

Port Moving Forward To Fund New Cruise Terminal



FUTURE VIEW—The Port's rendering of its future Cruise Terminal at Pier 27.

By **JUNE A. OSTERBERG**

The Port's own project to convert Pier 27 to a new Cruise Terminal is the largest and one of the most significant projects the Port has undertaken with its own funding since the renovation of Pier 80 in the late 1980s, according to a Port staff statement.

The pace to accomplish this feat, after at least two decades of misfires, quickened in the second quarter.

The magnitude of the endeavor caused the Port to seek the expertise of the City's Dept. of Public Works and has retained DPW for the Program phases from Project Development through completion of Schematic Design.

THE DPW TEAM also will provide services for the design of the new two-acre Northeast Wharf Plaza, which will be between The Embarcadero Promenade and the Cruise Terminal, providing scenic public open space for those times when ships are not in berth.

Under the agreement with the Port, DPW will complete a Facility Program Statement, including:

- Conceptual site plans and floor plans
- Tidal current simulation study
- Determining space and design requirements for Terminal multi-use activities, such as special events
- Performing multi-discipline project review to achieve maximum energy efficiency and sustainability
- Estimated project budget
- Cost estimate

DPW also will prepare a cost estimate for Schematic Design leading to the environmental review process.

YES, EVERY step in the process of bringing a new state-of-the-art Cruise Terminal to San Francisco's northeastern waterfront will be subject to the approvals that every developer is required to acquire, among them EIR

(Continued on Page 5)

Exploratorium Clears EIR Hurdle

By **JUNE A. OSTERBERG**

The City Planning Commission on July 9 voted unanimously in favor of certification of The Exploratorium's Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the museum's project to move to Piers 15-17.

The Commission's finding that the DEIR is adequate was not shared by Exploratorium fans who have found areas of concern in the plans. One of them is that the proposed plan would require an amendment to the Special Area Plan, which is under the jurisdiction of BCDC (Bay Conservation and Development Commission).

ONE OF THE critics has been David Lewis, Executive Director of Save the Bay, whose July 15th letter to the BCDC made the point that "While the Plan did contemplate the possibility of future amendments, piecemeal changes to facilitate individual developments put at severe risk the public benefits that the Special Area Plan sought to ensure." The SAP was adopted in 2000.

Lewis was referring to the intent of

the project to remove portions of the existing asphalt deck ("Valley") between the two piers, which is at odds with the SAP.

THE PORT, as landowner of Piers 15 and 17, must join with The Exploratorium as co-applicant in the filing of application for BCDC Plan amendments.

Jennifer Clary, President of San Francisco Tomorrow, also wrote to the Planning Commission July 15th and expressed interest in SFT's participating in the discussion of possible amendments to the SAP, especially regarding matters of fill.

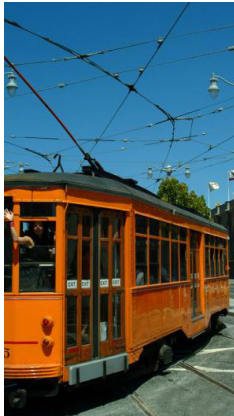
Vedica Puri, President of Telegraph Hill Dwellers, sent an email the morning of July 9 citing three concerns: (1) Why cannot the Project be changed to comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards? (2) The Responses in the C & R--Comments and Responses, which are part of the DEIR--fail to adequately address or describe proposed changes to Pier 17, and (3) Large expanses of glass comprising the Bridge

(Continued on Page 5)

F-Line To Add More Streetcars

Slowly but surely there will be more historic streetcars on the tracks of the popular Barbary Coast-area F-Line service.

The Municipal Transportation Agency last month approved an \$18 million expenditure for the rehabilitation of 16



more historic streetcars. Pennsylvania-based Brookville Equipment Corp. will fix up the streetcars during a five-year period, with the first refurbished vehicle hitting our tracks next summer, according to Muni.

The number of passengers on the F-Market/Wharves Line has doubled since 2000, from 10,000 to 20,000 daily boardings.

With the additional streetcars, Muni will have enough vehicles to run a new E-Embarcadero Line, which would take passengers from the Caltrain station at Fourth and King streets to Fisherman's Wharf. However the E service is not likely until 2011 or later.

Water Taxi Service Could Become A Reality in the Barbary Coast

When the developers of Piers 1 ½, 3 and 5 completed their restoration of the historic piers, they incorporated water taxi service infrastructure into their design. Those docks might now actually get some use.

