

in the works

November 2017



Our whimsical Painted Lady Pit Stop makes its public debut on Haight Street in front of Buena Vista Park this month.





EVENTS



12/5

Civic Center Tree Lighting

Bundle up, and bring your family and friends to eat cookies, drink hot chocolate, listen to music, and kick-off the holiday season at the San Francisco Civic Center Plaza Tree Lighting!

5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Civic Center Plaza



12/6

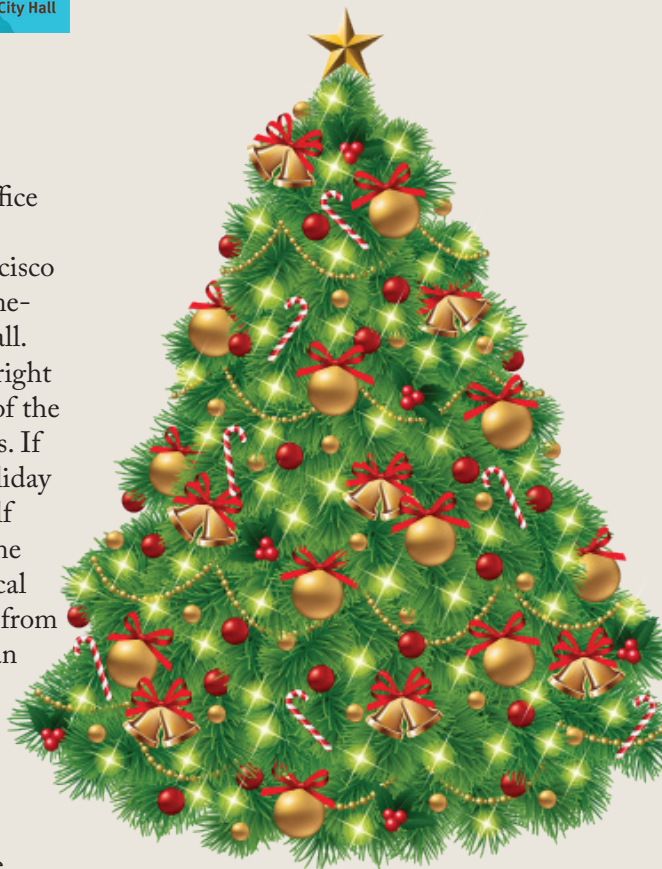
City Hall Popup Shop

Join Mayor Lee, Square, the Office of Economic and Workforce Development and the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce for a one-of-a-kind popup day at City Hall. All items for sale are produced right here in San Francisco by some of the most talented makers and artists. If you are looking for a unique holiday gift, or just want to treat yourself to something special – then come and shop from more than 40 local makers, artisans and merchants from every supervisorial district in San Francisco.

11 a.m. – 6 p.m.

San Francisco City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

12/25 Christmas Day



Recology's Holiday Trash Collection Schedule



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
DEC. 25 No service	DEC. 26 Monday service	DEC. 27 Tuesday service	DEC. 28 Wednesday service	DEC. 29 Thursday service	DEC. 30 Friday service	DEC. 31 No service
JAN. 1 No service	JAN. 2 Monday service	JAN. 3 Tuesday service	JAN. 4 Wednesday service	JAN. 5 Thursday service	JAN. 6 Friday service	JAN. 7 No service



Christmas Tree Collection program runs Jan. 2–12. Please place clean, unflocked trees at the curb. Remove all tinsel, decorations, plastic bags, stands, and lights. If your tree measures more than 6 feet tall, please cut it in half.





THANK YOU

I just want to thank you for paving parts of Sylvan Dr. this past weekend. Thank you for pushing this item up and getting the job done in one day!

Vernice L.

I wanted to take this time to commend Public Works for doing such a stellar job in the Mission District. I adopted the 24th and 25th blocks of Lilac, Cypress and Osage streets in 2005 where I place 311 garbage pickup calls almost daily. Over the past 12 years of working with the community and City Hall on various platforms I can honestly say that the Public Works is the ONLY organization that has ever helped me to better the community. THANK YOU for everything you do to help make a great difference for a better and cleaner neighborhood. Have a blessed and happy holiday.

Lisa B.

I'm writing to say a huge THANK YOU for making it work out to squeeze some of our students and a staff member on your final public tours of the Medical Examiner's Office last week. This was such a kind and thoughtful thing you did and every one of our community members who attended came back so excited and glad that they went. It sparked many conversations! What a special thing you offered; thank you.

Molly M.

Thank you for cleaning Justin Herman Plaza and Market Street on Saturday morning. It was so nice for the street artists to be able to show their art in a freshly cleaned area that smelled like an early spring morning.

On behalf of the San Francisco Street Artists at Justin Herman Plaza we are most appreciative for the fabulous work done by Public Works staff in the very difficult job of keeping the City of San Francisco clean and well maintained.

Michael A.

Just a note to say thank you for all your help to get the sidewalks ready for our next eight Rainbow Honor Walk plaques.

