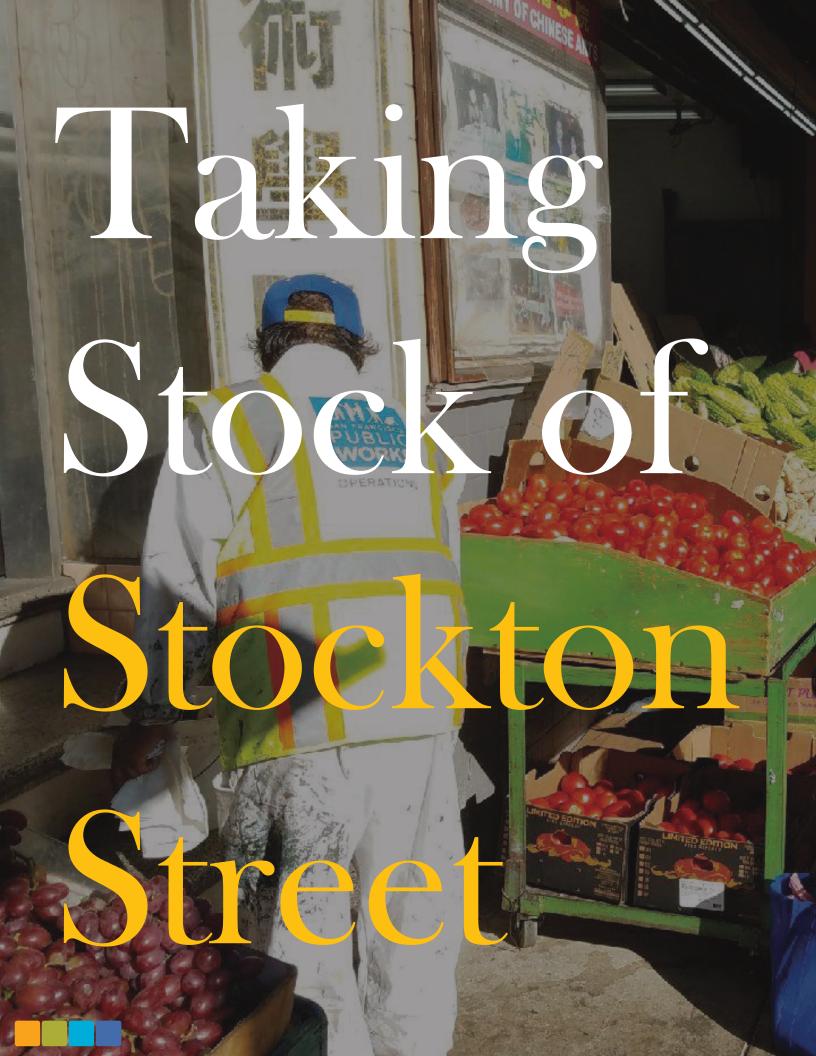
Every day in San Francisco, residents and shopkeepers working on their own, and organized groups of people from schools, businesses, neighborhood associations, nonprofits and religious organizations, take the time to help keep San Francisco clean and beautiful.

While Public Works cleaning crews are on the job 24/7, we know we can't steward our city alone. Each year, we log more than 50,000 volunteer hours. Join the team. Keep SF clean.

Parents and students from The San Francisco School spread mulch at a neighborhood street park.

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In the middle of a recent night this month – when bustling Stockton Street in Chinatown was finally calm and quiet – a Public Works steam-cleaning crew ►

Care.

September 2017 - San Francisco Public Works Newsletter

A steam cleaner scours the sidewalk overnight in Chinatown.

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made up of Eddie Pacheco and Peter Kwan scoured the gritty sidewalk for the benefit of residents, shoppers, merchants and visitors in this historic neighborhood.

The special Stockton Street spruce-up was a promise that Mayor Ed Lee made to merchants who have been heavily impacted by construction of the Central Subway in Chinatown. Public Works has been taking the lead on the quality-of-life improvements, offering courtesy graffiti removal on both private and public properties for two years, increasing cleaning around public trash cans, bolstering litter pickup and providing a one-time deep cleaning of the sidewalks. The efforts began Sept. 16.

The Stockton Street commercial corridor is one of the busiest pedestrian corridors in the City, and the sidewalk gets sullied with litter, grease, spilled food, gum and the like. The true color of clean concrete has been elusive.

Deep cleaning the sidewalk is a very labor-intensive and timeconsuming job. Each block takes two seasoned workers a night to clean – and that's just one side of the block. Each inch gets a thorough washing. We targeted the stretch of Stockton Street from Broadway to the Stockton Street Tunnel.