The Port of San Francisco is completing a study on the viability of water-taxi service between AT&T Park and Fort Mason, with stops along the way at Pier 1 ½ and Fisherman's Wharf.

If the study gives a thumbs-up to the idea, water taxi service along the waterfront could begin as early as next summer, according to Port spokeswoman Renee Dunn Martin.

Report findings are tentatively scheduled to be presented at a Port Commission meeting in September.



CHIU SPEAKS AT BCNA—President of the Board of Supervisors David Chiu was the featured speaker at the BCNA's Annual Meeting of the Membership held in June.

BCNA Holds Annual Meeting, Elects New Board for 2009-10

For the first time in its history, the Barbary Coast Neighborhood Association had a contested election to decide the 11 individuals who would serve on the BCNA Board of Directors for 2009-2010.

There were initial plans to enlarge the size of the BCNA Board, but that could not be accomplished in time due to bylaw notification requirements. So the need to have an election came about only a day before the scheduled Annual Meeting of the membership. Over the course of the prior week, 15 different individuals had submitted their names as nominees to become Board members.

Prior to the presentation of the candidates, David Chiu, President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, spoke to the association, presenting his views on the City budget and other issues.

The candidates got to present their case for election in person at the Annual Meeting on June 4 and then dues-paying members in attendance could mark their ballots and vote.

The tricky bylaws require that the BCNA have ballots from one more than 50% of its members to elect a Board, and only 25 ballots were received at the meeting itself. To get more votes in, the Board mailed the ballots that had not been picked up at

the Annual Meeting to members who were not able to attend.

The deadline for voting was June 17 and the top 11 vote-getters were:

- Bill Sauro
- Felix Rodriguez
- Morton Beebe
- Carol Parlette
- Diana Taylor
- Frederick A. Allardyce III
- Lee Radner
- Bill Benkavitch
- Joseph Wyman
- Jonathan Middlebrook
- Linda Schwartz

Not elected were: Anthony Gantner; Connie Hazel; Mary Lou Licwinko; and Joseph Blue.

The Board then elected its officers for the coming year. Named to the executive positions were: President – Bill Sauro; 1st Vice President – Diana Taylor; 2nd Vice President – Jonathan Middlebrook; Recording Secretary – Bill Benkavitch; Treasurer – Carol Parlette.

Subsequent to the meeting, Board member Lee Radner resigned to spend more time pursuing his work as Chairman of FOGG. He was replaced by Mary Lou Licwinko.

Also Fred Allardyce resigned July 23. A replacement for his board position will be decided at the August BCNA Board of Directors Meeting.

June
Osterberg's

On The Waterfront

Basta! for battered old Broadway. Big-time help is on the way.

A coalition of outraged business owners and residents has been formed to rescue the beleaguered street from the violent invaders and restore Broadway's historic reputation as a place to go to eat and drink and have fun. Adult fun.

District 3 Supervisor **David Chiu** took the initiative in May. He contacted community players (including restaurateurs, many strip club owners, North Beach Merchants Assn., members of the Small Business Commission, Telegraph Hill Dwellers and North Beach Neighbors) to come together to deal with the young trouble-makers who have been making Broadway a scary place for several years.

A large Police presence had turned Broadway into an armed camp and yet had not discouraged the young thugs, most from out of town, from coming to the Broadway area to harass and assault law-abiding passersby, sell and score drugs, and create an unsavory atmosphere.

Other adolescents for whom danger and swaggering attacks on the unwary constitute entertainment have been coming to watch.

About 20 people answered the Supervisor's call to defensive action. They met at Enrico's and voted to establish a non profit organization to restore Broadway's long time luster.

It has been given a proper name-- Broadway Entertainment and Cultural Association--belying the fact that they mean business.

(It should be noted that an effort to organize a Community Benefit District last year was narrowly defeated.)

Security being the big issue, BECA quickly hired an experienced private security company to patrol and monitor activities on the street on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Think the kind of security people one would see at rock con-

certs. Dark clothes marked SECURITY, working closely with the Police officers, unarmed but carrying handcuffs and able to make citizen's arrests.

Their first night on the scene was July 23rd. They are on duty from 8:30 pm to 3:30 am. They are skilled in diplomacy.

BECA is not about gentrification or strong arm tactics or denying Broadway's wild past, but rather providing a safe scene, and in future, about beautification and otherwise offering a welcome to the pleasure-seekers and diners back to good-old, bad-old. lusty Broadway.

This attempt is reminiscent of a hundred years ago when the Barbary Coast, of which Broadway was a part, had become too seamy and steamy and the citizenry rose up and shut it down.