David P.

I want to let you know that Tessa Jones (acting street cleaning supervisor for the southeastern neighborhoods) just stopped by to explain to me how to best keep our street, the 2100 block of Newcomb Avenue, cleaned up.

Ms. Jones made an extra effort to come by to talk with me, and let me know the best time to get in touch for the most effective cleaning effort. She left her phone number and email address to make communications easy.

I am very impressed by her extra effort and really appreciate the responsiveness of your people. All it took was finding the right person to talk to.

Thank you and your team for your continuing efforts. I know ours is not the only street that is a victim of illegal dumpers, and so we especially appreciate the extra attention.

Many thanks. Have a great holiday season.

Ben D.
Executive Director
SCRAP

I wanted to take a quick moment to say how great Gabe Llamas' work is. Not only is his carpentry work phenomenal, but he's also fast and easygoing.

I really appreciate all of the work your teams do for the Human Services Agency, especially the Bureau of Building Repair staff, they have been a fantastic partner to work with.

Robert W.
Human Services Agency

I'm a total geek and I watched your crew clean Harriet Street. They did a good job. A bunch of passes with the broom support team, water blaster, and sweeper vacuum. Please pass along my gratitude.

Ray A.

HEALTHY *Holiday* HABITS

THE TIME FOR SPLURGING AND SHARING IS HERE. HERE ARE A FEW TIPS TO KEEP US FROM OVERDOING IT.

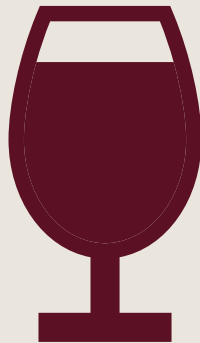
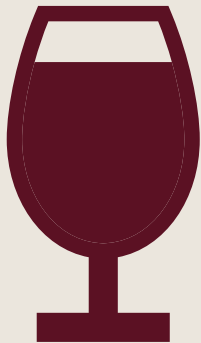
FIND A HOBBY *(other than sampling all the goodies)*



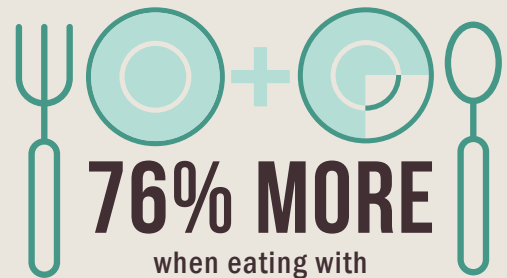
perceived hunger may stem from boredom - doing something else can help distract & entertain the mind.

DRINK RESPONSIBLY

while using squatter vessels, you're more likely to pour



one tends to EAT



when eating with



because the meal can last longer, you're more likely to have seconds.

(so be the last to start & the second to stop eating)

STAND



more than an arm's length away

from munchies so you're not tempted to raise your hand to your mouth every few seconds.



WORD OF THE MONTH

BORBORYGMI *noun*
[BAWR-BUH-RIG-MAHY]

a rumbling or gurgling sound caused by the movement of gas in the intestines. also known as a hungry stomach.

example: Joe's borborygmi distracted him from his work since he skipped 3 meals in preparation for the buffet at tonight's holiday party.

DON'T OVERSPEND

set a budget

An average American is expected to spend

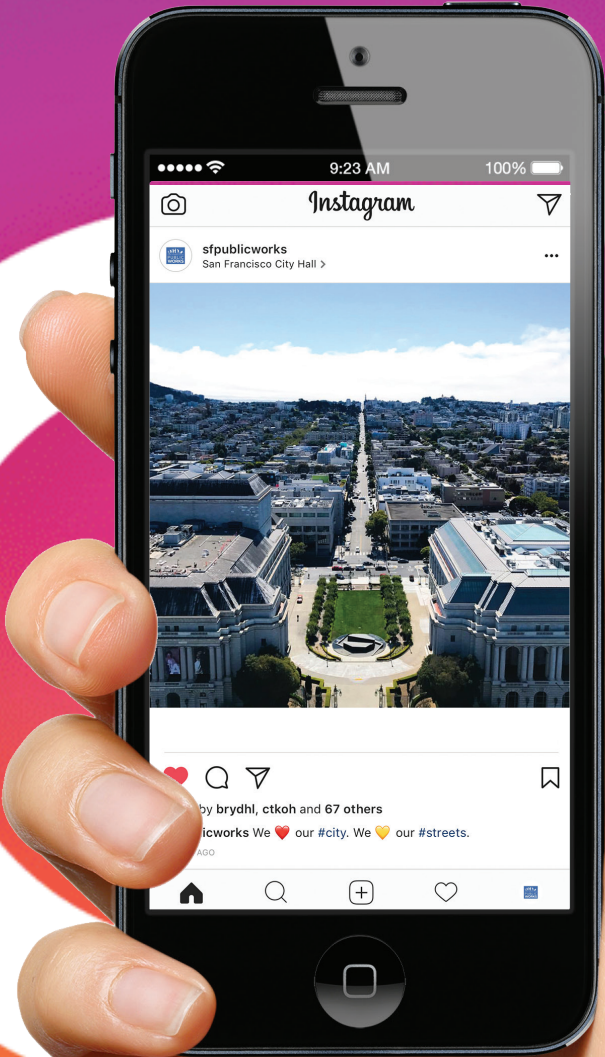
\$1,189

on holiday gifts for others & themselves.
(That's 6% more than last year!)





