The HAYES VALLEY Voice

Volume 07/Issue 01

A Publication of The Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association | HVNA

Jan-Feb 2007

Consistency Makes it Happen

By Richard Johnson

hy wait for change when you can be a catalyst for change? This phrase is an appropriate way to sum up the core mission of the Hayes Valley Community Partners (HVCP). We use community policing as the vehicle to achieve our mission to foster a safe and caring community for all. I have seen first hand, as the co-founder of the HVCP, what a dedicated and diverse group of individuals can achieve if their hearts and minds are into the task at hand. With little funding and lots of elbow grease, the HVCP, of which HVNA is a founding partner, just finished their 5th Annual Fostering a Safe and Caring Holiday Season. Our first season in 2002 was a month of holiday events in December. Since then we have expanded the season to include Halloween and Thanksgiving events.

Some of the highlights of the 2006 Season were:

- 3rd Annual Halloween Poster Contest; and for the first year a Haunted House sponsored by the California Public Utilities Commission for school children at John Muir Elementary.
- Safe Halloween activities for children, youth and adults to participate in at four sites in Hayes Valley.
- 2nd Annual Giving Voice to the Season Thanksgiving Dinner and talent show at Valley Christian Fellowship Church.
- 16th Annual Hayes Valley Merchants Holiday Celebration and 2nd Annual Community sing–along in the new Patricia's Green in Hayes Valley.
- 4th Annual Wreath and Card making event, hosted by Koshland Community Garden, which had children, youth and adults coming together to make over 250 cards and 30 wreaths for families and community members of the Western Addition.
- 5th Annual Toy giveaway to over 200 children in Hayes Valley North and South, Ammel Park, Friendship Village housing sites and youth at the Hayes Valley Playground.

- 5th Annual food box giveaway to 250 families in several housing sites throughout the Western Addition.
- 5th Annual Community Luncheon for over 100 community members at the old John's Hayes Market.



Cherryl Abdullah and her nieces Bernice, Sophia and Breanna Scott show off the wreaths and cards they made at the annual Fostering a Safe and Caring Holiday Season event.

We hear so much about community policing from the Mayor, our elected officials and police commission in the papers, but to me this series of events is a classic example of community policing. The beauty of it is that the vision came from the community, but its essence is that it combines the resources of the SFPD, both elected and salaried city officials, business community, community groups, non-profits, faith-based groups, neighborhood groups, housing board members and community volunteers to achieve the goal of fostering a safe and caring community for all.

The Partners have taken the lead and will continue to advocate ending the cycle of crime and violence in our community. Our mission is to create equal opportunity for all and this is accomplished by putting money and resources into housing, education and job creation. So be on the lookout for upcoming HVCP events, either in the Voice or at the HVNA website, and make a point to attend one. Who knows, you might want to become a partner working to assure a safe and caring community for all.

President's Column

By Paul Olsen



ne reason I live in Hayes Valley is that you can walk almost anywhere. After years of lobbying by friends, I recently got a rescue dog. Now I'm *really* walking! There are many benefits to having a dog, and walking is the one I'd like to expound on in this column. The difference in walking the dog, as opposed to walking to the market or to some of the many meetings we have in the 'hood, is that one will often take a different route and very likely spend different amounts of time in different places throughout the neighborhood.

Our Parks

It's been a terrific learning experience these past two months. I thought I knew our parks very well, having spent many hours joining the Hayes Valley Neighborhood Parks Group on workdays making improvements. When the dog is pulling me along, I see things differently than I do on a Saturday workday or when passing by the park. I have been surprised by the number of "landmines" that other dog owners have left scattered behind - I never leave the house without at least one bag, just in case. I have also been surprised at how well some of our plantings are doing, and gratified at seeing so many people using our parks. I make it a point to walk through Patricia's Green and along Hayes Street several times a day. The vibrancy of that area is a stark contrast to its former incarnation, and wonderful to see. Congratulations to Barbara Wenger and all those who help with the parks. We all share in the fruits of their labors.

Market/Octavia Plan

Another huge benefit these walks have brought to me is coming into contact with such a large

Continued on page 2

Get Involved!