It would be gratifying for everyone, including the Police Dept., if there would be taxi stands where the big black police wagons have been parked.

BCNA

Port Commission President **Rodney Fong** is a man of many



Rodney Fong

hats. He was the president of the Fisherman's Wharf Community Benefit District when he came to the Port, and continues to head that organization. He is the president of the Wax Museum at the Wharf.

In July he was installed as chairman of the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Can anyone top this?

BCNA

We share the waterfront with world-famous Fisherman's Wharf, which continues to be the city's No. 1 tourist attraction. A very disturbing story has been developing there for years, one with huge implications for the entire West Coast and beyond.

It's about salmon and the second year in a row of canceled salmon fishing seasons.

Larry Collins, president of the Crab Boat Owners Assn., sounded the alarm at the July meeting of the Fisherman's Wharf Advisory Group ("FISHWAG"): This may be the last year for the fishing fleet at the Wharf.

He and his wife Barbara and fellow Crab Boat Owners have been crab and salmon fishing for many years.

The Collinses say that a terrible percentage of migrating salmon and of the smolts (baby salmon) die in the machinery of the Delta pumping station, which reverses the flow of the Sacramento River and pumps water to the California Viaduct to agriculture and to Southern California. Pollution is also blamed for killing fish, as well as fish politics.

The Crab Boat Owners are working on a video to be used to inform fish fanciers of the ongoing crisis.

BCNA

"We're pushing ahead" is the latest word from **Lee Radner**, chairman of FOGG and its spirited defense against the 8 Washington project (luxury condos and underground garage) which, if it is built, will reduce the Tennis and Swim Club facilities and open recreational space by more than 50 per cent.

He said that there would be more than three years of noisy and disruptive construction, nine tennis courts would become four, the two new pools would be on top of a roof, and all the outreach programs that the club offers would be eliminated. He invoked the old saying, "You can't get 10 pounds of potatoes into a 5 pound bag."

Embarcadero Workshops Held By SF Planning Department

Pushed along at the insistence of Board of Supervisors' President David Chiu, the San Francisco Planning Department has been holding Northeast Embarcadero Community Workshops regarding potential uses of the Port's so-called "Seawall Lots."

The Planning Department has decided to extend the length of the project, unveiling the product of their planning near the end of 2009, two months later than originally planned.

Although the Port has entered into exclusive negotiations with San Fran-

meeting, and it was held on June 30 in the KGO-TV building.

Attendance at the second workshop was good. The Planning Department presented an overview of their planning function and photos of the applicable areas along the Embarcadero. Then citizens got to say their piece regarding what they would like to see on the Seawall Lots.

LIKE EVERY other community forum that has been held in the past, residents of the Northeast Waterfront want the Seawall Lots to be used for open space and recreation, as opposed to condo development. The fact that San Francisco Waterfront Partners proposes to merge Seawall Lot 351 at Washington Street with the Golden Gateway Tennis and Swim Club also provoked plenty of comments from citizen participants.

Many also criticized the developer's plans to reduce the number of tennis courts and open-air recreation areas, and others went back in history to explain to the planners that the Tennis and Swim club was an integral part of the 20-block Embarcadero Center development which included the rights to build very dense, tall buildings by the Redevelopment Agency. Taking away this recreational component is contrary to logic and fairness, they added.

Next Planning Department Community Workshop

August 5, 2009 / 5:30-7:00 pm
At KGO-TV Meeting Room
900 Front St

cisco Waterfront Partners regarding a possible development at 8 Washington, Supervisor Chiu said he wanted all stakeholders to be a part of a new plan for the pieces of property along the Embarcadero that are primarily surface parking lots.

THE FIRST MEETING held by the planners was on May 27. Unfortunately, few residents of the Barbary Coast were notified of the meeting, including no notification to residents of the area's largest complex, The Gateway. So Planning officials decided to have a "re-do" of this

Barbary Coast Happy Hour Specials

In these tough economic times, more and more Barbary Coast-area restaurants are featuring "Happy Hour" specials on both food and beverages. (It's best to call ahead and make sure the specials are still offered.) Some that we've discovered:

5A5 Steak Lounge – 244 Jackson St. (415) 989-2539 5-7:30pm. (Fridays start at 3pm) \$5 wines, cocktails, beers and appetizers, plus Daily \$2 bites.

Elephant & Castle – 425 Battery St. (415) 268-3900 4-7 pm. \$4 House Wines; \$3 Well Cocktails; \$5 food.

