



Carpenter Gabe Llamas works on a vara surveying pole. See story inside.

in the works

September 2018





EVENTS



10/1 - 10/8

[San Francisco Fleet Week](#)

Fleet Week activities include an air show Oct. 5-7, ship tours, free concerts and more.



10/5 - 10/7

[Hardly Strictly Bluegrass](#)

The legendary three-day free music festival in Golden Gate Park features six stages and dozens of performers.

Golden Gate Park
Friday, Noon-7 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.



10/7

[2018 Commons Block Party on 1st Sundays](#)

This family-friendly event will feature recreational activities for all ages, a selection of bar and street food offerings curated by Off the Grid, music and promotional appearances by Bonneville San Francisco KOIT 96.5 FM, an open-air bazaar with one-of-a-kind goods created by local SF Etsy artisans, free DIY arts and crafts activities and more.

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Fulton and Larkin streets



10/27

[Community Clean Team in District 7](#)

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.

8:30 a.m. - Registration
9 a.m. - Speaking program
Lowell High School
1101 Eucalyptus Dr.



10/14

[Sunday Streets in the Excelsior](#)

Mission Street goes car-free from Silver Avenue to Geneva Avenue to close out the season with open space and free activities for the district's many families, kids, seniors and residents.

11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Mission St.
from Silver Ave. to Geneva Ave.



THANK YOU

Yesterday, my friend Kate and I were running along the Great Highway with my dog. Kate had to use the restroom as we approached Judah Street. We saw a gentleman, Donald Hughes, stationed in front of the restrooms and we started to chat. In addition to learning about the Pit Stop Program, which is pretty awesome, we thoroughly enjoyed our time with Mr. Hughes. He was a delight, professional and so dedicated to his job.

We wanted to let you all know what a wonderful ambassador Mr. Hughes is — for the City and for Hunters Point Family.

And, we hope the Pit Stop Program can continue to be expanded throughout the City.

Liz I.

I want to commend your staff member, Leo Alfaro, who came today to harvest my apple tree. When I first contacted him, he responded quickly and arrived on the agreed upon date and time. I



Pit Stop worker Donald Hughes with grateful patrons.

have a large tree and he worked diligently to finish the job. He is an excellent reflection on your department.

This is a very good program and I want to advocate for its continuance and letting the public know more widely about its existence.

Linda R.

San Francisco Public Works employees are doing a great job here on the 400 block of Tehama.

One gentleman I see goes so far as to sweep the litter out of the tree beds. I shouted “thank you” to him today from my apartment window.

Be sure to let the other workers know we appreciate all their hard work.

Brian W.

SFPUBLICWORKS.ORG





SOCIAL MEDIA

College Hill Neighbors
@CHNA_SF

Following

Replying to @CHNA_SF @SF311

@sfpublishworks This is what a community path should look like (just add a few people to enjoy it). Thank you for the Arlington Path clean-up!

8:51 AM - 6 Sep 2018

revivesf
Revive San Francisco

23 likes

revivesf Thank you everyone who came out to be part and clean up the city with us! And thank you @giantsweep and @sfpublishworks for putting... more

9 HOURS AGO

m.a.z.z.y_ Awesome!!! 🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌🙌

Fred Moyer
@phredmoyer

Following

Replying to @AustenAllred

My experience with @MrCleanSF and @sfpublishworks has been first rate though. Mobile app and usually a couple hours response time for issues.

2:15 PM - 26 Sep 2018

cleanmissionsf
Mission District, San Francisco

28 likes

cleanmissionsf The volunteers who show up to each event are the reason The Clean Mission has become what it is and had the impact it has had. But @sfpublishworks has been a huge help in providing supplies and giving logistical support to the initiative.

Big thanks for all the help they have given 🙌

ladiesoftheresistance
San Francisco, California

12 likes

ladiesoftheresistance Celebrating #goodgovernment and some of the hardest #workers @sfgov thank you @sfpublishworks

3 DAYS AGO

sevenstills

117 likes

sevenstills Thank you everyone who came out to help clean with our Beers for the Bayview crew, and of course for all of you who stayed to party... more

3 DAYS AGO

Fall

PREVENTION



Beware of:



obstructions
is your pathway clear?



cables
are they taped down?



lighting
can you see clearly?



uneven surfaces
is there a grade change?



improper reaching
do you need to reposition?