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.



Follow us on Instagram!

PUBLIC WORKS



PUBLIC WORKS  EP.0008

HANGIN' WITH MR. CLEAN SF:

A Fresh Start



SIGN UP



EPISODE 0008 - 11/30

Hangin' with Mr. Clean SF
A Fresh Start

This week, we're hangin' with Mr. Clean SF at Sundial Park in the Bayview alongside Lena Miller, the founder of one of our community partners – Hunters Point Family. Their partnership with Public Works gives formerly incarcerated individuals the opportunity to re-enter society as stewards of their community and gain customer service, problem-solving and conflict resolution skills.



EPISODE 0005 - 11/3

Ready, Set, Rain!

Storm season is just around the corner! Tune in for this week's episode where Public Works project and program manager Marci Camacho and associate civil engineer Miguel Hernandez give us some fun and helpful pointers when preparing for the rain.



EPISODE 0006 - 11/10

A Cut Above

Come along with our hosts for the week, Carlo Alfonso and Jordyn Aquino, as they join Mayor Ed Lee and other City officials and community leaders in celebrating the opening of the newly constructed Office of the Chief Medical Examiner located in the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood.



EPISODE 0007 - 11/17

Pit Stop Brings Relief

In honor of World Toilet Day 2017, this episode is dedicated to our innovative Pit Stop public toilet program, which provides safe and clean restroom facilities with an on-site attendant, needle disposal centers and doggie-waste bags for the public.



neighborhood challenges meet civic pride.

SAN FRANCISCO
PIT STOP

GUIDELINES

- Please keep your belongings with you; the attendant will not touch them.
- NO Smoking allowed inside the bathroom stall.
- Help us keep the bathroom clean. Deposit all trash, recyclables and needles in the proper bins outside the stall.
- Respect the bathroom and the attendant.

www.sfpbpublicworks.org/pitstop



Young passersby check out the Painted Lady Pit Stop, with one declaring, "It looks like a playhouse."





Whimsy Meets Function: Painted Lady Public Toilet Rolls Out

We marked World Toilet Day this month with the premiere of our new “Painted Lady” portable loo – the newest addition to the Pit Stop public toilet program, which ►



♿️
ALL-GENDER
RESTROOM

♿️
ALL-GENDER
RESTROOM

SAN FRANCISCO
PUBLIC
WORKS





toilets and sinks

needle disposal

dog waste station

Where neighborhood challenges meet civic pride.

SAN FRANCISCO PIT STOP

GUIDELINES

- 1. No alcohol, drugs, or smoking
- 2. No littering
- 3. No graffiti
- 4. No sexual activity
- 5. No loud music

www.sfpd.org/pitstop

ALL-GENDER RESTROOM

ALL-GENDER RESTROOM

- ▶ provides on-site staffing to ensure the facilities are kept clean and safe and used for their intended purpose.

World Toilet Day, a United Nations initiative celebrated annually in November, aims to inspire people to tackle the global sanitation crisis. An estimated 2.4 billion people worldwide are living without a toilet.

Public Works began the Pit Stop in 2014 with three locations in the Tenderloin to help address the problem of people inappropriately using sidewalks and doorways as toilets. The program now operates at 17 locations in eight neighborhoods.

Collectively, they account for more than 300,000 flushes a year. Each Pit Stop also offers safe needle disposal boxes and free dog waste bags.

The portable Painted Lady Pit Stop, which was unveiled on Nov. 20 at the corner of Haight Street and Buena Vista Avenue West, will be rotated among the existing Pit Stop sites, temporarily replacing the more standard-looking toilet trailers.

It became a draw as soon as it rolled in, with tourists and locals snapping selfies with the whimsical commode.

“We are testing innovative designs that are inviting and encourage people to use them. We will continue to do everything we can to improve your experience on San Francisco’s streets,” said Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru. “At the end of the day, the Pit Stops bring relief and dignity to people in need of a bathroom and improve neighborhood livability.”

A nod to the City’s Victorians, the custom-made, solar-powered portable toilet was a design and manufacturing collaboration between Public Works and Tiny Potties, an enterprise owned by San Francisco entrepreneur Nick Bovis.

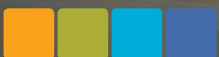
The Pit Stop program also has a workforce development component. The toilets are staffed through a partnership with Hunters Point Family, a local nonprofit organization that provides job opportunities for people who have faced barriers to employment. The Pit Stop


employs former state prisoners.