Meanwhile, our public property and private property graffiti teams, led respectively by Norflis McCullough and Alisha Whitt, have started abating graffiti and illegal postings on Stockton Street from roll-up doors, walls on private buildings, mailboxes, lamp posts and other hot spots for the illegal tagging. We'll keep up the effort with a goal of maintaining a graffiti-free zone.

While our specialized teams are taking care of business on graffiti and dirty sidewalks, the regular cleaning team, headed by Mario Montoya Jr. and Adam Maroney, will make sure Public Works crews remove debris and steam clean the trash cans in the early morning before most of the neighborhood wakes up.

Public Works employees take pride in what we do. Keeping San Francisco neighborhoods clean, safe and inviting is a goal we work toward every day.





San Francisco's rich history and diversity have brought Hemlock Street to life through a vibrant, six-panel mural adorning a building facade in the Lower Polk neighborhood.

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The outdoor art, which spans a 140foot wall, aims to help make the alley more inviting and a place of beauty with the burst of colorful creativity.

The mural, part of the Hemlock Cultural Narrative Mural Project, was unveiled at a community ceremony on Sept. 7. The murals feature the artwork of Dray (Andre Wilmore), Ali Futrell, Will Durkee and Marcus Lee, Twin Walls (Elaine Chu and Marina Perez-Wong), Mel Waters and Bahama Kangaroo (Yukako Ezoe and Naoki Onodera).

The overall theme of the artwork: "San Francisco: Its History and its Diversity." The project was part of a ► public/private partnership between Chevalier Partners, Lower Polk Neighbors, Lower Polk Community Benefit District, the City's Office of Economic and Workforce Development and INTERSTICE Architects.

Two nearby alleyways, Fern Alley and Austin Alley, also will be revitalized as part of the Polk Streetscape Project, which Public Works is managing. Construction of both alleyways is anticipated to begin in May 2018 and be completed by late summer 2018.

The Polk Streetscape Project is nearing the halfway point of a 24-month contract; our contractor just wrapped up paving North Point Street. The Polk Streetscape project is anticipated to be completed by fall 2018. Visit our <u>website</u> for additional project updates and information.

Building Our City – and Stronger Partnerships

More than 100 representatives from City departments and the local contracting community met this month to forge stronger partnerships to better serve our residents, businesses and visitors.

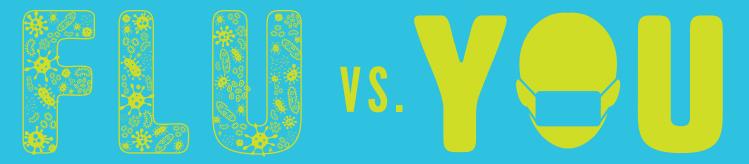
Hosted by Mike Ghilotti of Ghilotti Bros., Miguel Galarza of Yerba Buena Engineering and Construction, City Administrator Naomi Kelly and Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru, the SF City/Contractors Liaison Meeting was held at the Main Library on Sept. 28, drawing a standingroom-only crowd.

The group meets three times a year to discuss timely topics, most recently the City's new financial system and the process of evaluating construction project teams, as well as new information on night noise permits and a proposed Project Labor Agreement for some City construction projects.

The event attracted a wide range of contractors, from large primes Webcor, Clark and Pankow to independent painting firms, architects and arborists. From the City, there were representatives from the Office of the Controller and City Attorney's Office as well as the departments looking to attract bidders for upcoming projects.

In total, hundreds of projects were promoted in handouts distributed at the meeting by Public Works, SFPUC, SFMTA, The Port of San Francisco, San Francisco Recreation & Park Department and SFO. More information on upcoming Citywide bids and contracts can be found <u>here</u>.





DON'T LET THE FLU GET THE BEST OF YOU THIS SEASON







be mindful of personal hygiene get plenty of sleep

be physically active



drink plenty of fluids

DID YOU KNOW?

The single best way to prevent the seasonal flu is to get vaccinated each year.

GET YOUR SHOT EARLY.



antibodies take

to develop after vaccination

151-166 doses of MILLION vaccines

projected to be provided by manufacturers this season

60% ***†**řŧtť

of reported flu hospitalizations in the U.S. are people ages 18-64



flu-related deaths reported in 2016-17 (influenza and pneumonia)



200,000 hospitalizations



Project Roadway

Erika Heineken of the Public Works Project Management and Construction team checks in on a sewer project in the Ingleside neighborhood.



FETY FIRST. ALWAYS.