42,000+

workers are injured annually
due to fall accidents

1 in 5

falls results in head injury
or broken bones

falls account for

15%

of all accidental
deaths per year

Wear Proper Footwear:



Tied shoelaces
Non-slip shoes
Closed toe

did you know?
walking with your feet
pointed slightly outwards
helps with staying balanced?



Don't forget to check:



vision



mental health



hearing



cardiac health



bone density

PUBLIC WORKS



A TREEmendous Adventure



PUBLIC WORKS



SIGN UP



EPISODE 0039 - 9/21

A TREEmendous Adventure

In this new episode of Public Works TV, our host Miguel Hernandez joins our Bureau of Urban Forestry to prune trees and repair sidewalks. Come along for the adventure.



PUBLIC WORKS



[EPISODE 0038 - 9/14](#)

[#keepSFclean](#)

This week we're taking a look back at Love Our City, the citywide cleanup that Public Works hosted on Sept. 8, 2018. Hundreds of San Francisco residents and business owners joined Mayor London Breed and all 11 members of the Board of Supervisors as they grabbed a dust pan and broom and did their part to keep the City clean.



A Vara Important Part of

Inside the Bureau of Building Repair's carpentry shop where work on the vara poles took place.




of San Francisco History

A piece of San Francisco can be found in a 13-foot, 9-inch wooden pole. Lay five of them end to end, and you have the makings of a new city. ►



The wood on the 100-plus-year-old vara pole shows its wear.

- 
- ▶ The pole is known as a five-vara survey pole and was used after San Francisco was incorporated as a city in 1850 to lay out the streets east of Larkin and north of Market streets. A vara, equal to 33 1/3 inches, is a linear measurement with roots in Latin America. The public right of way on those early San Francisco streets – property line to property line – equaled 25 varas.

One of those old five-vara survey poles, from the late 1800s or early 1900s, remained in the City Surveyor's office at Public Works. It wasn't in great shape, with one end broken off, but fortunately it didn't end up in the trash heap. ▶





Carpenter Gabe Llamas works with fir in crafting the vara poles.



The old and the new.





City Surveyor Bruce Storrs, left, and carpenter Gabe Llamas, right, hold an old vara pole and a new one.



City Surveyor Bruce Storrs demonstrates how the tool is used.

► Instead, City Surveyor Bruce Storrs, who is passionate about the preservation of old measuring and map-making tools and keeps an impressive personal collection in his Market Street office, was intent on saving the vara pole. He reached out to our carpenters at the Bureau of Building Repair to see if they could make the needed repairs.

They took on the assignment with passion – and meticulous attention to detail. Not only did they repair the old pole, but they made two new ones based on the original design.

The vara pole is made of two long pieces of vertical grain fir that are connected at the ends but separated in the middle, with the top piece bowed to be used as a handle.

Repairing the old pole was the easier of the two tasks, though it still required scrupulous artistry to make the new wood closely match

the old in terms of fit and feel. Crafting the new ones took a bit of ingenuity and patience.

The carpenters fashioned a steaming machine out of PVC pipes and steam canisters to get the wood pliable. They fitted the inside of the pipes with a series of dowels to keep the wood from touching any water that would pool at the bottom of the pipe when laid horizontally. They placed the piece of wood atop the dowels inside the pipe and then pumped steam inside. They had to get the temperature just right – settling on 200 degrees – and the amount of time inside the steamer.

“It’s like baking a cake and finding the sweet spot for when it’s ready to come out of the oven,” said carpenter shop supervisor Jeffrey Soria.

It took a few tries to get the bowing just right.

Then, Gabe Llamas, the carpenter who took the lead on the project, got to work joining the two pieces of wood with dowels, screws and glue before sanding the surveying pole to perfection. He added brass and steel at the tips to hold small levels embedded at each end.

Storrs visited the light-filled carpentry shop at our Operations Yard in the Bayview earlier this month to see the finished vara poles. He was wowed. “The craftsmanship!” he marveled.

Not only were vara poles used to lay out the beginnings of San Francisco, but they were used to resurvey the City after the devastating Great Earthquake and Fire of 1906. They’re not in official use today in San Francisco; modern surveying tools are higher tech and much more precise. “But they did their job,” Storrs said. “And they’re a part of our history.” ■

Public Works' designers enjoy the re-envisioned barricades temporarily set up on Van Ness Avenue for Park(ing) Day 2018.