The Pit Stop utilizes a mix of portable toilets and semi-permanent JCDecaux public toilet facilities. The program also staffs one park bathroom in the South of Market neighborhood. The portable Pit Stops are transported to and from their locations on their scheduled days of operation, and secured overnight off site.

In addition to the Painted Lady model, Public Works recently upgraded the Pit Stop portable toilet fleet with new units that meet today’s ADA standards and offer a more comfortable and welcoming experience for users.

The Pit Stop concept has been picked up by other cities, including Miami, Sacramento and Denver, and last year won a Bright Ideas in Government Award from the Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard Kennedy School. ■



The image shows the interior of a portable toilet. The walls are made of light-colored wood planks, arranged in a vertical pattern. A decorative light fixture with a circular, geometric pattern is mounted on the wall. The ceiling is also made of wood planks. The overall atmosphere is warm and natural.

The interior of the Painted Lady Pit Stop surpasses what would be found at a typical public portable toilet, offering wooden walls, stained glass and natural light.

BOLSTERING RESILIENCY ONE BUILDING AT A TIME





The new Office of the Chief Medical Examiner building, designed for resiliency to serve the growing needs of a 21st-century San Francisco, was celebrated this month at a ribbon-cutting ceremony that drew City leaders and community representatives.

Located at 1 Newhall St. in the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood, the technologically advanced, 46,000-square-foot Office of the Chief Medical Examiner building is on track to become one of the nation's leading facilities of its kind.

The building, which is LEED Gold-designed, is equipped with a state-of-the-art forensic examination stations, a forensic toxicology laboratory and work areas for field investigators and administration. ►

Landscaping and art greet people visiting the new building for the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.



A view from above of the new autopsy suite.



The new lab offers staff more space and natural light.






Mayor Ed Lee leads City officials at the ribbon-cutting for the new facility.









► Public Works managed the design and construction of the project, which was delivered on time and on budget, and significantly exceeded Local Business Enterprise hiring goals.

In fact, San Francisco residents accounted for 37 percent of the construction team, and more than one-third

of the 170,000 working hours came from local residents.

The general contractor for the project was Clark Construction and the architect was KMD Architects.

The structurally sound and secure building is expected to remain fully operational in the event of a major earthquake – a marked improvement from the Medical Examiner’s previous cramped, outdated and seismically vulnerable offices in the 1950s-era Hall of Justice at 850 Bryant St. The office moved into its new space shortly after the Nov. 2 ribbon-cutting event.

The Medical Examiner coordinates the investigation and certification for all manners of death in San Francisco – natural, homicide, suicide and accident – and deaths of persons who cannot immediately be identified.

This transformative, \$65 million project was funded by the \$400 million, voter-approved Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response Bond, which is paying for improvements to facilities that allow San Francisco’s first responders to provide 24/7 service to neighborhoods and stay up and running after a major disaster. ■



Creating a Better

Let the construction begin!

Community leaders and City officials joined together on Nov. 29 for a joyous ceremonial ground-breaking to mark the start of construction on the transformational Second Street Improvements Project ►

City officials and neighborhood leaders grab their shovels for the ceremonial groundbreaking of the Second Street Improvements project.





er Second Street

Design renderings
of the upcoming
streetscape features for
Second Street.





Second Street Improvements Project Construction Schedule

- Segment 4: November 2017 - February 2018
Townsend to King
- Segment 1: January 2018 - October 2018
Market to Folsom
- Segment 2: October 2018 - April 2019*
Bryant to Townsend
*Some work in this segment may be performed between February 2018 - April 2018
- Segment 3: March 2019 - October 2019
Folsom to Bryant

Work Hours:
8AM - 5PM, Monday - Friday
Weekend work is possible and may be required at some key locations/intersections, but has not been scheduled at this time.

***Please note that the construction schedule is subject to change and may be delayed or accelerated due to many factors, including but not limited to, rain or other weather delays, equipment breakdown, and/or unforeseen field conditions. Please refer to on-site posted "No Parking" barricade signs for exact parking restrictions or the project webpage at www.sfpublicworks.org/secondstreet for the latest construction updates and project information.

Version: 10.25.2017



► that will bolster safety and beautify the bustling South of Market corridor.

The \$20 million streetscape project runs along Second Street from Market Street to King Street, an eight-block stretch that bustles with people day and night.

Construction, managed by San Francisco Public Works, is anticipated to continue through fall 2019. The project will be built in phases to minimize construction impacts in the neighborhood. The work is moving forward after more than 50 community meetings, where City agencies gathered public input to help shape the final plan.

The streetscape makeover features widened sidewalks between Harrison and Townsend streets; ADA-compliant curb ramps; new street trees; and upgraded site furnishings that include trash receptacles, bike racks, benches and pedestrian lighting. Overhead utility wires

will be undergrounded between Bryant and Townsend streets. Improvements also include sewer upgrades and paving.

Second Street has been marked by the City as a “high-injury” corridor where injury accidents are known to occur and as such has been prioritized to make travel safer for people who walk and cycle, as well as drive and take the bus.