Black History Month is February



or the fourth year, we will be celebrating Black History Month by Gathering our Youth Through Positive Beginnings. Last year's event brought close to 200 neighbors to John Muir Elementary for a wonderful afternoon. Plans are in the works to do it again this year, once again utilizing John Muir School. The event will feature historical skits performed by our youth, and there are still some roles available. Contact Ms Ruby at 552-4964 for more information.

The Queen of Sheba (Asha Hannah) and her Court at last year's event.

Some of the skits expected to be performed include historical figures such as Rosa Parks and Harriet Tubman, the March on Washington and the legendary Queen of Sheba. This is an event that allows many of our youth to participate and perform, while learning more about the positive history that is our heritage. Parents and friends also learn while showing support for the youth's involvement. Ruby Johnson and the Western Addition Drill Team/Drum Corps, along with other Hayes Valley Community Partners, will be sponsoring the event. Please mark your calendars to come, and encourage your young ones to participate.

From President's Column, page 1

number of neighbors I would otherwise not see nearly as often. I have been amazed at the number of people who have introduced themselves to me as a neighbor, and those who have recognized me as President of HVNA from that terrible picture on the front page. Based on the many earnest comments I have heard, we truly have a wonderful and engaged community. Many have asked when the Market/ Octavia Plan will be finalized so that the work that so many have done over seven years can be realized. Others are concerned at the impact changes in the plan area may have on their immediate vicinity. I have urged each of them to participate in the process to influence the best possible outcome. Seven years of meetings, hearings, neighborhood tours and more have crafted a plan far better than the bewildering hodge-podge of regulations that currently exist. There is a balance to many different aspects of the Plan. That isn't to say that change will be easy for everyone. Again, I urge you to advocate for a plan that will best serve the area, and the City, and welcome your involvement in making sure the Market Octavia Plan is the best possible guide to any future development in the area. Change will occur. Change that is well planned and understood will have positive impacts.

Traffic Issues

I suspect that on a daily basis I walk more through the neighborhood than most anyone, whether it's with the dog, on the way to a meeting, or racing to catch the Metro. As a result, I have become even more aware of the traffic that affects our area. I can talk about the

Cadillac that ran the red light on the eastern local access lane at Octavia and Oak, and then again at Octavia and Fell yesterday, or the Audi that rolled through the stop sign at Page and Buchanan the day before. Or the woman who came within inches of hitting me at Octavia and Oak, and whose response to my asking if she understood the purpose of the blinking red light was "yeah, yeah" before speeding on. I can also mention the 3 cyclists speeding down Page St ignoring the stop signs, almost hitting me and the dog. Each of them was very apologetic, but traveling in an unsafe manner. I have heard a great deal from residents about the traffic on Oak St as well as along Octavia Blvd and the surrounding streets. We have worked with the Transportation Authority and Supervisor Mirkarimi on these issues, and have been informed changes are due on Oak St very soon. (We passed a resolution in November 2005, at a meeting both attended, so our patience is exhausted.) The Supervisor's office is working with the TA to try and resolve issues along Octavia Blvd, and hopefully we will see some action taken there in a much more timely manner.

Public Safety

Violent crime is down in our area, although it certainly still exists. Your involvement, and everyone's efforts in using our streets, parks, recreation facilities, churches, schools, businesses, etc is what activates the streets and makes them safer. The more people out walking their dogs, chatting with neighbors, walking to the market, using the parks, taking their kids to the playground, the fewer people who will just hang around the area or people from other areas who will take advantage of

a too quiet street. Most crimes in the area are crimes of opportunity. Leaving your MP3 player on a café table while you go inside for a re-fill, leaving Christmas gifts on the seat of your car while visiting a friend, walking alone down a quiet street at night talking on the cell phone, all of these actions, and those like them, invite crimes of opportunity. Be aware of your surroundings, and use your awareness to make the area safer.