PARK(ing)



Day 2018

FRIDAY FOR PARKING

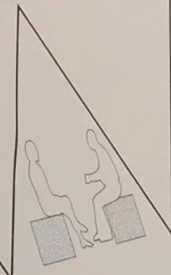
PARK(ING) DAY 2018

TRANSFORMING PARKING SPOTS INTO PUBLIC SPACES

AN INSTALLATION BY SF PUBLIC WORKS - BUILDING DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION



WISH



CHAT



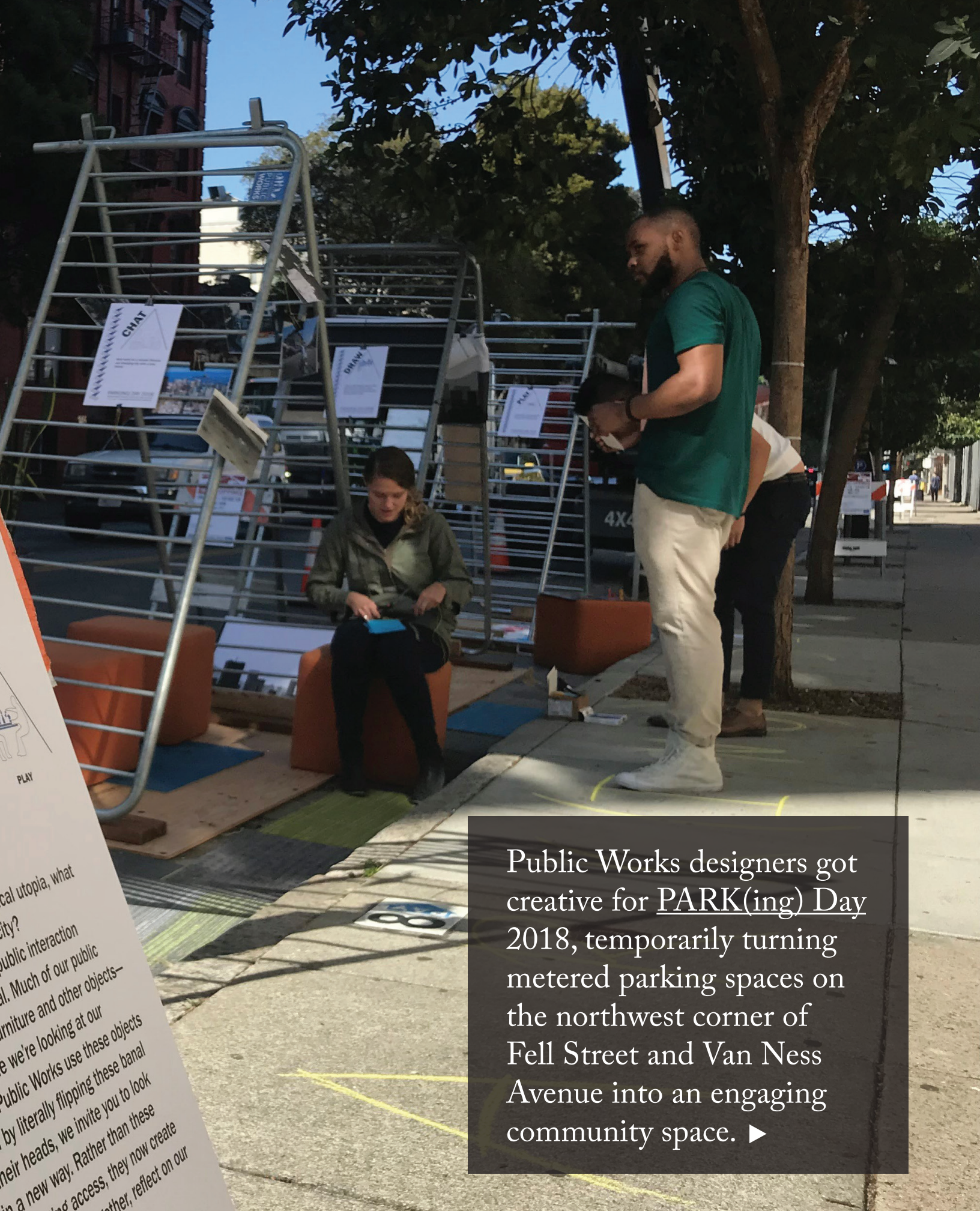
DRAW

ABOUT PARK(ING) DAY

PARK(ING) DAY BEGAN IN 2005 BY REBAR AND HAS SINCE BECOME A GLOBAL MOVEMENT. EVERY YEAR ON THE THIRD FRIDAY IN SEPTEMBER PEOPLE ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE OVER A METERED PARKING SPOT AND TRANSFORM IT INTO A PUBLIC SPACE FOR A DAY.

If the future is a technology happens to our physical realm—our street goes ignored while phones. We at everyday. And objects on the