Safety enhancements include high-visibility crosswalks, traffic signal upgrades, sidewalk bulb-outs to shorten pedestrian crossings, raised crosswalks at alleys, bus boarding islands and raised, protected bikeways.

To make room for the safety improvements, traffic lanes, at most times of the day, will be pared from two to one in both directions; the number of curbside parking spaces also will be reduced.

“We are making this important

neighborhood corridor a more inviting and safer place for the thousands of people who use it every day, whether they walk, bike, drive or ride transit,” said Mayor Ed Lee, who spoke at the ground-breaking ceremony. “By investing in this new streetscape, we are meeting the needs and addressing the challenges of our ever-growing and changing City.”

The project is a multiagency collaboration involving San Francisco Public Works, San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, City Planning, Caltrans and the San Francisco County Transportation Authority.

The project is funded in part by One Bay Area Grants and the Federal Highway Administration, SoMa Development Impact fees and local Proposition K sales tax revenue.

Additional project information can be found [here](#). ■



Holiday cleaning a



Public Works crews spruce up Union Square as part of a special holiday cleanup program.

and safety program

If you're shopping downtown or in one of the City's vibrant neighborhood commercial corridors this holiday season, there's a good chance you'll see **more street cleaners and police officers** on the street. ▶

► This special holiday cleaning and safety program started right before Thanksgiving and will continue through New Year's Day to provide a more welcoming experience for residents and visitors during one of San Francisco's busiest times of the year.

We have increased our cleaning staff from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the corridors that are packed with shoppers; overnight crews

will scour the areas that are hard to access during the day when vehicular and foot traffic is heavy.

We'll be out in force sweeping up litter, steam cleaning sidewalks and flushing down the streets.

Our partner, Recology, will make sure the public garbage cans are emptied regularly.

In addition, Public Works teams up with Neighborhood

Community Business District and Business Improvement District groups to coordinate cleaning efforts.

The holiday season is a time of giving. Public Works schedules cleanups year-round around places and organizations offering free food, such as Glide Memorial, St. Anthony's, Next Door Shelter, San Francisco Interfaith Council and SF City Impact. During the



Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru, Police Chief William Scott and Karin Flood, executive director of the Union Square Business Improvement District, take a ride on playful, motorized scooters at the Winter Walk pop-up plaza on Stockton Street downtown.



holidays, we provide extra cleaning around the soup kitchens to make sure that people have a clean and comfortable environment to enjoy their meals.

Meanwhile, the San Francisco Police Department is increasing patrols in the City's shopping areas. SFPD also asks for the public to take common-sense precautions when out and about.

For example, stay alert when using your smart phone in public places so you don't become an easy target of thieves; don't leave valuables visible in your car, and consider moving your car every time you load packages in the trunk, in case someone is watching to steal something; shop with a companion, especially after dark, whenever possible; and stash your wallet in a hard-to-reach place, such as the interior of your jacket.

Public Works is proud to be part of the efforts to keep our City safe, clean and beautiful for people who live, work and visit here. While our crews take proactive measures to keep the commercial corridors looking good, we also encourage people to report problems to 3-1-1, our 24/7 multilingual customer service hot line. ■





Play Ball! West Sunset

Another jewel was added to the crown of park renovations in San Francisco, with the reopening this month of the playfields at West Sunset Playground. ▶



Makeover a Big Hit



Ballplayers break in the new turf at West Sunset Playground. (Photo courtesy of the Recreation and Park Department.)



The new batting cage is a hit at the renovated park. (Photo courtesy of the Recreation and Park Department.)



► Public Works provided construction management and design services on the \$13.6 million renovation of one of the most popular recreation areas on the City's west side.

The park, bounded by 39th Avenue, 41st Avenue, Ortega Street and Quintara Street, features a children's playground, athletic courts, two baseball fields, a softball field, four

soccer fields, bleachers and a parking lot.

West Sunset Playground, which was built in 1957, has undergone periodic renovations, the last one in the 1980s. The newest overhaul includes fresh sod for the playfields, improved lighting and irrigation systems, new bleacher seating and restrooms and other upgrades that

meet today's ADA standards – changes to improve the experience for all visitors.

The project was funded by the voter-backed 2012 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond. A joint venture of Major League Baseball and Major League Baseball Players provided grant money to add a couple of batting cages. ■