It's the People

It's not the architecture, the shops, the parks that make up a neighborhood, it's the people. We are so fortunate to have a diverse neighborhood in many ways, and the diversity of our neighbors is where we are most fortunate. Like many, I spend a great deal of time on community business. There are so many others who do the same and make life better for me, and all of us. In very special ways, there are people who have made a profound difference in my life this past year, and I would like to acknowledge a few of them in this column. They are often behind the scenes, but I'd like to give them some well-deserved recognition. Frances Neagley, Richard Johnson, Marie McCallum, Jim Warshell, Gail Baugh, Jamie Lopez, Karen Parry, Kassim Visram, Suzy Loftus, Michael Patton, Madeline Behrens-Brigham, Lee Walkup, Ruby Johnson, Jason Henderson and Vallie Brown are among those who make this area special. If you don't know who some of these people are, there are lots of opportunities to see them at meetings, at the school, in the parks, at social occasions in the 'hood. They give of their time, their ideas and their energy, and we are all the better for it.

Who's in the 'Hood

By Frances Neagley

Quite often in the HVNA *Voice*, we highlight places or people in the neighborhood. In this issue we look at a group of people who have made a difference to our community and interview one of them in particular, Officer Jeff Sung of the San Francisco Police Department.

Voice: What is your position at Northern Station, and how long have you been a member of the SFPD?

Officer Sung: I am Captain Dillon's community liaison officer. I'm a native of San Francisco and have been a police officer for 16 years, the past five years at Northern Station. As a foot beat officer, I cover the 400–500 blocks of Hayes Street, the 300–500 blocks of Haight Street and the area around Church and Duboce Streets. I am also the code enforcement officer at the Northern Station.

Voice: We see you and Captain Dillon at a lot of neighborhood events. How would you describe the relationship of Northern Station to the community?

Officer Sung: Captain Dillon of the SFPD Northern Police Station has committed himself and his officers to be a visible and responsive part of the Hayes Valley neighborhood. Northern Station covers a broad section of the City, from Steiner Street to Market Street to the Marina Green to Larkin Street. The people in Hayes Valley have worked hard to have a good relationship with us, inviting us to be partners in the community. The Captain feels strongly that we are a part of the community, and working together we can accomplish a great deal. He encourages personal and professional involvement in the community.

Voice: How does that translate to you? We see you often in the area. What types of involvement do you have in the community?

Officer Sung: In addition to my other police duties, I attend the HVNA general meetings, the HVNA Public Safety Committee meetings and the Hayes Valley Community Partners meetings. I also participate in their programs throughout the year.

Voice: How would you characterize that participation? What are some of the specific things that you do?

Officer Sung: One of my most important functions as liaison officer is to make sure there is good communication between neighborhood groups and Captain Dillon. He was able to authorize the use of an SFPD truck, for instance, to pick up the hundreds of turkeys and hams that were part of the food baskets put together by Hayes Valley Community Partners. We were also able to have officers use the truck to deliver the food baskets to the recipients. On a personal basis, because of my involvement with both groups, the HVCP received a sizeable donation for their Fostering a Safe and Caring program from the Asian-American Police Officers Association.

Voice: You said earlier you have been working out of Northern for 5 years. Are things different now than when you started there?

Officer Sung: I really enjoy my involvement. I've witnessed a lot of changes that have come about because of the increase in community involvement and responsibility. I know and am known by many people in Hayes Valley, a lot of them on a first-name basis. I feel a lot of pride in the improvements that continue in Hayes Valley. Being able to work on a personal basis with so many caring people is a gift. Not all neighborhoods are like this one. I am able to work with people from throughout the community who really want to make a difference, and who step up and do more than just talk.

Voice: Any final thoughts?

Officer Sung: I look forward to continuing to work with you. Violent crimes in the area have decreased and we now have new foot beat officers around the clock. We have a strong partnership between Northern Station and Hayes Valley. The successes that we've had in this area are because of the involvement, leadership and commitment of Captain Dillon. He sets the tone for all of us.



Officer Sung preparing food baskets with HVNA Board members (left to right) Frances Neagley, Richard Johnson, Paul Olsen and Jim Warshell

Bikes for Tykes

■ Not really. They were full sized bicycles, 20 of them, each equipped with a lock and a helmet, and they were donated to the Fire Department's Toys for Tots campaign as part of the Merchants' Block Party on December 1st. On an evening that had revelers going from shop to shop to see what was new for the season, Gary McLain of Marlena's once again engineered a donation for the kids. Part of Fostering a Safe and Caring Holiday Season was the 2nd annual Sing-Along at Patricia's Green in Hayes Valley,

held in conjunction with the Block Party. There was caroling from kids from throughout the neighborhood, as well as hot chocolate, cookies and other goodies set up by the Hayes Valley Community Partners. There were also information tables about local issues, including one on emergency services from NERT. This is particularly appropriate, because Patricia's Green is one of the designated meeting places in case of emergency.