WE?



PLAY

ical utopia, what
city?
public interaction
al. Much of our public
urniture and other objects—
e we're looking at our
Public Works use these objects
by literally flipping these banal
their heads, we invite you to look
in a new way. Rather than these
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rather, reflect on our

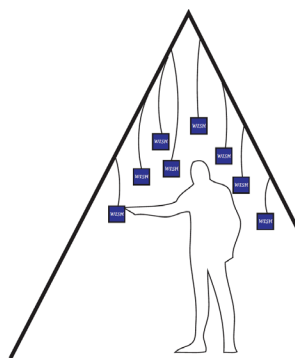
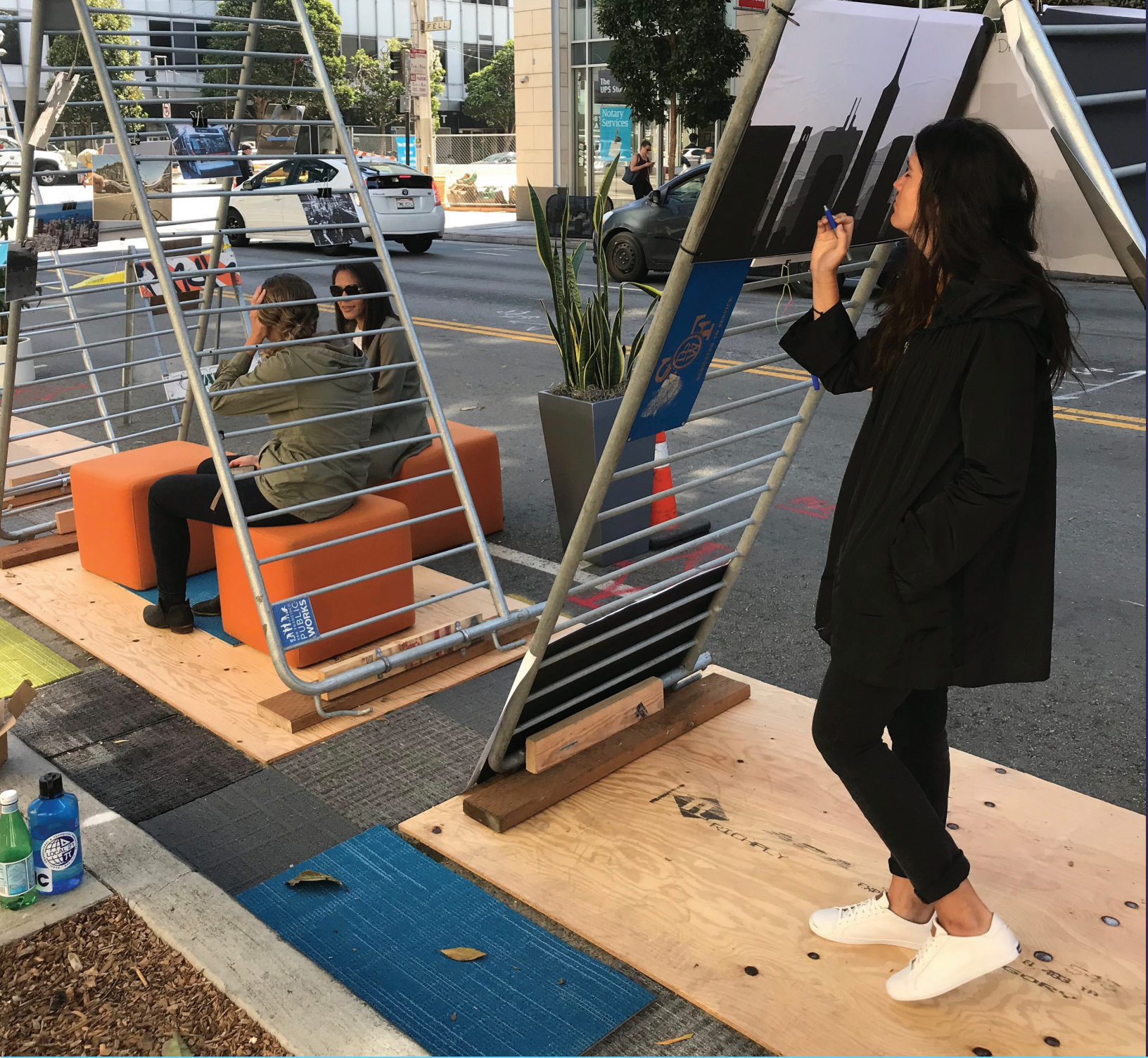
Public Works designers got creative for PARK(ing) Day 2018, temporarily turning metered parking spaces on the northwest corner of Fell Street and Van Ness Avenue into an engaging community space. ▶