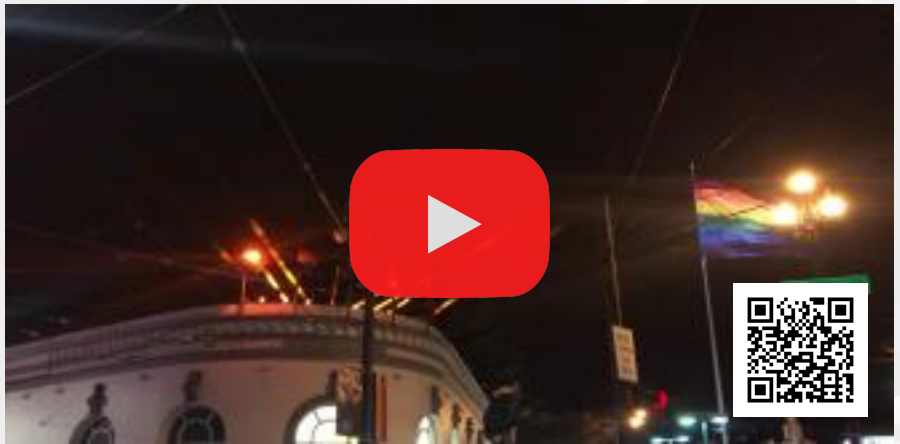


IN PEAKS

4000
17TH ST

400
CASTRO





Harvey's Halo Illuminates

Friends and allies of Harvey Milk gathered at Harvey Milk Plaza earlier this month to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the late civil rights leader's election to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

The air was filled with an essence of hope when Milk's spirit was brought to life with the grand unveiling of Harvey's Halo – a vibrant ring of rainbow light that shined high above the historic Castro District, which remains one of the most prominent symbols for LGBT activism around the world.

Milk, the first openly gay elected official in the state, operated a camera store on Castro Street. He was assassinated at City Hall in 1978.

Public Works completed a transformational [streetscape project](#) on Castro Street three years ago, which included now-iconic rainbow crosswalks at Castro and 18th streets.

The Harvey's Halo light installation, which radiated the skies over the course of two weekends this month, was created by [Illuminate](#), the San Francisco-based arts nonprofit responsible for [The Bay Lights](#) that span across the Bay Bridge.

In addition to the symbolic rainbow halo, Milk's famous phrase, "Hope will never be silent," written in neon lights, debuted above the old Bank of America building at Market and Castro streets to serve as a permanent reminder for future generations to never stop fighting for social justice.

LGBT TRAIL



Our crews installed eight more bronze plaques in the District to highlight the contributions of political



WALKING BLAZERS



along the Rainbow Honor Walk in the Castro
and cultural pioneers in the LGBT community. ►





Kiyoshi Kuromiya
(1943-2000)

Japanese-American human rights
activist and founder of the Critical
Path Project, one of the earliest
resources for information about
HIV research and treatment

Kiyoshi Kuromiya

Our crews join community members in the unveiling of new Rainbow Honor Walk plaques.



The plaque for José Sarria, a drag queen performer and founder of the Imperial Court System, draws its own fan club.





► The first set of 20 sidewalk tributes was installed in 2014 on Castro Street and 19th Street.

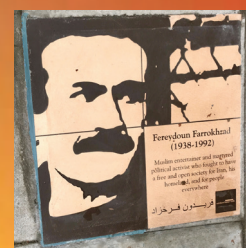
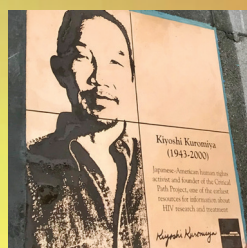
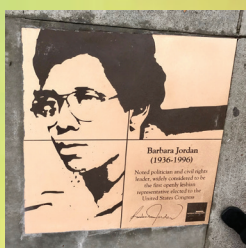
The latest batch went in on Market Street between Castro and Noe streets this month. The honorees include Rikki Streicher, proprietor of several lesbian bars; drag queen José Sarria, who founded the Imperial Court System; Glenn Burke, a Major League Baseball player; We'Wha, a Zuni Native American two spirit/mixed-gender tribal leader; astronaut Sally Ride; civil rights activist Kiyoshi Kuromiya; U.S. Rep. Barbara Jordan; and poet Fereydoon Farrokhzad.



Private funds cover the cost of the plaques, which are intended to both educate and celebrate. Public Works installs and permits them.



“Our hope is that people from around the world will walk the Rainbow Honor Walk and take away inspiration and education,” said Rainbow Honor Walk co-founder David Perry. “Some of these names are well-known. Some are barely known. All deserve to be known.” ■





Co
Cross
Hit
S





Colorful walks Their Stride

It's no secret that the intersection of 25th Avenue and Fulton Street, a prime gateway to Golden Gate Park, is a busy spot for pedestrians, cyclists and cars.

Recently, on the heels of the much-needed repaving of Crossover Drive in the park, it became clear that the intersection's crosswalks also needed a refresh. And so, with input from Richmond District residents and funding from the office of District 1 Supervisor Sandra Fewer, four new eye-catching crosswalks were installed this month, incorporating a stenciled faux red brick herringbone pattern – the latest in the City's trend of colorful crosswalks.

Many people are familiar with the emblematic rainbow crosswalks in the Castro District, but they're no longer a novelty. These days, dazzling multi-hued crosswalks have been popping up all over town, scattered along Irving, Taraval and Clement streets, as well as parts of the Tenderloin and 24th Street in Noe Valley. North Beach is next, with decorative crosswalks slated for Broadway and Powell streets, and Stockton Street and Grant Avenue.