Also participating in the event again this year was the Fire Department, with donation bins

on the Green and a truck on Hayes Street. They were *thrilled* to have such a large, and meaningful, donation, even if it did fill up the truck! The donation was made possible by Marlena's, and Gary credited Kathy Lambert for her efforts on behalf of the SFFD Toys for Tots. Thank you's go out to Costco, Blow Buddies, Friends of Marlena's, and the Reigning Emperor and Empress of San Francisco. And, once again, to Gary McLain for continuing his annual donation on behalf of our youngsters.

Upcoming HVNA Meetings Thursdays, 7pm Jan 25 • Feb 22

Third Fridays at City Hall

Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi continues his monthly art shows with a focus on active members of the Hayes Valley community. Please attend these functions sponsored by Supervisor Mirkarimi. If you can't attend the openings, stop by Room 282 during office hours and view the art at your leisure.

Group show (Elder Art)

January 19-February 13, 2007

Opening reception:

Friday, January 19th at 5pm

Quilts made by the residents of Laguna Grove Care and Hayes Valley Care, feature elder art from the seniors residing at AgeSong facilities.

AgeSong has long been active in the neighborhood. Contact: Constance Hunt, 624 Laguna Street 94102, constance@agesong.com

Black History Month medium: textile

February 16–March 13, 2007 Works by Martin Grizzell

Textile and its myriad of uses and properties are fundamental to high culture. The manipulation of fibers into patterns and symbols have an indelible impact on thought, mood, and emotion. From ancient techniques to the avant garde, textile design plays a dynamic role in the personal and collective paradigm. In the new millennium, Artist Martin Grizzell projects a fresh, touchable perspective.

Martin has exhibited his work in such places as the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C, Lincoln Center, New York, Crawlspace Gallery and the Ministry of Culture of the Netherlands, the Majestic Hotel, Cannes, France. He has also lectured at the New York Public Library, Nice Jazz Festival, France, Kansas State University and Mills College, Oakland.

Martin Grizzell is a member of Hayes Valley Community Partners Contact: Martingrizzell@ yahoo.com or c/o Prince Hall Computer Learning Center, 1040 Fillmore Street

Holiday Luncheon

By Frances Neagley

he Hayes Valley Community Partners "Fostering a Safe and Caring Community" holiday season community luncheon was held on Saturday, December 23rd, at the old site of John's Market on Hayes Street at Laguna. This year's event was dedicated to the memory of Patricia Walkup. It was a festive occasion attended by a broad cross-section of the community, including Captain Dillon and other police officers from the Northern Station, Regina Dick-Endrizzi from Ross Mirkarimi's office, and of course, lots of kids. Camille Dawkins, from the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services, made her first official duty in that office a visit to the neighborhood to participate.



HVNA Board member Horus Tolson serves up food & laughter at the Annual Fostering Holiday Luncheon.

Richard Johnson and his crew came in early and transformed the empty market space into a festive setting with lights and greenery. Thomas Joubert brought toys and inflatable musical instruments for decorations and as party favors.

The food was prepared by Catering for Two or More and there was turkey, ham, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetables, bread, salad, fruit and cookies. Sheryl Davis, Alisha Eisert, Frances Neagley, Thomas Joubert and Horus Tolson served up the meals.

Many groups and individuals were involved in making the 2006 Holiday season a great success, including Richard Johnson, Vallie Brown, DelMonte Foods, AgeSong, McCormack-Barron Management, Shute, Mihaly and Weinberger, LLP; SF Federal Credit Union; First Baptist Church; SF Zen Center; Captain Dillon and the officers of Northern Station; Officers Jeff Sung, Ron Liberta and Antron Barron; SF Police Officers Association; Market Street Safeway. We appreciate all their efforts.