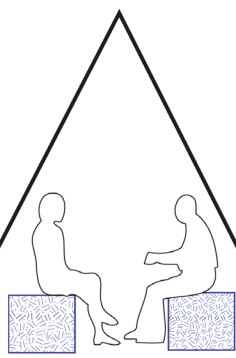
A passerby gets in the spirit of the makeshift structure.



Members of the public leave their written wishes on the Park(ing) Day display.



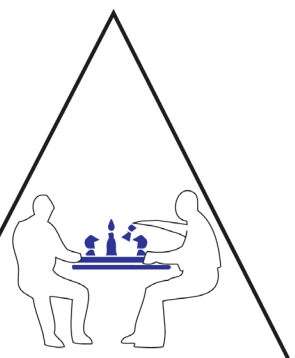
WISH



CHAT



DRAW



PLAY

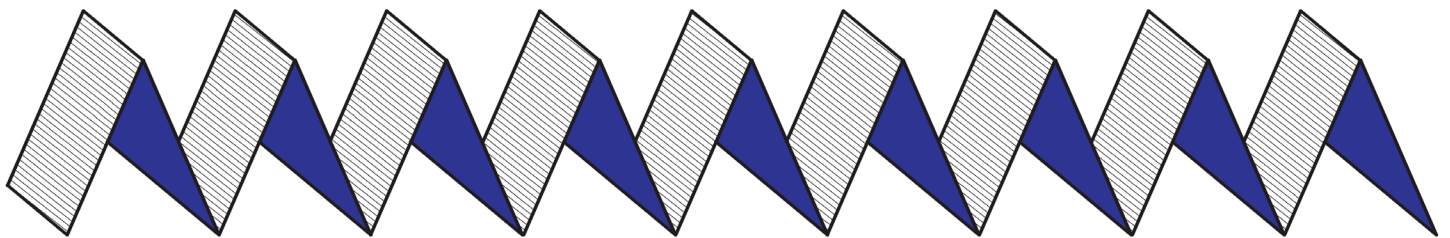


► There's just one of hundreds, if not thousands, of installations across the country. The annual PARK(ing) Day event takes place the third Friday of every September, and this year was held on Sept. 21.

The installation by the Public Works team used eight metal barricades – objects that we normally use to block streets or portions of sidewalks.

“We at Public Works use these objects every day. And by literally flipping these banal objects on their heads, we invite you to look at the City in a new way. Rather than these barricades restricting access, they now create a space for people to come together, reflect on our history and re-envision our future,” the organizers said in their design statement.

The barricades were arranged as four pyramids, side by side, each with a different purpose: wish, chat, draw and play. The converted parking space may have had a short life – roughly 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on that one day – but it left room for lingering consideration of possibility. ■



From left to right:
Rec and Park General
Manager Phil Ginsburg,
Doug Tom from
TEF Design, City
Administrator
Naomi Kelly, Airport
Director Ivar Satero and
Public Works Director
Mohammed Nuru enjoy
the Partnering Awards
celebration.