Embarcadero Wine Bar – Two Embarcadero

Center on Front Street side. (415) 391-0758 4-6 pm. \$5 wines, \$3 beers.

Market Bar – 1 Ferry Building (415) 434-1100 4-7:30 pm. Wines for \$6.50. Snacks for \$4.

One Market – 1 Market Street St. (415) 777-5577 4:30-7 pm. \$4 Beers. \$5.50 wines.

Palio D' Asti – 640 Sacramento St. (415) 395-9800 5-7 pm. Free pizza of your choice with 2 drinks.

Tommy Toy's Haute Cuisine – 655 Montgomery St. (415) 397-4888 5-7 pm. \$5 drinks.

Zinnia – 500 Jackson St. (415) 956-7300 5-7 pm. ½ price wines and beer.

RESTAURANT ROUNDUP

Several new restaurants have opened up in the Barbary Coast! They include:

5A5 Steak Lounge – 244 Jackson St. – (415) 989-2539. A nice blend of cool bar vibe and excellent food, including Japanese Wagyu Steak sold by the ounce. **Of particular interest to BCNA members and neighbors, 5A5 is offering a special Prix Fixe 4-course dinner on Monday evenings for \$35, including a Champagne toast. You choose from two salads, three entrees, three side dishes and also get dessert. You must ask for the "Barbary Coast Special" to receive this price.**

Wexler's – 568 Sacramento St. – (415) 983-0102. Housed in the tiny former Les Amis space, the owners have turned this spot into an ultra-cool stainless-modern environment, with very interesting non-traditional "BBQ" fare. Small plates with reasonable prices with a pulsating bar scene. Lunch and dinners.

The Plant Café Organic – Pier 3 – (415) 984-1973. The newest restaurant at the remodeled Piers 1 ½, 3 and 5, this attractive location features a huge menu of organic (not necessarily vegetarian) options. The second location of the original in the Marina, the Barbary Coast outlet has a large space with several venues tucked into the historic pier building. Breakfast, lunch and dinners.

Trademark – 56 Belden Place – (415) 397-8800. An "American Grill and Bar" in the former vodka bar location on Ubbere-European Belden Place. Sounds like a good option, when you have Spanish, Italian, French, Seafood all on the alley there.

Cane Rosso – 1 Ferry Plaza – (415) 391-7599. A joint effort between Coi Restaurant owner Daniel Patterson, Coi Chef Lauren Kiino and Doug Borkowski. They feature pasture-raised meats on a rotisserie, local ingredients and lots of vegetables. Open for breakfast, lunch and early dinner.

NOT QUITE SO RECENT BUT NOTEWORTHY:

Taverna Aventine – 582 Washington St. – (415) 981-1500. Primarily a lunch venue, this cool, youthful bar-restaurant has an excellent happy hour snack and drink menu, plus full lunch service.

Perry's Embarcadero – 155 Stuart St. – (415) 495-6500. Walk inside and be transported to Union Street! Same menu, vibe and value as the original Cow Hollow location, but this time with a view.

Port Moving Forward With Cruise Terminal

(Continued from Page 1)

(Environmental Impact Report) and CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act).

AS IN EVERY other enterprise, the key factor is funding. The Port has \$20 million from the sale of condos in its Watermark property on the waterfront located well south of the Ferry Building. Another \$22 million for the extensive project will come from sales of revenue bonds, not yet issued.

Tina Olson, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration, said that the first series of revenue bonds for the first phase of design and planning will be issued in October or November and that another series will be issued when the project is going toward construction.

The Port's two existing facilities--old Pier 35 and Pier 27 with its long berth--proved that 10 unexpected additional calls (owing to closing of Mexican ports on account of the H1N1 flu scare) could be successfully accommodated on short notice. It also was a pleasure for Bay watchers to see all that ship activity, which bodes well for the period until the new Cruise Terminal is completed, projected to be 2014.

President's Perspective

(Continued from Page 6)

Residents and workers in the BCNA have long sought more recreation and open space in our area. It would be a shame to have planners push through existing plans for a ridiculously large condo development on the property at 8 Washington, and even sadder if condos crop up on every available piece of property that the Port inherited for free from the State.

THE PORT is in line for stimulus funds from Washington. It does not need to try to balance its budget with ill-conceived development that will hurt our City forever.

City Planners: go online and see what Vancouver, Chicago and Barcelona have done with their waterfront land. We should be able to create an equally spectacular plan for ours.