Everyone who attended got a raffle ticket for special surprise bags that Thomas also brought from Le Meridien Hotel. Lt. Tom Johnson from Northern Station, assisted by Richard and Regina, drew the tickets and handed out the bags. In addition, all attendees received books donated by the San Francisco School Volunteers.

Miss Ruby and the Western Addition Drill Team closed the program with a rousing routine. Everyone left with presents, happy stomachs and smiles on their faces.

Board Elections

It's that time of the year again – we need to elect new Board members for the organization. The nomination committee has been formed and they are looking for interested candidates for the open positions –president, vice-president, treasurer, corresponding secretary, recording secretary, membership secretary and other at-large Board members. We have a very diverse neighborhood and want to have an

equally diverse Board. Most positions require enthusiasm but not a lot of time. This is an opportunity to do something in your community and work with your neighbors in improving what is already a great area.

If you are interested, leave a message on the HVNA voice mail (415-263-3996) or send an e-mail to nominations@hayesvalleysf.org and someone from the committee will contact you.

African American Read-In Coming Soon!

By Frances Neagley

Who: We need over 100 volunteers who can give one hour of

their time

What: Celebrate the work of African American authors

and illustrators

Where: In classrooms in our public schools

When: Monday, February 5, 2007 in the morning (times will vary

depending on school)

Why: To inspire our young people to love reading and art

All volunteers will be required to attend a 45 minute training session at the San Francisco School Volunteer offices. Please register by Jan. 19, 2007 by e-mailing volunteer@sfsv.org or calling 415.749.3700 x.3002. The training sessions will be:

Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2007 - 5:30 or 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 25, 2007 - 5:30 or 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2007 - 5:30 or 6:30 p.m.

Thank you for your support! If you find you can help and the deadline has passed, call anyway. If there is space available in a training session, we'll get you in.

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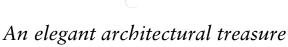
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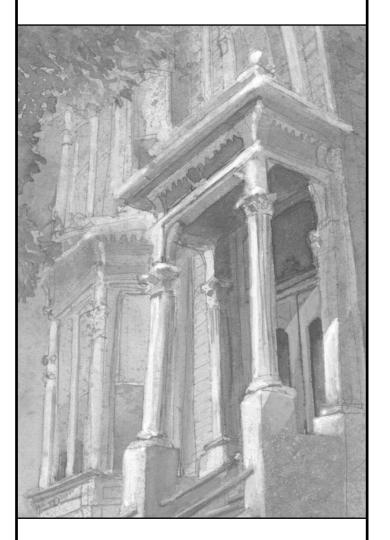


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HVNA Membership Form

Join Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association. Just return your completed form with a personal check made payable to Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association.

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State: Zip:	Street:					
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	\square Planning and Transportation					

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Ed Bedard

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- Sexuality/Body Image
- Occupational Concerns/Choices

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01.25, Thursday 6-7pm

Hayes Valley NERT – Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Team

Emergency/Disaster Preparedness Meeting. First Baptist Church Basement 7 Octavia (at Waller).

Contact info: mail@hayesvalleynert.org

01.25, Thursday 7-9pm H.V.N.A. General Meeting

First Baptist Church Basement
7 Octavia (at Waller)
Tonico: Undata from Supervisor M

Topics: Update from Supervisor Mirkarimi. Contac info: www.hayesvalleysf.org



02.05, Monday 7-8pm

H.V.N.A. Public Safety Committee 1st Monday of each Month Hayes Valley South Community Room 403 Rose (at Buchanan) Contact info: safety@hayesvalleysf.org

02.08, Thursday 4-5pm

John Muir PTA Meeting.

380 Webster (at Oak) in parent room 1st floor. Join faculty, students, parents and concerned community members as we partner to assure quality education for all children. Community Welcome. Contact information: Gail Baugh PTA President at g. baugh@sbcglobal.net or 626-6120

02.08, Thursday 6-7pm

Northern District Police/Community Relations Forum.