PARTNERING P



A photograph of two men in suits standing side-by-side. The man on the left has grey hair and is wearing a grey suit, a light blue shirt, and a purple patterned tie. He has a lanyard around his neck with a badge that says "STEERING COMMITTEE". The man on the right is wearing a dark blue cap with a logo, glasses, a dark grey pinstriped suit, a white shirt, and a red patterned tie. He has a badge on his lapel that says "SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC WORKS".

OWERHOUSES!

Four San Francisco Public Works projects were honored at the City's inaugural San Francisco Collaborative Partnering Awards ceremony on Sept. 25, 2018, including ►

The Zuckerberg SFGH Hybrid MRI/IR Project team won an honorable mention award.



Partnering is changing the way we do business. It's empowering safety, time saved and our return on investment for the mor



- ▶ the Central Shops Replacement Facilities project, which took home both a gold award and the best in class trophy for buildings.

Held at the historic Green Room of the War Memorial & Performing Arts Center, the event drew more than 200 attendees and honored teams from Public Works, SFMTA, SFPUC, San Francisco Recreation and Park Department, the Port of San Francisco and the San Francisco International Airport, as well as partners from several local construction, architecture and engineering firms.

City Administrator Naomi Kelly, who emceed the event, and Public Works Director Mohammed Nuru both championed the successes and measurable results of collaborative partnering – a structure that can lead to cost savings and a reduction in claims by uniting City and contractor project team members in a process that outlines measurable goals and strategies for problem-solving and issue resolution on construction projects.

“Partnering is changing the way we do business. It’s empowering to teams and its impact can be measured in many ways – safety, time saved and our return on investment for the money we invest in public projects,” Nuru said.

Public Works also received the silver award for the Potrero Avenue Roadway Improvement project; a bronze award for the South Van Ness Avenue Traffic Signal Upgrade; and honorable mention for the Zuckerberg SFGH Hybrid MRI/IR project. ■



Partnering to teams and its impact can be measured in many ways – safety, time saved and our return on investment for the money we invest in public projects. - Mohammed Nuru, Director



ATTENSOLUTION

The Forgo Solution

A photograph of a tree-planting event. In the foreground, a woman with a backpack and a red scarf is looking towards the camera. To her left, another woman in a baseball cap is smiling. In the background, several people are working around a large tree. A white truck is parked nearby. The scene is outdoors with a fence and a building in the distance.

Trees Combat Climate Change

On the eve of the Global Climate Action Summit that San Francisco hosted this month for visitors from across the world, volunteers planted 80 new trees to ►



Public Works joined local and national tree advocacy organizations and volunteers to plant 80 trees in the Tenderloin and South of Market, including this young tree on Hyde Street.





San Francisco has 125,000 street trees, which Public Works



Urban Forester Chris Buck, left, and arborist Gordon Matassa from the Department of the Environment show the potential lifetime environmental benefits of the newly-planted tree.

- ▶ beautify two central city neighborhoods and highlight the environmental benefits of a thriving urban forest.

Trees, through the natural process of photosynthesis, absorb carbon dioxide – a primary contributor of global warming – and release oxygen. They also improve air quality by removing pollutant particulates. A single mature tree can consume more than 40 pounds of carbon dioxide a year, keeping it out of the atmosphere.

Planting more trees not only beautifies our neighborhoods, but it also reduces greenhouse gas emissions and will help San Francisco reach its [climate goals](#). San Francisco has 125,000-plus street trees, which Public Works maintains under the voter-backed [StreetTreeSF](#) program, and the Recreation and Park Department has jurisdiction over another 131,000 in City parks.

Trees play a big role in combatting climate change –

the central theme of the [Global Climate Action Summit](#) held at Moscone Center Sept. 12-14, 2018. The summit aimed to unite people from around the world to celebrate and brainstorm ways that cities, states, companies, investors and individuals can protect the environment from global warming.

Planting trees in the Tenderloin and South of Market neighborhood on Sept. 11 was just one of many summit-affiliated events. Our Bureau of Urban Forestry crews worked with volunteers from Friends of the Urban Forest, the Tenderloin Community Benefit District and UC Hastings College of the Law to plant Brisbane box, London planetree and swamp myrtle and red maple street trees. ■



s maintains under the voter-backed [StreetTreeSF](#) program.