The crosswalk beautifications help neighborhoods create a stronger sense of place.


At \$38,000, the Fulton Street crosswalks were a bit pricier than average and, like other colored crosswalks, require more complex maintenance – but, in this case, neighbors felt they'd be worth it. Edmund Lee, project manager with Public Works' street resurfacing program, said the work was done in just a few days, but was memorable because it ended on a good note with the community – a big plus for his team.

"It's always nice to be involved in projects when the community, as well as the supervisor's office, collaborate with our department to deliver a product everyone can enjoy and be proud of," he said.



Building




A group of men, including engineers from Tianjin, China, are gathered on a boat, looking at a smartphone. The boat has large windows and a dark interior. The men are wearing jackets and glasses. The background shows a view of the water and buildings through the windows.

Public Works employees give a delegation of engineers from China an insiders' tour of San Francisco's historic Lefty O'Doul Bridge.

Bridges

In early November, a group of **engineers from Tianjin, China**, visited the Third Street Bridge, a.k.a. the Lefty O'Doul Bridge, one of the oldest drawbridges in San Francisco. ►





Public Works employees showed the nine-member delegation from the Tianjin Urban Construction Design Institute how we operate and maintain the Depression-era span.

The Third Street Bridge, designed by Joseph Strauss, who was also the chief engineer of the Golden Gate Bridge, crosses the Mission Creek channel and sits adjacent to AT&T Park, home field of the Giants. The Third Street Bridge opened in 1933 and was renamed for local baseball legend Lefty O'Doul 36 years later.

John Lamonte, Public Works' bridge tender with abundant knowledge of the bridge, led the tour, told its history and answered questions. During the one-hour bridge visit, Lamonte showed the Chinese delegation how the control room operated, and walked with the group across the deck to point out all the details of this single leaf drawbridge.

The highlight of the tour was the demonstration of lifting the bridge to its full open position, showing how tall boats passing underneath are accommodated.

The Lefty O'Doul Bridge has gone through several major maintenance overhauls throughout the years, with another coming soon. Beginning Dec. 11 and continuing through Jan. 26, the massive counterweight is scheduled for repair. That means all access to the bridge will be closed to vehicles, bikes and pedestrians and traffic will be detoured.

Additional work is in the pipeline. Check out our [website](#) for more info.



A Holiday Miracle! Snow

As a jazz trio belted out “Frosty the Snowman” and cable cars crowd gathered near Hallidie Plaza on the evening of No






Snowflakes on Market Street

made their rotations at the Powell and Market turnaround, a
Nov. 20 to celebrate what has become one of the City's great

Even Father Christmas
came out to celebrate
the lighting of the
snowflakes with the
Public Works family.



holiday traditions: the illumination of hundreds of snowflake lights along Market Street.

There were familiar faces at the outdoor celebration, including television newsman Spencer Christian, Assemblyman David Chiu, Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru and SFPUC Assistant General Manager Barbara Hale, amongst a crowd of colorful characters that featured Father Christmas, student ballerinas from SF Ballet's Nutcracker and Dickens characters in attire straight out of Victorian England.

Founded by Market Street Association in 2008, the Snowflakes on Market Street program always has had a strong Public Works connection. In fact, it was Nuru's visit to a lighting factory in China many years ago that sparked the idea of brightening up Market Street during the holidays.

"Prior to this, all of the attention was on Union Square, but Market Street was always dark," said Carolyn Diamond, the

executive director of the Market Street Association. "It was a good way to bring attention to Market Street – it gives a bit of a festive spirit."

The shape of the lights was an obvious one for Nuru. "Because we don't get snow in San Francisco during the holidays," he recalled, "I thought: Let's bring snowflakes."

In the inaugural year, there were 94 snowflakes lining Market Street between Third and Fifth streets. Today, there are 324 energy-efficient LED snowflake lights hanging from the street's historic Path of Gold street light poles, with plans to ultimately stretch all the way to the Castro.