But gutting one of the few remaining City tennis and swim clubs is not an outcome that is fair or sensible.



SIZE MATTERS--Royal Caribbean Lines' Mariner of the Seas at 1,020' long recently became the largest ship ever to be berthed at Pier 35. Mexico's H1N1 flu misfortune was a bonanza for the Port and the city in May and June as 10 cruise ships were tied up briefly at the Port of San Francisco instead of calling at Mexican resort ports. The ability of old Pier 35 and of Pier 27 to handle the diverted cruise ships creditably may have favorable implications for the Port's future, according to Michael Nerney, Maritime Market Manager for the Port.

Exploratorium Clears EIR Hurdle

(Continued from Page 1)

Building could have an adverse effect on birds.

Viktoria Wise, EIR Coordinator for the Planning Dept., said in her presentation to the Planning Commission that the planners believed that those issues had been addressed prior to the certification.

MEANWHILE, two other weighty matters may be before the Port Commission on August 11. One would be for a request to adopt the required CEQA (California Environmental

Quality Act) findings in connection with the lease, development and historic rehabilitation of Piers 15 and 17 by The Exploratorium.

THE OTHER would request approval of the Lease Disposition and Development Agreement, Lease and Parking Agreement, with the museum and also approval of the Tripartite Agreement with Baydelta Maritime, Inc. for relocation of Baydelta's operations from Pier 15 to Pier 17.

Baydelta is the tug and towboat operation that has been operating at Pier 15 for many years.

RENEW YOUR DUES-PAYING MEMBERSHIP IN THE BARBARY COAST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

ON-LINE

We need your support to continue our preservation of the place we call home.

- Communications and Newsletters Sent via USPS or Email
- Invitations to Social Events and Meetings
- Participation in Our Online Surveys and Polls
- Vote in All Elections

It's easy and fast. Just visit

WWW.BARBARYNEIGHBORS.ORG

President's Perspective By Bill Sauro

I'm often asked whether the BCNA has the same mission as Friends of Golden Gate Tennis & Swim Club (FOGG) regarding the possible development at 8 Washington.

We have a great deal in common, but we are not a clone of FOGG.

THE BCNA will vigorously fight inappropriate development (particularly huge towers right on the sidewalk of the Embarcadero), any loss of open recreational components in our neighborhood and plans that would hopelessly increase traffic.

I understand FOGG's position advocating keeping the Club exactly as it is, and their legal tactics to accomplish that goal.

However the BCNA represents residents and businesses from Bay Street to Clay. Some members believe development of some kind on the Seawall Lots might be appropriate. Others want to see innovative new ideas like elevated public parks atop badly-needed parking facilities on these land parcels. Other BCNA members advocate a rezoning of the Club land via ballot initiative, keeping it a recreational facility in perpetuity.

THE POINT is that the BCNA wants to be a part of the process of

planning along the Embarcadero, including opening a dialog with potential developers.

It's a very slight but important difference in approach. But we—like FOGG—want to maintain our quality of life in the Barbary Coast and all that entails.

* * *

I want to personally thank two Board members who are moving on. **Lee Radner** and **Fred Allardyce**, who have been on our Board of Directors since its inception, have resigned. Their energies and experience will be missed.

* * *

Back to the Seawall Lots... by the end of the year, the San Francisco Planning Department should have a blueprint of what they believe constitutes logical development on these land parcels along the Embarcadero that currently are used for parking between Market and Bay Streets.

HERE'S hoping the over-worked planners (due to budget cuts) have the time and creativity to do something truly special with this once-in-a-200-year opportunity for quality urban design.

(Continued on Page 5)



A PUBLICATION OF
THE BARBARY COAST NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

WRITTEN BY JUNE A. OSTERBERG

www.BarbaryNeighbors.org

For the Latest Neighborhood News:
www.theBarbaryCoastNews.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
BILL SAURO
RESIDENT, THE COMMONS

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
DIANA TAYLOR
RESIDENT, THE COMMONS

2ND VICE PRESIDENT
JONATHAN MIDDLEBROOK
RESIDENT, THE COMMONS

TREASURER
CAROL HOLLAND PARLETTE
RESIDENT, THE COMMONS

SECRETARY
BILL BENKAVITCH
RESIDENT, GG APARTMENTS

BOARD MEMBERS

MORTON BEEBE
MARY LOU LICWINKO
FELIX RODRIGUEZ
LINDA SCHWARTZ
JOSEPH WYMAN



THE BARBARY COAST
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

640 DAVIS ST / # 28
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111