The Public Works Bureau of Urban Forestry now has care of San Francisco's [125,000-plus street trees](#), growing in neighborhoods across San Francisco. We have crews that maintain the trees, and others working in our cement shop who repairs sidewalks damaged by tree roots.

The entire operation is under [StreetTreeSF](#), the voter-backed program that sets aside \$19 million a year to ensure our urban forest thrives.

We dispatched Public Works TV host Miguel Hernandez to get a hands-on tutorial with the men and women who work for the Bureau of Urban Forestry. We call the episode "A Tremendous Adventure." Check it out.

A **T**remendous



us Adventure

Students from Children's Day School join Mayor London Breed to promote the Love Our City citywide cleanup.



Citywide Cleanup

LOVE Our City

GIANT SWEEP

September 8, 2018
9 a.m. - 12 noon

Join the team. Keep SF clean.

sfgiantsweep.org

@giantsweep | @sfpublicworks

PARTICIPATE BY PICKING UP LITTER AND SWEEPING THE SIDEWALK OUTSIDE YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS

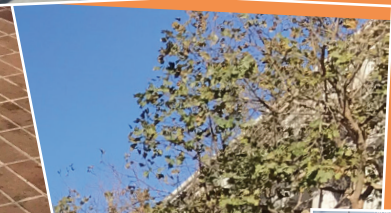
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The blossoming Love Our City campaign kicked off strong this month, with volunteers from across San Francisco pitching in to keep the City clean and ►

ty
KeepSFclean
KEEPING
NESS.
SFUSD

Teams from across the City participated in the Love Our City event on Sept. 8.











CITY HALL

Citywide Cleanup

LOVE Our City

September 8, 2018
9 a.m. - 12 noon



GIANTS SWEEP

Join the team. Keep SF clean.

sfgiantsweep.org

@giantsweep | @sfpublicworks

PARTICIPATE BY PICKING UP LITTER AND
THE SIDEWALK OUTSIDE YOUR HOME OR

Free language assistance: 1-800-999-9999. For more information, visit sfgiantsweep.org.
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A bride and groom got into the spirit of loving San Francisco on their way into City Hall to take their vows.



Young Wilder, age 2,
sweeps his block.



J. Fregosi & Son
Florist

NO PARKING
5 A.M. TO 5 P.M.
EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS



Volunteers sweep Mission Street in the Excelsior.




Supervisor Malia Cohen, center, and a cadre of volunteers filled a lot of bags with litter in the Bayview.







The Richmond District got some extra TLC during the citywide cleanup.



Firefighters from stations all over San Francisco showed up in force to Love Our City.





#keepitclean

PUBLIC WORKS



Collectively, they filled more than 1,110

► sparking renewed civic pride. Collectively, they filled more than 1,110 garbage bags with 8.2 tons of litter.

Now we need to keep the momentum going.

The citywide cleanup event on Sept. 8 brought out families, neighborhood groups and nonprofit organizations. Scores of workers from Public Works and other City departments also showed up on their own time.

In all, more than 500 registered participants gave their time, with hundreds more volunteering independently.

The goal of Love Our City is to create a public dynamic where everyone who lives and works in San Francisco helps take care of our neighborhoods.

Mayor London Breed and all 11 members of the Board of Supervisors participated in the

citywide cleanup and urged everybody to do their part.

Some folks spruced up their neighborhoods alongside people they already knew; while others met neighbors for the first time.

With 40 meetup sites, there was an easy opportunity to grab brooms, dustpans and orange garbage bags to get the job done. We saw volunteers on Eddy Street in the Tenderloin, Cortland Street in Bernal Heights, Grant Avenue in Chinatown, Noe Street in the Castro, Hyde Street in Russian Hill, Chenery Street in Glen Park, Third Street in the Bayview, Connecticut Street in Potrero Hill, Balboa Street in the Richmond, Market Street in Mid-Market, Webster Street in the Western Addition, Maple Street in Presidio Heights, Folsom Street in the Mission, Detroit Street in Sunnyside, Howard Street in the South of Market, Vicente Street in West

Portal, Waller Street in the Haight, Moscow Street in the Excelsior and many more. The list is long and impressive.