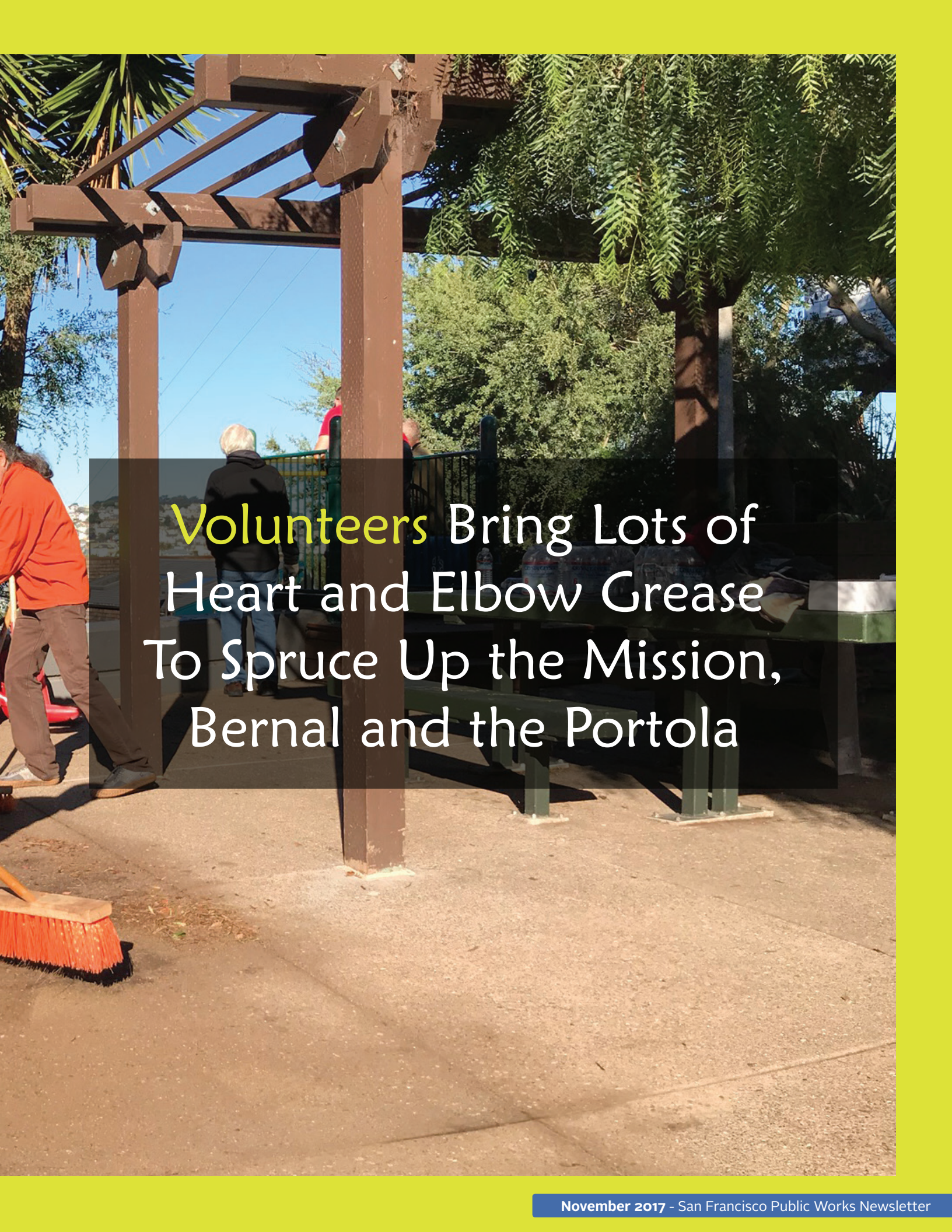
The lights are maintained by SFPUC, with more than a dozen generous sponsors, including Golden Gate Recology, the Union Square Business Improvement District, the Westfield San Francisco Centre and Ross Dress for Less. Public Works continues to lend a hand by decorating Hallidie Plaza for the holidays and giving the area an extra scrub down.





Volunteers get swept up in the fun at Esmeralda Slide Park.



A photograph of a park scene with a wooden pergola structure. Several people are visible, some working on the structure. A broom is on the ground in the foreground. The background shows trees and a clear sky.

Volunteers Bring Lots of Heart and Elbow Grease To Spruce Up the Mission, Bernal and the Portola



The landscaping at Esmeralda Slide Park in Bernal Heights gets some TLC from our Community Clean Team volunteers.





Students take part
in sprucing up
John O'Connell
High School.



The 2017 Community Clean Team season came to an end this month, with nearly 200 volunteers working hard on a bright and joyous Saturday morning.

Friends, families, community groups and students joined from across the City to help spruce up District 9 neighborhoods including the Mission, Bernal Heights and the Portola.

Among those who came out to support Public Works' largest and longest-running volunteer program were participants from Community Youth Center San Francisco,

Walgreens and students from John O'Connell High School – who generously hosted the morning's upbeat kickoff rally.

The Nov. 18 workday brought many neighborhood improvements to nearby schools, parks, commercial corridors and medians.

John O'Connell students stayed close by to cut back overgrown weeds, collect litter and paint over graffiti on and around their campus; while Bernal Heights residents teamed up to install decomposed granite and remove debris at their local neighborhood gem, Esmeralda

Slide Park. Other projects included clearing ivy along Alemany Boulevard, between Congdon and Stoneybrook streets, weeding tree basins on Harrison Street between 18th and 24th streets and planting and mulching the quaint street park situated at Goettingen and Dwight streets.

In true Community Clean Team fashion, our dedicated volunteers reconvened when their work was complete to enjoy a complimentary lunch provided by Subs Inc., a nearby deli located in Noe Valley.

[Learn more](#) about how you can help take care of San Francisco.

Building Identity

Irving Street at 22nd Avenue gets a new decorative gateway to cap off a Sunset District streetscape makeover.