Work with police, city attorney & district attorney's offices to find permanent solutions to ongoing safety issues. 2nd Thursday of each month. Northern Police station, 1125 Fillmore (at Turk) Parking is available Contact info: Captain Dillon 614-3400

02.10, Saturday 11am-2pm

Monthly Koshland Park Work Day Meet at Koshland Park basketball court Corner of Page and Buchanan Help make your park a clean, green and safe space. Contact info: Nora at noraborealis@juno.com or 424.5770

02.18, Sunday 3–6pm

4th Annual Gathering our Youth

Through Positive Beginnings Black History Event John Muir Elementary 380 Webster (at Oak) Contact Info: Ruby 552-4964 or safety@hayesvalleysf.org

02.22, Thursday 6-7pm

Hayes Valley NERT – Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Team

Emergency/Disaster Preparedness First Baptist Church, 7 Octavia (at Waller) Disaster Response and Safety Contact info: mail@hayesvalleynert.org

02.22, Thursday 7-8:30pm H.V.N.A. General Meeting

First Baptist Church Basement 7 Octavia (at Waller) Topic: Annual Elections, Supervisor's Update Info: www.hayesvalleysf.org



03.05, Monday 7-8pm

H.V.N.A. Public Safety Committee Holiday Schedule Hayes Valley South Community Room 403 Rose (at Buchanan) Contact info: safety@hayesvalleysf.org

03.08, Thursday 4-5pm

John Muir PTA Meeting.

380 Webster (at Oak) in parent room 1st floor. Join faculty, students, parents and concerned community members as we partner to assure quality education for all children. Community Welcome. Contact info: Contact information: Gail Baugh PTA President at g.baugh@sbcglobal.net 626-6120

03.08, Thursday 6-7pm

Northern District Police/Community Relations Forum.

Work with police, city attorney & district attorney's offices to find permanent solutions to ongoing safety issues. 2nd Thursday of each month Northern Police station, 1125 Fillmore (at Turk) Parking is available. Contact info: Captain Dillon 614-3400

03.10, Saturday 11am-2pm

Monthly Koshland Park Work Day Meet at Koshland Park basketball court Corner of Page and Buchanan Help make your park a clean, green and safe space. Contact info: Nora at noraborealis@juno.com or 424.5770

03.22, Thursday 6-7pm

Hayes Valley NERT – Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Team Emergency/Disaster Preparedness First Baptist Church, 7 Octavia (at Waller) Disaster Response and Safety

Contact info: mail@hayesvalleynert.org

03.22, Thursday 7-8:30pm

H.V.N.A. General Meeting

First Baptist Church Basement 7 Octavia (at Waller) Contact info: www.hayesvalleysf.org Topic to be determined

Upcoming HVNA Meetings Thursdays, 7pm

Jan 25 • Feb 22

January 25 Meeting Agenda

We're starting off the New Year with a look back at the happenings of 2006 and a look toward what we can accomplish in 2007. Our committee chairs will have details of what their groups have been involved in and what their expectations are for the new year.

Joining us to give a more global, or at least Citywide, view will be District 5 Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi. HVNA has the dubious distinction of overlapping the boundaries of 3 supervisorial districts, with the largest area by far in Ross' District 5. Ross or his aide Regina are often found in meetings, park clean-ups, school activities and planning functions in the 'hood, and we look forward to hearing his views on issues that affect us all.

The meeting will be held at the First Baptist Church, 7 Octavia Blvd, at 7pm.

NEIGHBORHOOD NUMBERS

Animal Control	554 6364
Bike Commute Hotline	.585 BIKE
Cars – Abandoned	781 JUNK
Cars – Blocking Sidewalk	.553 1200
Cars – Parking Citations	.553 9888
Cars – Towed Vehicles	.553 1235
City Trees	.695 2162
Curb Painting Requests	.554 2336
DPW	.554 6219
Dumping (Illegal)	.695 2017
Friends of the Urban Forest	
Graffiti Removal	241 WASH
Mayor's Office	.554 6141
Noise Abatement	
Octavia Boulevard Public Info	.554 5440
Police – Anonymous Tip Line	614 3451
Police – Emergency (anon.).	
Police – Non-Emergency	.553 0123
Police – Northern Police Station	614 3400
SF Tool Lending Library	.467 8665
Street Cleaning	
Street Light Repair	
Supervisor (D-5) Ross Mirkarimi	
Supervisor (D-6) Chris Daly	
Supervisor (D-8) Bevan Dufty	
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