Love Our City didn't just stop on Sept. 8. We have a lot more planned, including focused cleanups involving schools, corporations and City agencies. We're also planning an extensive Love Our City holiday cleanup in Union Square and neighborhood commercial corridors. Details to come.

In the meantime, we have a lot of volunteer opportunities to keep San Francisco looking good. You can join the Adopt-A-Street or Graffiti Watch teams, or join us at our monthly Community Clean Team volunteer days. We cannot do the job without you! More information can be found at sfpublicworks.org. You also can email us at volunteer@sfdpw.org or by calling 415-641-2600. ■



o garbage bags with 8.2 tons of litter.

Volunteers pick up trash along the eastern shoreline for Community Clean Team's coastal cleanup.

Volunteers Make a Splash



A person wearing a black cap, a high-visibility orange safety vest over a dark long-sleeved shirt, and blue gloves is standing on a rocky, brush-covered shore. They are holding a white bucket and appear to be cleaning up. In the background, there is a large body of water with several large ships or barges. The sky is clear and blue with a few birds flying in the distance.

Work at Coastal Cleanup Day

More than 150 volunteers woke up bright and early to flex their civic pride and join us at this month's Community Clean Team workday in ►

A Port of San Francisco employee came out to volunteer at the Warm Water Cove cleanup.






Nick, age 3, works with his dad, Andras, to remove litter at the Warm Water Cove coastal park.



Coastal Cleanup is the world's largest volunteer event, with mo



A large crew spruced up the Innes Avenue median for Community Clean Team.

- ▶ the Bayview, Dogpatch, Visitacion Valley and other District 10 neighborhoods.

The Sept. 15 volunteer event kicked off at Warm Water Cove, a waterfront park located on the eastern end of 24th Street, and was co-hosted by Public Works, Supervisor Malia Cohen, the Port of San Francisco and the Recreation and Park Department. The event was part of the internationally celebrated [Coastal Cleanup](#) volunteer day.

Several teams of volunteers and City staffers ventured to the shoreline to do their part in keeping it clean. While teams stayed nearby to remove debris, pick up litter and trim back weeds at Warm Water Cove, others traveled deeper into the neighborhoods to paint over graffiti, spread mulch and landscape medians.

Hundreds of other volunteers participated in other coastal cleanup events. Coastal Cleanup is the world's largest volunteer event, with more than 70,000 people across the globe participating each year.

Thanks to all of these dedicated helpers, 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 18 years and makes a continuous effort to keep our shores clean all year long.

Community Clean Team will be back next month! Join us on Oct. 27 for some pre-Halloween cleaning in District 7 where we will beautify the City's Parkmerced, Oceanview, Ingleside and West Portal neighborhoods. We'll be kicking off at Lowell High School, located at 1101 Eucalyptus Dr.

As always, registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the speaking program begins at 9 a.m. For more information and to register, visit our volunteer page at sfpublishworks.org/volunteer. ■

re than 70,000 people across the globe participating each year.

Public Works paving crews spread fresh asphalt along Fillmore Street.



SMOOTH WORK ON FILLMORE STREET

The job was a bit challenging: Resurface four blocks along a busy stretch of Fillmore Street as quickly as possible to minimize disruption to the myriad restaurants, cafes, shops and entertainment venues that line the ►



This Street and Sewer Repair crew from Public Works worked on the Fillmore Street project.



Our crews began their work to repave Fillmore Street in the Fillmore District on September 1st.



- ▶ corridor and work with Muni to shut down the overhead electrical bus lines while work was underway.

The upshot: Construction proceeded smoothly!

Our crews began their work to repave Fillmore Street between Geary and Turk streets in the Fillmore District on Sept. 10 and wrapped up Sept. 21. In all, they laid down 385 tons of one-half-inch hot asphalt to make the street safer and smoother for people who drive, bike and walk.

Public Works collaborated with business owners to identify their specific needs. Since construction prohibited street parking, it was important for merchants to know they could still get their deliveries and pick-ups on time. We were able to provide specific delivery zones and parking access, which helped ease the burdens of restricted parking.

An additional two blocks of Fillmore Street, from Turk to McAllister streets, will be paved soon, pending the coordination of sewer replacement work planned for October. ■

**ore Street between Geary and Turk streets
t. 10 and wrapped up Sept. 21.**

A new bloom springs to life
bringing colorful joy to the
Inner Sunset.

